



Chilean Jack Mackerel Workshop

Program Bio-oceanographic Research of resources Jack mackerel and Pacific mackerel in Peru

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Resume:

Jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) and Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) have wider geographical distribution on Peruvian coast, doing latitudinal and longitudinal migrations, related to environmental conditions.

Historical data about availability of jack mackerel on Peruvian coast until 1998 show wider distribution and great abundance, with biomass estimates about 8,5 millions tons in 1983, and annual yields lower than 400 thousands tons, excepting 1997. Update data after 1998 show restricted distribution to central-south of Peru, with biomass estimates lower than 2,0 millions tons, and annual yields lower than 300 thousands tons, excepting 2001.

A key point on development of jack mackerel and pacific mackerel fishery was the effect of legal rule D.S. 001-2002 (06-09-2002), that establish exclusive use of these species for direct human consumption, which has restricted catches and allow development of Industrial fleet with system Refrigerated Sea Water, with special features for human consumption. Also, on April 12, 2007 were establish the Fishery Management of Jack and Pacific mackerel Regulation, approved by D. S. N° 011-2007-PRODUCE, which promotes rational exploitation of these resources.

The monitoring pelagic fisheries and research surveys, mainly for anchovy, let us to know fishing effort and biological data of jack mackerel and pacific mackerel, nevertheless, we need to get better jack mackerel data from 100 miles offshore in front of Peru, in order to obtain more elements for management.

In this sense, IMARPE will do special researches Jack and Pacific mackerel, with focus on biology, habitat and fisheries, based on Program “Bioceanographical research of Jack mackerel and Pacific mackerel resources”, approved by R.M. 489-2008-PRODUCE del on May 20, 2008, with financial support by Vice-Minister of Peruvian Fishery, with the proposal to get integral knowledge of the biological and fisheries features of these resources.

The main activities of the Program are recovery historical data of jack mackerel fisheries and the execute of two surveys by year, both with amplitude upper than 100 miles, one of them will be between May 31 to July 14, looking for distribution and concentration, and the second one in spring, looking for to know the development of main biological process as spawning, recruitment and feeding. Something special on these surveys will be the sampling collections for isotopic analyses which let us try to identify unit stocks of jack mackerel.

These activities will be supervised by experts of several issues; that include participation of IMARPE, Vice-Minister of Peruvian Fishery, private sector and international consulting.