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# Proposed Cruise Plans of Japanese Research Vessels for Salmon in the North Pacific Ocean in 2002/2003 fiscal year

**by**

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Six Japanese salmon research vessels are tentatively scheduled to conduct the following scientific research in the western, central North Pacific, Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska, and Okotsk Sea, in 2002/2003 fiscal year (Table 1). In case of gillnet operation, gillnets less than 2.5 km in length at sea will be used.

(1) The *Oshoro maru* will conduct research with gillnets, longlines, hook-and-line and small trawl to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of salmon and other pelagic fishes in the western North Pacific from mid May to mid June and in the Gulf of Alaska from late June to late August (Fig. 1).

(2) The *Wakatake maru* will conduct research with gillnets and longlines to obtain data on the distribution and stock abundance of salmon along 180° longitude in the North Pacific and Bering Sea from early June to late July (Fig. 2).

(3) The *Torishima* will conduct research with pelagic trawls to obtain information on the distribution and stock abundance of Asian chum and pink salmon in the Okhotsk Sea and the western North Pacific from mid October to early November (Fig. 3).

(4) The *Kaiyo maru* will conduct research with pelagic trawls, longline, and hook-and-line to obtain information on the distribution and stock abundance of salmonids in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska from early June to mid September (Fig. 4).

(5) The *Kaiun maru* research with gillnets to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of neon flying squid, salmon and other pelagic fishes in the central North Pacific Ocean from late June to early August (Fig. 5).

(6) The *Wakatori maru* research with gillnets to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of neon flying squid, salmon and other pelagic fishes in the central North Pacific Ocean in May (Fig. 6).

Table 1. Proposed cruise plan of Japanese research vessels for salmon in the North Pacific in 2002/2003 fiscal year

| Vessel | Period | Survey area | Research objects | Gear equipped |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Oshoro maru* | May 17 - Jun 19<br>Jun 29 - Aug 27 | Western North Pacific<br>Gulf of Alaska | Fish community | Gillnets, longlines, hook-and-lines and trawl |
| *Wakatake maru* | Jun 6 - Jul 23 | Central North Pacific<br>Bering Sea | Stock assessment | Gillnets and longlines |
| *Torishima* | Oct 12 – Nov 2 | Okhotsk Sea<br>Western North Pacifc | Stock assessment | Pelagic trawl |
| *Kaiyo maru* | Jun 20– Sep 30 | Bering Sea<br>Gulf of Alaska | Stock assessment | Pelagic trawl, longline, and hook-and-line |
| *Kaiun maru* | Jun 26 – Aug 2 | Central North Pacific | Stock assessment | Gillnets |
| *Wakatori maru* | May 4 – May 31 | Central North Pacific | Stock assessment | Gillnets |

