

4th Meeting of the Scientific Committee

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SC-04-08

Peru's Annual Report Part I: SPRFMO Area

IMARPE - Ministerio de la Producción



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**South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
4th Meeting of the Scientific Committee
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Peru National Report N° 1

**REPORT ON THE FISHING ACTIVITIES OF THE
PERUVIAN FLEET IN THE AREA OF
APLICACION OF THE CONVENTION OF THE
SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (SPRFMO),
JANUARY 2015 – JULY 2016**

by

IMARPE - PRODUCE

2016

SUMMARY

No Peruvian fishing vessel operated in the area of application of the SPRFMO Convention during 2015 and the first part of 2016 (information until July 2016). Therefore, there are no fishing activities and no catches to report in the Convention area for this last two years. The catch, effort and other fishery and biological information available from this Peruvian fleet is therefore limited to 2014 and previous years, already described in earlier reports.

INDEX

1 DESCRIPTION OF THE FISHERY

1.1 Structure of the fleet and annual catches

2 CATCH, EFFORT AND CPUE IN THE JACK MACKEREL FISHERY

2.1 Catch trends

2.2 Fishing effort trends

3 BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Geographical distribution of the jack mackerel catches during 2010-2014

4 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND DATA COLLECTION (Observations on board and sampling program)

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE FISHERY

1.1 Structure of the fleet and annual catches

The Peruvian fleet registered to participate in the jack mackerel fishery in the area of application of the SPRFMO is comprised of 87 fishing vessels, including 78 purse seiners with an average holding capacity of 500 m³, 2 trawlers with an average holding capacity of 4615 m³, 7 multipurpose vessels (purse seine/trawler) with an average holding capacity of 1977 m³ and 1 cargo-factory vessel with a holding capacity of 34 755 m³ (Table 1).

Table 1.- Peruvian fleet registered to participate in the Jack mackerel fishery in the SPRFMO area

| Number of vessels | Types of fishing gear | Total Holding capacity (m ³) | Average holding capacity (m ³) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| 78 | Purse seine | 39 000 | 500 |
| 2 | Trawl | 9 231 | 4 615 |
| 7 | Purse seine/trawl | 13 837 | 1 977 |
| 1 | Cargo-factory | 34 755 | 34 755 |

None of the 87 registered vessels was set to sail or was authorized to operate in the SPRFMO Convention area during 2015 or the first part of 2016. Therefore there are no fishing activities and no catches to report during this period (Table 2). Figure 1 shows the annual catches of jack mackerel by the Peruvian fleet in the SPRFMO Convention area since 2009, with a maximum of 40 516 t in 2010 and 0 catches in 2015 and 2016.

Table 2.- Peruvian fleet that operated in the SPRFMO area during the period January 2015 - July 2016

| Year | Number of vessels | Types of fishing gear | Total holding capacity (m ³) | Average holding capacity (m ³) | Jack mackerel catch (t) |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| 2015 | 0 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0 |
| 2016* | 0 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0 |

- January-July only

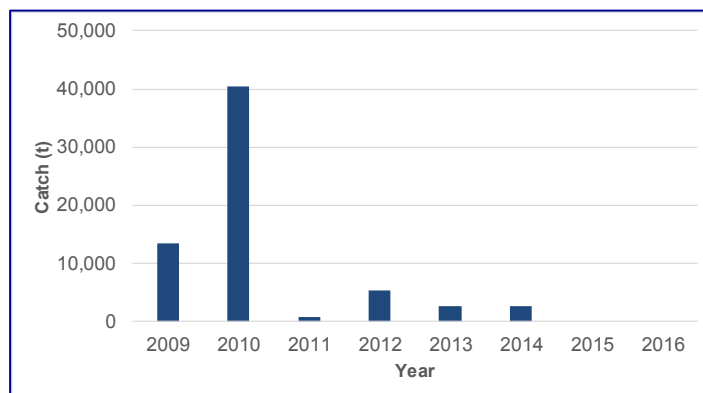


Figure 1.- Annual Peruvian catches of Jack mackerel in the SPRFMO Convention area, years 2009 to 2016 (to July)

2 CATCH, EFFORT AND CPUE IN THE JACK MACKEREL FISHERY

2.1 Catch trends

Figure 2 shows the monthly trend in catches of jack mackerel by the Peruvian fleet in the SPRFMO Convention area since 2012. As noted, no catches were made in 2015 and 2016.

