

AMINING THE SPECIES COMPOSITION OF OBSERVED SKATE CATCH
/3# IN !LASKA S GROUNDISH ISHERIES AND RECENT TRENDS
IN SKATE RETENTION BY COMMERCIAL ISHERMEN

-ATERIALS AND METHODS

!LL DATA USED FOR THIS STUDY WERE EXTRACTED FROM THE
.ORTH 0ACIIC 'ROUNDISH /BSERVER 0ROGRAM .0'/0
DATABASE MAINTAINED BY THE &ISHERIES -ONITORING AND
!NALYSIS &-! \$IVISION OF THE .ATIONAL -ARINE &ISHER
IES 3ERVICE S .-&3 !LASKA &ISHERIES 3CIENCE #ENTER
4HIS DATABASE HOUSES ALL BIOLOGICAL DATA COLLECTED BY
GROUNDISH OBSERVERS ONBOARD COMMERCIAL ISHING VESSELS
OPERATING IN THE WATERS OF !LASKA S FEDERAL %XCLUSIVE %CO
NOMIC :ONE %%: &OR AN OVERVIEW OF THE DATABASE SEE
THE &-! \$IVISION WEBSITE .ATIONAL -ARINE &ISHERIES
3ERVICE TTP WWW AFSC NOAA GOV &-! FMA?DATABASE
HM ACCESSED .OVEMBER

&EDERAL LAW REQUIRES OBSERVERS TO BE PRESENT AT ALL
TIMES ON COMMERCIAL ISHING VESSELS OF FT M
OR MORE IN LENGTH OVERALL ,/! OPERATING IN THE FED
ERAL %%: &OR VESSELS FROM TO FT TO
M ,/! OBSERVER COVERAGE IS REQUIRED FOR ONLY OF
ISHING DAYS AND FOR VESSELS LESS THAN FT M
,/! NO OBSERVER COVERAGE IS REQUIRED 4HE CATCH DATA
USED FOR THIS STUDY WERE TAKEN FROM TRAWL HAULS AND
LONGLINE SETS DURING WHICH AN OBSERVER WAS PRESENT AND
WAS SAMPLING SO THAT THE CATCH STATISTICS PRESENTED
HERE DO NOT REPRESENT THE TOTAL CATCH OF THE ISHERIES IN
THIS REGION NOR DO THEY REPRESENT BIOMASS ESTIMATES
&OR SOME COMMERCIAL ISHERIES IN THE AREA POT GEAR IS
USED BUT OBSERVERS RARELY ENCOUNTER SKATES IN THESE
ISHERIES AND THEREFORE SUCH DATA ARE NOT INCLUDED IN
THIS STUDY

4HE PROCESS USED BY OBSERVERS TO DETERMIR R PABHDERE€ PRMER



& FIGURE

- AP SHOWING . - & 3 MANAGEMENT AREAS IN WHICH OBSERVED SKATE CATCH WAS EXA
3 TIPPLED AREAS "ERING 3EA SHADED AREAS !LEUTIAN)SLANDS DIAGONAL HATCHING

WHERE R_j THE OBSERVER REPORTED RETENTION RATE OF SPE
CIES IN HAUL AND
 W_j THE EXTRAPOLATED CATCH WEIGHT OF SPECIES
IN HAUL

(HISTORICAL SKATE PRICE INFORMATION WAS DERIVED FROM
! LASKA STATE ISH TICKET DATA AND WAS COMPILED FOR THE
STUDY PERIOD BY KERRY (IATN ANNUAL DATA
MEAN PRICE WAS DETERMINED FOR EACH TAXON BY CALCU
LATING THE EXVESSEL PRICE PAID PER POUND ROUND WEIGHT

