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Colombia: Fisheries & Aquaculture Potential

by Barbara Khol

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On May 24, government officials told reporters that several new statutes pertaining to the National Fish and Aquaculture Institute were approved toward regulating all aspects of the industry. Officials said they hope the changes will facilitate an increase in the national fish catch and aquaculture output. Since 1976, the fish catch has averaged about 75,000 metric tons per year. In 1987, Chile and Peru recorded catches of 4.8 and 4.2 million metric tons, respectively. Officials say Colombia has an annual fish catch potential of 530,000 MT. The total includes 410,100 MT from the ocean, and 120,000 MT from the Magdalena River basin. Regarding aquaculture, experts say Colombia could produce a total 25,000 MT off-shore, and 5,000 MT inland. (Basic daa from AFP, 05/24/91)

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