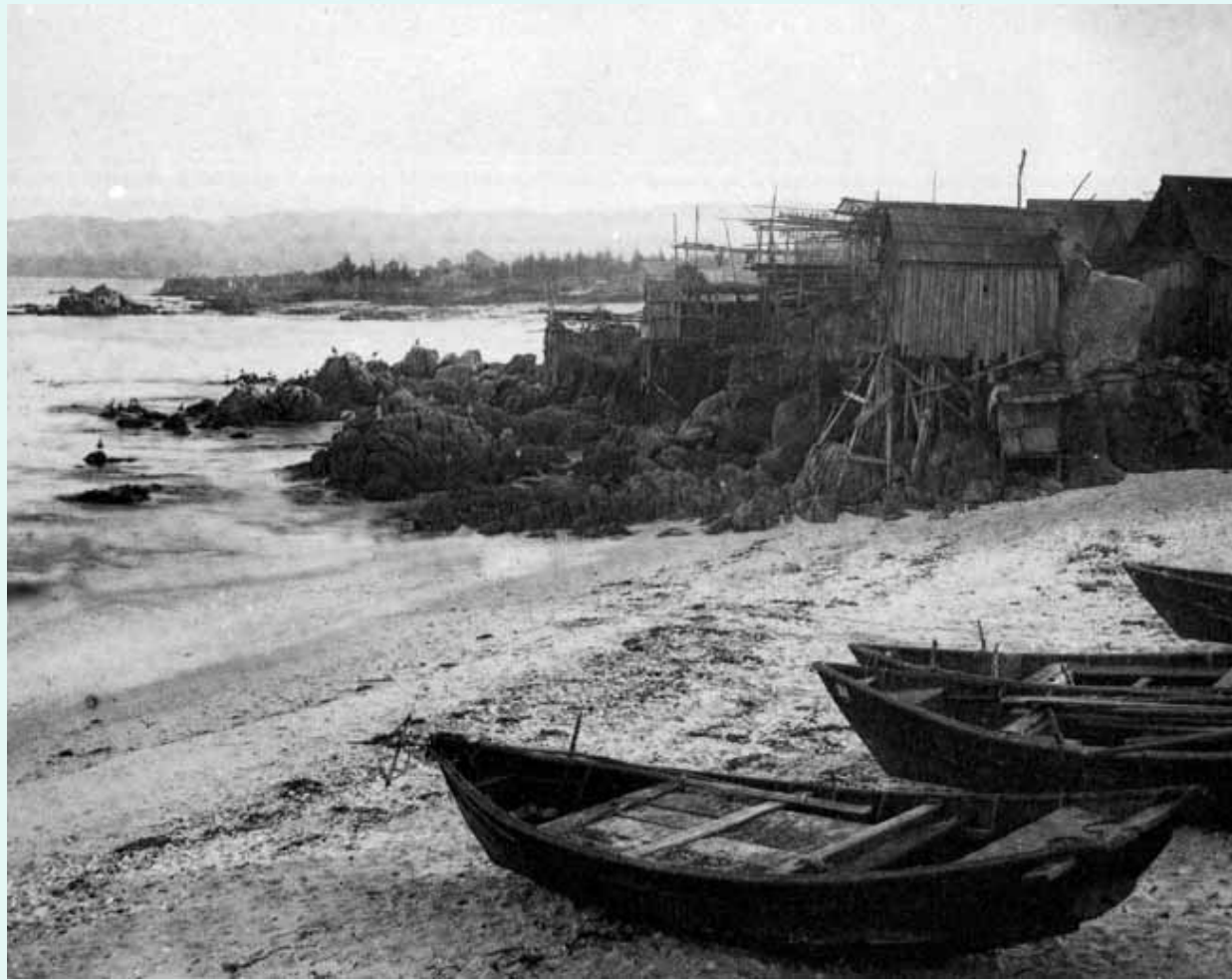


CALIFORNIA'S WETFISH INDUSTRY:



