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**Proposed Cruise Plans of Japanese Research Vessels for Salmon
in the North Pacific Ocean in 2019**

by

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Proposed Cruise Plans of Japanese Research Vessels for Salmon in the North Pacific Ocean in 2019

Abstract: Two Japanese research vessels are scheduled to conduct high-seas salmon surveys. The FRA research vessel *Hokko maru* will carry out a summer monitoring survey for salmon and their habitat in the central Bering Sea. The Hokkaido University training vessel *Oshoro maru* will accomplish salmon research in the western North Pacific Ocean in middle May 2019.

Keywords: Japanese cruise plan, high-seas salmon, monitoring survey, Bering Sea, North Pacific Ocean, 2019

Two Japanese research vessels (Appendix Table) are scheduled to conduct scientific salmon research in the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea in 2019 (Table 1).

(1) The *Hokko maru* will carry out salmon research with a surface trawl and hook-and-line to obtain information on the distribution, abundance, and other biological characteristics of Pacific salmon in the Bering Sea from middle July to early August (Fig. 1).

(2) The *Oshoro maru* will carry out salmon research with gillnets, longline, and hook-and-line to obtain biological data on the distribution and ecology of salmon and other pelagic fishes in the western North Pacific Ocean in May (Fig. 2). In case of gillnet operation, gillnets less than 2.5 km in length at sea will be used.

Table 1. Proposed cruise plan of Japanese research vessels for salmon in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea in 2019.

Vessel	Period	Survey area	Research objects	Gears equipped
<i>Hokko maru</i>	July 17–August 9	Bering Sea	Salmon abundance and distribution	Surface trawl, hook-and-line
<i>Oshoro maru</i>	May 10–May 21	North Pacific Ocean	Oceanographic observation, plankton sampling and research of fishery resources	Automatic squid jigging, drift gillnet, long-line, hook-and-line

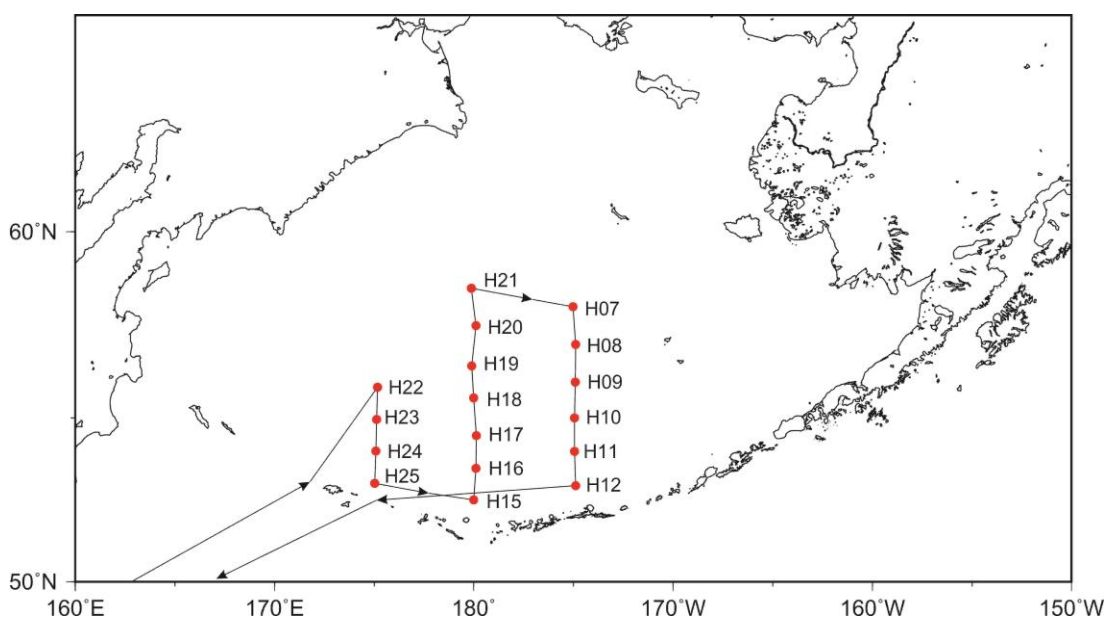


Fig. 1. A map showing 17 sampling stations in the Bering Sea by the R/V *Hokko maru*, July 17 (Kushiro)–August 9 (Kushiro), 2019.

