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TRANSLATION

OUTLINE OF THE JAPANESE GROUND FISH FISHERY IN THE NORTHEASTERN  
PACIFIC IN 1980 JANUARY TO DECEMBER AND 1981 JANUARY TO JULY

Fisheries Agency of Japan  
1981 August

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## 1. The 1980 season (January to December)

Japanese groundfish fisheries in the northeast Pacific in 1980 continued to be conducted under extreme conditions, such as allocation of catch quotas and time-area closures brought about by the "U.S. Fisheries Conservation and Management Act of 1976" and the extension of Canadian fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles under "The Territorial Seas and Fishing Zones Act".

In 1980, 40 trawlers and 22 longline-gillnetters were licensed to operate in the northeast Pacific (Fig. 1) in the North Pacific trawl and the North Pacific longline-gillnet fisheries. The number of vessels actually operating in 1980 were 22 stern trawlers and 22 longliners (Table 1). Two types of gear (stern trawl and longline) were used in 1980 as in 1979 and the fishing effort by each is shown in Table 2.

Total stern trawl effort in 1980 was 31,601 hours, an increase of 34.8% (8,159 hours) from 1979. Of the total trawl effort, 31,099 hours or 98.4% were expended in U.S. waters and 502 hours or 1.6% in Canadian waters.

Total fishing effort by the longliners in 1980 was 1,232,580 hachi, an increase of 27.0% (262,240 hachi) over 1979. Of the total longline effort, 98.8% (1,217,510 hachi) was expended in U.S. waters and 1.2% (15,070 hachi) in Canadian waters. The main fishing operations by both trawlers and longliners was in U.S. waters. No gillnet operations were conducted in 1980.

The geographical distribution of total effort with stern trawls and longlines in 1980 is summarized in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. In the stern trawl operations, the main effort was on grounds in the Kodiak and Yakutat Areas where 74.6% of the total effort was expended. Of the total effort, the percentage expended in the

Chirikof Area was almost twice that in 1979. In the Southeastern Area, effort decreased by 800 hours from 1979 and in the Shumagin Area, effort decreased by about 40% from the previous year.

In the longline operations, fishing effort in 1980 was concentrated mainly in the Shumagin-Yakutat Region because operations were prohibited in the Southeastern Area. Of the total effort, 98.8% (1,217,010 hachi) was expended in the Shumagin-Yakutat Region. The proportion in the Chirikof Area increased compared with the previous year. No catch quota for Japanese vessels has been allowed in U.S. waters in and south of the Vancouver Area since 1977. In addition, fishing for halibut in the Pacific Ocean was prohibited for all Japanese vessels according to the U.S. foreign fisheries regulations, as was the case in 1979.

The total catch by all fisheries in 1980 amounted to 106,036 t, an increase of 35.4% (27,224 t) from the 78,812 t of 1979. Compared with 1979 catches, there were increases in 1980 on Pacific cod (+16,996 t), pollock (+7,496 t), "other fish" (+6,484 t), and Pacific ocean perch (+2,611 t). Decreases occurred in sablefish (-2,245 t), turbot (-1,364 t), and "other flatfish" (-822 t) (Table 3).

The total catch by the North Pacific stern trawlers in 1980 increased by 21.9% (12,954 t) and amounted to 72,131 t. Catch by the surimi factory trawlers constituted 0.2% (173 t) of the total trawl catch and was taken primarily in United States waters. Catch by the frozen fish factory trawlers constituted 99.8% (71,958 t) of the North Pacific trawl catch, with 98.6% (70,958 t) from U.S. waters and 1.4% (1,000 t) from Canadian waters. Major species taken were pollock, turbot, "other fish" and Pacific ocean perch (Tables 2 and 3).

The total catch by the North Pacific longline-gillnet vessels (longlining only) in 1980 amounted to 33,712 t, an increase of 81.4% (15,129 t) from 1979. Of the total longline catch, 99.4% (33,712 t)

was taken in U.S. waters and 0.6% (193 t) in Canadian waters). Major species in the longline catch in 1980 were Pacific cod and sablefish (Tables 2 and 3).