*Its Importance ...
Past, Present & Future*

Monterey's Historic Squid Fishery began in 1863

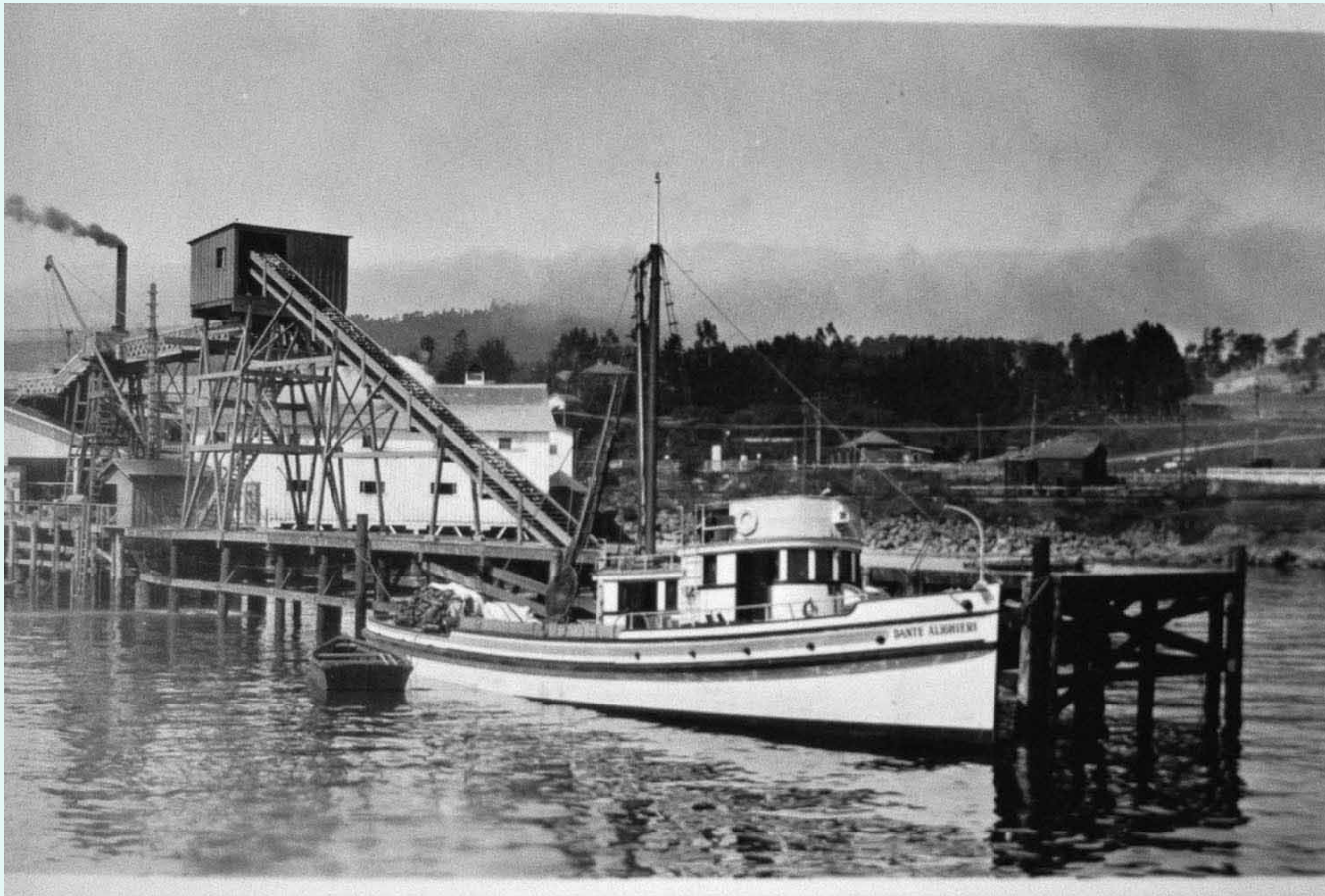


Monterey's historic squid fishery

- Chinese fishermen rowed the bay at night in sampans.
- Fishermen used baskets filled with burning fat pine to attract the squid.
- One fisherman in the torch boat attracted squid, while two other skiffs encircled the school with a purse seine net. Fishermen dipped the catch into the three skiffs.
- The catch was dried in nearby fields, salted and exported to China – where the salt was even more valuable than the squid.



