IDENTIFICATION

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Pleoticus muelleri

SPECIES NAME(S)
Argentine red shrimp, Camarón langostín argentino, Camarón oceánico

COMMON NAMES
buques fresqueros, buques langoneros, flota amarilla de Rawson, langostino patagónico, pesquería costera, pesquería industrial

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Based on biological and fishery data, including reproduction areas and seasons, growth, recruitment, and fishery concentration, three independent populations have been recognized in Argentine waters for Argentine red shrimp: Mar del Plata, Bahía Blanca and Patagonia (Boschi, 1997). This profile is relative to the Patagonian stock.

The existence of three stock subunits within the Patagonian stock was recently suggested (De Carli et al., 2012), however evidence is considered not sufficient and a need of population genetic analysis was indicated to confirm this proposed population structure in Patagonian waters. Meanwhile, the Argentine red shrimp population from 43ºS to 47ºS is considered and managed as a single stock (INIDEP, 2014).

Within the spatial range of distribution of the Patagonian stock, there are several fishing areas for different segments of the fleet and with different jurisdictions, whether national, provincial or based on interprovincial agreements. The industrial fleet and the artisanal fleet of bottom trawlers <21m are covered separately in this profile.

ASSESSMENT

Strengths
- The indicators used in the harvest strategy suggest that the stock is in good condition.
- The resource is monitored in real-time in national waters, on the basis of which the federal management body (CFP) takes decisions.
- The resolutions of the CFP directly follow the recommendations made by the scientific body (INIDEP).
- The shrimp breeding/spawning areas of Mazaredo (Santa Cruz) and Robredo (Chubut) in the San Jorge Gulf have been closed for shrimp fishing since 1985 and 2003 respectively.
- The AIER area is managed under a real-time monitoring with open/closed periods, as the rest of the areas under national jurisdiction.

Weaknesses
- There is not a management plan with reference points and harvest control rules for the stock.
- Management and assessments are not concerted in provincial and federal waters. Assessments in provincial waters are not formalized and real-time regulations are not employed.
- Since April 2014 there are no scientific campaigns by INIDEP oceanographic vessels, recording for open/closed areas is done based on surveys on fishing boats with on-board observers from INIDEP.
- In the inshore fishery the bycatch of hake increased in recent years as a result of the increase of fishing effort (number of boat operating in the fishery). This bycatch is discarded and it is not declared (only INIDEP on board observers have this records).

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy Managers Compliance Fishers Compliance
≥ 6 ≥ 6 ≥ 6

Stock Health:

Current Future
Health Health
≥ 8 ≥ 6

FIPS

- Argentina cmshrei red shrimp - bottom trawl:
  - Stage 5, Progress Rating A, Type: Fp, Evaluation Start Date: 1 Sep 2015

MSC

For related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support one of the existing fishery improvement projects (FIPs).
- Contact the Consejo Federal Pesqueño (CFP) and request that they develop and implement a red shrimp fishery management plan.
- Implement research projects to gather information on habitat and ecosystem impacts, especially bycatch like hake and protected/endangered/threatened species.