



Ocean Nutrition's Commitment to Peruvian Fishery Sustainability

Ocean Nutrition Canada Ltd. (ONC) recognizes that overfishing is a serious environmental problem that requires global attention. We take great care in obtaining fish oil from a region where the government closely monitors the fishing industry to ensure overfishing, and the depletion of a fish species, does not occur.

Where does ONC's fish oil come from?

Ocean Nutrition Canada's Omega-3 fatty acids are derived from fish oil extracted from anchovy (95-99%) and sardine (1-5%) caught off coast of South America. The fish oil used by ONC is a by-product of the Peruvian fishmeal industry. Therefore, we are making use of a product that is considered waste product of another industry.

Who regulates the fishing activities in Peru?

The General Law of Fishery regulates all fishing activities in Peru. This Law was issued by the Ministry of Production and the President of Peru. The Ministry of Production is responsible for all fishing activities in Peru through the Vice-Ministry of Fisheries.

What is the process for a company to create new fishing activity?

1. The company must file a fishing license application
2. If the company qualifies for fishing activities by the Vice-Ministry of Fisheries, the Ministry will evaluate the type of species that the company wishes to fish
3. The Ministry considers many facts such as total biomass of the particular species, yearly quota, and total licenses already issued for that species
4. If all of these requirements are met, the license will be issued to the company with a maximum catch amount

Who monitors the Peruvian waters?

Peruvian waters are monitored constantly by the Marine Institute of Peru (IMARPE) to ensure the presence of a constant biomass and avoid depredation.

The anchovy, Peru's main species in the production of fishmeal and fish oil, has maintained its population for the past 50 years due to a responsible catch policy.

What mechanisms are in place to ensure entities work according to the law?

1. **Every fishing vessel must have a device that allows constant monitoring of their location via satellite.** This allows the regulatory entity to confirm that the catch is performed in a designated area. If it is determined that the device has been switched off, the company is fined and their licence is suspended for a period of time.
2. **A daily inspector visits every fish plant to verify the size of the catch, the type of fish caught, the sizes of the fish, weight of the fish, and gonad status.** If the fish are smaller than the allowable size, the company is fined and a ban is imposed in the area where that particular species was fished for a determined period of time to allow the species to grow and mature.
3. **As a whole, the fishing companies have contracted Societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS), one of the world's most reliable audit companies.** SGS supervises all catches through personnel that are present at the fishing vessels, and plants, the moment the catch arrives. SGS verifies the total amount of the catch, size, type of species, etc. The results reported by SGS should match the ones given by the supervisors of IMARPE and Vice-Ministry of Fisheries.
4. **The law forbids by-catch of marine mammals.** Fines for by-catch are very high and the fishing licence would be revoked if by-catches were found to occur.
5. **To avoid contamination of the waters and environment, the Peruvian government enforces adequate waste treatment for all fishing companies.**

Summary

- Harvesting of fish, for both the fishmeal and fish oil industry, is highly regulated and monitored by government agencies
- The fishery is open for only a short period of time each year
- Access to the fishery is restricted to a limited number of licensed participants
- Government marine scientists establish the timing and duration of the season
- Ocean Nutrition Canada ensures that the proper safeguards are taken to protect the environment by working with ethical fishing organizations in South America

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