Of the total catch (4,724 t) of sablefish, 55% (2,605 t) was taken from the Kodiak-Yakutat Region, 25.5% (1,204 t) from the Chirikof Area, and 14.5% (684 t) from the Shumagin Area (Fig. 4). Of the total sablefish catch in the Northeast Pacific Region, 86.4% (4,079 t) was taken by the longline fishery, and the remaining 3.6% (644 t) by the stern trawl fishery (Table 3).

Of the total Pacific ocean perch catch, 93.9% (8,578 t) came from the Kodiak-Southeastern Region (Fig. 5), with almost all taken by the stern trawl fishery (Table 3).

## 2. Japanese groundfish fishery in 1981 (January to July)

Japan licensed 40 trawlers and 22 longline-gillnetters for the North Pacific trawl and the North Pacific longline-gillnet fisheries in 1981, about the same as in 1980. According to preliminary information, total catch by those fisheries in the northeastern Pacific Ocean during January to July amounted to 37,497 t, a decrease of 7,447 t from the catch made during the same period in 1980 (Table 4). In comparison with 1980, there was an increase in catch of sablefish, Pacific ocean perch, "other rockfish", and Atka mackerel. There was a decrease in catch of flatfish, Pacific cod, pollock, "other fish", and squid.

The catch was comprised of 39% (14,553 t) Pacific cod, 31% (11,483 t) pollock, 11% (4,254 t) Pacific ocean perch, 8% (3,177 t) "other flatfish", and 4% (1,323 t) sablefish.

Of the 1981 catch to date, 31% was taken from the Chirikof Area, 26% from the Shumagin and Kodiak Areas, 15% from the Yakutat Area, and 2% from the Southeastern Area.

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TABLES 1 TO 4 AND FIGS. 1 TO 5 ARE IN ENGLISH IN THE JAPANESE DOCUMENT

Table 1. Number of Japanese fishing vessels, licensed and operating, by type of gear in 1979 and 1980 calendar years; number of licensed vessels are in parentheses.

|      | Side trawler | Stern trawler | Danish seiner | Gill-netter | Long-liner |
|------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1979 | -            | 20(40)        | -             | -           | 22(22)     |
| 1980 | -            | 22(40)        | -             | -           | 22(22)     |

Table 2. Fishing effort and catch(t) by type of gear, 1979 and 1980 calendar years. Effort is shown by hours hauled for North Pacific trawl fishery and by 10 hachi for North Pacific Longline-gillnet fishery.

| Fishery                        | Gear                                 | Area            | 1979   |        | 1980    |         |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
|                                |                                      |                 | Effort | Catch  | Effort  | Catch   |
|                                |                                      |                 |        | 78,812 |         | 106,036 |
| North Pacific trawl            | Stern trawl (Surimi Factory T.)      | U.S. Waters     | 3,076  | 20,753 | 23      | 173     |
|                                |                                      | Canadian Waters | 286    | 903    | -       | -       |
|                                |                                      | Sub-total       | 3,362  | 21,656 | 23      | 173     |
|                                | Stern trawl (Frozen-Fish Factory T.) | U.S. Waters     | 19,810 | 34,661 | 31,076  | 70,958  |
|                                |                                      | Canadian Waters | 270    | 2,860  | 502     | 1,000   |
|                                |                                      | Sub-total       | 20,080 | 37,521 | 31,578  | 71,958  |
|                                | Total                                | 23,442          | 59,177 | 31,601 | 72,131  |         |
| North Pacific Longline-gillnet | Longline                             | U.S. Waters     | 89,316 | 18,583 | 121,751 | 33,712  |
|                                |                                      | Canadian Waters | 7,718  | 1,052  | 1,507   | 193     |
|                                |                                      | Total           | 97,034 | 19,635 | 123,258 | 33,905  |

