

Breeburg

FISH COMMISSION OF OREGON  
GROUNDFISH & SHRIMP INVESTIGATIONS

Report of Cruise 72-2. Dover Sole

Vessel: M/V Junior, commercial trawler.

Dates: March 31 - April 1, 1972.

Objective: To tag spawning Dover sole (*Microstomus pacificus*) in PMFC area 2B for stock identification and interchange.

Methods: Dover sole were obtained from the commercial catch, held briefly in tanks containing fresh salt water, tagged with Peterson disc tags, and released near the area of capture. Only lively fish were tagged. Tagging preference was given to large female fish.

The vessel used a 300-mesh McMillan otter trawl with a 5-inch, stretched mesh, codend. Duration of tows averaged 3 hours.

Results: There were 225 fish tagged from 4 tows. Tagged Dover sole were released off Bandon (110 1289 - 1351) in 180 - 250 fathoms.

Table 1 shows tag release location, number of fish tagged per tow, and tag numbers per tow.

Sexual maturity of Dover sole was noted in area 110 1289 - 1350 in 120 - 260-fathoms. All female Dover sampled in 120- fathoms were spent while many females from the 225 - 260-fathom depths were gravid.

Personnel: William Barss, Aquatic Biologist  
Frank Fleming, Captain  
Mike Waldrop, Crewman  
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Fish Commission of Oregon  
Management & Research Division  
April 14, 1972

Table 1. Location and Tag Numbers by Tow, Cruise 72-2

Tow No.	Date	Loran 1L0	Depth (fms)	Number Tagged	Tag Numbers
1	3-31-72	1350 - 1289	190/225	57	JJ 3424 - 3480
2	3-31-72	1350 - 1280	210	107	JJ 3481 - 3518 3520 - 3528, 3530 - 3538 3540 - 3548, 3550 - 3558 3560 - 3568, 3570 - 3578 3580 - 3587, 3590 - 3597
3	3-31-72	1340 - 1300	230/180	35	JJ 3519, 3529, 3539, 3549, 3559 3569, 3579, 3588, 3589, 3598 - 3623
4	4- 1-72	1350 - 1351	250	26	JJ 3624 - 3649
Total				225	