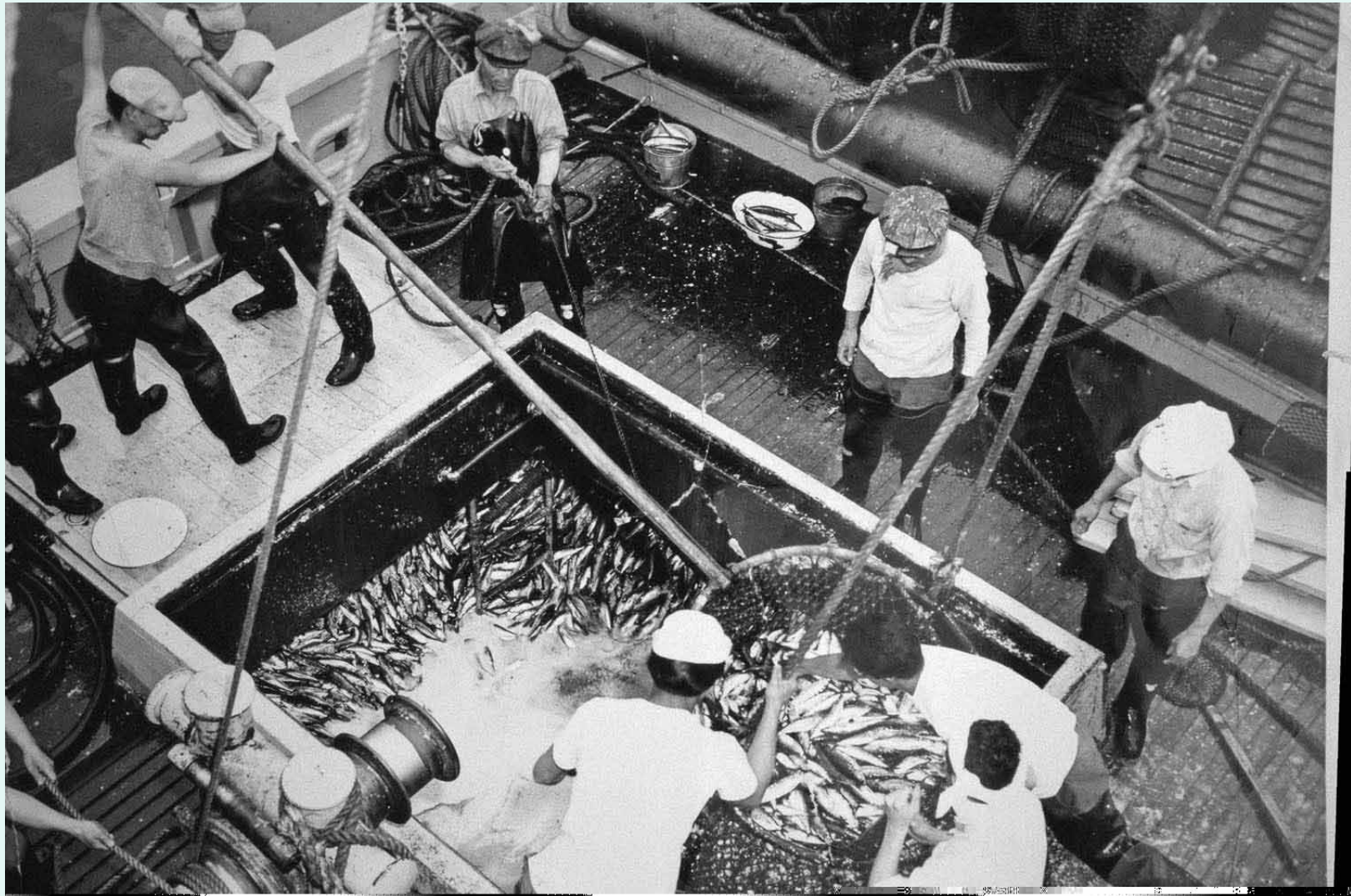
Monterey's Historic Sardine Industry began in 1900

