

INPFC DOCUMENT Ser. No. 1503

SOVIET FISHING ACTIVITIES OFF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST
October 1971 - September 1972

Department of the Environment
Fisheries Service
October 1972

Although the report for September 1971 indicated all Soviet vessels had departed Tasu Sound by the 16th of that month, during the period September 24 October 5 fourteen Soviet trawlers, 2 transports, and 1 tug entered Tasu under terms of the Soviet-Canadian agreement. In addition, 7 trawlers still operated off the southwest coast of Vancouver Island until the 14th of October. By November 3, the fleet had decrease6 to 2 trawlers off the southwest coast of Vancouver Island and 2 trawlers transferring cargo in Tasu. The last Soviet vessel left the port of Tasu on November 15th. During the latter part of November, 3 trawlers were sighted off the southwest coast of Vancouver Island. These vessels had departed British Columbia coastal waters by December 5th.

Soviet fishing activities off the coast of British Columbia recommenced on June 12, 1972 with a small fleet of 3 trawlers, building to a total of 12 trawlers, 2 transports, 2 tankers, and 1 inspection vessel by June 16th. The fleet never attained major proportions as it had in the past few years during the month of July and August. Other than a maximum effort of 24 trawlers off the southwest coast of Vancouver Island during the latter part of August, activity was quite light - normally 3 to 12 trawlers.