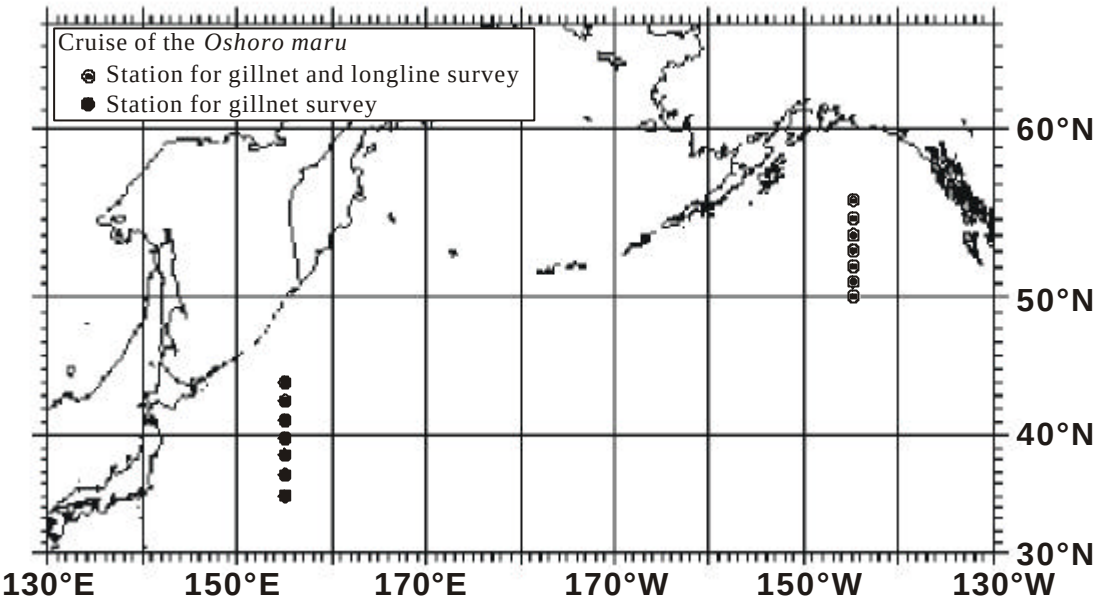


Fig. 1. Cruise of the *Oshoro maru*. 1st cruise in the western North Pacific May 17 (Hakodate) – June. 19 (Hakodate) and 2nd cruise in the Gulf of Alaska June 29 (Hakodate) – August 27 (Hakodate).

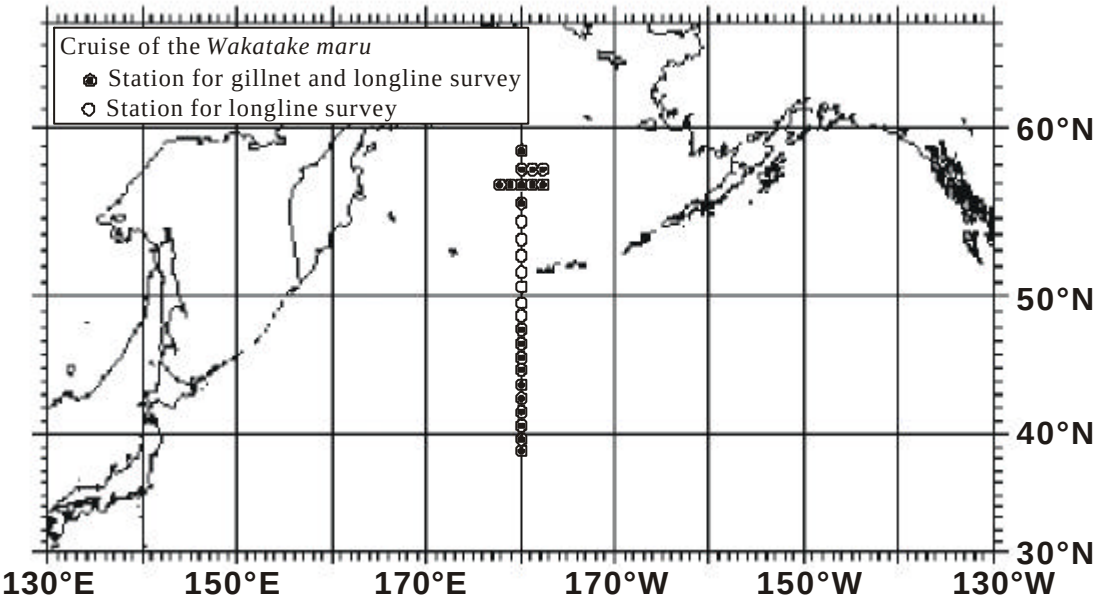


Fig. 2. Cruise of the *Wakatake maru*. June 6 (Hakodate) - July 23 (Hakodate).