Table 3. Catch(t) and effort of Japanese fisheries in the northeast Pacific Region, 1979 and 1980 calendar years.

| Items                  | 1979          |               |               | 1980           |               |               |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
|                        | Total         | Stern trawl   | Longline      | Total          | Stern trawl   | Longline      |
| Effort in hours        | 23,442        | 23,442        | -             | 31,601         | 31,601        | -             |
| Effort in hachi(1,000) | 970           | -             | 970           | 1,233          | -             | 1,233         |
| <u>Total catch(t)</u>  | <u>78,812</u> | <u>59,177</u> | <u>19,635</u> | <u>106,036</u> | <u>72,131</u> | <u>33,905</u> |
| Pacific ocean perch    | 6,534         | 6,466         | 68            | 9,145          | 9,060         | 85            |
| Sablefish              | 6,968         | 434           | 6,534         | 4,723          | 644           | 4,079         |
| Pollock                | 29,382        | 29,334        | 48            | 36,878         | 36,459        | 419           |
| Pacific cod            | 11,783        | 1,105         | 10,678        | 28,779         | 2,805         | 25,974        |
| Arrowtooth flounder    | 11,729        | 11,524        | 205           | 10,365         | 10,174        | 191           |
| Other flounder         | 2,777         | 2,607         | 170           | 1,955          | 1,747         | 208           |
| Others                 | 9,639         | 7,707         | 1,932         | 14,191         | 11,242        | 2,949         |

Table 4. Preliminary catch estimates (t) by species of Japanese fishing vessels operating in the northeast Pacific, January-July 1981; comparable data for 1980 are shown in parenthesis (Doc. 2302).

| Species             | Shumagin             | Chirikof               | Kodiak                | Yakutat              | South-eastern      | Charlotte | Vancouver | Columbia | Eureka   | Monterey-Conception | Total                  |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Total               | 9,861.0<br>(5,617.6) | 11,603.1<br>(13,181.8) | 9,573.0<br>(18,749.7) | 5,728.7<br>(6,286.9) | 731.1<br>(1,108.3) | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 37,496.9<br>(44,944.3) |
| Flounder            | 494.4<br>(71.3)      | 448.9<br>(393.3)       | 1,195.7<br>(3,371.1)  | 867.8<br>(1,688.1)   | 170.0<br>(431.4)   | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 3,176.8<br>(5,955.2)   |
| Pacific cod         | 5,429.4<br>(4,988.3) | 7,242.8<br>(10,371.8)  | 1,016.2<br>(2,163.5)  | 854.2<br>(1,034.2)   | 9.9<br>(5.7)       | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 14,552.5<br>(18,563.5) |
| Pollock             | 2,801.0<br>(34.7)    | 2,655.0<br>(1,578.8)   | 4,841.8<br>(10,081.0) | 1,112.1<br>(995.5)   | 73.2<br>(58.7)     | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 11,483.1<br>(12,748.7) |
| Sablefish           | 468.9<br>(198.8)     | 390.8<br>(224.6)       | 345.4<br>(274.7)      | 118.0<br>(174.2)     | 2.4<br>(12.9)      | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 1,325.5<br>(885.2)     |
| Pacific ocean perch | 278.6<br>(9.5)       | 435.6<br>(69.3)        | 1,098.6<br>(1,076.6)  | 2,073.2<br>(1,477.3) | 368.2<br>(456.4)   | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 4,254.2<br>(3,059.1)   |
| Other rockfishes    | 45.2<br>(3.8)        | 57.8<br>(9.5)          | 177.1<br>(26.1)       | 298.0<br>(415.4)     | 58.7<br>(84.7)     | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 636.8<br>(539.5)       |
| Atka mackerel       | 143.7<br>(1.5)       | 58.9<br>(24.9)         | 526.0<br>(543.4)      | 40.1<br>(51.4)       | 20.9<br>(-)        | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 789.6<br>(621.2)       |
| Other fishes        | 188.5<br>(308.8)     | 292.7<br>(490.9)       | 323.3<br>(1,087.7)    | 300.0<br>(420.4)     | 22.9<br>(46.5)     | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 1,127.4<br>(2,354.3)   |
| Squid               | 11.3<br>(0.9)        | 20.6<br>(18.7)         | 48.9<br>(125.6)       | 65.3<br>(60.4)       | 4.9<br>(12.0)      | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-)  | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-) | -<br>(-)            | 151.0<br>(217.6)       |