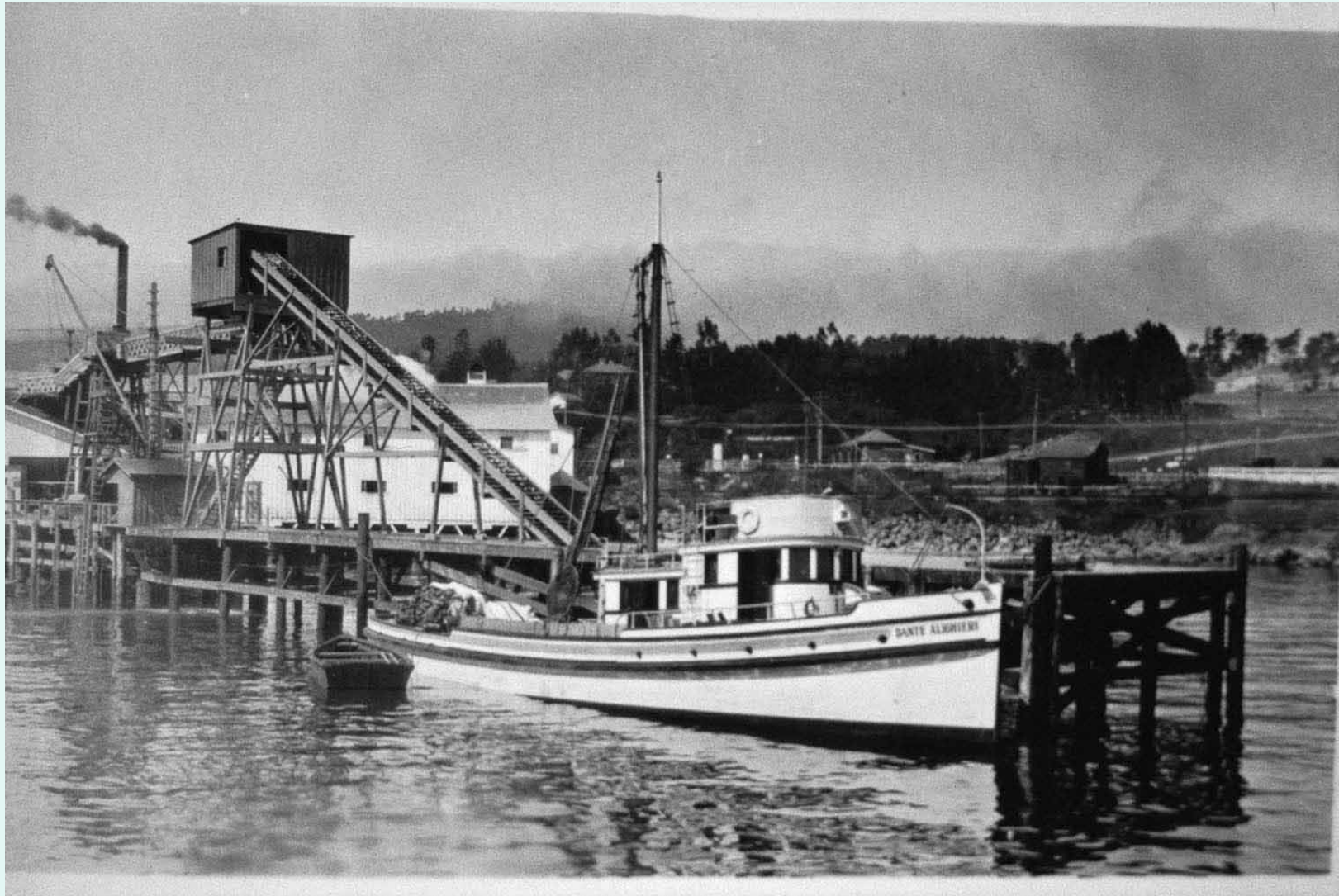


Monterey's historic sardine industry

- Frank Booth founded the F.E. Booth Company and built a plant on Cannery Row in 1902 – the real beginning of Monterey's famed sardine industry.
- By 1945 Monterey boasted 19 canneries.
- During its heyday in the 1930s and early 40s, Monterey was the sardine capital of the world, and the sardine fishery was the largest fishery in the western hemisphere.
- At its peak in the 1936-37 season, canneries put up nearly 3 million cases of canned sardines.







