

Improved potential fishing zone forecast along East coast of India.

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Marine fisheries provide support to millions of fishermen community in terms of their living and livelihood. Remote sensing technology proved to be useful for successful fishing in reducing time, fuel and manpower because of its synoptic coverage. Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) forecast is being provided to the fishing industry in near-real time since 1992 using SST data derived from NOAA_AVHRR thermal IR channel. Retrieval of chlorophyll and its mapping has been done over Bay of Bengal from IRS-P4 (OCM) data. Synergetic study of SST and chlorophyll has been established and implemented recently for an improved PFZ forecast. The validation of these forecasts revealed 2-3 fold increases in fish catch along east coast of India. This program provides socio-economic benefits to the fishermen living all along the Indian coast.