

China Fujian Zhangzhou red swimming crab - bottom trawl & pot/trap

Overview

FIP Description

China's Fujian Province is the leading fishing region in China for a red swimming crab species group (RSC) comprised of red swimming crab (*Portunus haanii*) and three-spot (or red-spot) swimming crab (*Portunus sanguinolentus*). On an annual basis, approximately 40,000 metric tons of RSC is caught in the province, most of which is processed in Zhangzhou. RSC is not only commercially important in China, but also supplies an important export market of crabmeat, much of which is imported by the United States in the form of canned crab. The Fujian Zhangzhou Red Swimming Crab FIP, comprised of over 1,000 bottom trawl and pot vessels, takes place on the Minnan-Taiwan Bank fishing grounds and is subject to a summer fishery closure common to all Chinese coastal areas. This closure attempts to protect fish stocks during the summer season, which is the general spawning and growth period for most economically important species. For the RSC fishery, the current lack of several key approaches—i.e., science-based stock assessments, the implementation of a minimum harvestable size limit, and maximum sustainable yield (MSY) fishery management strategies—represents a serious risk to the fishery as little is known about the actual stock status of target species. Since 2012, many processors have found that large crabs reaching the processable size, those with a carapace width of 8 cm or greater, have been decreasing in numbers. It's estimated undersized crabs might account for as high as 80% of the harvest.

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
0%	56%	0%	44%

Red Indicator Progress This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	75%	0%	25%

FIP Progress Rating

C - Some Recent Progress

FIP Objective(s)

The objective of this FIP is to transition the fishery management to science-based catch management strategies in order to increase the abundance, harvest size and sustainable yield of red swimming crab in the Zhangzhou region with the end goal of the fishery achieving a level of sustainable performance commensurate with the MSC standard by 2025-2027.

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 3: FIP Implementation

Start and Projected End Dates

August, 2018 -
December, 2022

Species

Common Name

Warty Swimming Crab

Scientific Name

Portunus haanii

Additional Names

Red Swimming Crab

Common Name

Three Spot Swimming Crab

Scientific Name

Portunus sanguinolentus

Gear Type

[Bottom Trawl](#)

[Pot/Trap](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

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

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

China

Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

High Seas Name

Pacific Ocean

FIP Volume

40000 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Ocean Outcomes

Organization Type

NGO

Primary Contact

Rich Lincoln

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Organization Name

Tao Ran

Organization Type

Consultant

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