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— ANCHORAGE —

Agreed plans between U.S. and Japan for U.S. observations of
the Japanese mothership salmon fishery within the U.S.FCZ during 1987

March, 1987

Fisheries Agency of Japan

National Marine Fisheries Service

The following measures shall apply to salmon fishery operations conducted by Japanese nationals and fishing vessels in the waters of the U.S. FCZ during 1987.

One salmon observer will be placed at each weigh station on each mothership to monitor catcher boat deliveries. The observers' duties are to:

- 1) Observe and record daily catch weights of salmon, by species, as the fish are transferred from the catcher boat delivering to the mothership. The total number of catcher boats observed by the U.S. observers will be no more than 35 which guarantees the validation for the catch statistics of mothership fishery with 95% confidence level. Every day, the observers must obtain the following information in text or tables from the fleet commander or Japan Fisheries Agency (JFA) inspector:
 - a) the average weight of 30 fish of each salmon species, if available, from each of 5 catcher boats and the identification number of each of the 5 catcher boats;
 - b) the catch weight of salmon, by species, for all catcher boats: the total effort and effective effort in tons of gillnet for each catcher boat in the fleet; and the geographical coordinates where each catcher boat set its nets;
 - c) the latitude and longitude of the mothership at noon Japan Standard Time (JST) along with environmental observations of weather and sea conditions at noon.

- d) the daily catcher boat position diagram showing the geographical coordinates of where the nets were set from every catcher boat.
- 2) Record daily the effective fishing effort and catch weight of salmon, by species, from each of the scout boats in the mothership fleet and the latitude and longitude of each scout boat set. (Data obtained from the fleet commander or from the JFA inspector.)
 - 3) Summarize daily catcher-boat landings, by salmon species; summarize catch-effort data, by 1° x 1° INPFC statistical area; and prepare a radio telegram message for transmission to the Alaska Regional Office, (NMFS), Juneau, Alaska.
 - 4) Randomly select one weighing container of each species of salmon each day and count the salmon within it to determine average weight of fish in the container and compare this figure with the average obtained by weighing groups of 30 fish.
 - 5) Collect biological data including scales from up to 60 chinook and from up to 60 coho salmon and scales and otoliths from steelhead trout. The United States anticipates that all steelhead taken by catcher boats will be landed on motherships and made available for sampling by observers. Biological samples from up to 200 steelhead from each fleet will be collected and returned to the United States for further examination.
Effort will be made by Japan Fisheries Agency officials to collect sockeye salmon scales and, if requested, will be furnished to the United States section.
 - 6) Observe and record the incidence on salmonids missing the adipose fin and sample the snouts from all salmonids missing the adipose fin for recovery of coded-wire tags.

Schedule for Observer Monitoring Salmon Landings on board Motherships in 1987

<u>Time of Day (JST)</u>	<u>Activity</u>
8:00 or 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 or 9:00	Monitoring of landings until completion of observing 35 randomly selected catcher boats.
12:00 or 12:30	Lunch (mothership) . Observers may miss lunch.
16:00	Bath
18:30	Evening meal

note: Above described schedule is a model, so that this schedule is subject to change between motherships.

After each of two salmon observers finish breakfast and report to their weigh stations fore and aft, every one of the 35 catcher boats selected randomly will be monitored as they off load at the two weigh stations. No offloading of salmon from catcher boats will take place prior to the observers presence at the weigh station. Once the 35 catcher boats have been monitored the observers will leave the weigh stations and eat lunch. Only the remaining 8 catcher boats not selected in the daily sample will off load after the observers leave the weigh station. A catcher boat will off load raw salmon only one time in a 24-hour period. The two salmon observers will randomly switch weigh stations from day to day.

General Conditions Regarding U.S. observers:

1. All possible efforts will be made by Japan Fisheries Agency in so far as such efforts do not interfere with the operations, to facilitate as much monitoring as possible of the landings by the U.S. observers on the first and the last operational days within the U.S. FCZ.
2. Short recess and tea time will be abolished.
3. The U.S. salmon observers must be allowed to visually verify the catcher boat name and number on the bow of each vessel when delivering and to confirm annually the registration number of every vessel delivering salmon to a weigh station of a mothership.
4. U.S. salmon observers will not board catcher boats operating in the U.S. FCZ.
5. The U.S. observers will be given free access to the deck area only during the landing hours. The access to the deck area at other times will be subject to the permission by the fleet commander. The U.S. observers will be briefed about any other accessible areas on board in advance.
6. Sampling procedure and observation procedure in 1987 will be the same as those employed in 1986 fishing season, except for sample size which will be 35 catcher boats.

