



SOCIO-ECONOMICS OF DISCARDS

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REASONS FOR DISCARDING. FISHERS PERCEPTION.



Fishers perceptions about discards

- Discards are recognized by fishermen as an inseparable part of the fishing industry and an unavoidable consequence of trawl fishing.
- The general perception of discards by the fishermen interviewed is negative, as:
 - a. They represent the waste of ecological and economic resources both currently and in the future.
 - b. They generate ethical dilemmas among the consulted fishermen.
 - c. They are considered an unwanted cost for the activity, thus fishers accept the application of strategies to minimize those unwanted captures.
- Main motivations for discarding are:
 - a. By economic motivations, that is to say, captures with null or low commercial value.
 - b. To accomplish fishing regulations:
 - ✓ Discarding of individuals with a size smaller than the legal one.
 - ✓ It is followed in importance by the discard caused by lack of quota and the return of forbidden species to the sea.
- The representatives of the fleet show special rejection of the obligation of discard by regulation motives.

Reasons for discarding	
Economic value	92,3%
Minimun size	92,3%
Quality	84,6%
Lack of quota	53,8%
Prohibited species	30,8%
Other reasons	23,1

PERCEPTION ABOUT THE LANDING OBLIGATION

The acceptance and compliance of the landing obligation will depend on the perception of legitimacy that the agents that must accomplish them, have from it.

- Valuing the relevance of the processes associated to the landing obligation and of the expected results of the application of the rule, fishermen perceive that obligation as negative and, subsequently, illegitimate.
- The **lack of legitimacy** detected is expressed by the fishermen referring to different states of the process of creation, communication and application of the law:
 1. About the formulation of the law:
 - a. Fishermen feel that they have been excluded from the process of government of the resources. They do not take part in the processes of making decisions.
 - b. They think that the landing obligation, seeing how it is written, it is unviable. That is why they highlight the need for adaptation, flexibilization and nuance of the conditions and obligations compiled in the fishery law.
 2. About the communication of the law to the sector, fishermen:
 - a. Observe that it is confusing and difficult to understand.
 - b. They admit to have a low knowledge of the law.
 - c. The ones affected by the landing obligation do not know how to act.
 - d. Even looking for assistance in the Organization of Producers (OPROMAR) they do not find effective ways of communication with the *policy makers*.
 3. About the expected results of the application of the aforesaid obligation in the context of study, fishermen perceive that:
 - a. It will not be positive for the fishing sector.
 - b. It will not produce an economic return for the fishing companies that apply it.
 - c. It will not help improve the selectivity in the fleet.
 - d. It will not guarantee more future fishing.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE DISCARD BAN



Function of production of a typical vessel

#	Intermediate Inputs	Value	%
1	Employee remuneration (primary input)	322,673.64	33.64%
2	Oil Refinery Products, etc.	310,751.34	32.40%
3	Boats and Naval Repair Services	95,442.78	9.95%
4	Services provided by financial intermediaries	37,325.75	3.89%
5	Ropes and Nets	36,151.98	3.77%
6	Other Business Services	33,292.14	3.47%
7	Other Wholesale Trade Services	28,473.76	2.97%
8	Legal Fees and External Consultants	14,358.96	1.50%
9	Other Foodstuffs	13,405.01	1.40%
10	Miscellaneous Metal Goods	13,105.77	1.37%
11	Tools and Ironmongery Items	8,988.75	0.94%
12	Machinery and Electronic Equipment	8,554.08	0.89%
13	Transport Services	7,222.80	0.75%
14	Services for the handling and storage of merchandise	5,204.61	0.54%
15	Postal and Communications Services	4,469.66	0.47%
16	Plastic Containers and Packaging	3,632.00	0.38%
17	Machinery and Mechanical Equipment	2,814.63	0.29%
18	Ice	2,588.12	0.27%
19	Services provided by business and professional organizations	2,429.06	0.25%
20	Miscellaneous Business Services	2,034.75	0.21%
21	Pulp, Paper and Cardboard Items	1,488.93	0.16%
22	Paint	1,126.76	0.12%
23	Textile Ship Items	980.00	0.10%
24	Services provided by the public administration	750.00	0.08%
25	Basic chemical products, pesticides and agricultural chemical products	478.75	0.05%
26	Electrical Energy and Gas	460.00	0.05%
27	Clothes and Leatherwear	323.25	0.03%
28	Other Textile Goods	312.50	0.03%
29	Fresh Water	196.43	0.02%
30	Other Plastic and Rubber Articles	75.00	0.01%
Total		959,111.20	100%

EXPECTED CONTINGENCIES OF THE LO ENFORCEMENT

