



National Fishermen Producers Cooperative Society

Leading climate action into the lobster fishing industry

GENERAL INFORMATION



Location: Belize City, Belize

Total lobster/conch production in 2023:

264.39 tons

INTRODUCTION

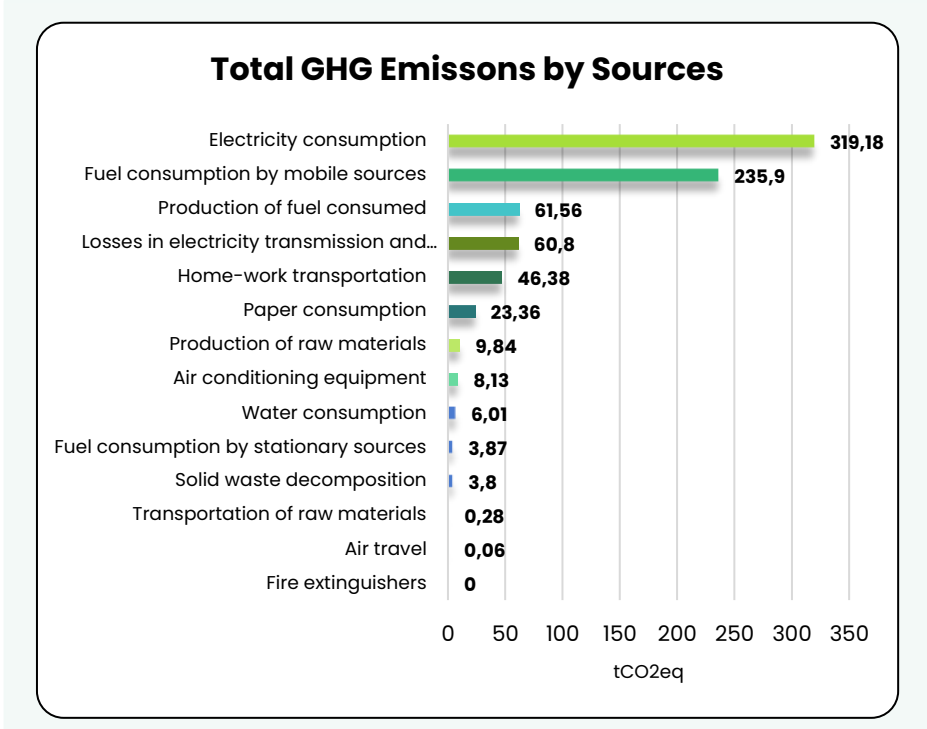
Established over 50 years ago, National Fisherman Producers Cooperative Society (NFPCS) is the second-largest fishers' cooperative in Belize. NFPCS has seafood processing operations in Belize City and receiving facilities in Belize City and Placencia. The cooperative produces lobster tails, lobster meat, finfish, and conch, fished by local fishers, and employs around 60 staff members during peak season.

CLIMATE ACTION

In 2024, NFPCS achieved the Carbon Measured certification from Green Initiative, meaning the organization has measured its full carbon footprint, committed to reducing emissions in subsequent years, and complied with the Green Initiative certification cycle and international standards. The carbon footprint assessment revealed that, compared to benchmarks in international lobster fishing, NFPCS had considerably lower emissions in its fishing, processing and packaging activities.

CARBON FOOTPRINT

- **48.8%** of NFPCS' total emissions are related to electricity consumption and distribution for **processing and refrigeration activities**.
- **38.2%** of NFPCS' total emissions are related to the consumption and production of fossil fuels by fishers in their **fishing vessels**.
- Only **3% of the emissions** are related to packaging materials such as cardboard boxes.
- **48% of employees** use transportation methods that don't emit greenhouse gases, like walking and cycling.





National Fishermen Producers Cooperative Society

Leading climate action into the lobster fishing industry

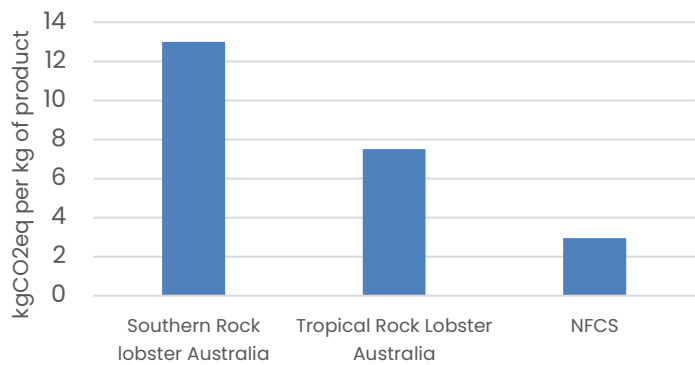


EMISSIONS COMPARISON TO INDUSTRY BENCHMARKS

The results demonstrated emissions of **2.95kg of CO₂eq per kg of final packaged product**, low when compared to other lobster industry benchmarks which range from 6,92 kgCO₂ to 13 kgCO₂ per kg of product.

This data was acquired from research on the environmental impact of two Australian Rock Lobster fishery supply chains.

Emissions comparison to industry benchmarks



CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The transition to clean energy sources is a **priority** in terms of decarbonization strategy and could be **economically advantageous** for the cooperative. Organizations can invest in **building their own infrastructure**, like installing solar panels or wind turbines, **or choose to buy clean energy from specialized energy providers.**

NFPCS should encourage their members to **invest in more energy-efficient engines and technologies** for their fishing vessels. Installing efficient engines, LED lighting, and efficient tunnel freezers can substantially reduce energy consumption on board and on the processing unit. Upgrades can result in significant reductions in fuel consumption and carbon emissions, making the fishing operations more sustainable.

Optimizing fishing operations through smarter navigation and fishing methods can lead to considerable fuel savings. NFPCS members can adopt modern navigation systems and fishing techniques that minimize fuel use while maximizing catch efficiency. This approach not only reduces carbon emissions but also enhances the overall productivity and sustainability of the fishing operations.

Encouraging behavioral changes and providing training for staff and fishermen on energy-efficient practices can have a significant impact on reducing emissions. NFPCS should promote awareness and education on best practices for energy conservation, efficient use of resources, and sustainable fishing methods. This cultural shift within the organization can lead to long-term improvements in energy efficiency and emission reductions.



LOOKING FORWARD



NFPCS is committed to continuing its sustainable practices and leading climate action in the fishing industry. The Carbon Measured Certification is just the beginning of a continuous journey to further reduce emissions and promote sustainability.



To leverage the Carbon Measured Certification and access new markets while adding value to their products, the NFPCS can adopt a comprehensive strategy that integrates marketing, partnerships, and transparency.

To learn more about climate action in the fishing industry, please visit www.greeninitiative.eco

To download the Green Initiative's Climate Action Guide for Tourism,

[Click here](#)