**IDENTIFICATION**

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:**
Mesodesma donacium

**SPECIES NAME(S):**
Macha clam

**COMMON NAMES:**
Chile, Macha, Surf clam

**STOCK IDENTIFICATION:**
Distribution of Macha clam (Mesodesma donacium) extends from Sechura in northern Peru to Chiloé in southern Chile (Riascos 2009). It is spatially structured as a metapopulation of localized subpopulations (Olivares 2005). However, the stock structure is not defined. A profile at national level is available here.

This profile refers to the Peñuelas A assessment and management unit, one of the largest banks currently active, located in the Chilean region IV.

**RELATED LINKS:**
- Fishery Development Institute (Chile) [IFOP]

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**ASSESSMENT**

**Strengths**
Peñuelas A (Region IV) is amongst the most important active macha banks in Chile. It is managed under a limited access regime and quota system, with a specific management plan, since 2002. Annual assessments are conducted to estimate stock biomass. Despite the high natural fluctuations of the resource, advised TACs and catches have been high and relatively stable since 2006. This bank is considered in good condition in comparison with the general trend of macha banks at a national level.

**Weaknesses**
The management plan is not publicly available, not meeting the regulations in force. Stock assessment and summary reports, as well as the methodology for calculating Advised TAC from biomass estimates are not publicly available.

**SCORES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Quality</th>
<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 6</td>
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**Stock Health:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Current Health</th>
<th>Future Health</th>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 8</td>
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**FIPS**
No related FIPs

**MSC**
No related MSC fisheries

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CATCHERS & REGULATORS**
1. Increase transparency by publishing relevant documentation such as the management plan, stock assessments, and summary reports with detailed information on the methods used for the calculation of quotas.
2. Use the example of Peñuelas A to increase coverage of well-managed TURFs and expand coverage to relevant coastal areas where macha is harvested under open access regimes.

**RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN**
1. Encourage authorities to carry out the timely publication of relevant documents supporting management measures in the fishery.
2. Request authorities to expand coverage of TURFs such as Peñuelas A to other coastal areas in Chile where macha is harvested.