

CANADIAN FIELD RESEARCH STUDIES FOR 1984 IN THE NORTHEAST PACIFIC.

by

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FIELD RESEARCH -- 1984

(1) Canada

Field research was directed primarily at projects involving rockfishes, sablefish, Pacific hake, lingcod, flatfishes, and dogfish. Field studies were also initiated to develop a multispecies, assemblage approach to the fisheries management in the Charlotte area in Hecate Strait.

(a) Rockfishes

Trawl surveys were conducted to estimate rockfish abundance and biological characteristics for Charlotte and Southeastern areas from 54°N latitude to Cape Ommaney. Surveys were conducted in the Vancouver Area in the Strait of Georgia as part of a project to develop multispecies management strategies for nearshore rockfishes.

(b) Sablefish

Trawl surveys of juvenile year-class abundance were conducted in the Vancouver and Charlotte areas to predict trends in stock abundance. On-board monitoring of catch statistics and collection of biological samples were continued. Tagging of juveniles was continued in the Vancouver and Charlotte areas.

(c) Pacific hake

Trawl surveys in the Vancouver Area in the Strait of Georgia were continued in 1984 to monitor spawning concentrations.

(d) Lingcod

Tagging studies were continued to examine biological characteristics and exploitation rates in the Vancouver Area in the Strait of Georgia. Surveys in the Strait of Georgia were also conducted as part of studies to develop multi-species management strategies for nearshore reef fishes.

(e) Flatfishes

Bottom-trawl surveys to assess year-class abundance of juvenile flatfishes in the Charlotte Area (Hecate Strait) were continued.

(f) Dogfish

Tagging studies continued in 1984 in the Vancouver Area in the Strait of Georgia and off the west coast of Vancouver Island to delineate stocks, validate ageing, and to examine long-term movements of adults.

(g) Hecate Strait Project

Trawl surveys were conducted in the Charlotte Area in Hecate Strait to determine co-distributions of trawl-caught fish and invertebrates, and to develop a preliminary reference collection of principal prey from stomachs of the abundant fish species.