

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary _ Public

Date: 5/14/2015 GAIN Report Number:

Ecuador

Post: Quito

Ecuador's Call for Temporary Fishing Ban Rejected

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the Economy Agriculture in the News Fishery Products

Approved By: Mariano J. Beillard

Prepared By: Henry Vega and Mariano J. Beillard

Report Highlights:

Ecuador's delegation to the World Tuna Purse Seine Association (WTPO) April 26 meeting called for a temporary 30-60 day global ban on tuna fishing to compensate for excessive overfishing in 2014. East Asia-Pacific states have rejected the proposal. Ecuador is now unilaterally implementing a self-imposed 62-day fishing ban commencing on July 28, 2015, in the eastern Pacific as a conservation measure to allow stocks and tuna prices to recover. Ecuador in calendar year (CY) 2014 exported \$287 million in unprocessed tuna and other fish along with \$1.26 billion in processed fish and seafood products.

General Information:

Ecuador's delegation to the World Tuna Purse Seine Association (WTPO) April 26 meeting called for a temporary 30-60 day global ban on tuna fishing to compensate for excessive overfishing in 2014. East Asia-Pacific states have rejected the proposal.

Ecuador is now unilaterally implementing a self-imposed 62-day fishing ban on July 28, 2015, in the eastern Pacific as a conservation measure to allow stocks and tuna prices to recover. The country's fishing industry reportedly supports the measure. Ecuador is concerned about the industry's long-term sustainability.

Ecuador in calendar year (CY) 2014 exported \$287 million in unprocessed tuna and other fish along with \$1.26 billion in processed fish and seafood products.