

Ecuador / Galápagos

Protected waters, cargo routes and the rules beyond the boundary.

Start with the cargo, then follow the carrier and the jurisdiction.

A transport offense, not an invented catch location

The Fu Yuan Yu Leng 999 judgment concerns protected-wildlife transport. It establishes forfeiture and an order for compensation; it does not establish that the carrier caught the animals itself. [S02](#)

A second route: Ecuador to Hong Kong

Hong Kong Customs reported two large shark-fin seizures from Ecuador in 2020. Commercial shipment origin does not locate the fishing grounds or identify the catching fleet. [S53](#)

Outside the reserve, different rules apply

The Southeast Pacific is also governed through SPRFMO. Its 2023 meeting in Manta recorded the dispute over two Chinese vessels refusing high-seas boarding. Do not relocate that event into Ecuador's EEZ. [S61](#), [S62](#)

What to investigate next

1. Obtain the carrier's final asset-disposition record and evidence of compensation actually collected.
2. Trace documented cargo lots to supplier vessels; keep catch origin separate from the export port.
3. Compare fishing authorizations, boarding records and the applicable maritime boundary on the event date.

Galápagos, mainland export routes and regional high-seas governance are connected subjects—not a single incident or proof of a common operator.

Connected files

- [The cargo that cost a carrier its freedom](#)
- [Two containers from Ecuador, 26 tonnes of suspected protected shark fins](#)
- [One fishing trip, three country-coded AIS identities](#)
- [When China instructed two vessels to refuse inspection](#)
- [A large fleet. A rulebook. A compliance question.](#)

Original sources

1. **S02 • Ecuador, Corte Nacional de Justicia**
[Case 20331-2017-00179: cassation decision](#)
PDF pages 2-8; disposition page 8
2. **S53 • Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department**
[Hong Kong Customs makes record seizure of smuggled scheduled dried shark fins](#)
28 April and 4 May container inspections; Ecuador origin; suspect released on bail
3. **S61 • SPRFMO**
[11th SPRFMO Commission meeting report and annexes](#)
Printed pp. 5-6; Annex 6a Table 12 (PDF p. 68)
4. **S62 • SPRFMO**
[10th Compliance and Technical Committee report](#)
Paragraph 58 onward: Zhou Yu 929 and Pu Yuan 755 proposals

Public-source synthesis; not live vessel monitoring.

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