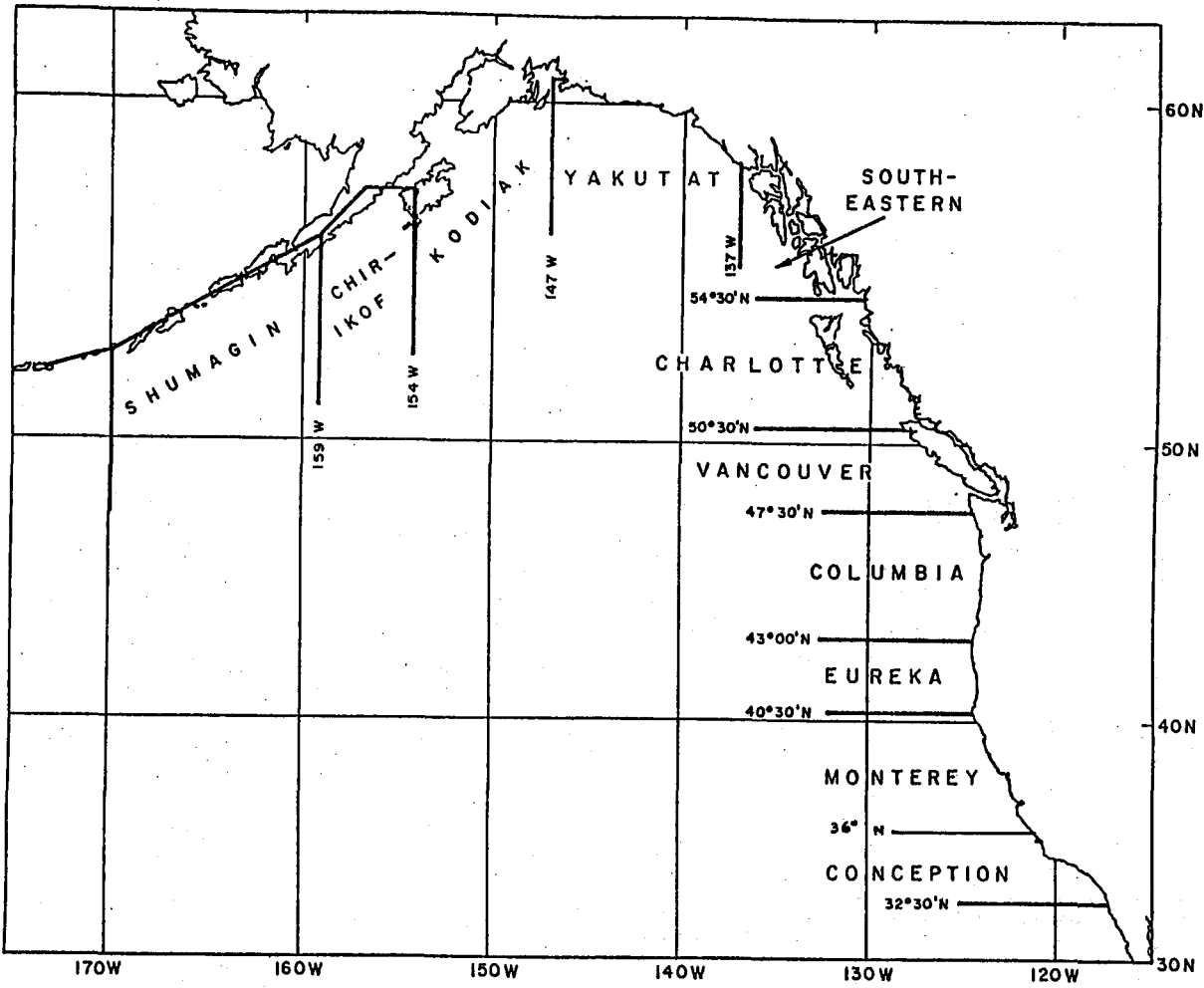


Fig. 1. Area divisions of the Northeast Pacific Region.

