

State of California - The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Marine Resources Region
Long Beach, California

CRUISE REPORT 72KB18 - PACIFIC MACKEREL SURVEY

Prepared by Eric H. Knaggs

Dates: August 8-11, 1972

Locality: The nearshore waters of southern California

Purposes:

1. To gather data on Pacific mackerel, *Scomber japonicus*, for population estimates.
2. To tag and release Pacific mackerel in the nearshore waters of southern California.
3. To procure samples of Pacific mackerel for fecundity and maturity studies, and for determining age composition.
4. To make incidental collections as requested by other investigations.

Results:

A total of 426 Pacific mackerel and 7 bonito was tagged and released at San Mateo Point and Barn Kelp near Oceanside. Twenty-five Pacific mackerel also were kept for fecundity studies and for determining age composition. These fish ranged in size from 300 to 342 mm FL.

Barracuda caught were measured and released. Only 6 fish, out of a total of 122, were larger than the legal size of 710 mm TL. All barracuda except one appeared to survive the rigors of being measured and swam away in a normal if somewhat excited manner.

Personnel: Eric Knaggs, Biologist-in-charge
Alec MacCall, Biologist
Ralph Norberg, Biologist
Steve Crooke, Biologist

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