

File of Ministry of Agriculture

Announcement of Ministry of Agriculture (2018) No.1

Re: Announcement on adjustment of annual summer fishing ban regime

In order to further implement the *Fisheries Law, Framework for Action of Maintenance of China Aquatic Organism Resources* as well as the requirement of promoting a conservation culture, protect the marine fishery resources better, we, MOA, in line with the principle of “Overall stability, local optimization, reducing exception, good for supervision”, determine to adjust and facilitate the annual summer fishing ban regime. Hereby, the amended annual summer fishing ban regime is announced as follows.

1. The applicable areas

The Bohai Sea, the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea and the water north of 12°N of South China Sea (Including Beibu Gulf)

2. The applicable types of fishing operation

All types of fishing operation other than fishing tackle, inclusive of the auxiliary fishing boats which provide supporting service for fishing boat.

3. The applicable periods among different waters

a. For the waters north of 35°N of Bohai Sea and Yellow Sea, the ban period is between 1200 hours on 01 May and 1200 hours on 01 September.

b. For the waters between 35 °N and 26°30'N of Yellow sea and the East China Sea, the ban period is between 1200 hours 01 May and 1200hours on 16 September. For the waters between 26°30'N and the “boundary of Fujian Province and Guangdong Province” of East China Sea, the ban period is between 1200 hours on 01 May and 1200 hours on 16 August. In these waters, the applicable period of Truss-trawl for shrimp, cage and pot, gill net and light seining is banned between 1200 hours on 01 May and 1200 hours on 01 August.

c. For the waters between 12°N and the “boundary of Fujian Province and Guangdong Province” of East China Sea (including Beibu Gulf), the ban period is between 1200 hours on 01 May and 1200 hours on 16 August.

d. The ban period of Set-net fishing starts from 1200 hours of 01 May, with period shall no less than 3 months, the end of ban period is determined by the local fishery authorities and reported to MOA for record.

e. Special economic species could be applicable to the special fishery licensing system, the local fishery authorities shall submit the detailed species, type of operation and operation waters to the MOA for approval before implementation.

f. The auxiliary fishing boat is subject to the maximum ban period of fishing boat in local waters in principle, if the auxiliary fishing boat is indeed required to provide supporting service for some types of the fishing boat which cause slight damage to resource before the maximum ban period is ended, the local fishery authorities set out relevant matched management rules and submit it to the MOA for approval before implementation.

g. The local fishery authorities may make stricter measures for resources protection on basis of the national regime according to the local situation.

h. The “boundary of Fujian Province and Guangdong Province” refers to the water administration boundary line between Fujian Province and Guangdong Province as well as the connecting line of the distant shore end of the said boundary line (117°31'37.40"E, 23°09'42.60"N) and the E Luan Bi Light House (120°50'43"E, 21°54'15"N) at the south end of Taiwan Island.

4. Date of Implement

The above amended regulation on summer fishing ban shall take effect from the date of promulgation.

Ministry of Agriculture

08 February 2018