**Annual Work Summary of Fishery Administration Management on Freshwater Crayfish Fishery in Dafeng District, Yancheng City, 2019**

Since 2019, Yancheng Dafeng District Fishery Administration Supervision Brigade has focused on the objectives, tasks and work measures proposed in the “2019 Yancheng Dafeng District Freshwater Crayfish Fishery Administration Management Plan and Risk Assessment Measures”, solidly advanced the implementation of phased key tasks according to the management timing plan, completed with high quality the fishery administration tasks of the freshwater crayfish fishery in rivers of the entire district in a planned manner with strict standard, achieved the management objectives determined at the beginning of the year, promoted the more sustainable utilization of the crayfish-based freshwater fishery resources in Dafeng District and made due contributions to the high-quality development of our economy and society.

**1. All the stationary lift nets and bamboo fish traps in all the main rivers (including the Doulonggang River and the Wanggang River), tributaries and rural artificial ditches in the district are fully cleared.** Through nearly one year of river patrol inspections and full-coverage surveys, there has been no rebound so far. Because of this, on one hand, the rivers in the territory become unblocked and more smooth, the energy conversion and material circulation of all kinds of river wetlands are more efficient, which promotes the improvement of the river water quality. One the other hand, the fishing intensity on the river surfaces in the whole district has been greatly reduced, which has effectively promoted the recovery of various fishery resources.

**2. Through the implementation of the river management system - “River Chief System” and the rural residential environment (water environment) comprehensive improvement and other measures, the water quality of the Doulonggang River and various other rivers in the district is fully up to standard.** Ban areas have been comprehensively delineated and implemented for livestock and poultry breeding and aquaculture in main trunk streams and tributaries, which have substantially reduced the discharge of agricultural productive pollutants received by major river water bodies, providing a fundamental guarantee for the improvement of river water quality of the whole district. Urban rainwater and sewage diversion project, centralized collection and treatment of domestic pollution in urban residential quarters and rural residential settlements have reduced the direct discharge of domestic pollution to natural water bodies, providing a more suitable environment for the reproduction, growth and survival of freshwater aquatic resources including freshwater crayfish. The implementation of emission standards in industrial concentration areas and industrial parks is more powerful. The direct shutdown and rectification of heavily polluted chemical industrial parks is the most critical measure for improving river water quality and restoring growth of fishery resources.

The automatic testing results of 2 national assessment sections on the Doulonggang River basin and 8 provincial assessment sections of Jiangsu Province on rivers of the entire district show that the water quality indicators of main rivers in our district have been greatly improved compared with the previous year. Up to now, the compliance rate is 100%, an increase of 2.73 percentage points over the same period of the previous year.

**3. The law-abiding consciousness of fishermen is constantly increasing, and fishing according to law and law-abiding operations have become a common practice.** The incidence of catching fish with storage battery, poison and explosives has continued to decrease. Due to serious combats and severe investigations and punishments, the incidents of catching fish with explosives and poison have not occurred in our district for many years. The number of incidents of catching fish with storage battery has dropped significantly in recent years. So far this year, 42 cases have been investigated, a decrease of 27.8% from the same period of the previous year. The penalties for catching fish with storage battery include fines in addition to confiscation of illegal fishing gears. The strict implementation of these laws and regulations has strongly cracked down on illegal fishing and effectively protected fishery resources.

Through continuous inspections, the license holding rate of fishermen working in the main and tributary rivers of the whole district reaches 98.9% according to inspection statistics. Fishing practices by setting stationary lift nets or bamboo fish traps were not found in continuous inspections. For fishermen with crayfish as their main fishing target, the number of nets per household is controlled under 300, and the mesh size is generally greater than 2 cm. The average daily working time is less than 10 hours. The management measures of fishery administration were extended to the acquisition and sale of aquatic products in addition to strict management of fishermen conducting fishing operations. Catching and purchasing small-size aquatic products would be inspected simultaneously and punished as well, catching and selling small-size aquatic products were strictly controlled. Through year-round inspections, the specifications of crayfish caught and sold on market were generally more than 3 cm, the specifications of crucian carp caught and sold on market were more than 100 grams, and the specifications for fishing and selling of other economic aquatic products and the working time were basically in line with the requirements of fishery administration. The catching time of river crabs was strictly controlled after September 20, and that of freshwater crayfish was after August 15. Catching by burrowing was strictly forbidden.