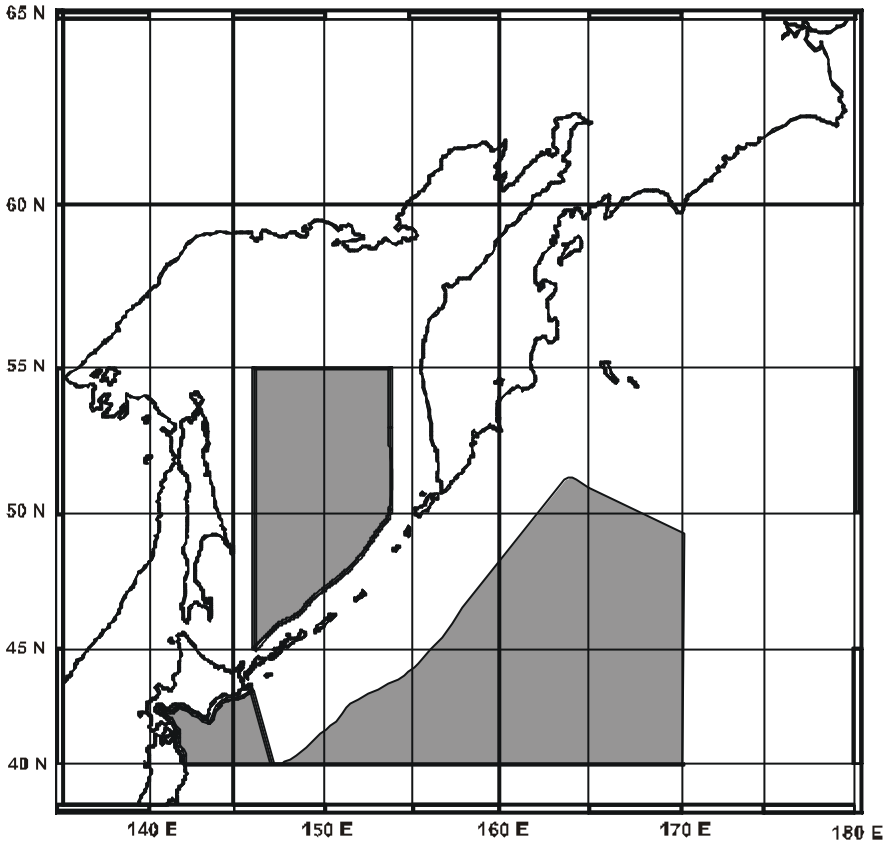


Fig. 3. Cruise of the *Torishima*. October 12 (Kushiro) – November 2 (Kushiro).

