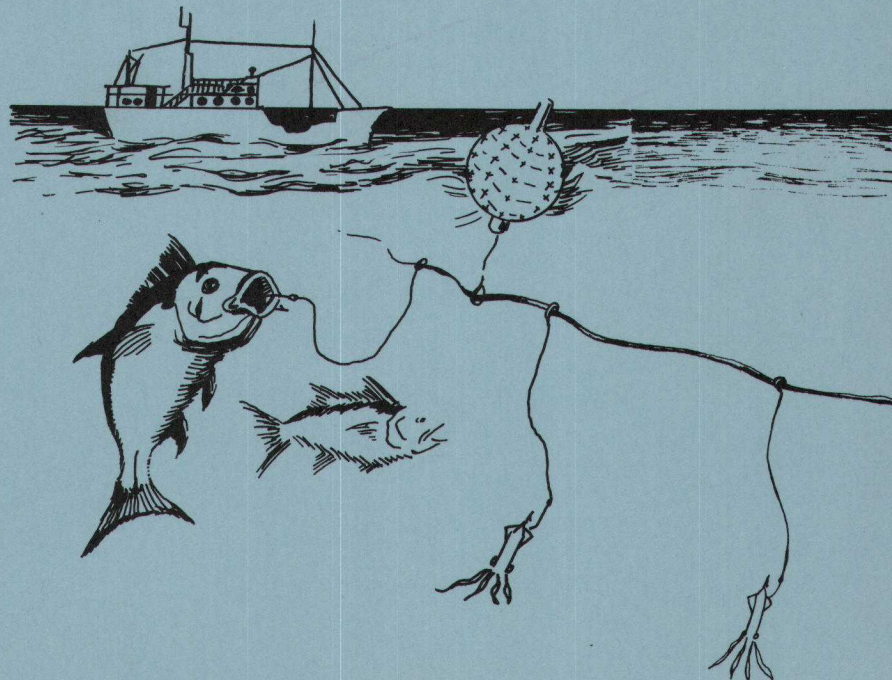


NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFC-64



JAPANESE LONGLINE FISHING: Comparisons Between Observer Data and Japanese Quarterly Reports for 1979 in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico

Perry A. Thompson, Jr.
February 1982



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| <u>Section</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 1.0 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 | 1 |
| 1.2 Southeast Fisheries Center Foreign Fisheries Observer Project | 1 |
| 1.3 Purpose | 3 |
| 2.0 Methods | 5 |
| 2.1 Observer Vessel Schedules | 5 |
| 2.2 Observed Vessels | 5 |
| 2.3 Distribution of Observer Coverage | 7 |
| 2.4 Observers' Shipboard Duties | 7 |
| 2.5 Observer Data | 7 |
| 2.6 Japanese Data | 14 |
| 3.0 Data Evaluation | 15 |
| 3.1 Fishing Effort | 15 |
| 3.2 Catch Rates | 15 |
| 3.3 Total Catch | 28 |
| 4.0 Discussion and Recommendations | 35 |
| 4.1 Observer Deployments | 35 |
| 4.2 Japanese Quarterly Reports | 35 |
| 4.3 Enforcement Management Information System (EMIS) | 36 |

| <u>Appendix</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| A The Front and Back Pages of the Foreign Observer Data Set. | A-1 |
| B The Japanese Quarterly Report Catch and Effort Data Sheet Required by Foreign Fisheries Regulations 611.60 (g)(i). | B-1 |
| C The Japanese Quarterly Report Daily Vessel Activity Report Required by Foreign Fishing Regulations 611.60 (g)(ii). | C-1 |
| D List of Scientific Names of Species Hooked by Japanese Longliners in this Report. | D-1 |

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

| <u>Figure</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| 1. United States Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ) divided into seven fishery zones. | 2 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (Continued)

| <u>Figure</u> | | <u>Page</u> |
|---------------|--|-------------|
| 2. | Scheduling events for placing observers on foreign vessels. | 6 |
| 3. | Relationship between observer coverage days and Japanese vessel days in FCZ. | 8 |
| 4. | Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the first quarter, January to March, 1979. | 9 |
| 5. | Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the second quarter, April to June, 1979. | 10 |
| 6. | Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the third quarter, July to September, 1979. | 11 |
| 7. | Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the fourth quarter, October to December, 1979. | 12 |
| 8. | A typical Japanese longline set for tuna. | 13 |

