

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

CRUISE REPORT 72-KB-25  
BIG GAME FISH INVESTIGATIONS

Prepared by Brian D. Thayer

- Vessel: KELP BASS
- Dates: September 28 and October 2-11, 1972
- Locality: Inshore waters from Point Conception to Point Fermin and waters around the Channel Islands.
- Purpose:
1. To tag and release Pacific bonito, (*Sarda chiliensis*), Pacific albacore, (*Thunnus alalunga*) and California yellowtail, (*Seriola dorsalis*).
  2. To collect specimens of Pacific bonito, California yellowtail and California barracuda (*Sphyrna argentea*) for population analysis.
  3. To tag and release any jack mackerel, (*Trachurus symmetricus*) and Pacific mackerel, (*Scomber japonicus*) captured.
  4. To make incidental collections as requested by other investigations.
- Procedure: Trolling with feather jigs was conducted during daylight hours to capture fish for tagging. Still-fishing with live bait and lures was carried out in areas where trolling indicated concentrations of fish present. Lights were used at night to attract fish for tagging and collecting purposes.
- Results: The majority of the tagging effort was devoted to an area along the coast from Santa Barbara City to Port Hueneme, resulting in the release of 833 tagged bonito. These fish ranged in size from 32 to 75 cm. (fork length). Sea surface water temperatures in this area ranged from 17.6°C to 18.8°C, and over 95% of the fish caught were taken on trolled jigs.
- An additional 347 bonito, ranging in size from 34 to 57 cm., were tagged and released in the inshore area from Palos Verdes Point to Point Fermin. Sea surface water temperatures here ranged from 19.2°C to 20.1°C.
- Twenty-six jack mackerel and 2 Pacific mackerel were tagged and released at Santa Cruz Island and an additional 18 jack mackerel and 2 Pacific mackerel were tagged and released ¼ mile off of Santa Barbara City. No albacore, barracuda or yellowtail were captured during the cruise.

Personnel: Marco Mazarovich, Vessel Captain  
Brian Thayer, Biologist-in-charge  
Donald Schultze, Biologist (October 2-9)  
Kevin Farnum, Seasonal Aid  
Roger Wynn, Seasonal Aid (October 9-11)

The following additional personnel participated on the September 28, 1972 portion of the cruise.

Charles Haugen, Biologist  
James Phelan, Biologist  
Robert Tasto, Biologist  
Ray Ally, Seasonal Aid  
James Cichantek, Seasonal Aid  
Rick Klingbeil, Seasonal Aid  
Ron Youker, Seasonal Aid

Oswaldo Hilders Lopez, Biologist (Venezuela)

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