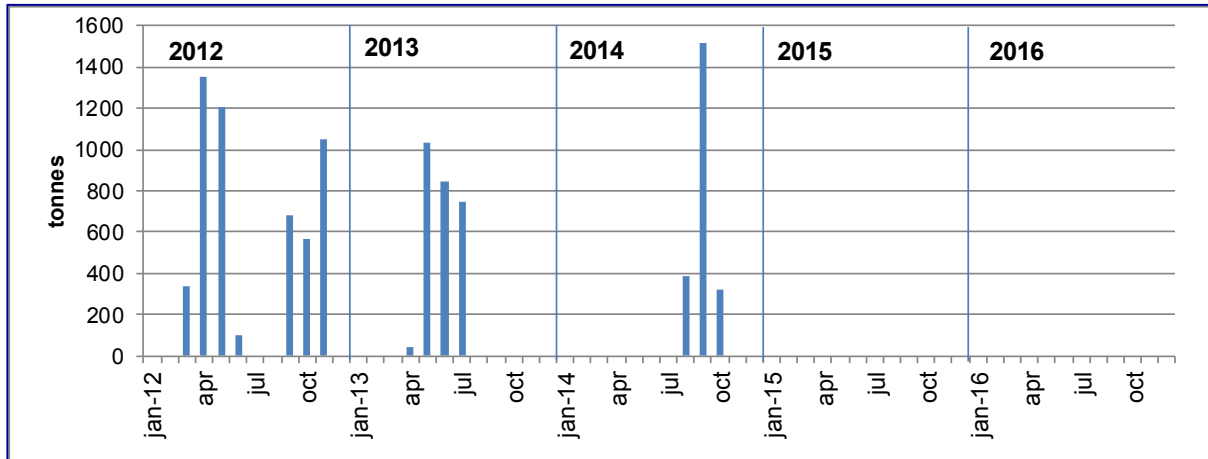


Figure 2.- Jack mackerel monthly catches by the Peruvian fleet in the SPRFMO Convention area, 2012 – 2016

2.2 Fishing effort trends

Figure 3 shows the trend of the fishing effort exerted by the Peruvian fleet in the SPRFMO Convention area since 2012. As noted, the number of vessels and holding capacity has been highly variable, with 6 vessels in 2012 and 0 vessels and no fishing effort exerted in 2015 and 2016.

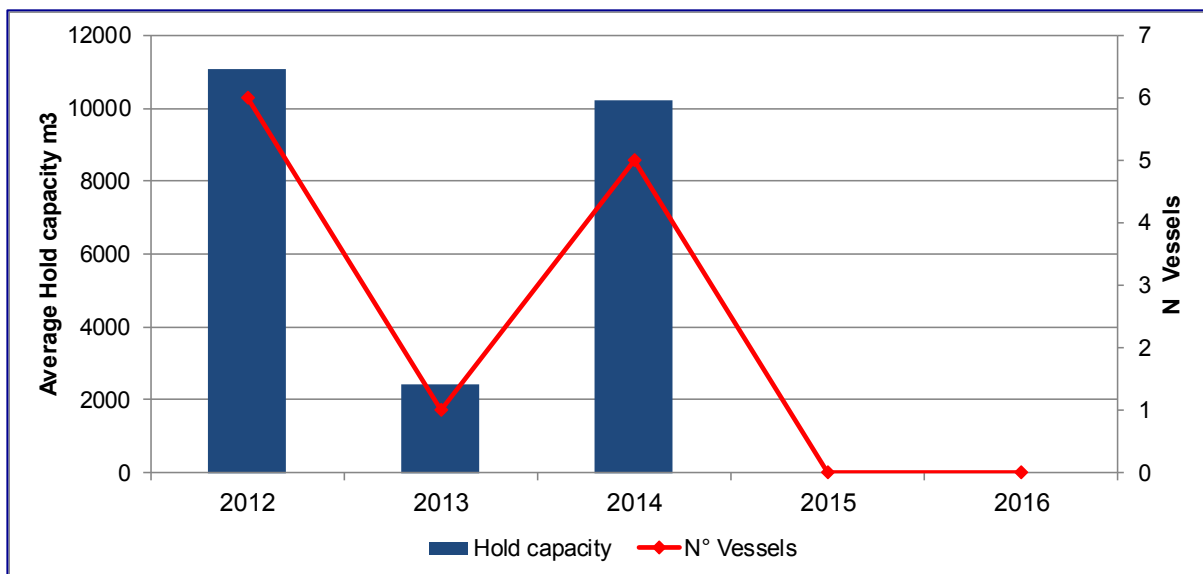


Figure 3.- Number of vessels and total holding capacity of the Peruvian fleet that operated in the SPRFMO area, by year 2012–2016

3 BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Geographical distribution of jack mackerel catches during 2010 - 2014

During the years 2010 to 2014 the Peruvian catches of jack mackerel in the SPRFMO Convention area were made in three main areas, one to the north, between 15° and 18°S in 2010 and 2014, another between 25° and 30°S in 2012 and 2014 and a more southern and dispersed area, between 38° and 46°S in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 (Figure 4). No jack mackerel catches were made in the SPRFMO area during 2015 and 2016.