LIST OF TABLES

| <u>Table</u> | | <u>Page</u> |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Comparison of days reported from Japanese radio reports (EMIS) and Japanese Quarterly Report by zone for 1979. | 16 |
| 2. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic. | 20 |
| 3. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for the third quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic. | 21 |
| 4. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for the fourth quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic. | 22 |
| 5. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico. | 23 |
| 6. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for the second quarter of 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico. | 24 |
| 7. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for 1979 in the Atlantic. | 25 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

| <u>Table</u> | | <u>Page</u> |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| 8. | Comparison of catch rates from observer records and Japanese Quarterly Report for 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico. | 26 |
| 9. | Observed catches of sea turtles and marine mammals in the Atlantic for 1979. | 29 |
| 10. | Observed catches of sea turtles and marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico for 1979. | 30 |
| 11. | Comparison of total Japanese reported 1979 catches for the Atlantic. | 32 |
| 12. | Comparison of total Japanese reported 1979 catches for the Gulf of Mexico. | 33 |

SECTION 1.0

INTRODUCTION

1.1 FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976

In March 1977, Congress signed into law the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA), PL 94-265, of 1976. This Act provides exclusive United States management authority over all fishery resources of the continental shelf adjacent to the United States. In addition; the Act established the Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ), which is a zone contiguous to the territorial sea of the United States, extending from the baseline for measuring the territorial sea seaward for 200 nautical miles (Figure 1).

Tunas are not managed under the FCMA because they are highly migratory; however, since the Japanese longline tuna fishery does take other species incidental to tuna (e.g., billfishes and sharks), and these species are subject to management, the fishery must satisfy certain requirements of the FCMA.

The Act explicitly provides that authorized United States observers be permitted on board any foreign fishing vessel which is fishing for, or is incidentally catching, any fish over which the United States has exclusive management jurisdiction.

1.2 SOUTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER FOREIGN FISHERIES OBSERVER PROJECT

Implementation of FCMA and the Atlantic Billfish and Shark Preliminary Fishery Management Plan mandated the need for observers to monitor billfishes and sharks hooked incidentally by Japanese longline vessels fishing in a directed fishery for tuna throughout FCZ waters. Responsibility for project management was assigned to the Pascagoula Laboratory (now part of the Mississippi Laboratories, Southeast Fisheries Center (SEFC)) and the project was named SEFC Foreign Fishery Observer Project.

The SEFC responsibility normally would include only FCZ zones 11 to 15 (Figure 1); however, to achieve continuity of coverage, SEFC observer responsibilities were extended to include zones 16 and 17. These zones represent the continuation of the Japanese longline fishery into waters of the northeastern United States.

Objectives of the SEFC Observer Project are to:

Collect scientific data from foreign fishing vessels in the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean FCZ;

Monitor foreign fishing activities in the FCZ (for scientific purposes);

Provide information on fishing and biological data on species caught; and

Collect data for analysis of compliance by National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) enforcement personnel.

