

Belize's Sea Cucumber Fishery

Presented by

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History & Status

- Sea cucumber fishing has been active in Belize for approximately 20 years
 - Legal since 2009
- Both *H. mexicana* and *I. badionotus* are harvested, although the Belize Fisheries Department only allows the harvest of *H. mexicana*
 - Max. 70 sea cucumber fishing licenses issued/yr
 - Total Allowable Catch: 182,750 lbs /yr

2012 Assessment

○ *Isostichopus badiotus*

- 1.8 ind./ha
- Mean adult weight was 346 g

○ *Holothuria mexicana*

- 12.9 ind./ha
- Mean adult weight was 562 g