Fig. 2. Geographical distribution of annual effort of stern trawl (in hours) in 1980 calendar year.

Distribution by Area

| Year         | 1980            | 1979           |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Total        | 31,601 ( % )    | 23,442 ( % )   |
| Shumagin     | 825 ( 2.6 )     | 2,074 ( 8.8 )  |
| Chirikof     | 3,367 ( 10.7 )  | 1,446 ( 6.2 )  |
| Kodiak       | 13,615 ( 43.1 ) | 9,381 ( 40.0 ) |
| Yakutat      | 9,969 ( 31.5 )  | 5,877 ( 25.1 ) |
| Southeastern | 3,323 ( 10.5 )  | 4,108 ( 17.5 ) |
| Charlotte    | - ( - )         | - ( - )        |
| Vancouver    | - ( - )         | - ( - )        |

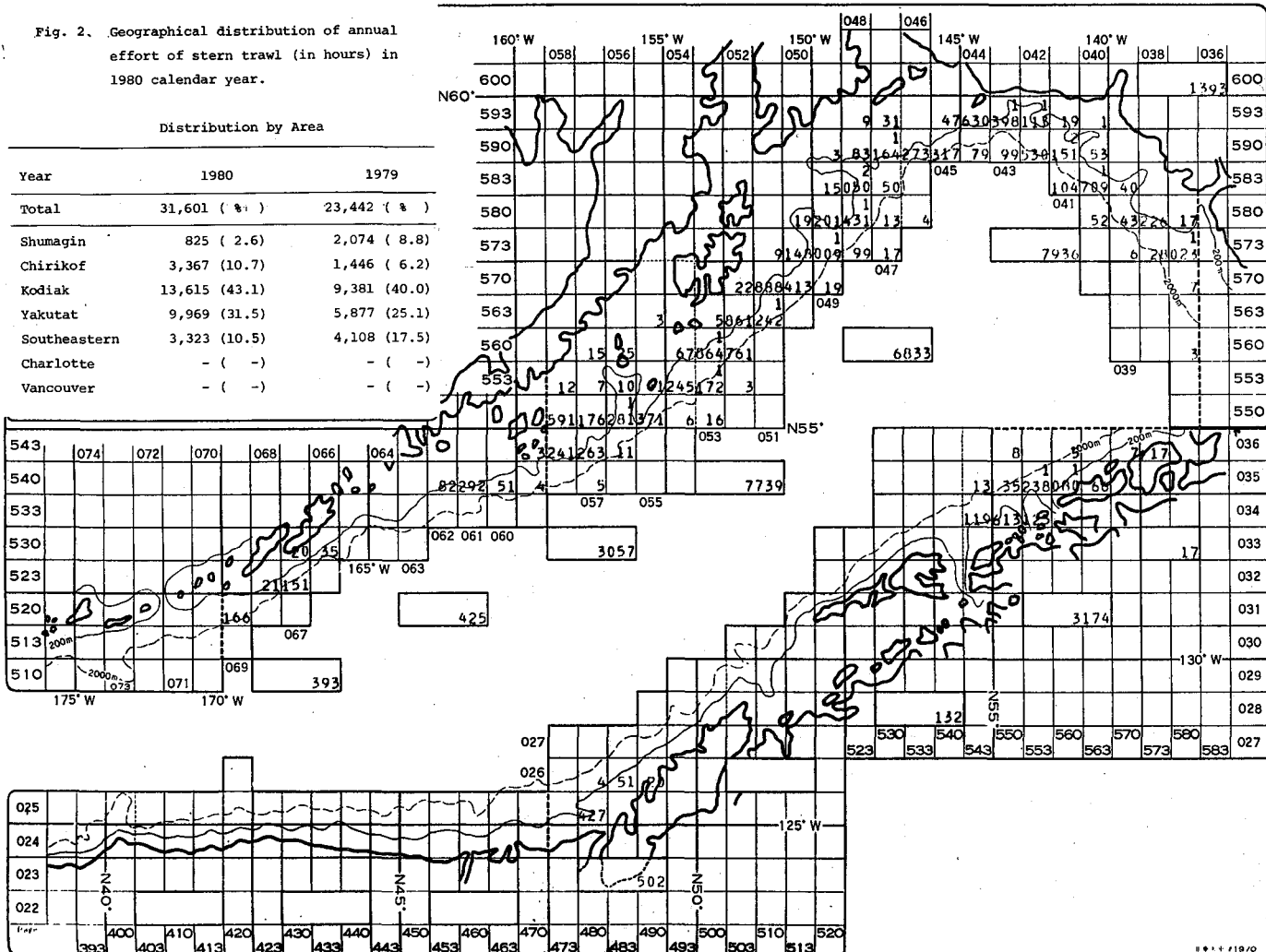
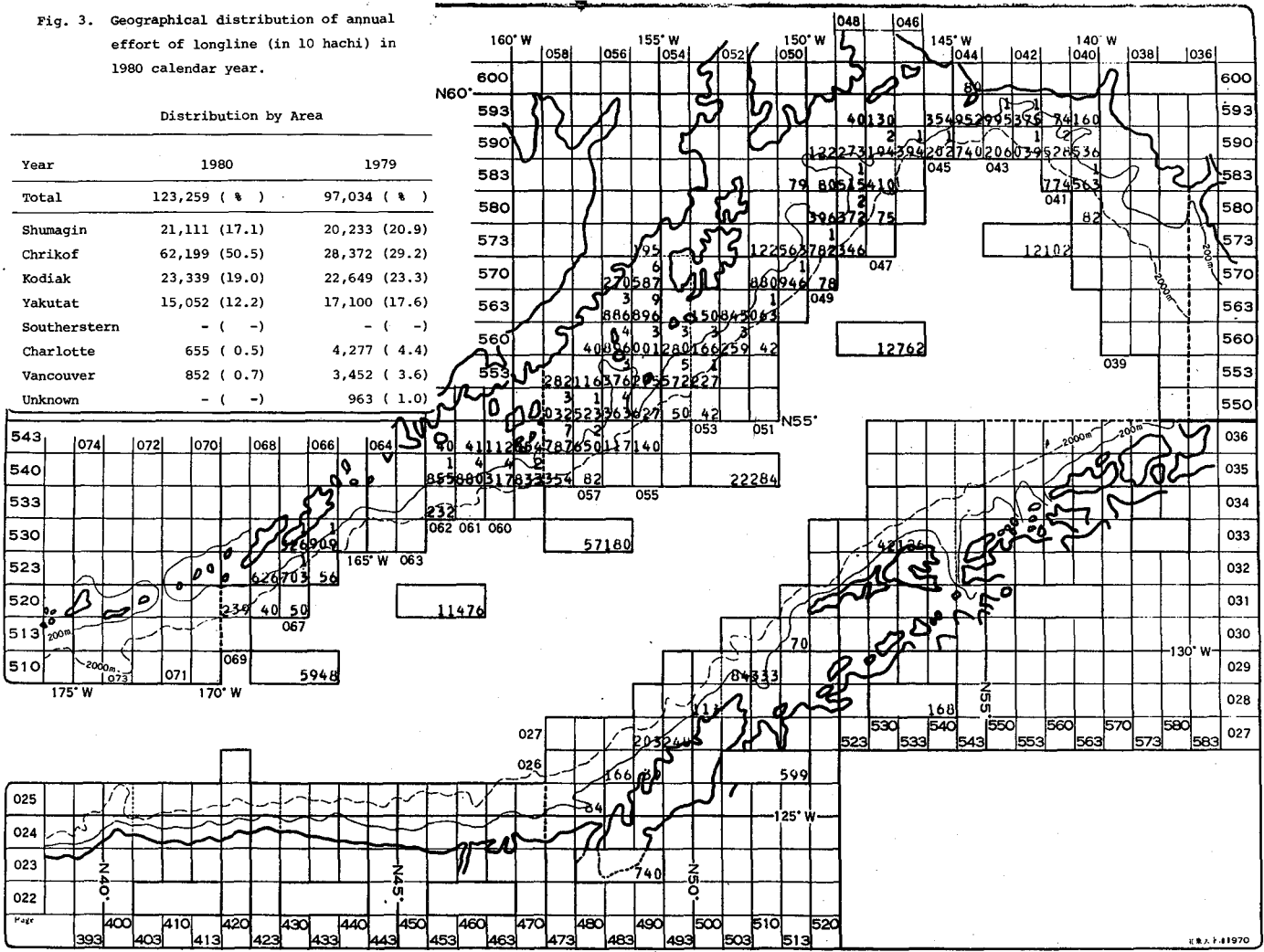




