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**Proposed Cruise Plans of Japanese Research Vessels for Salmon in
the North Pacific Ocean in 2006/2007 Fiscal year**

by

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Four Japanese salmon research vessels are tentatively scheduled to conduct the following scientific research in the North Pacific and the Bering Sea in 2006 (Table 1). In case of gillnet operation, gillnets less than 2.5 km in length at sea will be used.

(1) The *Kaiyo maru* will conduct research with a midwater trawl to obtain information on the distribution and physiological ecology of wintering salmon in the North Pacific from mid January to early March (Fig. 1). She will also conduct research with midwinter trawl to obtain information on the distribution, physiological ecology, and abundance of the Pacific salmon from the mid April to late June (Fig.2).

(2) The *Oshoro maru* will conduct research with gillnets, longline and hook-and -line to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of salmon and other pelagic fishes in the western North Pacific, from mid May to late May, from early June to late July (Fig. 3, 4).

(3) The *Wakatake maru* will conduct research with gillnets and longlines to obtain data on the distribution and abundance of salmon along 180° longitude in the central North Pacific and the Bering Sea from early June to late July (Fig. 5).

(4) The *Kaiun maru* will conduct 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 early July to early August (Fig. 6).

Table 1. Proposed cruise plan of Japanese research vessels for salmon in the North Pacific in 2006

Vessel	Period	Survey area	Research objects	Gear equipped
<i>Kaiyo maru</i>	Jan.20-March 10	North Pacific	Ecology and distribution of wintering salmon	Mid water trawl
	April 22 -June 25	Western North Pacific Bering Sea	Ecology distribution	Mid water trawl hook and line
<i>Oshoro maru</i>	May 9-May22	Western North Pacific	Fish community	Gillnets, longline
	June 2 – July 31	North Pacific,	Fish community	Gillnets, longline, and hook- and -line
<i>Wakatake maru</i>	June 7 - July 21	Central North Pacific, Bering Sea	Stock assessment	Gillnets and longline
<i>Kaiun maru</i>	July 2 – August 6	Western and Central North Pacific	Stock assessment	Gillnets

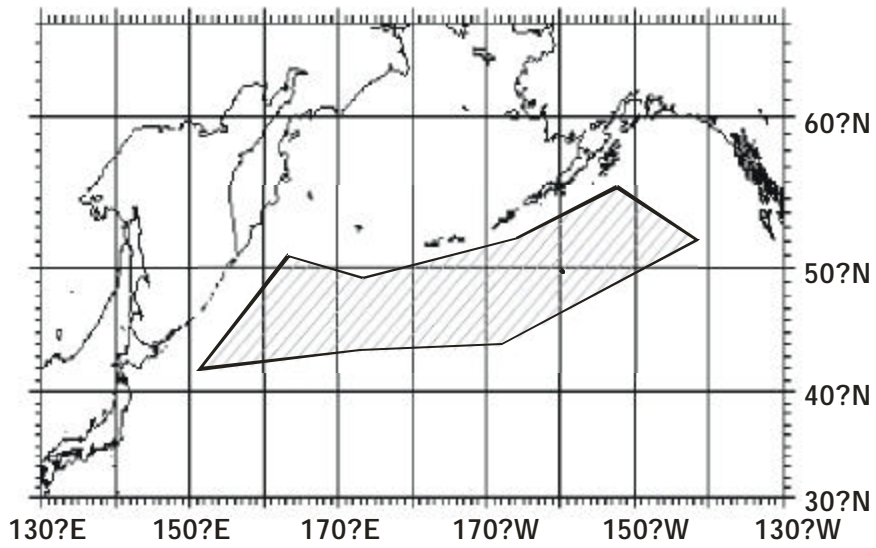


Fig. 1. Cruises plan of the *Kaiyo maru* in the North Pacific. January 20 (Tokyo) – March 10 (Tokyo).

