



ICAR-CENTRAL INLAND FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE BARRACKPORE, KOLKATA-700120

Advisories for reservoir and wetland fishers/PFCS in the context of COVID19

The fishers must work in small groups at a time when they will be out of their home for any fishery related activities and must wear protective masks/cover and wash and sanitize their hands at frequent intervals and should maintain social distance. Use of gloves is recommended while handling and packing the fish produced. Engage only healthy individuals to avoid

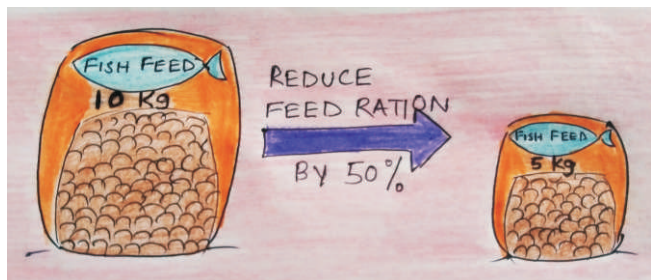


- Staggered harvesting of fish is recommended involving minimum fishers especially for floodplain wetlands and seasonal tanks.
- Marginal fishers can operate cast nets, gill nets and traps individually.

The community harvesting from perennial reservoirs can be put on hold and marginal fishers can operate from coracle or country boat with one or two persons in a craft using gill net.



In case of cage/pen culture operations, preferably one or two healthy individuals can be assigned for routine activities like feeding and monitoring of fish. The fish in enclosures must feed routinely to avoid crop loss and mortality due to malnutrition. Implements including nets, buckets, feed trays etc. should be disinfected and sanitized at regular intervals.



The fisher's co-operatives practicing feeding of fish in open wetlands must reduce the ration by 50% and check for oxygen depletion in the waterbody due to high standing stock.

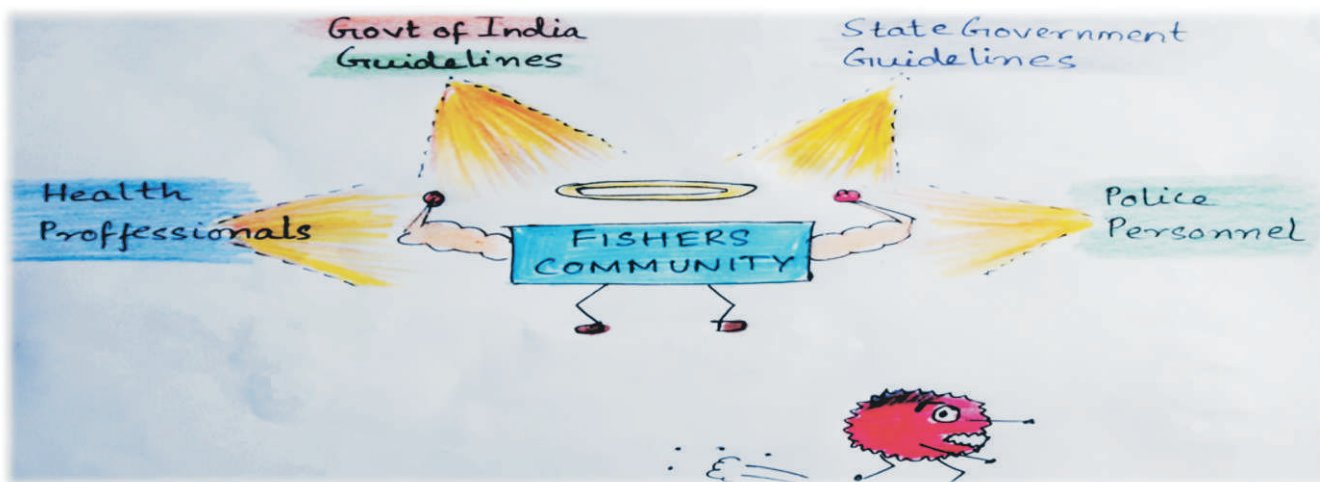
Breeding and larval rearing activities can be carried out in hatcheries following safety guidelines and by maintaining social distancing. The nursery and rearing pond preparation may also be undertaken following adequate self-protection measures.



PFCS must ensure safety of fishers engaged in fisheries related activities and also ensure the availability of masks and soaps/sanitizers with assistance from State departments/NGOs.

Precaution must be taken to avoid crowding of people while landing the fish and the produce may be marketed locally. The harvest may be collected by fishers in small groups and can be handed over to 3 or 4 assigned persons for transport to market. State fisheries dept. must ensure availability of ice and minimum requirements for proper marketing of fish.

Nets/traps/boats etc. to be sanitized after each operation and healthy individuals only should operate same craft to minimize risk of contact transmission



The GoI and State govt. notifications and guidelines must be strictly followed during visit to markets for purchase of inputs like feed, fertilizers, chemotherapeutics like oxygen tablet, zeolite, etc and also marketing of fish.

For further details, contact :
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