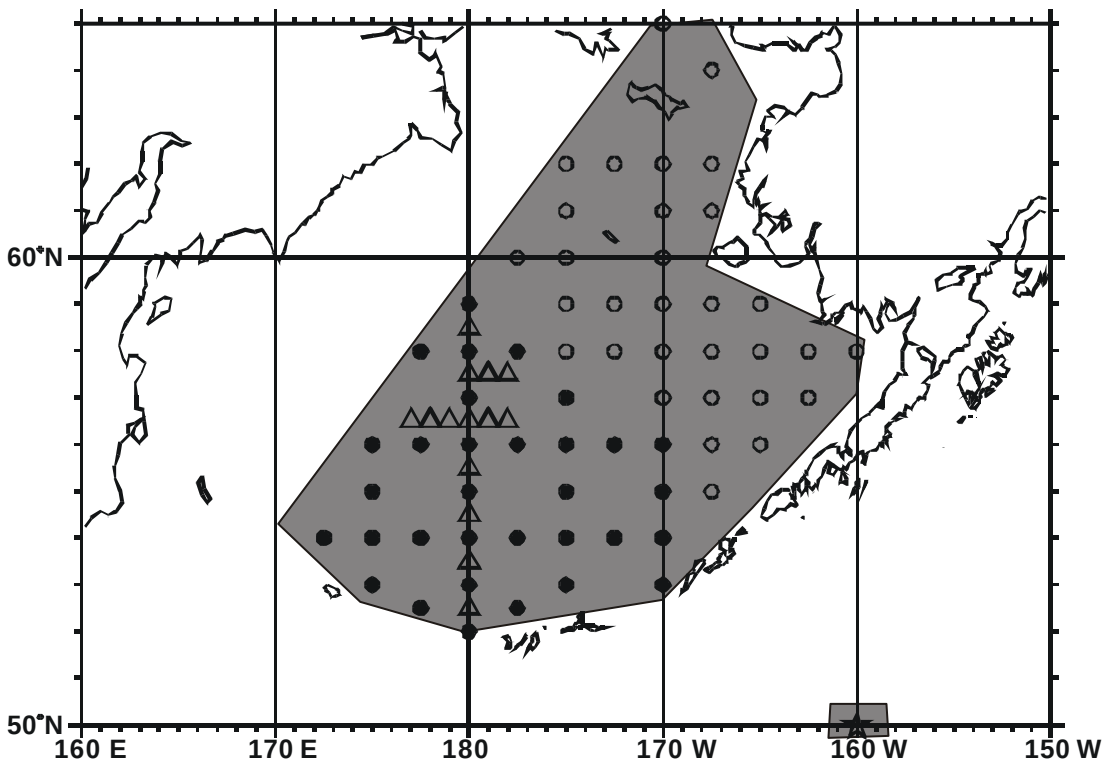


Fig. 4. Cruise of the *Kaiyo maru*. June 20 (Tokyo) – September 30 (Tokyo). Excluding Russian 200-mile zone and U.S. 12-mile zone.

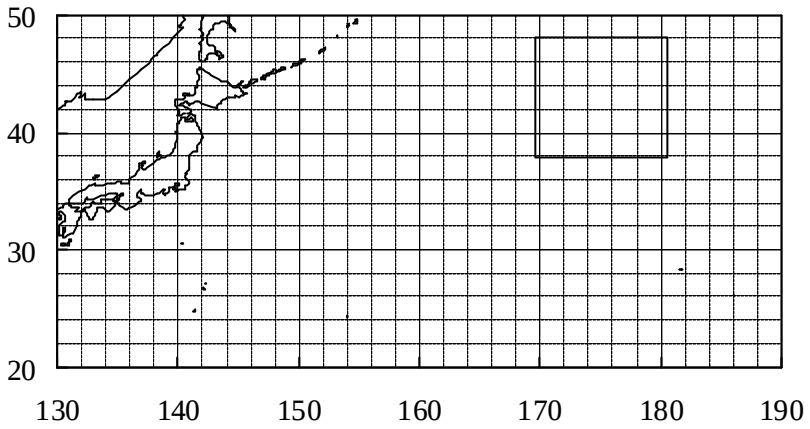


Fig. 5. Cruise of the *Kaiun maru*. June 26 (Hachinohe) – August 2 (Hachinohe).

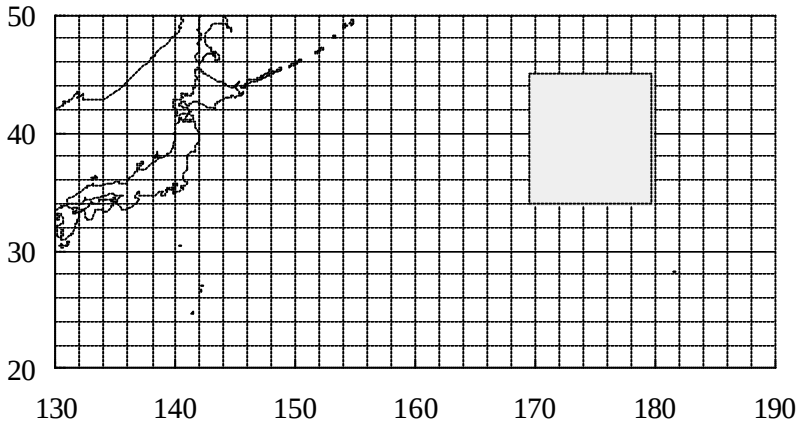


Fig. 6. Cruise of the *Wakatori maru*. May 4 (Hakodate) – May 31 (Hakodate).