

SOVIET FISHING ACTIVITIES OFF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST  
October 1970 - September 1971Department of the Environment  
Fisheries Service  
September 1971

## October 1970

As in past years, by October the Soviet fleet fishing off the British Columbia Coast had dwindled to only 5 trawlers, operating in the La Perouse Bank.

## November 1970 - February 1971

No Soviet fishing vessels were sighted off British Columbia during the period November through February.

## March 1971

During the latter part of March, two Soviet trawlers were sighted off Queen Charlotte Sound and had moved south to the lower west coast of Vancouver Island by the end of the month.

## April 1971

Two Soviet trawlers operated sporadically in the lower west coast of Vancouver Island area throughout the month of April.

## May 1971

No Soviet fishing activity was reported during the month of May, but one Soviet trawler entered the port of Vancouver for emergency propeller repairs.

## June 1971

The Soviet hake fleet appeared off British Columbia during the first week in June. Off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island, 18 Soviet trawlers and 2 transports were observed. The number of trawlers off the west coast of Vancouver Island increased to 36 by mid-June. Also, during the first week in June, 4 Soviet transports and 15 trawlers were present in the port of Tasu on the lower west coast of the Queen Charlotte Islands. By the end of June, all vessels had departed from Tasu Sound.

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## July 1971

At the beginning of July there were 30 Soviet trawlers fishing off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. During the period July 8 to July 14, Soviet trawler activity varied from a minimum of 22 vessels to a maximum of 63 vessels, all off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. Also present were 1 Soviet tug and 2 Soviet transports.

During the period July 15 to 21, Soviet trawler activity varied from a minimum of 11 vessels to a maximum of 28 along the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. One tug was present and 1 trawler entered the port of Vancouver for emergency propeller repairs.

## August 1971

During the July 29 to August 9 period, it was observed that Soviet fishing activity off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island increased to 38 trawlers and 2 transports.

During the August 10 to 18 period, the Soviet fleet numbered 25 trawlers off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island.

From August 19 to September 1, Soviet vessel activity ranged from a minimum of 16 to a maximum of 35 trawlers operating off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. In addition to the trawlers there were 3 transports, 2 tankers, and 1 tug.

## September 1971

During the early part of September Soviet activity began to decrease off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. Twenty-one trawlers and 1 tanker were observed in the vicinity of La Perouse Bank at the start of September but by the 9th only 9 vessels remained in the area. Apparently the vessels moved to Tasu Sound on the lower west coast of Queen Charlotte Islands for transferring cargo under the terms of the Canadian-Soviet agreement. Three Soviet transports and 15 Soviet trawlers were observed in Tasu Sound during the week of September 5.

Between September 10 and 23, the size of the Soviet fleet off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island did not vary much - twelve trawlers and 1 tug were sighted. Eleven trawlers and 2 transports were present in Tasu Sound until September 16 when all vessels departed.