

Red-eye round herring Ecuador

 Fishery:  Ecuador  Ecuador  Purse seines

IDENTIFICATION

SPECIES NAME(S)

 Red-eye round herring, *Sardina redonda*

COMMON NAMES

Red-eye round herring, sardina redonda

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The red-eye round herring (locally named "sardina redonda") distributed in the Eastern Pacific is *Etrumeus acuminatus*, whereas *E. sadina* (a senior synonym of *E. teres*) is now restricted to the Atlantic (*Randall and DiBattista 2012*) (*Munroe et al. 2015*). The stock structure of *E. acuminatus* in the Eastern Pacific is not known, and no assessment of this species has been recently performed by the National Fisheries Institute (INP) of Ecuador. Therefore an unascertained top node is assigned with a management unit for Ecuador, where it represents one of the main species of the fishery for small pelagics and it is mainly used for reduction purposes (*González 2010*).



RELATED LINKS:

- [Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries of Ecuador \(MAGAP\)](#)
- [Instituto Nacional de Pesca, Ecuador \(INP\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- A two-months fishing ban is established every year to protect the reproduction of the species.
- There is a regulation on mesh size and some spatial protection measures have been adopted to protect reproductive phases, as advised.
- The first mile from coast is closed to fishing to protect the reproduction of aquatic species
- Marine habitats and bottom types have been identified and mapped.
- There is a national plan for the conservation of sea turtles and a national plan for the conservation of sharks and rays.

Weaknesses

- The stock structure is unknown hindering a proper assessment at a relevant spatial scale.
- No stock assessment has been conducted; the stock status is therefore unknown and no reference points have been set.
- The fishery is not managed through fish quotas.
- Fishery statistics, particularly catch data, seems to be underestimated based on the amount of fish meal production and exports of canned fish.
- The impact on bottom habitats and the whole ecosystem, as well as on ETP species, is unknown.
- There is no current information on the degree of compliance and enforcement of existing regulation measures.
- Ecosystem impact of this fishery and the role of red-eye round herring in the ecosystem of the area where this fishery operates have not been evaluated

Options

- Investigate stock structure of red-eye round herring off Ecuador and conduct stock assessment in order to know the stock status.
- Set minimum landing size as recommended by INP.
- Improve bycatch monitoring and reporting.
- Increase transparency both in assessment and management issues and the accessibility to historical and recent official reports and fisheries data.
- Support the approval and implementation of the new fisheries law for increased monitoring and enforcement of existing regulation measures.
- Improve official catch records and specifically provide catch data for red-eye round herring separately and not as part of a group of species.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
< 6	≥ 6	DATA DEFICIENT

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
DATA DEFICIENT	DATA DEFICIENT

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries