

Opis

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Marine Region
Newport, Oregon

Cruise Report 80-CR-3

DUNGENESS CRAB INVESTIGATIONS

Vessel: Jo Marie

Date: November 12, 1980

Location: Heceta Head

Purpose: To determine condition of legal size male Dungeness crab.
To obtain data on sublegal and female crab location and number.

Procedure: Clusters of 5 pots were set at 10 fm intervals from 10 to 50 fms in an area fished during the first part of the season. All pots contained one bait box of squid. Escape ports were screened and the gear was to be set one day and pulled the following day. All crab caught were to be measured and counted and condition determined by the pinch method on all legal males then returned to the water.

Results: All pots were retrieved and contained 864 crabs of which 700 were legal males. The incidence of soft crab was low at 4.4% with all but one being Grade II. About one-fifth of the catch was sublegal males with only a few females, none of which were berried. There was a tendency to get more sublegal crabs in deeper water. Size was about average and was fairly uniform at all depths.

An additional note, this area and beyond to 80 fms was being fished when the season closed September 15.

Personnel: Phil Carley, Captain

Tom Gaumer, Biologist

Darrell Demory, Biologist in charge

