



NOAA FISHERIES

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The Economic Importance of Southern California-based CPFV Trips to Non-US Waters in 2016

Study Objectives

The Southern California based Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel (CPFV) fleet provides recreational fishing opportunities in both US and non-US waters, with a focus on Mexican waters. For trips taken in US waters, NOAA Fisheries regularly surveys licensed California anglers to collect data on their expenditures and to estimate their economic contribution to the California economy. However, anglers on CPFV trips that fish solely outside US waters are not required to obtain a California license, and are therefore missed in the regular survey. To correct this data gap, NOAA Fisheries conducted a survey during 2016 to estimate angler expenditures on CPFV fishing trips that originate in Southern California and fish in non-US waters.

Survey Methods and Results

From January 2016 to January 2017, NOAA Fisheries surveyed anglers that took CPFV trips both inside and outside US waters from four major sportfishing landings in San Diego County. Based on a 2015 survey pre-test, the final survey utilized in-person interviews that were conducted after anglers disembarked from vessels upon completion of sportfishing trips. Anglers were asked to provide their expenditures on their current trip broken down into several categories. Sampling was stratified by port and month. The final sample for non-US waters trips includes 1,759 surveys from 643 trips aboard 51 vessels.

From survey results, it was estimated that recreational anglers participating in Southern California-based CPFV trips to non-US waters spent an average of \$630.28 per angler-day on for-hire trips to non-US waters. The top three expenditure categories for these trips were: combined vessel tickets, galley, rentals, and permits with \$439.40 in expenditures – consisting of 70% of total expenditures; combined crew tips and on-vessel fishing processing with \$73.36 in expenditures – consisting of 12% of total expenditures; and off-vessel fish processing with \$33.24 in expenditures – consisting of 5% of total expenditures. Mean expenditures per angler-day and the mean number of days fished are reported for non-California residents, California residents, and all anglers below.

Total non-US waters angler trip expenditures for Southern California-based CPFV trips were estimated at \$44.7 million (2016\$) in 2016. The estimate is the product of the \$630.28 per angler-day estimate and a California Department of Fish and Wildlife effort estimate of 70,850 CPFV angler-days in non-US waters in 2016.



Photo: James Hilger

The scientific results and conclusions, as well as any views or opinions expressed herein, are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of NOAA or the Department of Commerce.

Economic Contribution

2016 angler expenditures were used to estimate the economic contributions of marine recreational fishing. Model¹ results estimate that the \$44.7 expenditures from CPFV trips in non-US waters contributed to the California economy approximately 800 full- and part-time jobs, generated \$80.3 million in gross sales by businesses (output), \$47.6 million to the state's gross domestic product (value added), and \$30.1 million in wage, salary, or self-employment income. While angler expenditures on durable goods, such as fishing tackle, are expected to result from participation in the fishery – expenditures on durable goods and the resulting economic contribution were not studied.

¹ IMPLAN, Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc., 2018.

Economic Contribution (Million \$) in 2016	Total
Expenditures	\$44.7
Employment	800
Labor Income	\$30.1
Total Value Added	\$47.6
Output	\$80.3

Trip Mean California Expenditures per Angler-Day on trips to Non-US waters in 2016

Category	CA Non-Resident		CA Resident		All Anglers	
	Mean	Std. Err.	Mean	Std. Err.	Mean	Std. Err.
Airfare	\$20.02	\$2.02	\$1.55	\$0.44	\$5.81	\$0.62
Auto fuel	\$25.88	\$1.54	\$15.57	\$0.53	\$17.43	\$0.56
Auto rental	\$7.71	\$1.55	\$0.35	\$0.20	\$1.97	\$0.39
Crew tips, fish processing on-vessel	\$78.69	\$2.47	\$72.57	\$1.43	\$73.36	\$1.31
Fish processing off-vessel	\$40.83	\$1.30	\$32.03	\$1.85	\$33.24	\$1.30
Groceries	\$4.29	\$0.45	\$5.85	\$0.38	\$5.38	\$0.31
Lodging	\$58.60	\$4.31	\$6.87	\$0.71	\$18.26	\$1.38
Parking	\$5.36	\$0.48	\$7.67	\$0.26	\$6.96	\$0.22
Public transportation	\$1.43	\$0.30	\$0.08	\$0.03	\$0.42	\$0.09
Restaurants	\$44.17	\$2.38	\$14.44	\$0.89	\$20.89	\$0.98
Souvenir, off-vessel	\$10.51	\$1.45	\$2.06	\$0.32	\$3.68	\$0.38
Souvenir, on-vessel	\$4.08	\$0.47	\$3.40	\$0.94	\$3.49	\$0.62
Vessel ticket, galley, rental, permits	\$493.01	\$9.73	\$429.11	\$5.32	\$439.40	\$4.64
Total Expenditure	\$794.59	-	\$591.55	-	\$630.28	-
Obs. (range)	412-417		1,337-1,342		1,729-1,759	
Days Fished	3.7	0.06	3.2	0.04	3.3	0.03

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