**4. Protection of aquatic wild protected animals was extensively and effectively publicized, catching, killing and selling protected wild animals were inspected according to law.** In this year, the fishery administration law-enforcing management authority conducted wide, in-depth and effective publicity and education towards fishermen in conjunction with various management measures such as routine inspections and surprise inspections. The ability of fishermen to identify major wild aquatic protected animals in our district was improved through the education via WeChat information push and issuing publicity pictures. The awareness of fishermen in protecting wild animals was improved by applying for license training. The surprise inspections on catch products gave strong blows to illegal catching and selling of protected wild animals which are common in waters of the district, such as frogs, turtles and giant salamanders. According to census statistics, the recognition rate of commonly-seen protected freshwater wild animals in this district by the licensed freshwater fishermen has increased to 96%, an increase of 4.5 percentage points over the previous year. The system of release, treatment and reporting of bycatch wild protected animals was effectively implemented. Fishermen’s awareness of avoiding wildlife habitats when choosing fishing operation sites was significantly improved.

So far this year, no cases of catching, hunting & killing, and selling aquatic wild animals have been found in this district, and on clues of other similar cases have been obtained.

**5. Crayfish fishery risk assessment results of this year:**

Up to now, in the main rivers and tributaries of the district, a total of 6 cases of unlicensed catching, 3 cases of fishermen using nets with mesh size less than 2 cm, 3 batches of crayfish with specifications for sale less than 3 cm, and 4 cases of catching crayfish by putting baits into the ground cages were seized. Through year-round inspections, we have found no case of catching aquatic wild animals in crayfish fishing operations, and have not observed that any crayfish fishing operations affected the habitats of aquatic wildlife. The analysis results of data collected by fishermen and observers this year show that, as the main target species of freshwater fishery in our district, the overall change of single-net catch during its operating time is basically consistent with the law of crayfish growth and reproduction; the resources of several important bycatch species remain basically stable. The crayfish fishery risk score is 83 points. According to the analysis of above factors, the crayfish fishery in our district in this year is still in the “No risk” range. This is the result of the fishery administrative law-enforcing management, and the result of extensive fishermen’s legal fishing and law-abiding operations.

**Crayfish fishery risk management scoring sheet:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Points | Penalty points | Score |
| Enforcement of laws and regulations 30 points | 15 points. 1 point to be deducted for one case of unlicensed operation found in the main river and its tributaries, until the points are completely deducted.  | 9 |
| 15 points. 1 point to be deducted for one case of set-net ground cage found in various river courses, until the points are completely deducted.  | 15 |
| Quantity of fishing gears: 8 points | The quantity of nets of single vessel/household exceeding 300, 1 point to be deducted for one case until the points are completely deducted.  | 8 |
| Mesh size: 15 points | 1 point to be deducted for one case of mesh size less than 2 cm, until the points are completely deducted.  | 12 |
| Size of target catch: 12 points | 1 point to be deducted for one household with the specifications of the captured crayfish less than 3 cm, until the points are completely deducted. | 9 |
| Fishing with storage battery or not: 6 points | If there is a case where electric pulse is used to drive the crayfish to the ground cage, 6 points is deducted in one time.  | 6 |
| Trapping with baits: 10 points | 1 point to be deducted for one case found, until the points are completely deducted.  | 6 |
| The bycatch aquatic products failing to meet the selling specifications: 10 points | 1 point to be deducted for one case found, until the points are completely deducted. | 10 |
| Wild protected animals being affected or not: 4 points | 4 points to be deducted in one time for one case found | 4 |
| Catching the burrowing crayfish by excavation: 5 points | 1 point to be deducted for one case found, until the points are completely deducted | 4 |
| Total score: 100 points |  | 83 |

**Appendix:**

Penalties for violations of relevant laws and regulations in the Measures for the Implementation of the Fisheries Law of the People's Republic of China in Jiangsu Province:

Article 36 For anyone who violates fishery laws and regulations, the catch and other illegal gains shall be confiscated, the losses caused shall be compensated, and criticism and education, fines (provisions are attached), confiscation of fishing gears, revocation of fishing licenses or farming licenses, and confiscation of fishing vessels will be imposed according the seriousness of the cases.