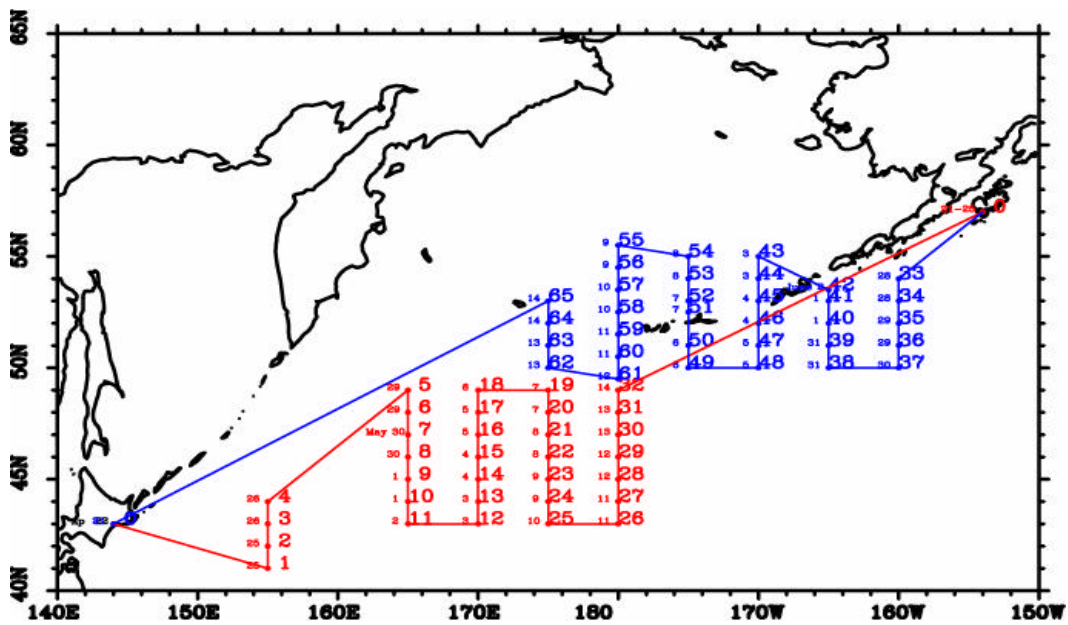


Fig. 2. Cruises plan of the *Kaiyo maru* in the North Pacific. April 22 (Kushiro) – June 25 (Kushiro).

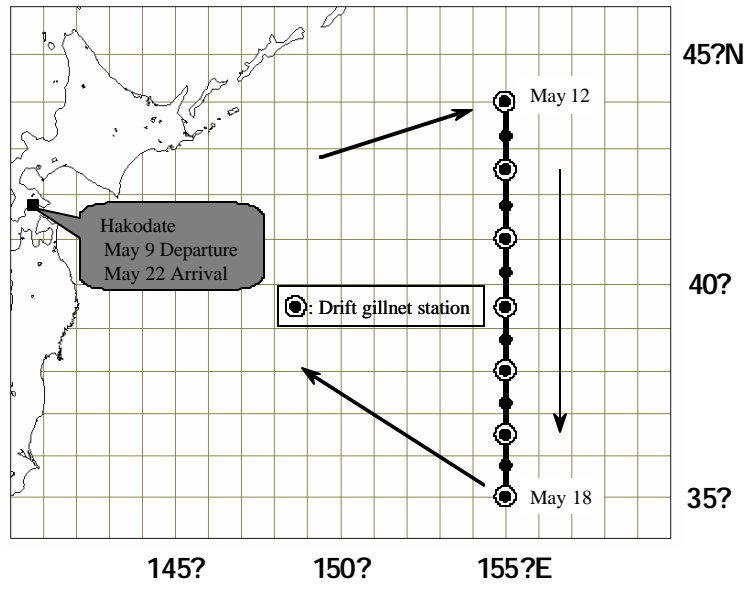


Fig. 3. Cruises plan of the *Oshoro maru* in the western North Pacific. May 9 (Hakodate) – May 22 (Hakodate)..

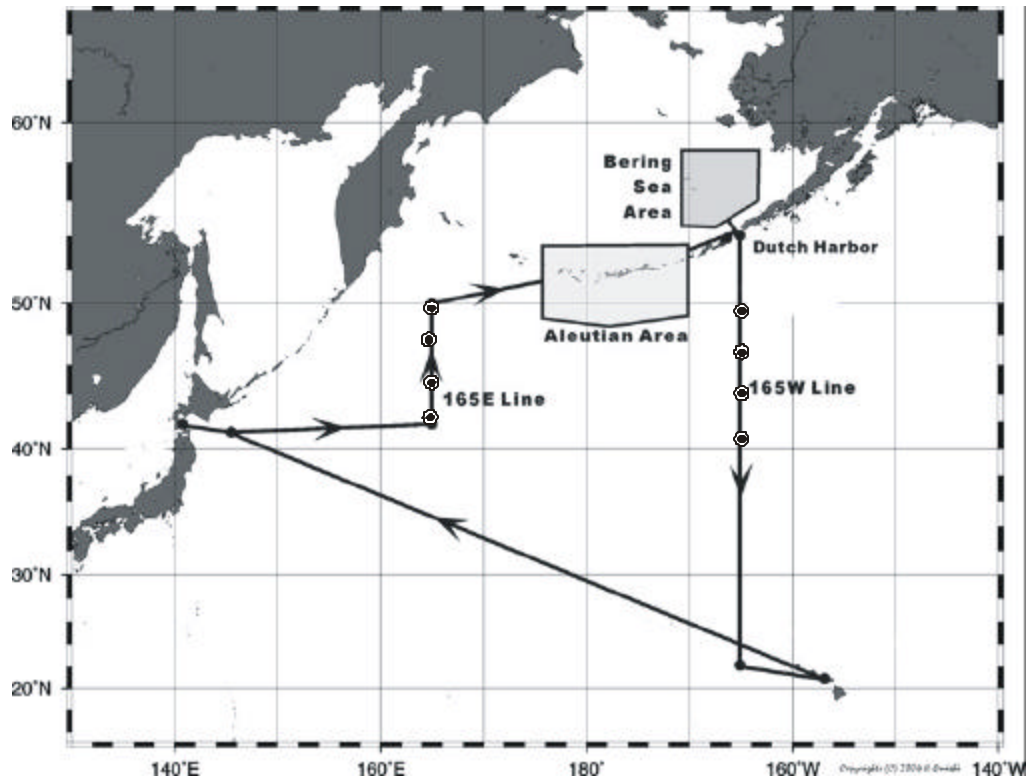


Fig. 4. Cruises plan of the *Oshoro maru* in the western North Pacific. June 2 (Hakodate) – July 31 (Hakodate) .