Unloading at F.E. Booth Company



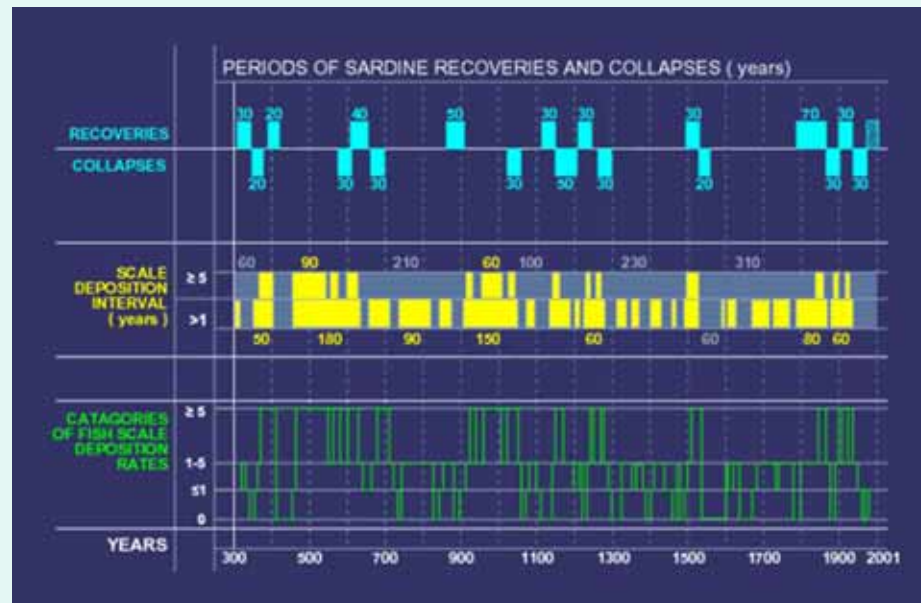
View of Monterey fishermen's wharf, circa 1940



In 1936-37 canneries packed nearly 3 million cases of canned sardine

By the late 1940s sardines disappeared from Monterey Bay

- The cause evoked great debate.
- Many years after the “crash”, scientific studies found layers of sardine scales and layers of anchovy scales, with nine major sardine recoveries and collapses over a 1,700 year period
- Warm water cycles favor sardines, cold water favors anchovies

