

February, 2023

Fujian Provincial Department of Ocean and Fisheries

Director Dai Jufang, Director Zeng Yongping, General Law Enforcement Team

1. The issue of protecting seahorses and proposing the Seahorse Germplasm Resources Reserve has been discussed, and it is recommended that this be promoted through the provincial bureau, particularly with the involvement of the Fisheries Department. Director Dai has recommended engaging Shen Changchun, a fishery resource specialist at Fujian Fisheries Research Institute, to lead the application process for seahorse resource investigation projects. It should be noted that the germplasm resources reserve is used for the protection of aquatic germplasm resources and is inappropriate for seahorse protection.
2. The current challenges and recommendations reflect the current work direction of the management department, and while there is a desire for change, it cannot be accomplished overnight.
3. The implementation of uniform fishing moratorium time across the sea region has proven to be convenient for management purposes. Therefore, it is not feasible to develop a separate fishing moratorium for the red swimming crabs in the near future, as this could create management confusion.
4. The government has invested in the installation of cameras on the bow and deck of all large and medium-sized fishing vessels in Zhangzhou City, ensuring safety and better supervision during the summer fishing moratorium period.
5. Trawls have been listed as a transitional gear since 2014 and transitional gear are required to become prohibited within five years. However, achieving such a ban in a short time is challenging. In 2006, Fujian's Canvas stow net was banned.
6. There are presently few trawls operational within the no-trawling line in Fujian Province, owing to strict management controls. Last year, the province executed a special operation to combat trawls within the line.