4ABLE
3SPECIES COMPOSITION BY WEIGHT OF OBSERVED SKATE CATCH BY YEAR REPORTED IN
LESS THAN

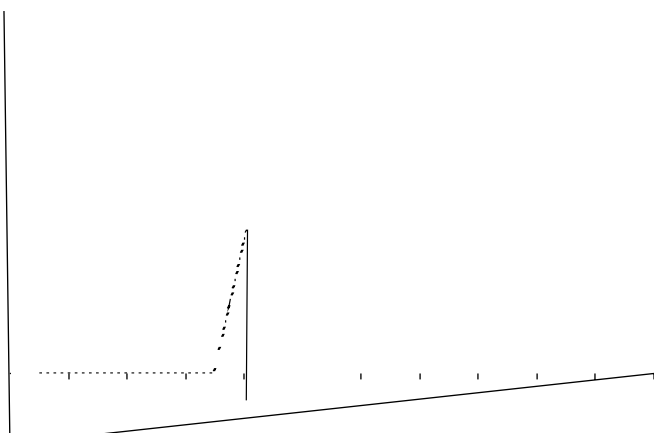
4AXON

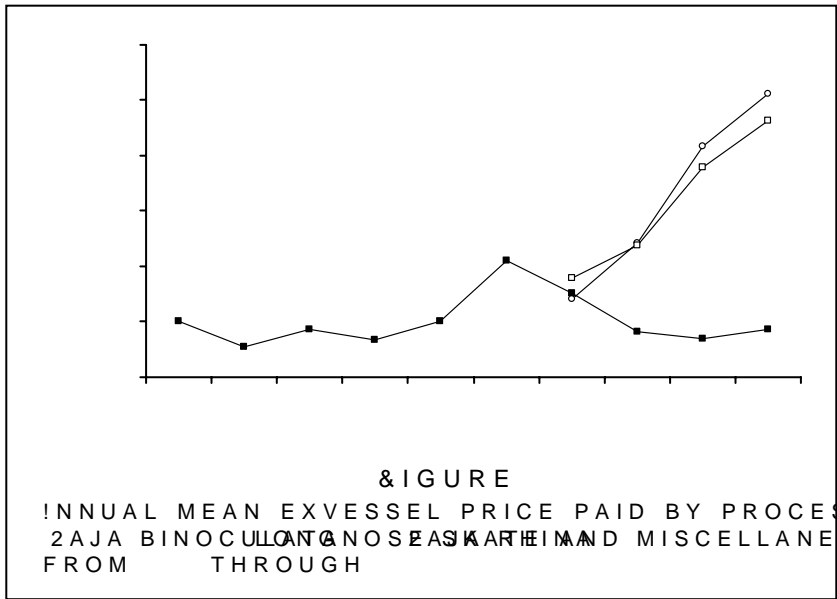
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TABLE

OBSERVED SKATE CATCH IN TONS BY REGION GEAR TYPE AND TARGET SPECIES REPORT
 TARGET SPECIES IS DEFINED AS THE PREDOMINANT SPECIES BY WEIGHT IN THE CATCH

REGION GEAR TYPE	TARGET SPECIES											OTHER	TOTAL
	PACIFIC COD GADUS MACROCEPHALUS	WALLEYE POLLOCK GADUS CHALCOGRAMMUS	ARROWTOOTH PSEPHADUS	PACIFIC HERRING CLupea pallasii	PACIFIC HALIBUT Hippoglossus stenolepis	EUROPEAN MACKEREL Scomber scombrus	COCKLES Cardium	SEASTAR Pisaster	SCALLOP Stomatopoda	MONOPTERYGIUS	IMBRIA		
PACIFIC OCEAN													
ALASKA													
ARCTIC OCEAN													
ALL AREAS													
TOTAL													





"ATHYRAJA MARINUM AS SPECIES OF SKATE 2AJIDAE
!RHYNCHOBATINAE FROM THE !LEUTIAN)SLANDS #OPEIA
n
& IELD GUIDE TO SHARKS SKATES AND RATFISH OF !LASKA
P !LASKA 3EA 'RANT #QLR PGE 0R0S PLEÐðOS " " ` T
