

The Global Footprint of Industrial Fishing

Illuminating the spatial and temporal extent of global fishing, using satellites and algorithms to analyse vessel positions broadcast via automatic identification system (AIS) signals

DISTANCE COVERED BY VESSELS

460 million km / year
= **600 trips** to the moon and back

HOURS OF FISHING ACTIVITY

40 million hours / year

AIS MESSAGES PROCESSED

22 billion

HIGH SEAS FISHING BY COUNTRY

85% 
of total accounted for by China, Spain, Taiwan, Japan, & South Korea

FISHING VESSELS TRACKED

>70,000
including >75% of all vessels >34m

INDUSTRIAL FISHING IN

>55% of the ocean
= **4x** agriculture area

ENERGY CONSUMED BY VESSELS

20 billion kilowatt hours / year

FISHING EFFORT FOOTPRINT

>100x
higher resolution than previous datasets