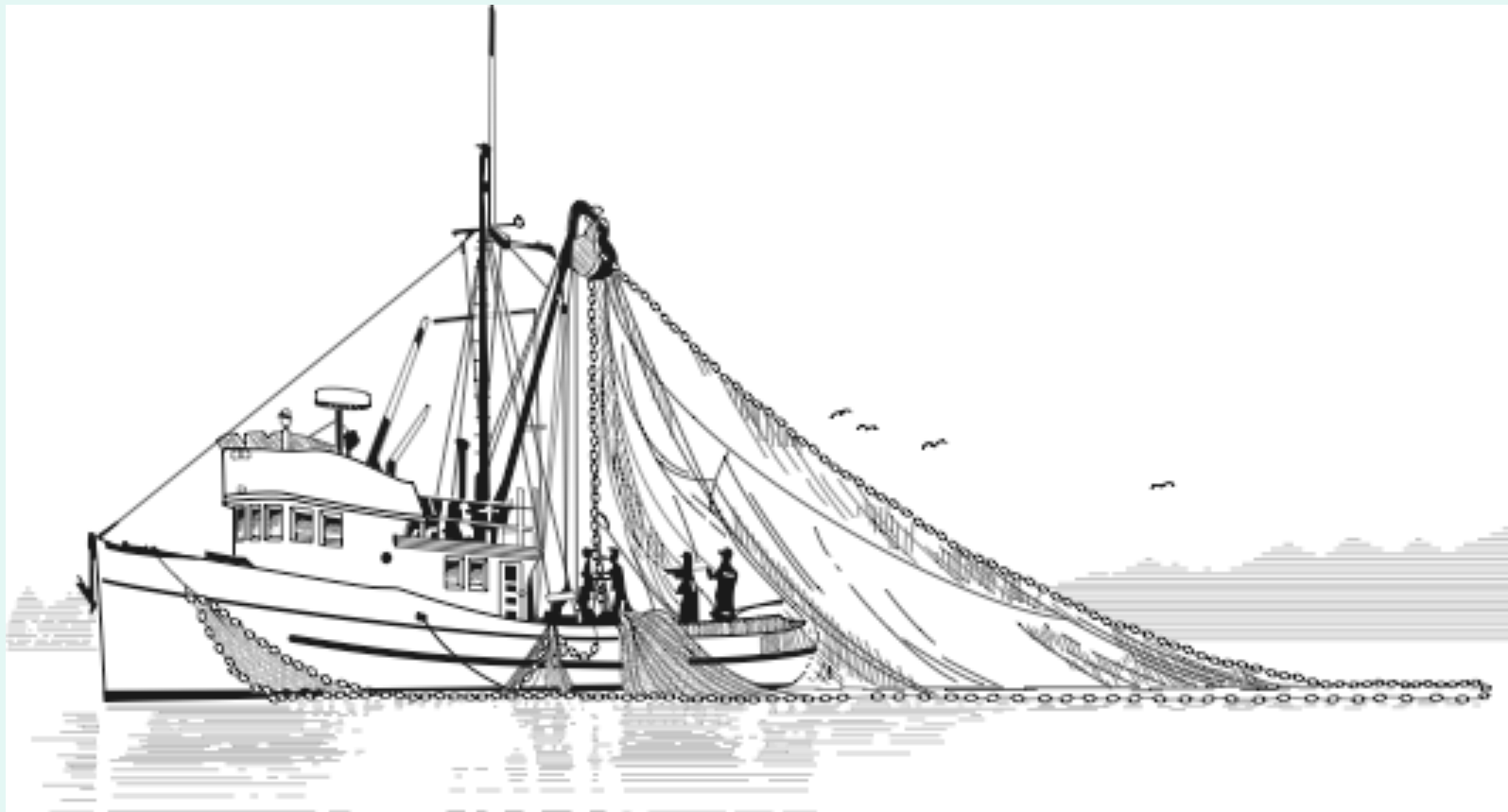


California's Wetfish Industry Today



A traditional industry with a contemporary outlook

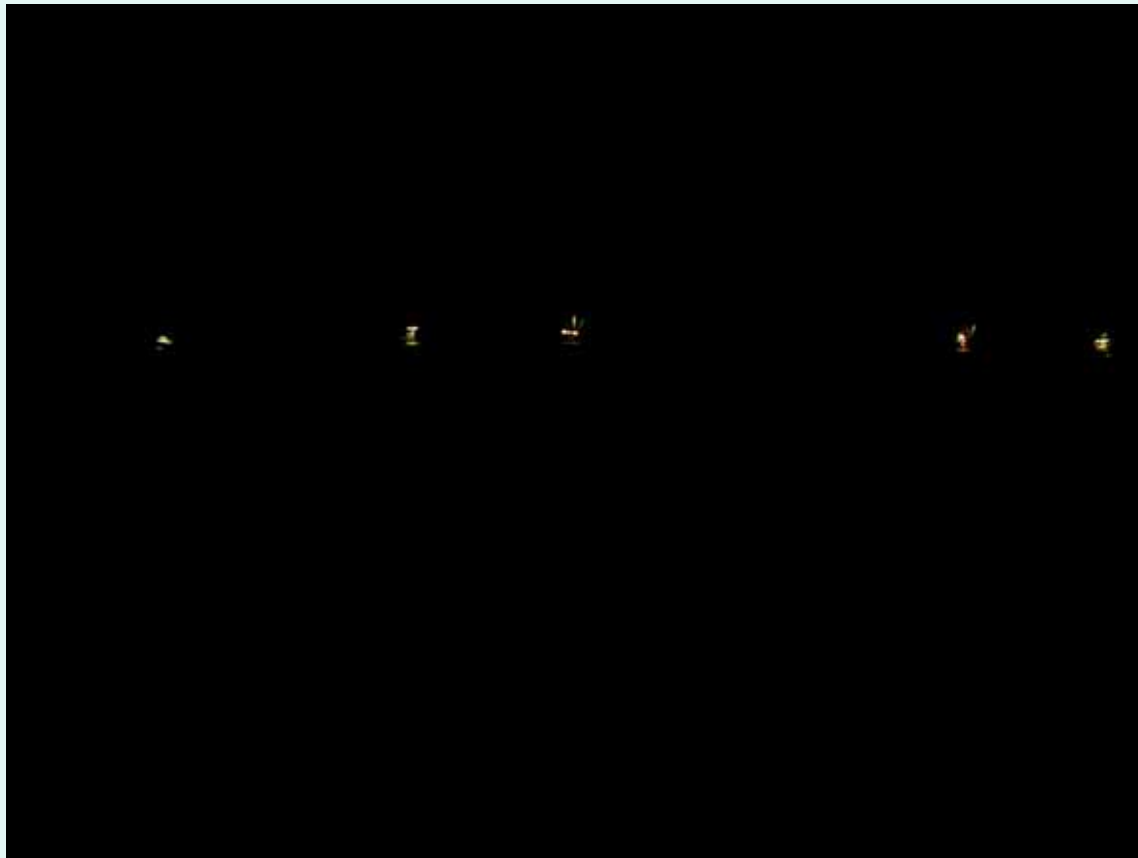
Much has changed, but the tradition
remains the same