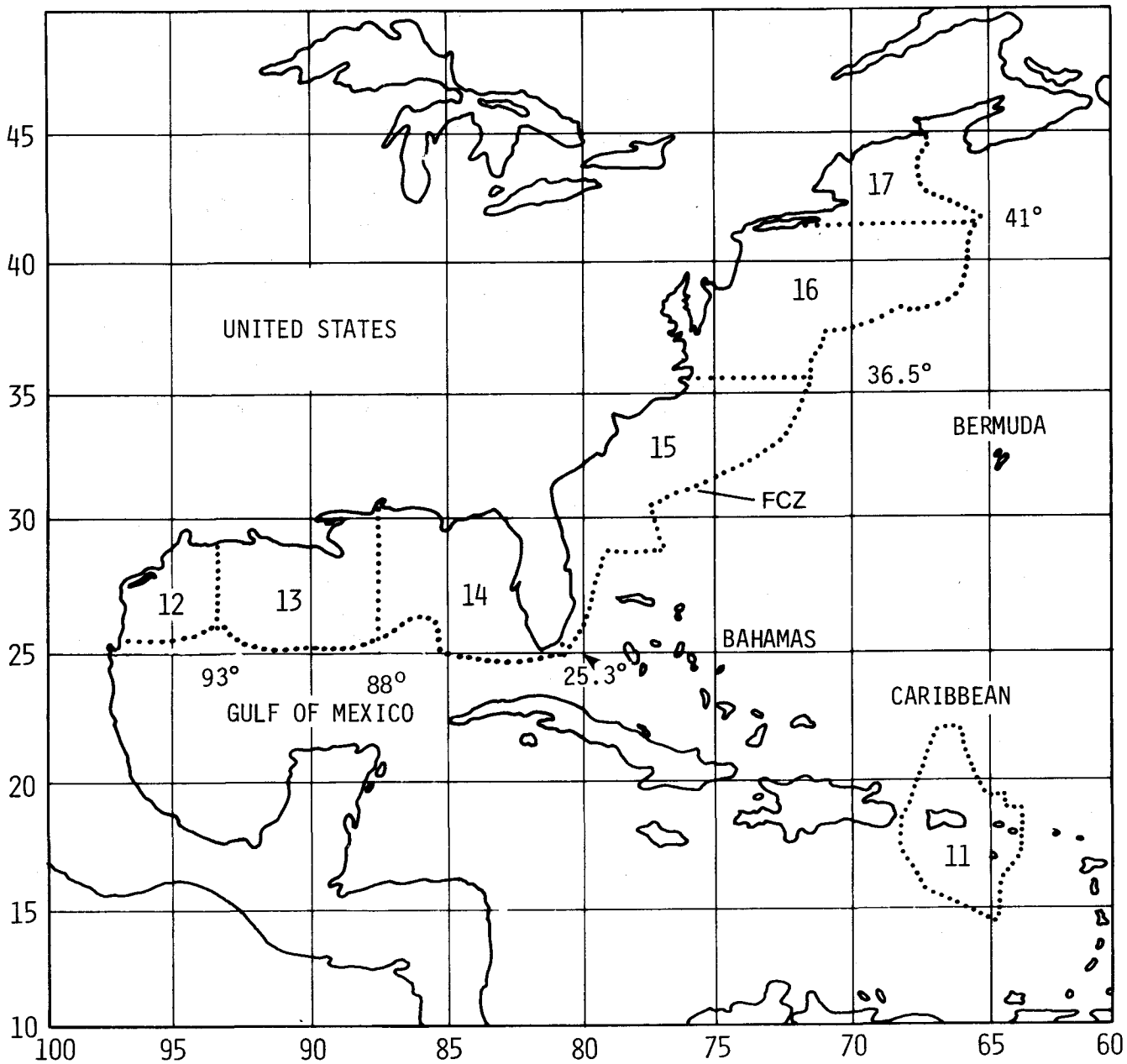


Figure 1. United States Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ) divided into seven fishery zones.

1.3 PURPOSE

This 1979 statistical report has several purposes:

To evaluate the data provided by the Japanese in their required quarterly reports;

- To present summarized observer and Japanese quarterly report data for 1979;
- To describe reporting procedures and data collected;
- To provide specific recommendations for future reporting requirements by the Japanese; and

To provide generalized recommendations concerning U.S. Coast Guard and NMFS monitoring and support needs.

SECTION 2.0

METHODS

2.1 OBSERVER VESSEL SCHEDULES

Japanese longline tuna vessels entering the United States FCZ are required to notify the U.S. Coast Guard 24 hours prior to commencing fishing operations. This 24-hour notice, however, is insufficient lead time to solve logistical problems associated with deploying foreign fishery observers on Japanese vessels. Therefore, to ensure timely deployment of SEFC observers, the Japanese are requested to provide advance fishing plans which include the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico FCZ. These plans must include the number of vessels and approximate FCZ entering dates.

