

## 11. FISHERIES IMPACT

### 11.1 Legislation, Policies, Plans, Standards and Criteria

- 11.1.1** *The Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process*, promulgated under Section 16 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) 1997, provides guidelines (Annex 17) and criteria (Annex 9) for evaluating fisheries impacts.

### 11.2 Description of the Environment

- 11.2.1** The study area for fisheries impact assessment included the Victoria Harbour, Western Buffer and Easter Buffer Water Control Zones, same as those used in ecological and water quality impact assessments. The Agriculture and Fisheries Department in 1998 published Port Survey 96/97, based on information gathered in the study titled Fisheries resources and Fishing Operations in Hong Kong Waters. This report contains the most up-dated information on capture fisheries in Hong Kong waters, including both adult and fry productions. No field survey was carried out to collect fisheries data in this study.

- 11.2.2** The 96/97 Port Survey<sup>1</sup> divided Hong Kong waters into 189 fishing areas. **Table 11.1** summarises commercial fisheries data according to the 96/97 Port Survey. Approximately 90% of the vessels surveyed were less than 15 m in length. They contributed to 62% of the adult fish production, 100% of the fry production and 77% of the total value.

Table 11.1 Summary of Capture Fisheries Data in Hong Kong Waters from the 96/97 Port Survey

	Vessel < 15m	Vessel > 15m	Total
No. of areas (out of 189) fished	177	112	179
No. of vessels fished in these areas	2,352	266	2,619
Adult fish production (kg)	10,932,365	6,748,878	17,681,243
Fry production (tails)	6,383,437	0	6,383,437
Total value (HK\$)	263,823,652	80,146,211	343,969,863
Average value per ha (HK\$)	1,451	441	1,892

- 11.2.3** **Table 11.2** shows capture fisheries statistics for the study area for fishing vessels < 15 m and compares such statistics among the three water control zones (Western Buffer, Victoria Harbour and Eastern Buffer). The size of the study area represents 7.3% of the total fishing areas in Hong Kong waters.

<sup>1</sup> Agriculture & Fisheries Department. 1998. Port Survey 96/97. Prepared by the Capture Fisheries Division, Agriculture & Fisheries Department.