

## Anchovy, Dogfish, and Skipjack Tuna

....The "feasibility and ecological implications" of a northern anchovy fishery off the State of Oregon is being evaluated in a 2-year study by oceanographers at Oregon State University, Corvallis, the University reports. Four species of marine birds reportedly consume more than 30,000 tons of anchovy each year off Oregon which, to researchers, suggests a substantial anchovy population. If there is a surplus of anchovy after salmon and other larger fishes have eaten their share, the new fishery might be possible, say the researchers. Anchovies, now called "underutilized" off the Oregon and Washington coasts, are used there only to a small degree as bait....

....Coarse-web set nets for dogfish will be considered on a case-by-case basis in Washington State's Puget Sound, according to Fisheries Director Donald W. Moos. The new policy was spurred by the growing commercial food-export fishery for Puget Sound dogfish. Each permit will be valid for either one 1,000-foot set net or two 500-foot set nets. Net depth is limited to 25 meshes, with mesh size not less than 4½ inches stretch-measure. "Coarse web nets are advantageous in this dogfish fishery because their higher visibility minimizes the incidental catch of other species while still permitting a good harvest in areas of high dogfish concentration," said Moos....

....Brian J. Rothschild has been re-elected Chairman of the Standing Committee for Research and Statistics (SCRS) of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) at the Commission's fourth regular meeting in Madrid, Spain, 19-25 November 1975. The

SCRS analyzes appropriate data and advises the Commission on the status of tuna populations with regard to levels of fishing and makes recommendations, based on scientific findings, on the need for measures to conserve the resource. Rothschild is Director, Southwest Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA....

....Hawaii's 1975 skipjack tuna fishery closed with an estimated 2,229.4 metric tons, down 1,143.7 metric tons from last year's catch, and 2,186.6 metric tons below the long-term average. It was the smallest skipjack tuna take there since catches began to be recorded, reports the *Tuna Newsletter*. The December 1975 catch was only about 66.7 metric tons, 29.4 metric tons lower than in December 1974 and 55.1 metric tons below the December average from 1948 to 1974....

....The 1975 fall run of king salmon in California's Sacramento River system totaled 182,600 fish, while the tentative figure for the San Joaquin River system was 6,800 fish, the Department of Fish and Game has announced. Totals for the 1974 fall runs were 228,000 and 5,700 fish respectively. Egg take during 1975 in the Central Valley's three major salmon hatcheries totaled 38 million, up from 32 million in 1974....

....Other than salmon, Washington State's commercial marine fish harvest has steadily increased in both value and poundage in the last 5 years, according to the Department of Fisheries. Last year's harvest was worth \$13,874,000 to commercial fishers, a \$4.5 million increase over the previous 4-year average. Development

of overseas markets for roe herring and an increase in Washington's albacore landings from about 5 to 15 million pounds per year were cited as factors in the increasing catch. New dogfish markets are expected to further boost the commercial importance of marine fish to the state....

....Final regulations limiting the discharge of sewage from vessels into U.S. waters have been announced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program applies to over 600,000 U.S. boats and ships and to all foreign vessels entering U.S. waters. It forbids any overboard discharge of sewage into most freshwater bodies within each state. It also requires that wastes meet rigorous standards of treatment before being discharged into coastal and interstate waters....

....New Zealand's scallop landings have more than doubled in just 2 years according to a *Catch '75* report. In 1972 the scallop harvest was 1,617 tons, in 1973 it was 2,261 tons, and in 1974 it climbed to 3,389 tons worth NZ\$804,044....

....An experimental 10-day king crab test fishery was opened on 3 March in the Adak and western Aleutians registration areas to get data to determine the reasons for the current low levels of king crab stocks, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has reported. The cooperative state-industry program was open only to vessels previously registered for the current registration year....

....California's 1975 ocean salmon sport fishery was the poorest since 1966, according to Department of Fish and Game preliminary figures. Landings totaled 115,000 fish versus 106,000 fish in 1966. Included in the 1975 total were 100,000 king salmon, mainstay of the San Francisco Bay area sport salmon fishery. The 1975 landings were less than half the 1971-74 ocean angling average of 241,000 salmon per year. The 1976 salmon landings are expected to approach the 10-year average of 172,000 salmon, based mostly on observations of small king salmon in the Gulf of the Farallones last fall....