**Provisions for fines imposed concurrently or separately:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **S/N** | **Illegal act** | **Amount of fine (Yuan)** |
| **1. Unauthorized fishing without a fishing license** | Inland water non-motorized vessels | 50-150 |
| Inland water motorized vessels and marine non-motorized vessels | 100-500 |
| Marine water motorized vessels, with power less than 184 kW | 200-2500 |
| 184-440 kW  | 2500-6000 |
| Above 440 kW | 6000-20000 |
| **2. Conducting fishing operations not according to the specified types, locations, time limits, fishing gears or licenses, and annual examinations** | Inland water non-motorized vessels | 25-50 |
| Inland water motorized vessels and marine non-motorized vessels | 50-100 |
| Marine water motorized vessels, with power less than 184 kW | 50-750 |
| 184-440 kW  | 750-1800 |
| Above 440 kW | 1800-3000 |
| Offshore vessels entering the inland sea for fishing |  |
| 440 kW or less | 3000-7000 |
| Above 440 kW | 7000-20000 |
| Failing to apply for permits or annual examinations according to the regulations |  |
| Inland waters | 20-50 |
| Seas | 50-500 |
| **3. Violating the regulations on closed fishing areas, closed fishing seasons, protected areas, aquatic animals that are prohibited for fishing, or bearing no licenses or acquiring the catches** | Inland water non-motorized vessels | 50-500 |
| Inland water motorized vessels and marine water non-motorized vessels  | 500-5000 |
| Marine water motorized vessels, with power less than 44 kW | 500-5000 |
| 44-184 kW | 5000-15000 |
| 184-440 kW | 15000-30000 |
| Above 440 kW | 30000-50000 |
| Illegal acquisition, trafficking or hiding of parents and seedlings of aquatic animals with important economic value | 500-10000 |
| **4. Using prohibited fishing gears and fishing methods** | (1) Fishing with explosives and poisons |  |
| Inland waters | 50-500 |
| Seas | 500-50000 |
| (2) Fishing with electricity |  |
| Inland waters | 200-1000 |
| Seas | 500-3000 |
| (3) Catching fish with ospreys not according to the regulations  | 50-200 |
| (4) Trapping fish by making knocking noise |  |
| Inland waters | 1000-10000 |
| Seas  | 5000-50000 |
| (5) Using nets with undersized mesh |  |
| Inland waters | 50-200 |
| Seas | 200-1000 |
|  | (6)  | 100-1000 |
| (7) Using bamboo weirs and lift nets | 50-200 |
| (8) Using multi-layer sac nets, water gate sleeve nets | 50-1000 |
| **5. The amount of larvae exceeding the specified proportion** | Inland waters | 10-50 |
| Seas | 50-500 |
| **6** | Building fishing vessels without a construction permit | 20-50% of the building cost |
| **7** | Sale, lease, alteration, illegal transfer of fishery licenses or permits | 100-1000 |
| **8** | Stealing, robbing aquatic products or destroying fishery water bodies and facilities, with minor behaviors | 50-1000 |
| **9** | Polluting fishery waters, causing losses to the fishery | 20 per acre |
| **10** | If a fine is imposed, the captain or unit leader shall be imposed with a fine of  | 100-1000 |
|  |  |  |

Note: Units for measurement of fines: work unit shall be taken for measurement for vessel operations (main motor power of motorized vessels will be consolidated); and a single person shall be taken for measurement for non-vessel operations.

The compensation for loss of fishery resources shall be calculated on the basis of 0.5 to 3 times the resulting mortality of aquatic animals; Those who have their fishing licenses revoked may only reapply the license after one year, and those who have their aquaculture permits revoked may only reapply for it after six months.

Article 37 The administrative penalties prescribed in these measures shall be decided by the fishery administration authorities at or above the county level and the notice of a penalty decision shall be filled out and issued. Among them, the confiscation of non-motorized fishing vessels or motorized ones with power below 44 kW (60 hp) shall be decided by municipal fishery administration authority; the confiscation of motorized fishing vessels with power above 44 kW shall be decided by provincial fishery administration authority. In the execution of various penalties, separate vouchers shall be issued for fines, compensations and confiscated fishing gears and catches. A daily late fee of 1% of the total amount of the fine shall be added from the final date of the time limit for overdue payment of the fine.

Article 38 If a party is not satisfied with the penalty decision of the fishery administration authority, he/she may appeal to the fishery administration authority of a higher level or directly file a suit with the people's court within 30 days after receiving the notice of a penalty decision. The higher-level fishery administration authority shall make a decision within 15 days after it receives the appeal. During the appeal and litigation, the execution of the original penalty decision will not be stopped. If a party files no complaint or lawsuit within the time limit and refuses to fulfill the penalty decision, the authority that makes the penalty decision shall apply to the people’s court for compulsory execution.