

Experience from the implementation of camera and electronic surveillance to monitor discards and bycatch in Chile

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Experience from the implementation of camera and electronic surveillance to monitor discards and bycatch in Chile









Undersecretariat for Fisheries and Aquaculture

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Remote Electronic Monitoring in Fisheries, Iceland November 7th 2019

Contents

- General background of fisheries and its management in Chile
- Discard and bycatch regulations in Chile
- Electronic tools (EMS) to monitor fishing fleets' compliance with discard and bycath regulations in Chile



Chilean Government | Undersecretariat for Fisheries and Aquaculture

REPUBLIC OF CHILE

120000 km² Territorial Sea 3,7 million de km² de EEZ (10th largest) 4400 km Seashore 24% coastal and ocean protected waters

> Landings in 2018 3.600.000 metric tons

0,9 Mill ton 24% Industrial Fisheries 40% Artisanal Fisheries 1,2 Mill ton 1,5 Mill ton



Fishing Users in 2018



Agencies in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Chile

Research



Private corporation founded in 1964. In charge of fisheries and aquaculture research.
Provides information used for management decisions www.lfop.cl

Regulates

Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura

Gobierno de Chile

Government agency founded in 1976, dependent on the Ministry of Economy. Regulates and manage fisheries and aquaculture through management policies, regulations and measures *www.subpesca.cl*

Monitor compliance



Government agency founded in 1978, dependent on the Ministry of Economy. In charge of monitoring compliance and enforcing fishery and aquaculture regulation www.sernapesca.cl

Introduction of the concepts of discard and bycatch in Chilean fisheries legislation





Management with a focus on target species not considering the wider ecosystem impacts of fisheries



Discards were not effectively addressed as a source of fishing mortality

Assessment of global discards and bycatch 2010-2014, FAO



A third assessment of global marine fisheries discards



FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE TECHNICAL PAPER

633

Pérez Roda, 2019



≈ 9 million tons discarded annually in the period 2010-2014

UNKNOWN MORTALITY?

- fishing interaction with:
 - •1 million seabirds
 - 8,5 million sea turtles
 - 650,000 marine mammals
- Concern about adverse effects of discards and bycatch on fisheries sustainability and food security
- Monitoring the status and trends of discards and bycatch is the first step in the application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management

to estimate temporal trends in discard levels. However, it is worth noting that new countries and regions start including in their legislation the words "bycatch" and "discards" as a sign of an emerging political will to mitigate the wasteful practice of discarding. Some examples are the European Union (reform of the Common Fisheries Policy of 2013), Chile (Borges *et al.* 2016) and Australia. Moreover, efforts are being made by RFMOs and RFBs in addressing bycatch and discard issues, but generally they only include commercial species (FAO, 2015).

Some policies around the world to manage discards

Iceland 1977

> Norway 1987

- Ban on discarding six primary commercial species, gradually expanded to all species including non marketable. Quota flexibility allows to reduce discards
- First introduced discard prohibition for cod and hadock later in 2009 extended other commercial species. Some exceptions: invertebrates, seabirds, mammals
- United States 1996 : Bycatch must be reduced to the extent practicable or, where it cannot be avoided, that mortality be minimized. Additionally (MMPAct) and the (ESAct) require zero mortality.
- > New Zealand1996 : Pr
- Chile 2001
- EU (CFP) 2013

- **96** : Prohibition to discard species subjected to the ITQ or MLS. Discarding is nevertheless allowed for species with high survival rates.
 - General prohibition of discards, with no distinction between species and sizes. Strong sanctions to offenders,.Compliance was not monitored, it was a failure
 - The landing obligation is only applicable to TAC-regulated species in the Atlantic and to species that have a MLS in the Mediterranean Sea. Implemented from 2015



In 2012 the 2001' discard ban was reformulated

Concepts of discard and bycatch were incorporated along with sanctions to offenders and modern mechanisms for compliance control and for scientific monitoring





GOALS

- ✓ Evaluate and reduce
- Transparency of fishing operations
- High levels of monitoring for compliance and science
- Accuracy of catch and discard data
- Involve stakeholders in policy development

Chilean approach for discards and bycatch

The concepts of discarding and incidental catch are introduced in the Fisheries Law along with a gradual process of research, reduction, and modern tools to control the fishing fleets

2012

















2019

UNBIASED RESEARCH

To understand and evaluate the problem and determine its causes

PROGRESSIVE REDUCTION

Through compulsory fisheryspecific reduction plans

MONITORING OF COMPLIANCE

Extensive monitoring by EMS and observers for compliance and scientific purposes



Research and assessment of discards and bycatch

- Minimum 2 years, fishery/ based compulsory research programs, to quantify total catch, discards and bycatch, and to identify the causes. Information was later used to develop reduction plans
- Sanctions for discarding were suspended during the research programs, to avoid changes in fishing behavior and to obtain unbiased data . This approach helped to rebuild trust!!
- Permanent funding by Government to carry out programs: 2 US\$ Million/year:
 - Pelagic fisheries program
 - Demersal fisheries program