Fig. 3. Geographical distribution of annual effort of longline (in 10 hachi) in 1980 calendar year.

Distribution by Area

| Year         | 1980          | 1979          |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total        | 123,259 ( % ) | 97,034 ( % )  |
| Shumagin     | 21,111 (17.1) | 20,233 (20.9) |
| Chirikof     | 62,199 (50.5) | 28,372 (29.2) |
| Kodiak       | 23,339 (19.0) | 22,649 (23.3) |
| Yakutat      | 15,052 (12.2) | 17,100 (17.6) |
| Southerstern | - ( - )       | - ( - )       |
| Charlotte    | 655 (0.5)     | 4,277 (4.4)   |
| Vancouver    | 852 (0.7)     | 3,452 (3.6)   |
| Unknown      | - ( - )       | 963 (1.0)     |

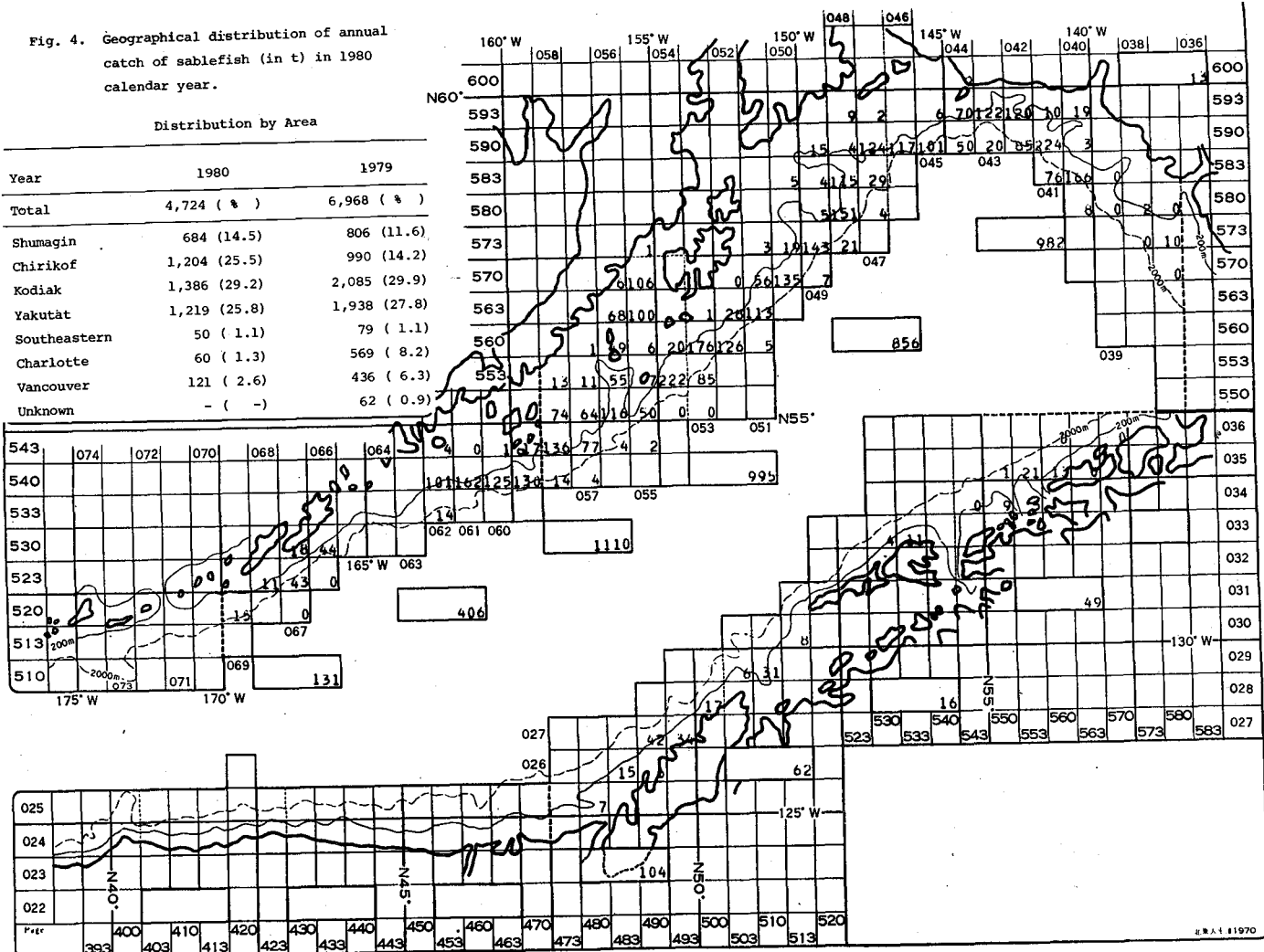


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Fig. 4. Geographical distribution of annual catch of sablefish (in t) in 1980 calendar year.

Distribution by Area

| Year         | 1980         | 1979         |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total        | 4,724 ( % )  | 6,968 ( % )  |
| Shumagin     | 684 (14.5)   | 806 (11.6)   |