When the fishing plans are received, observer deployments are scheduled and coordinated with the Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries through the Sumar Shipping Agency located in New York, New York. Vessel schedules normally require that each observer rotate through four to five vessels at weekly intervals during a deployment trip. Schedules often change due to weather conditions (too severe to transfer observers), location of the next vessel in rotation, vessels departing FCZ for supplies or because catch capacity has been reached. All observer vessel schedule changes require project approval.

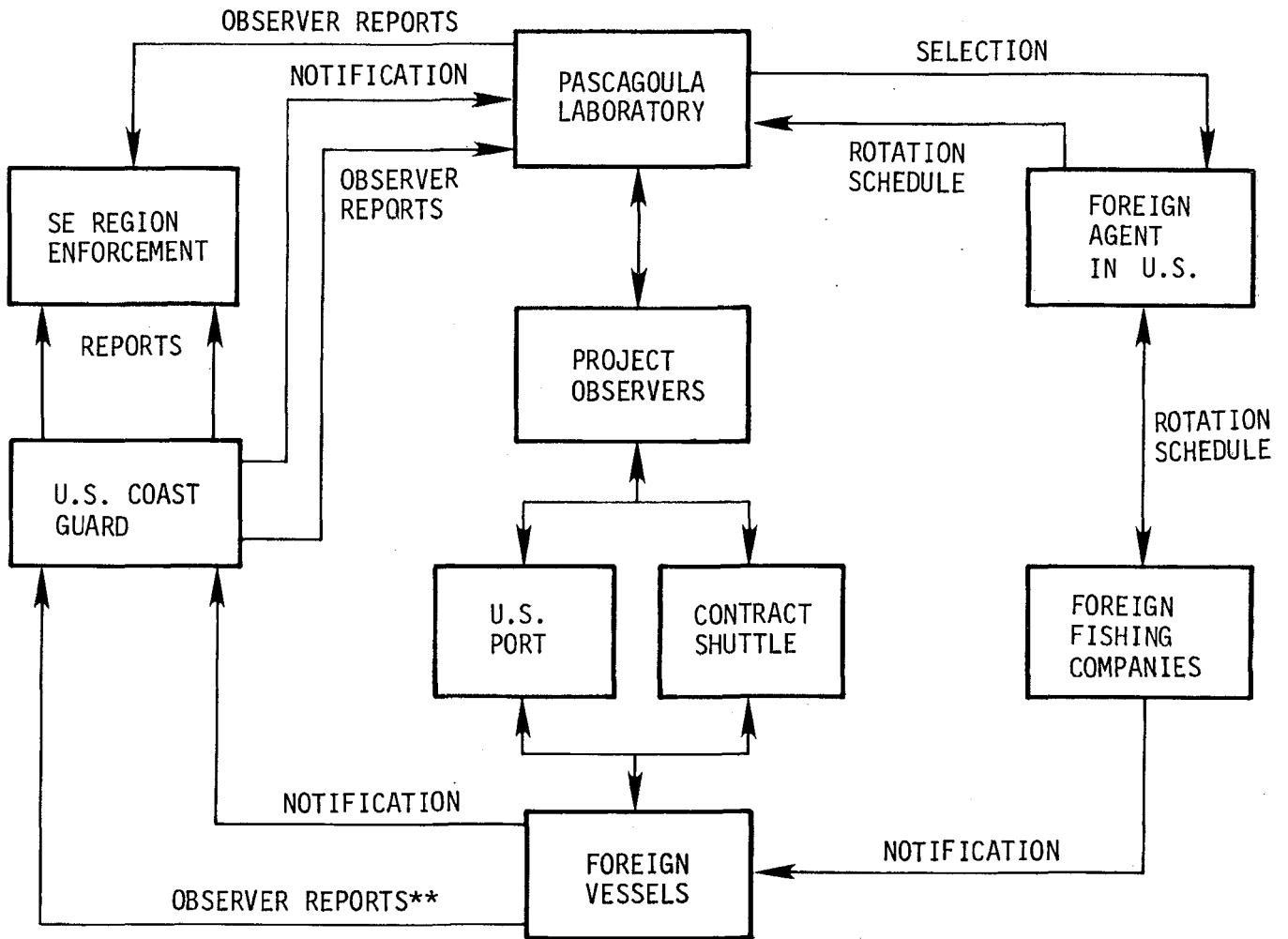
Observers embark on the vessels at designated port locations or port entrance sea buoys. Charter vessels are used when observers are deployed at sea buoys. Observers disembark in the same manner either in port or at sea buoys and schedules are arranged in advance through the Sumar Shipping Agency.

