Knowledge of the relationship of the halibut over the range of their distribution is essential for sound management. Although many summer experiments in Bering Sea have demonstrated an extensive emigration of these fish to grounds to the eastward, summer tagging on the grounds to the eastward has not provided evidence of a reverse migration of adults. It has been observed that the distribution of recoveries from summer tagging in the Gulf of Alaska is different to what prevails with winter tagging. Also, winter tagging on eastward grounds has only been conducted as far west as Kodiak Island and most of these experiments were conducted many years ago before there was any fishing of consequence in Bering Sea.

To extend winter tagging to the region west of Kodiak Island including operations in Bering Sea a vessel charter for a period of about 105 days beginning about November 1 is planned. The preferred area of operation will be along the edge in southeastern Bering Sea and in Area 3B South as shown by the diagonal lined area in the following figure. The stippled area indicates alternate areas which will be fished only if satisfactory catches cannot be taken in the preferred areas. The chartered vessel will be equipped to fish with setline gear and will be accompanied by 3 members of the Commission staff.

The planned schedule of trips are given in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRIP</th>
<th>APPROXIMATE DATES</th>
<th>AREA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1963 Nov. 12 - 28</td>
<td>Bering Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1963 Nov. 29 - Dec. 17</td>
<td>Area 3B South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1964 Jan. 3 - 20</td>
<td>Bering Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1964 Jan. 21 - Feb. 7</td>
<td>Area 3B South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1964 Feb. 8 - 29</td>
<td>Area 3B South</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Suspension of charter for holidays:

- Jan. 3 - 20
- Jan. 21 - Feb. 7
- Feb. 8 - 29

October 30, 1963
Preferred (diagonal lines) and Alternate (stippled) Areas of Operation for Winter 1963-64 Tagging in Bering Sea and the Western Gulf of Alaska Region