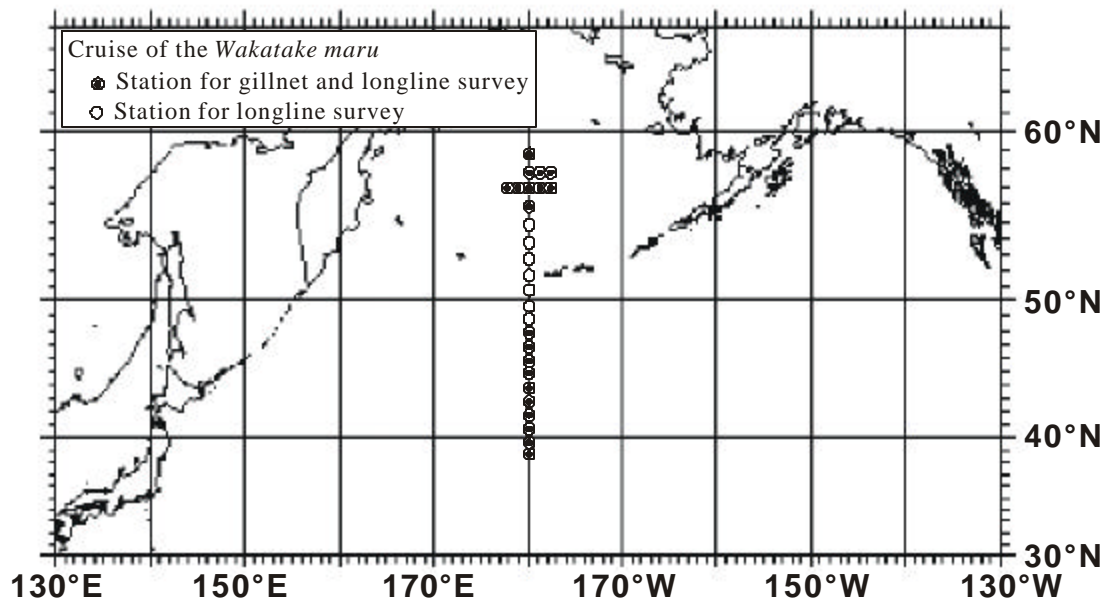


Fig. 5 Cruise of the *Wakatake maru*. June 7 (Kushiro) - July 21 (Kushiro).

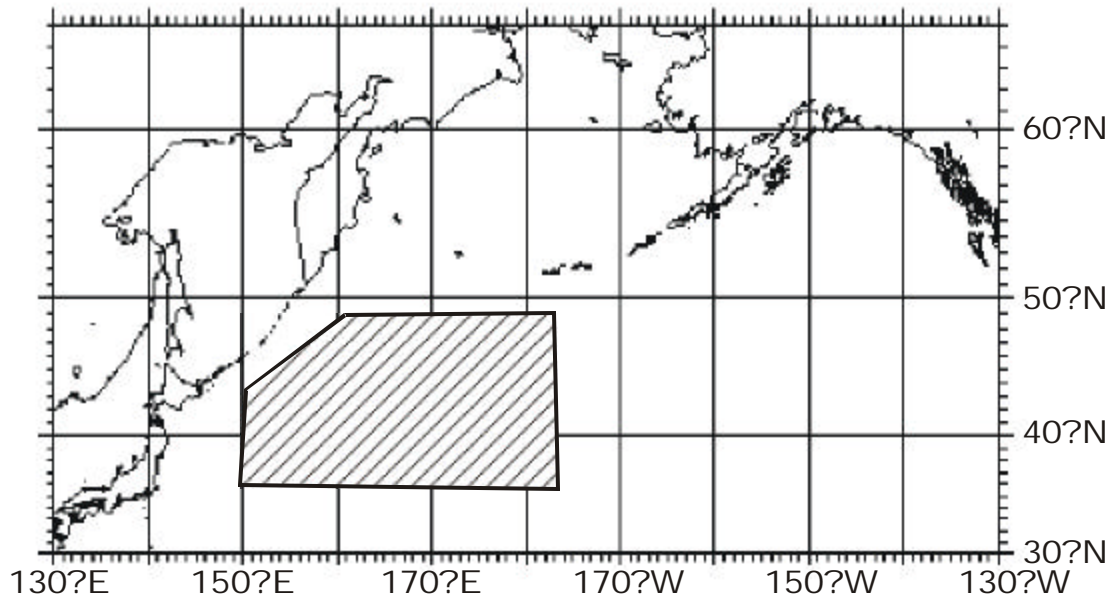


Fig. 6. Cruise of the *Kaiun maru*. July 2(Hachinohe) – August 6 (Hachinohe).