Scheduling of observers aboard Japanese longline vessels generally follows the flow of events shown in Figure 2.

2.2 OBSERVED VESSELS

Since vessel schedules for the observers depend to some extent on information provided by the Japanese, a test was performed to determine if observer coverage was biased toward smaller vessels of the fishing fleet. The assumption was fishing by smaller vessels might be less efficient than by the larger ones. The test was performed by comparing mean vessel ton days in the FZC for the entire fleet against mean observer vessel ton days. Ton days were computed by multiplying the days spent by a vessel in the FCZ by the gross weight of the vessel. Observer vessel ton days were computed in a similar manner by multiplying the weight of the vessel by the number of days observers were aboard that vessel. The test indicated that observers were placed on the larger vessels (mean of 390.1 ton days for observer vessels versus the fleet average of 382.7 ton days). This difference was significant at the 95 percent confidence level and may indicate a tendency of the Japanese to place observers on the larger vessels which have more space.

A second test was conducted to determine if the vessels which effected the most fishing pressure in the FCZ also received the most observer coverage. This



*NORMALLY NO MORE THAN ONE WEEK PER VESSEL AND FOUR CONSECUTIVE WEEKS PER OBSERVER IS SCHEDULED

**RADIO REPORTS SENT EVERY THREE DAYS

Figure 2. Scheduling events for placing observers on foreign vessels.

test was performed by regressing observer days on a vessel against the total number of days spent by the vessel in the FCZ (Figure 3). Test results showed observer coverage was generally in proportion to the amount of time a vessel spent in the FCZ.

2.3 DISTRIBUTION OF OBSERVER COVERAGE

The Japanese longline fleet generally fishes the Atlantic FCZ from June to January and the Gulf of Mexico from January to April, following the changes in distribution and availability of tuna. A review of the distribution of quarterly fishing effort by the Japanese fleet in 1979 (noon-day reports) and observer coverage of that effort indicated that the total geographical range was adequately covered, with the exception of the second quarter in the Atlantic (Figures 4 through 7). The observer project was unable to provide observer coverage of the longline fleet during the latter period due to logistical problems with the Japanese in deploying observers.

In the Atlantic, some observer coverage and Japanese fishing effort appeared to be outside the FCZ. A probable explanation for the Japanese reported positions being outside the FCZ is the manner in which positions are recorded. Positions are recorded according to 1 degree squares. The longline vessel may fish anywhere within the square, but fishing effort is recorded only in whole degrees from the southeast corner of the square. In other words, longline vessels fishing just inside the FCZ may report their positions outside the FCZ if the southeast corner of the square is outside the FCZ. Observer fishing effort positions are recorded from the beginning of haulback in degrees and minutes. In Figures 4, 6, and 7, observer coverage extends outside the Atlantic FCZ. The outside coverage is due to sets started inside the FCZ which drifted outside. Data from these sets were used in the data evaluation.

2.4 OBSERVERS' SHIPBOARD DUTIES

The primary duty of an observer while aboard a foreign fishing vessel is to collect scientific data (catch rates, catch composition, and biological data) on target and other species. Data requirements are derived from diverse sources; e.g., SEFC Programs, other NMFS Programs, and Fishery Management Councils. Secondary duties include marine mammal and sea turtle observations, collection of data on gear design and fishing tactics, and collection of selected environmental data. Also, another responsibility of the observer is to collect data specifically for compliance analysis by NMFS enforcement personnel. Observers, however, have no authority or responsibility for law enforcement or compliance related activities while aboard foreign fishing vessels.

2.5 OBSERVER DATA

The observer's primary responsibility is to collect catch effort data on billfishes, sharks and other prohibited species hooked by Japanese longline gear. Longline gear basically consists of a number of floats supporting a mainline below the water surface on which gangions or hooks are attached (Figure 8). Longline gear is normally set out from about 0200 hours to 0700 hours in the Gulf of Mexico and from about 0300 hours to 0700 hours in the Atlantic. The haulback of the gear may last from about 1100 hours to 2300 hours in both the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic. During haulback time, observers are instructed to be on duty to collect scientific data.