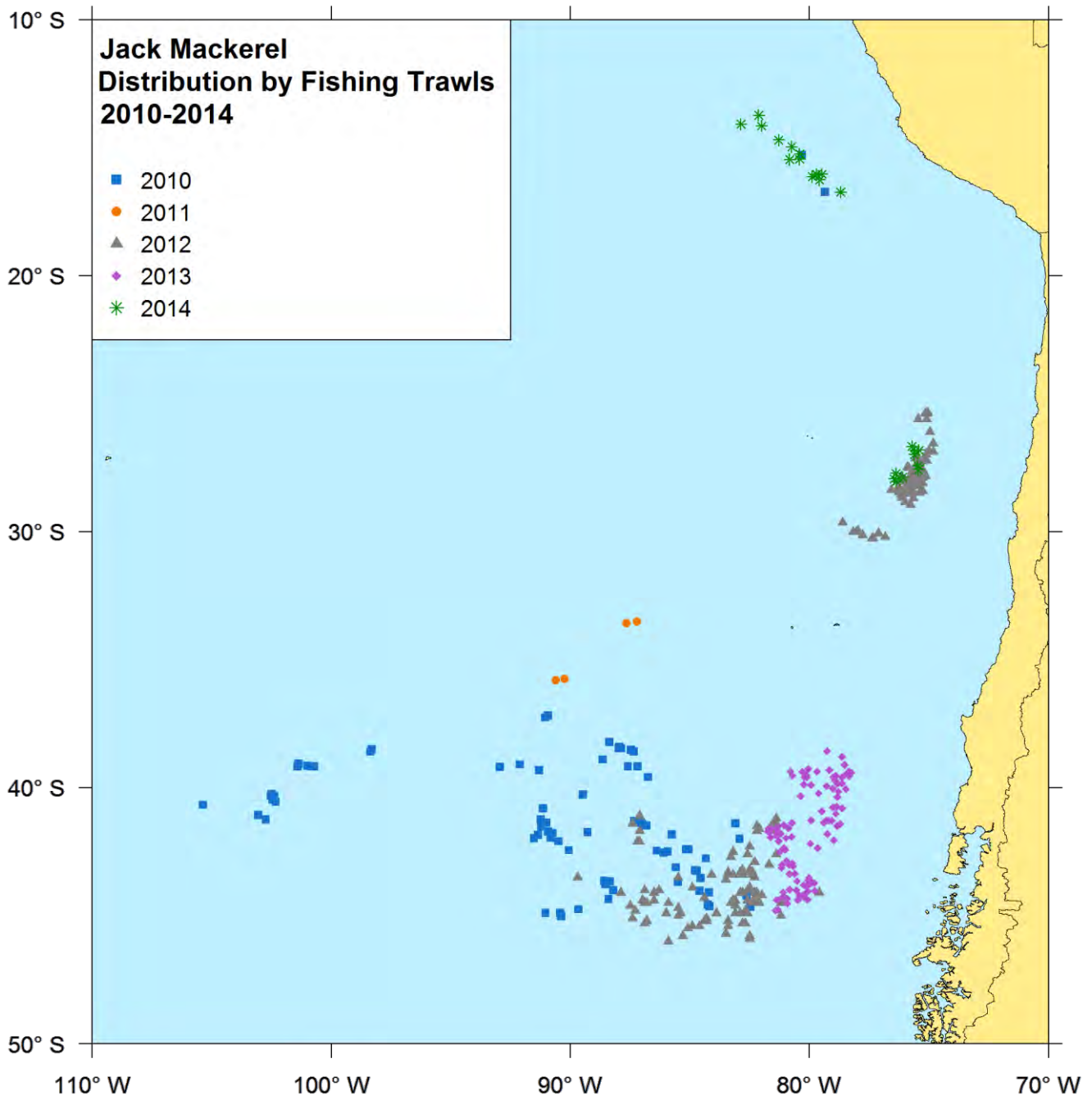


Figure 4.- Geographical distribution of jack mackerel fishing trawls by the Peruvian fleet operating in the SPRFMO Convention area during 2010-2014

4 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND DATA COLLECTION (Observations onboard and sampling program)

The research activities in the SPRFMO Convention area are mostly based on the activities undertaken under the Onboard Observer's Program, which aims at monitoring the fishing fleet and obtaining biological information from their catches and areas of operation. This programme has almost a full coverage of the Peruvian fishing fleet operating in the SPRFMO Convention area and during 2014 there was an observer on each of the 5 Peruvian fishing vessels in the Convention area. The monitoring of the fleet provides reliable information on fishing effort, catch volumes, species composition of the catches, fishing areas, horizontal and vertical distribution of the target species, and sea surface temperature in the fishing area, in addition to the biological information through an onboard sampling programme.

The sampling program is aimed at obtaining biological information of the species caught, including total length, total weight, gonad weight and sexual maturity, and to also obtain samples of ovaries, otoliths and stomachs to undertake further studies of spawning activity, growth and feeding. This is done using a stratified two-stage sampling, where 10 individuals are taken for each range of sizes.

The program includes observation and identification of seabirds for which onboard observers are trained in the proper use of seabird species identification guides. These observations are carried on board during fishing trawls, and relevant data is recorded in the form of seabird interactions with the jack mackerel's fishery in the high seas.