

INACTIVE Japan Tokyo Bay sea perch - purse seine

Overview

FIP Description

Tokyo Bay is one of the leading commercial and recreational fishing regions in Japan for Japanese sea perch (*Lateolabrax japonicus*), a historically and culturally important fish used for edomae sushi, the style of sushi created during the late Edo-period (late 19th century) that influenced the nigiri sushi that is common today.

While archaeological sites show that species such as sea perch were consumed in the Tokyo Bay region as far back as 300 BC, commercial sea perch fishing in Tokyo Bay expanded during the Edo Period (1600-1850s) with new technology, gear, and techniques to match growing demand. The present-day mid-scale purse seine commercial sea perch fishery is permitted by the Chiba Prefecture government, and the majority of the sea perch purse seine vessels fishing in Tokyo Bay are managed by the Funabashi Fisheries Cooperative. While fishing is permitted year-round, peak season is during the summer.

Purse seine vessels which are participants of the Tokyo Bay Sea Perch FIP are significant players in the region's industry and account for 10-15% of the total Chiba Prefecture sea perch catch. These fishermen, led by FIP client company Kaiko Bussan, abide by voluntary conservation practices including setting non-fishing days during spawning season and limiting soak times. While the local fishery research agency in Chiba prefecture conducts stock evaluations, prefecture-wide science-based fishery management plans and objectives are lacking, which increases the risk of overfishing and stock depletion. Specific deficiencies include the lack of harvest control rules used to reduce harvest when stock abundance is declining and the lack of fishery reference points based on maximum sustainable yield (MSY) or another appropriate proxy. In addition, the formal decision-making process is not very transparent and inclusive of stakeholders.

The Tokyo Bay Sea Perch FIP will increase the scientific understanding of the fishery, its effects and sea perch stocks, improve fish management practices, work to maintain overall sea perch stock abundance in Tokyo Bay, and distinguish the sea perch fishery in the growing sustainable seafood marketplace..

[FIP??????????](#)

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

Actions Progress This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



Actions Overview This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
71%	0%	29%	0%

FIP Objective(s)

Improve sea perch fish management and ensure stock abundance by December 2023.

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

Start and Projected End Dates

November, 2016 -
December, 2023

Species**Common Name**

White Perch

Scientific Name

Lateolabrax japonicus

Gear Type

[Purse Seine](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

[Area 61 \(Pacific, Northwest\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

Japan

Geographic Scope

Tokyo Bay

Country Flag of Vessel

Japan

Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

High Seas Name

Pacific Ocean

Estimated Total FIP Landings

110 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

UMITO Partners Inc.

Organization Type

Consultant

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