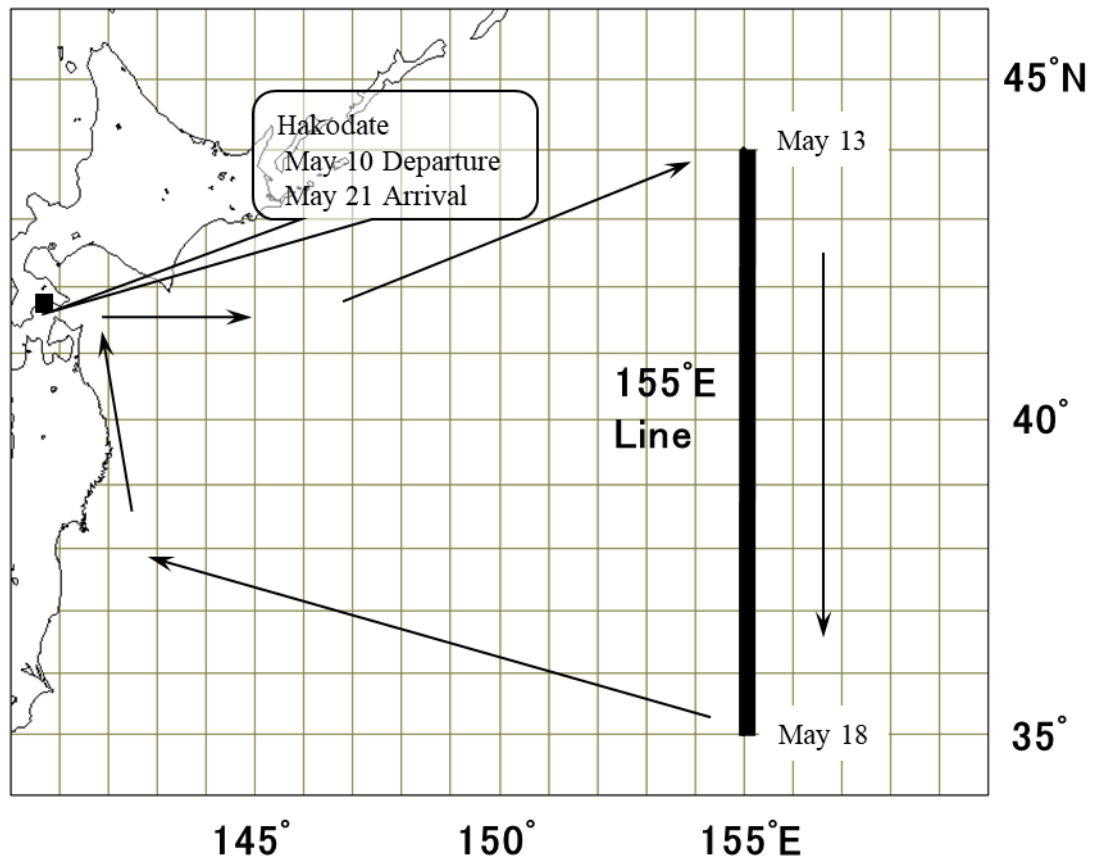


Fig. 2. Research area of the T/V *Oshoro maru* in the western North Pacific Ocean, May 10 (Hakodate)–May 21 (Hakodate), 2019.

Appendix Table. List of Japanese research vessels scheduled for high-seas salmon surveys in 2019.

Party	Vessel name	Call sign	Gears equipped	Other available information
Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute, FRA	<i>Hokkomaru</i>	JEBB	Surface trawl, hook-and-line	INMARSAT telephone: +872-7634-443-93, Length: 64.73 m, Gross tonnage: 902
Hokkaido University	<i>Oshoromaru</i>	7JRM	Automatic squid jigging, drift gillnet, long-line, hook-and-line	VSAT telephone: 0345406625, Length: 78.27 m, Gross tonnage: 1,998