

Report on the Korean trial fishing on walleye pollock in the Convention area of the Bering Sea in 2003.

The trial fishing in the convention area of the Bering Sea (Donut hole) was conducted two times by Korean commercial fishing vessel in 2003. First, it was conducted by Korean stern trawler, her name is MAN JECK NO. 21 (tonnage 2,800.93 G/T), in the Convention area during 12 days (Mar. 12~Mar. 23, 2003). Second, O YANG HO - 2 (tonnage 3,527 G/T) of stern trawler conducted in the Convention area during 15 days (Mar. 12~Mar. 26, 2003). The main purpose of the trial fishing was to determine the geographical distribution of walleye pollock in the Convention area and to collect biological data of walleye pollock. But walleye pollock was caught 2 fish (2.6kg) only during Korean trial fishing in 2003.

Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 were presented the hydroacoustic tracklines and haul positions during first time and second time.

First time conducted 6 hauls using the midwater trawl net of Green Netex 800 (codend mesh size 110mm). The depth of trawl gear was 30m to 180m, the hauling time was 6 hour to 22 hour. In haul no. 1, some fish caught; salmon 5 fish (1.731kg) and smooth lump sucker 88 fish (76.2kg). Haul no. 2 were caught 118 fish (118.9kg) of smooth lump sucker, 5 fish (2.0kg) of salmon, 1 fish (0.2kg) of rock sucker and 44 fish (2.4kg) of decapod. Haul no. 3 were caught 16 fish (13.6kg) of smooth lump sucker, 12 fish (4.1kg) of salmon, and 1 fish (1.2kg) of walleye pollock. Haul no. 4 were caught 104 fish (59.6kg) of smooth lump sucker, 20 fish (12.5kg) of decapod and 400 fish (29.3kg) of harchet fish. Haul no. 5 were caught 320 fish (210.0kg) of smooth lump sucker and 190 fish (17.0kg) of hatchet fish. Haul no. 6 were caught 250 fish (265.0kg) of smooth lump sucker and 12 fish (9.0kg) of salmon (Table 1, 2).

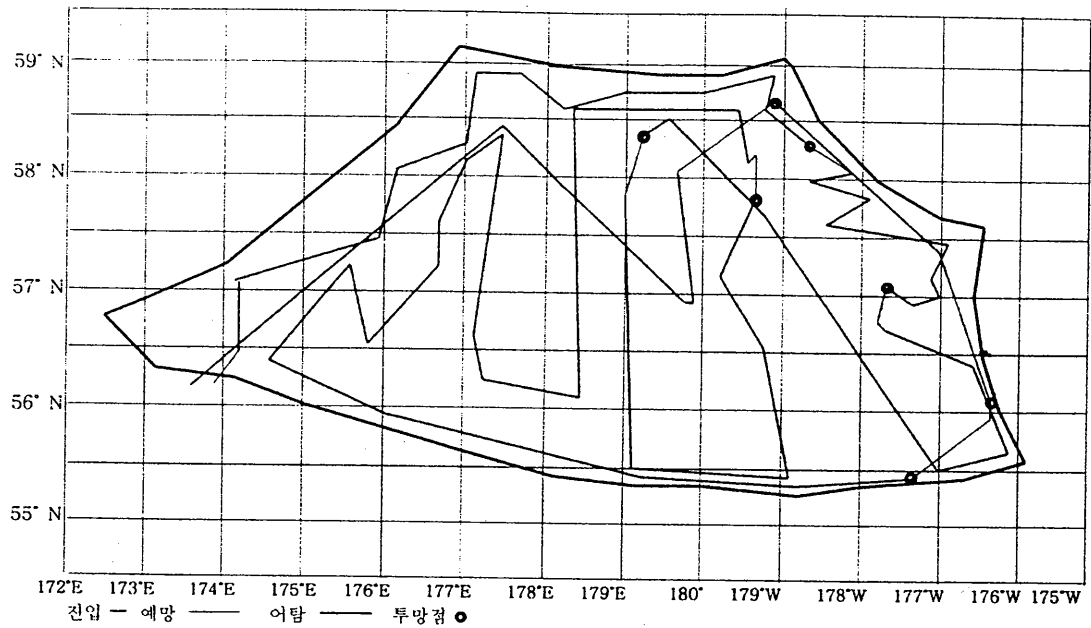


Fig. 2. Hydroacoustic trackline and haul positions (circle) of O YANG HO - 2 during trial fishing in Convention area in Mar. 2003.

Table 1. Catch information of Korean trial fishing in the Convention area in 2003

Vessel	Period of trial fishing	Haul	Catch	
			Pollock	other
Man JECK NO. 21	Mar. 12~23. 2003	6	1 fish (1.2kg)	5 species (1,585 fish, 821.5kg)
O YANG HO -2	Mar. 12~26. 2003	7	1 fish (1.4kg)	6 species (1,163 fish, 559.6kg)
Total		13	2 fish (2.6kg)	8 species (2,748 fish, 1,381.1kg)

Table 2. Detail information of hauls conducted by Korean trial fishing in the Convention area in 2003

Vessel name	Haul #	Date	Set Position	Hauling Position	Hauling Time	Depth of gear (m)
MAN JEOK NO. 21	1	Mar. 14	58° 22' N 178° 16' W	58° 16' N 178° 10' W	6h 30min	80~100
	2	Mar. 15	57° 34' N 178° 17' W	57° 20' N 178° 48' W	13h 10min	30~150
	3	Mar. 17	58° 50' N 178° 55' W	58° 14' N 179° 09' W	10h 00min	150~180
	4	Mar. 19	56° 19' N 177° 03' E	56° 46' N 175° 36' E	22h 00min	110~150
	5	Mar. 21	55° 56' N 178° 25' E	55° 47' N 179° 30' E	11h 20min	70~100
	6	Mar. 22	55° 37' N 176° 32' W	55° 55' N 176° 13' W	8h 10min	80~120
O YANG HO - 2	1	Mar. 14	58° 26' N 178° 32' W	58° 13' N 178° 11' W	4h 25min	100~160
	2	Mar. 15	57° 02' N 177° 38' W	56° 47' N 177° 38' W	4h 30min	120~160
	3	Mar. 16	58° 16' N 179° 14' E	57° 55' N 179° 02' E	9h 30min	170
	4	Mar. 18	57° 56' N 179° 12' W	58° 08' N 179° 19' W	5h 30min	120~160
	5	Mar. 22	55° 25' N 177° 13' W	55° 53' N 176° 10' W	14h 20min	110~160
	6	Mar. 23	56° 04' N 176° 13' W	57° 17' N 176° 59' W	22h 15min	120~160
	7	Mar. 24	58° 37' N 179° 09' W	58° 08' N 179° 37' E	13h 00min	120~160