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**Proposed Cruise Plans of Japanese Research Vessels
for Salmon in the North Pacific Ocean
in 1999/2000 fiscal year**

by

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Four Japanese salmon research vessels are tentatively scheduled to conduct the following scientific research in the western North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Gulf of Alaska in 1999/2000 fiscal year (Table 1). In case of gillnet operation, gillnets less than 2.5km in length at sea will be used.

(1) *The Hokusei maru* will conduct three cruises for oceanographic observations and research with gillnets to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of salmon and other pelagic fishes in the western North Pacific Ocean from June to August (Fig. 1).

(2) The *Oshoro maru* will conduct research with gillnets, longlines, and small trawl to obtain data on the distribution and ecology of salmon and other pelagic fishes in the North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Gulf of Alaska from early June to mid-August (Fig. 2).

(3) The *Wakatake maru* will conduct research with gillnets and longlines to obtain data on the distribution and stock abundance of salmon along 180° longitude in the North Pacific and Bering Sea from early June to late July (Fig. 3).

(4) The *Hokko maru* will conduct research with gillnets and to obtain information on the distribution and stock abundance of Asian salmon at the stations along 165°E longitude in July (Fig. 4).

Table 1. Proposed cruise plan of Japanese research vessels for salmon in the North Pacific in 1999/2000 fiscal year.

Vessel	Period	Research objects	Survey area	Gear equipped	Figure
<i>Hokusei maru</i>	June 1 – June 15	Western North Pacific	Fish community	Gillnets	1
	June 22 – July 6	Western North Pacific	Fish community	Gillnets	1
	July 19 – Aug. 19	Western North Pacific	Fish community	Gillnets	1
<i>Oshoro maru</i>	June 3 – Aug. 18	Central North Pacific Bering Sea Gulf of Alaska	Fish community	Gillnets, longlines, and trawl net	2
<i>Wakatake maru</i>	June 7 – July 23	Central North Pacific Bering Sea	Stock assessment	Gillnets and longlines	3
<i>Hokko maru</i>	June 22 – July 16	Western North Pacific	Stock assessment	Gillnets	4



