

SUMMARY OF VESSEL AND GEAR SPECIFICATIONS
FOR THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC COAST
TRAWL FLEET, 1969-1970

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by
Gene DiDonato (WSDF)^{1/}
James Meehan (OFC)^{2/}
Tom Jow (CDFG)^{3/}

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^{1/} Wash. State Dept. of Fisheries
^{2/} Oregon Fish Commission
^{3/} Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game

The United States Pacific Coast trawl fleet numbered 218 and 225 vessels in 1969 and 1970 respectively (Table 1). These vessels generally ranging in length from 45-95 feet (13.7-29.0 m) operate out of numerous coastal ports in California, Oregon and Washington. Most fishing is conducted out to about 450 fathoms in depth from southern California to S. E. Alaska; a limited amount of fishing occurs to 550 fathoms. The vessels carry a crew of 3-4 men and make daily trips or they may stay at sea from 2-3 days up to about 3 weeks depending on the weather conditions and areas fished. Ice is carried in the vessel hold in which the fish are kept.

Many vessels of the U. S. trawl fleet are also used for other fisheries particularly the salmon purse seine fishery. In fact all the trawl vessels are convertible to other types of fisheries such as shrimp trawling, salmon seining and packing, longlining, crab fishing, albacore trolling, etc. The basic design used is that of a salmon purse-seine type vessel in which the net is trawled from two cables directly off the stern and is hauled in off either the port or the starboard side.

Specifications for the most common types of gear used are as follows:

	<u>350-400 Eastern</u>	<u>350 Groton</u>
Head Rope Length	58-71 ft. (17.7-21.7m)	65 ft. (19.8 m)
Ground Rope Length	81-94 ft. (24.7-28.7m)	95 ft. (29.0 m)
<u>Mesh Size</u>		
Intermediate and Forward	3.0-5.0 in. (76.2-127.0 mm)	4.5 in. (114.3 mm)
Codend	3.5-5.0 in. (88.9-127.0 mm)	4.5 in. (114.3 mm)
<u>Otterboard</u>		
Size	7.0 X 4.0 ft. (2.1-1.2 m)	
Weight	760 lbs. (344.7 kg)	

Table 1. Size distribution (gross tons) of vessels engaged in the United States Pacific coast trawl fishery for groundfish.

Tonnage Class	1969				Total	1970				Total
	Alaska	Wash.	Oreg.	Calif.		Alaska	Wash.	Oreg.	Calif.	
< 24	0	10	6	16	32	0	12	4	21	37
25- 49	0	40	28	35	103	0	37	31	41	109
50- 74	0	22	12	12	46	0	19	10	13	42
75- 99	0	10	7	2	19	0	8	8	2	18
100-124	0	6	0	7	13	0	5	0	7	12
125-195	0	2	2	0	4	0	4	2	0	6
Stern-ramp Trawlers	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
Total	0	91	55	72	218	0	86	55	84	225