| Chirikof     | 1,204 (25.5) | 990 (14.2)   |
| Kodiak       | 1,386 (29.2) | 2,085 (29.9) |
| Yakutat      | 1,219 (25.8) | 1,938 (27.8) |
| Southeastern | 50 (1.1)     | 79 (1.1)     |
| Charlotte    | 60 (1.3)     | 569 (8.2)    |
| Vancouver    | 121 (2.6)    | 436 (6.3)    |
| Unknown      | - ( - )      | 62 (0.9)     |



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Fig. 5. Geographical distribution of annual catch of Pacific ocean perch (in t) in 1980 calendar year.

Distribution by Area

| Year         | 1980           | 1979           |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total        | 9,145 ( % )    | 6,534 ( % )    |
| Shumagin     | 132 ( 1.4 )    | 517 ( 7.9 )    |
| Chirikof     | 434 ( 4.7 )    | 152 ( 2.3 )    |
| Kodiak       | 2,252 ( 24.7 ) | 853 ( 13.1 )   |
| Yakutat      | 4,246 ( 46.5 ) | 1,564 ( 23.9 ) |
| Southeastern | 2,080 ( 22.7 ) | 3,421 ( 52.4 ) |
| Charlotte    | 1 ( 0.0 )      | 0 ( - )        |
| Vancouver    | 0 ( - )        | 3 ( 0.0 )      |
| Unknown      | - ( - )        | 24 ( 0.4 )     |

