

Tuesday
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Lota and Coronel take action to combat bad odors caused by fishing activity

Letters have been filed and a protection appeal has been filed. Members of Parliament have asked for more oversight, while in the case of the Lotina commune the appeal was made to the higher court.

By: Anibal Torres Duran March 28, 2023



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Not only in Talcahuano, but now residents of **Lota** and **Coronel**, along with authorities from both communes,

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appeals have been filed to resolve the situation.



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Colonel

In the city of Coronel, the deputy for District 20 and president of the Fisheries Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, María Candelaria Acevedo, confirmed the fact and demanded an inspection of the fishing companies in the area.

"We have noticed the **nauseating smell** coming from the fisheries that are engaged in fishmeal processing. (Before) we were in Talcahuano and we also noticed this situation. In **Lota** we are aware that something similar is happening and that is where there should be greater supervision by the Seremi of the Environment and the Seremi of Health so that they can assess whether these companies in these fisheries really comply with international standards," said the deputy.

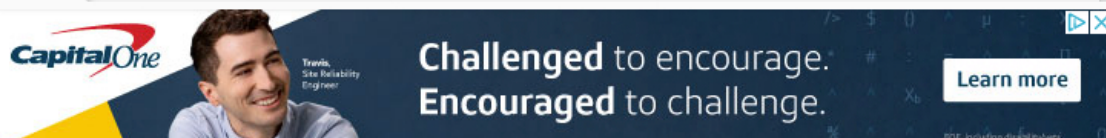
Along the same lines, Acevedo confirmed that he submitted a letter to the forementioned regional ministries and announced that the issue of **bad odors** will be



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Regarding the causes and the direct link with the fishing activity of these communes, the deputy pointed out the existence of a surplus of marine resources. "Several situations are occurring in parallel and that is part of what is happening, since the remainder of last year from some fisheries is being fished, in addition to the horse mackerel quota ceded by the Chinese Government. So we find ourselves with a kind of fishing surplus, which is clearly exceeding the capacity of the industry," she explained.



the **Municipality of Lota**, filed a protection appeal in the Court of Appeals of Concepción, with the aim of safeguarding the rights and tranquility of the residents of the commune. Legal action that is directed at the Lota fishing industry.

"We have put up with this inconvenience for many years, which has caused us many problems even when spending the night in our homes, because the smell is constant. When the fishing season is in full swing, it is terrible. Imagine what it was like during the pandemic, when we had to be locked up," said Lorena Guerrero, a representative of the residents of the sector that includes Condell, Matta and Prat streets, adjacent to the city's fishing companies.

For his part, the mayor of Lota, Patricio Marchant, said that "I know that some investments have been made, but that will have to be verified, and what we want is for the Court to be able to force them to make the corresponding investments, because we

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the Court to be able to force them to make the corresponding investments, because we all have the right to live free of pollution."

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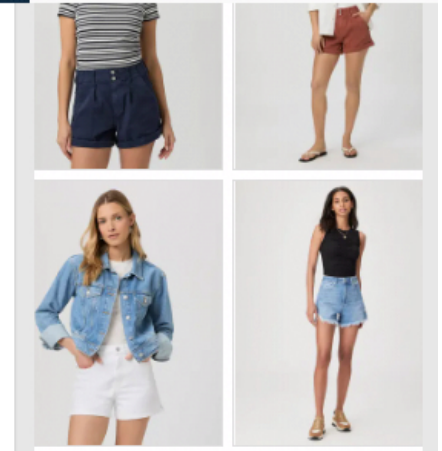
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The document presented to the appellate court was signed by the mayor, representing the Municipality, councillors, and the neighbourhood associations of Punta Astorga, Fuerte Viejo, Puerto Nuevo and Villa Edén. The appeal also includes the regional ministries of Health and the Environment.

It should be remembered that a few days ago, and as reported by Diario Concepción, the Association of Fishing Industries (Asipes) also submitted a letter to the Zonal Directorate of Fisheries of Concepción. At that time, Macarena Cepeda, president of the association, called on the authorities to implement the current measures that correspond to the regulation of work related to fishing.

Measures

▼ The Fisheries Undersecretariat indicated that work is being done to reinforce the



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associates and reinforce the measure of one delivery of products per day."

Among the agreements reported by the Government, it is also highlighted that the National Fisheries Service (Sernapesca) will optimize certification. It was also agreed to continue with the development of meetings, of all those involved, prior to the opening of the season at the beginning of 2024 to agree on future regulations and other matters relevant to the fishing sector.

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Parliament. Among the latest actions related to the creation of the new regulations was the on-site visit by the president of the Fisheries Commission, Deputy Acevedo; together

with the senator (PS) for Biobío, Gastón Saavedra, who met with industrial workers.

Paola Sanhueza, a union leader and president of the Association of Women Workers in Plants for Human Consumption in the Fishing and Salmon Industry, told them that: "With these visits, we want you to make the best decisions and not harm a region that depends on this. We have seen how decisions are made without background, due to political ideologies or because of being part of a sector. The industry has made a sustainable change and that must be seen on the ground," she said.

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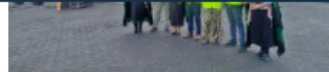
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