

FISH COMMISSION OF OREGON
GROUNDFISH AND SHRIMP INVESTIGATIONS

DEC 28 1973

Report of Cruise 73-4, Special

Vessel: Soviet Research Vessel SESKAR

Dates: August 17 - September 2, 1973

Location: Barkley Sound, British Columbia to Coos Bay, Oregon

Objective: To observe Soviet research operations during an acoustical and fishing survey to assess stocks of Pacific hake and rockfish. United States observers were Robert Demory, Fish Commission of Oregon and Donald Gunderson, Washington Department of Fisheries.

Methods: The acoustical survey was made along predetermined track lines, spaced 6 miles apart, at a constant speed of 10 knots. The inshore boundry was 5 miles offshore, while the offshore boundry was the 600 meter contour. The acoustical track lines were run between 0600 and 2000 hours. Limited trawling during the day was made on track lines, but most trawling which occurred at night was made at random locations. At each trawl station, surface and bottom temperatures were taken with reversing thermometers. Water samples were taken routinely.

Results: Between August 17 and September 2, 45 bottom trawls were made. Biological samples were taken for hake, sablefish, Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, and various species of rockfish. A biological sample consists of the following information: length, weight, sex, maturity, stomach fullness, stomach content, age, and in the case of rockfish, fat content. The aging structures taken were scales regardless of species.

No large concentrations of hake were found north of Stonewall Bank.

I copied the trawl logs of 138 trawls made north of Mexico since the vessel arrived off the U.S. Pacific coast. These are on file at the Fish Commission lab at Newport.

Robert L. Demory
Management & Research Division
November 23, 1973