Sources of information

200 Observers on board

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Fishermen's self –report log

Results of discard research programs are public and available at <u>www.ifop.cl</u> https://www.ifop.cl/en/busqueda-de-informes

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Delivered transparency to the process and motivated spontaneous actions by fishers Allowed industry and stakeholders an early recognition of the problem

Some voluntary mitigation strategies adopted voluntarily by the industry



Excluder grids for jumbo squisds and sea lions in hake fishery



Excluder devices for sea lions in trawler fleet



Flow scales for accurate accountability of discards factory trawler fleet







New products made from previously discarded catch Campaigns to increase fish consumption



Reduction Plans for progressive elimination of discards and bycatch in each fishery

Once the research programs were finished, the law required the enactment compulsory fishery- based <u>reduction plans</u>

Plans must include:

- Management measures and technological means to reduce discard and bycatch
- A continuous monitoring program (science and compliance) to follow up, evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the Plans
- A training program for fishermen
- A dissemination program for fishermen and the community
- A code of conduct: good fishing practices
- Government incentives for innovation in systems aimed to reduce discards and bycatch



B

RESEARCH INSTITUTION



How the Reduction Plans were built?

FISHING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



MANAGEMENT AGENCY



Gobierno de Chile

Consultative process for reduction proposals

- ✓ Top-down factors balanced with bottom-up factors
- Involvement of fishers and stakeholders in policy development
- ✓ Agreed and well-understood measures. Progressive application.
- Plan must be improved based on results (follow-up)

INFORME TÉCNICO (R. PESQ.) Nº nn/2017



Plan de Reducción del Descarte y de la Captura de Pesca Incidental para la pesquería industrial y artesanal de merluza del sur y congrio dorado





From 2019 onward, all fisheries subjected to Reduction Plans

Species caught are now submitted to one of 3 regimes

Prohibited Discard Target species, species with TAC, commercial species

Authorized Discard Unwanted catch of species without TAC or regulation





Mandatory Return

Bycatch, prohibited species, species not subject to exploitation









Handling protocols

Discards not authorized by plans are penalized!!



Once the Research Programs are finished and the Reduction Plans have been enacted

Exceptions to the sanctions for discarding are terminated!

Discarding is banned except for species authorized by each Reduction Plan Penalties for not complying with the Plans are applicable to vessel owners and captains and vary depending on fleet (artisanal/industrial)





MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE REDUCTION PLANS Monitoring of compliance by EMS is entirely independent of observer coverage



- ✓ Vessels > 15 m shall install and keep operative EMS to detect, register and quantify discards & bycatch
- ✓ Installation and maintenance of surveillance systems is paid by vessel owners
- Discards & bycatch must be handled under approved protocols, functional to EMS
- ✓ Collection and processing of images held by the National Fisheries Service or certified external agencies
- ✓ Regulations on EMS have been issued considering the results of the research programs. They include:
 - Specific requirements by gear, fishery and vessel types
 - Rights and obligations of fishing users regarding EMS
 - Safeguards to prevent manipulation and interference EMS



Industrial fleet : first half 2020
Artisanal fleet > 15m. in 2022

Components of the Surveillance System for discards an bycatch (EMS)



Modules currently in process of implementation



Monitoring module

OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS (EMS)

1. Control of compliance with reduction measures and prohibition of discard for some species.

2. Control species and amounts authorized to discard

3. Control of use of bycatch mitigation devices and handling protocols (seabirds, mammals and turtles)

4. Control compliance with other management measures (closures, fishing gears, etc.)

MAIN FEATURES OF SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS (EMS)

• Systems operative during the entire fishing trip







- Automatic metadata and image generation, without third party intervention. Stored in Hard drive
- Analysis of a sample of fishing sets based on a risk assessment approach
- If a discrepancy is detected, the entire trip is audited to the cost od vessel owner
- Technical report prepared by Sernapesca with legal value

CAMERA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS (EMS) FOR DISCARD AND BYCATCH

Implementation of the EMS as of September 2019

TOTAL N° of VESSELS	EMS STATUS	INSTALLATION PROGRESS		
140	Equipments sold	41	29%	
	Equipments installed	20	14%	
	Vessels without defined provider	ut 79 ler	56%	
Vessels with certified IRD installation		2	1%	

Industrial Fleet: January 2020 Artisanal Fleet(>= 15 m): January 2022











ELECTRONIC LOGBOOK TO REPORT FISHING ACTIVITIES

CAPTAIN RECORDS ESTIMATION OF CAPTURE DISCARD AND BYCATCHIN REAL TIME

AS SOON THERE IS INTERNET CONNECTION THE INFORMATION IS REMOVED

SERNAPESCA AND VESSEL OWNER ANALYZE E LOGBOOK SENT



Challenges ahead

Implement systems in the entire fleet Link the information from deferent sources Use the information for other purposes than control

Incorporate the artisanal fishing fleet (< 15m) Into electronic monitoring with simplified and cheaper technology Cultural challenges











Takk fyrir!!

Gracias!!

