

Ecuador mahi-mahi - longline

Overview

FIP Description

Ecuador's mahi mahi fishery is one of its most ecologically and economically valuable artisanal fisheries. Ecuador is the second largest producer of mahi mahi in the Eastern Pacific Ocean region after Peru, with average annual landings of 10,139 mt (average 2009-2019). The fishery supports 25,000 fishers and 95% of exports go to the U.S. Since 2010, WWF has worked closely with the Ecuadorian government and mahi mahi exporters on a comprehensive FIP to move the fishery towards the MSC standard. Over that time, more than 10,000 fishers have been engaged in FIP efforts through training on fishing regulations and best fishing practices, adopting bycatch reduction tools, welcoming on-board observers, and piloting a digital traceability system to test electronic logbooks and cameras on-board their vessels. In February 2019, the fishery entered the MSC full assessment process but unfortunately had to withdraw in December 2020 due mainly to the lack of joint management between Peru and Ecuador of the shared mahi mahi stock.

FIP's previous workplan actions had all been completed before moving into MSC full assessment but a new workplan has been developed to continue to work on improving the fishery's deficiencies. Conservation Mahi Mahi, a consortium of leading Ecuadorian mahi mahi exporters, signed a new MOU with WWF Ecuador in April 2021 to work together to reinitiate the implementation of the comprehensive mahi mahi FIP.

Approx. 60% of the longline mahi-mahi vessels of the Ecuadorian fleet are now part of this FIP.
- Exporters Companies members: Frigolab, Propemar, Frigolandia, Freshfish and Docapes

October 2023 the FIP continues the final MSC assessment with KIWA cap.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

54%

46%

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

73%

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

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
27%	0%	73%	0%

FIP Progress Rating

C - Some Recent Progress

FIP Objective(s)

The objective of the Ecuador mahi-mahi FIP is to move the fishery in a step-wise approach towards meeting the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard by December 2023, with the goal of entering the full assessment process after that to achieve MSC certification.

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

Start and Projected End Dates

January, 2010 -
December, 2023

Species

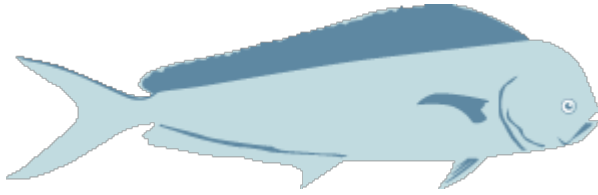
Common Name

Mahi-mahi

Scientific Name

Coryphaena hippurus

[Buying Guide Link Image](#)



[Mahi-mahi](#)
[Buying Guide](#)

Gear Type

[Longline](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

[Area 87 \(Pacific, Southeast\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

Ecuador

Geographic Scope

Throughout Ecuador's EEZ and international waters, but most of the vessels are concentrated in the country's northern ports, in the regions of Manabí and Esmeraldas

Country Flag of Vessel

Ecuador

Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

IATTC

High Seas Name

Pacific Ocean

Estimated Total FIP Landings

1428 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

WWF

Organization Type

NGO

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[WWF Seafood Sustainability](#)

Organization Name

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Organization Type

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