Light Boats

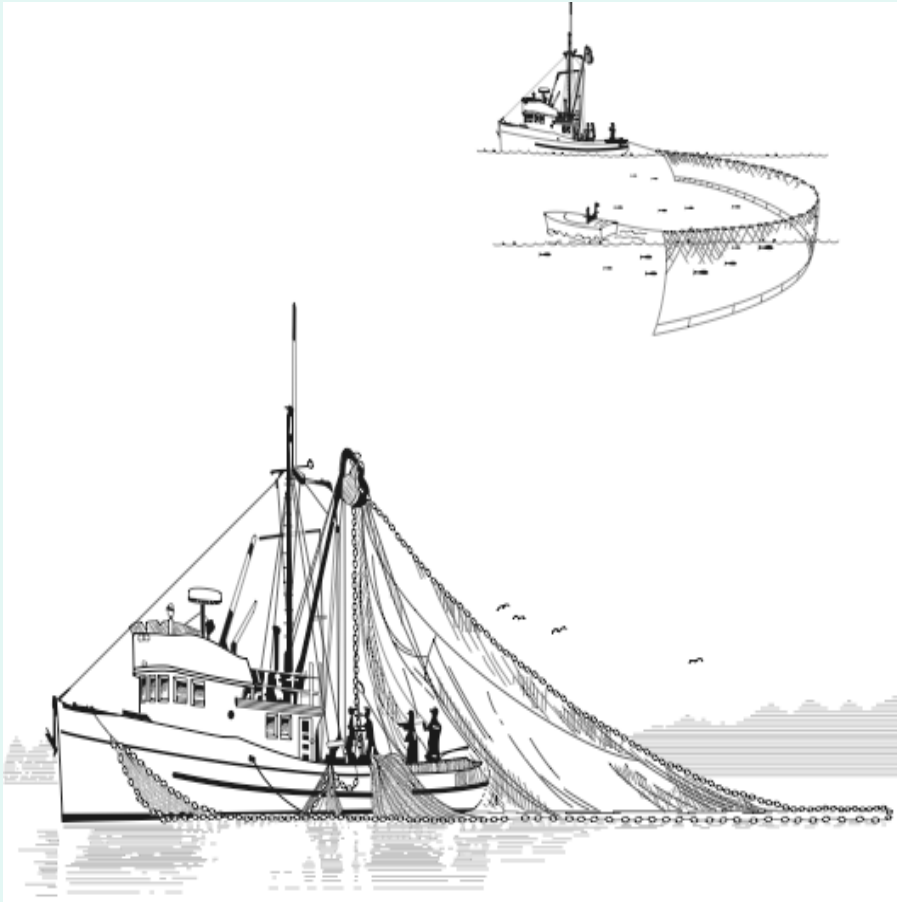
Lights from .5 of a mile away



Squid Fleet In Monterey



Round-haul fishing gear has improved



- Nets are nylon now
- “Soft bottom” lead line replaced chain

Off Loading The Squid



Vietnamese Crewmen

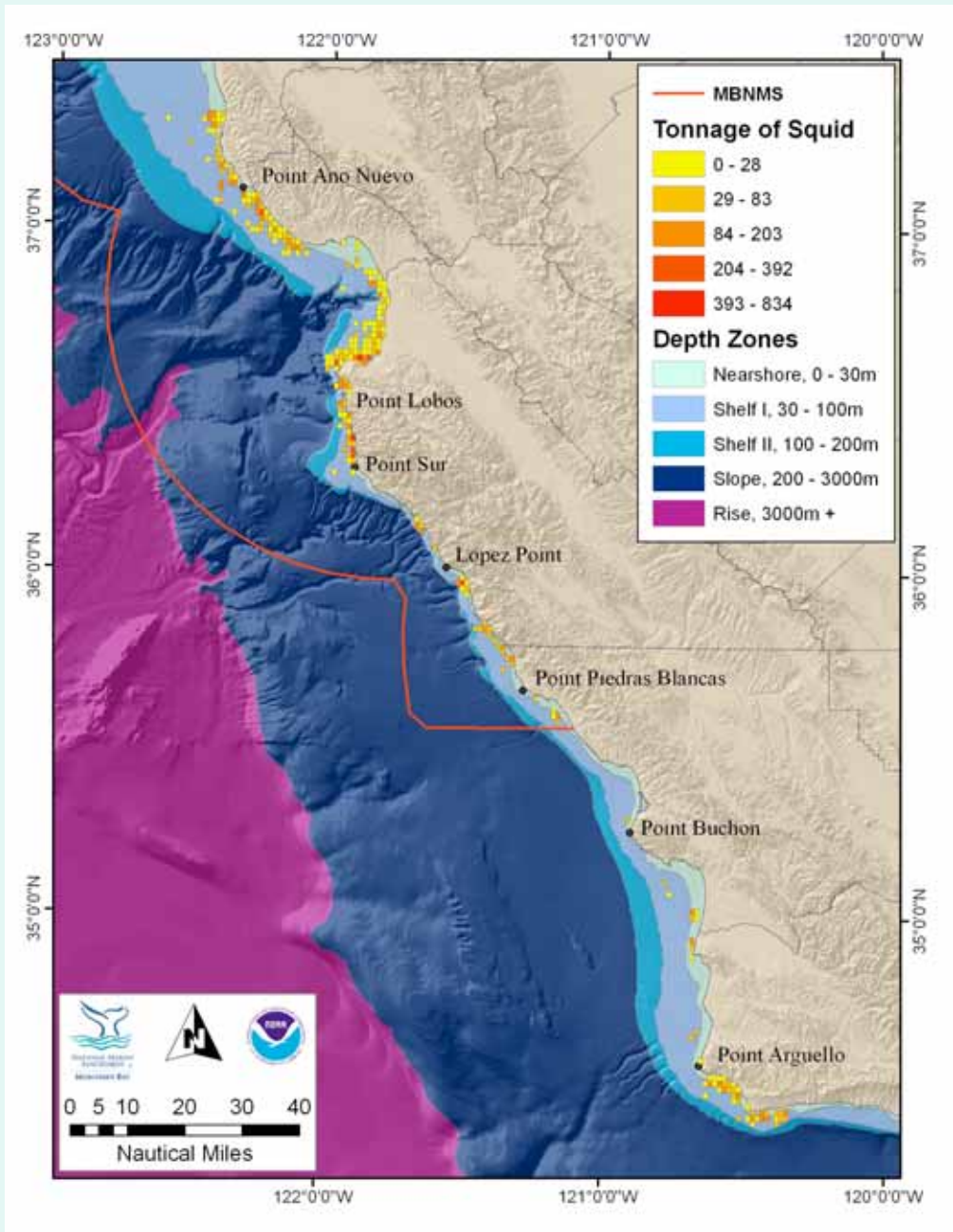


Weighing the Squid



Loading Squid Trucks





Central Coast Squid Fishing Areas

CA Market Squid Migration

- CA market squid range from Baja California to Alaska
- Squid migrate up and down the coast – as well as from shallow to deep water – depending on water conditions
- Squid spawn in different locations year to year
- The lifespan of market squid is less than one year
- Squid die after spawning
- Individual female squid have lifetime egg production of 3,000 - 4,000 eggs
- CA squid are fished on spawning grounds, but ...
- Squid also spawn in many areas not fished

Playing In The Wake



CA Squid Fishery

- CA market squid fishery operates in Monterey area in summer and in southern CA in fall-winter
- Environmental cycles play a primary role in squid abundance
- CA squid fishery is managed sustainably

Some current squid fishery regulations include:

- Statewide weekend closure + voluntary 4-day week in Monterey District 16
- Maximum harvest cap
- Restricted access program for squid fishery, limiting number of vessels

Example: Sardine



Sardine Migration

- Pacific Sardines range from Baja CA to British Columbia and 200 miles offshore
- Sardine resource was declared fully recovered in 1999
- Monterey's sardine fishery peaks in summer and fall, when larger fish return from their northern migration
- Monterey sardine fishery operates relatively close to harbor
- **Current sardine fishery regulations include:**
 - Strict limit on harvest rate, determined by water temperature
 - Harvest quota based on net 11 percent of estimated biomass
 - 150,000 mt set aside as forage for marine life
 - Restricted access program for fishing fleet with daily landing limit

Coastal Pelagic Species: Foundation of Monterey's Fishing Community



Monterey's Historic Wetfish Industry

- Is essential to the community, both culturally and economically
- Represents up to 95 percent of the harvest and 65% of the value of all commercial fisheries in the region
- Monterey wetfish fisheries are sustainable, have continued for nearly 150 years

In Conclusion



- Monterey's historic wetfish industry: yesterday, today and tomorrow