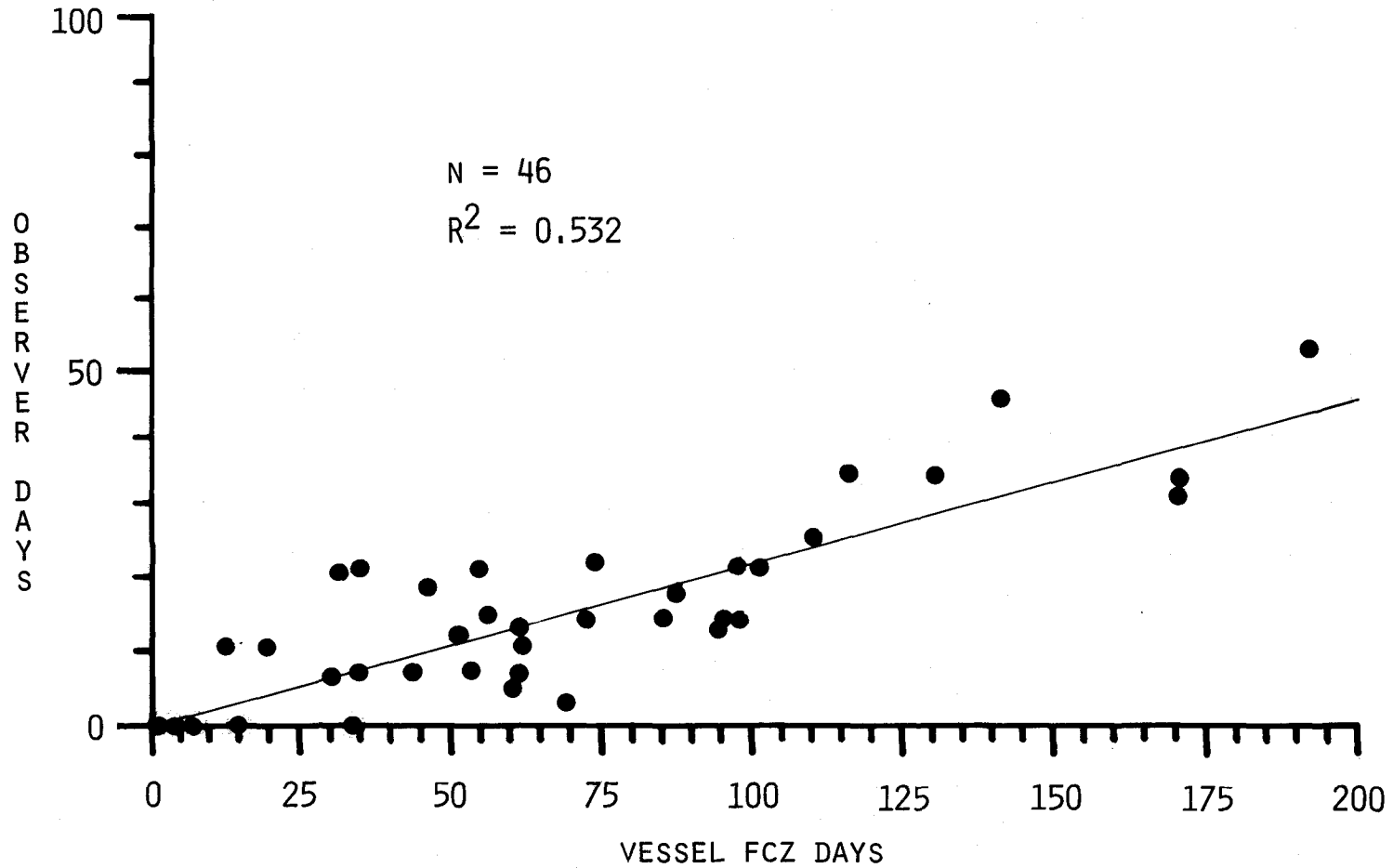


Figure 3 - Relationship between observer coverage days and Japanese vessel days in FCZ.

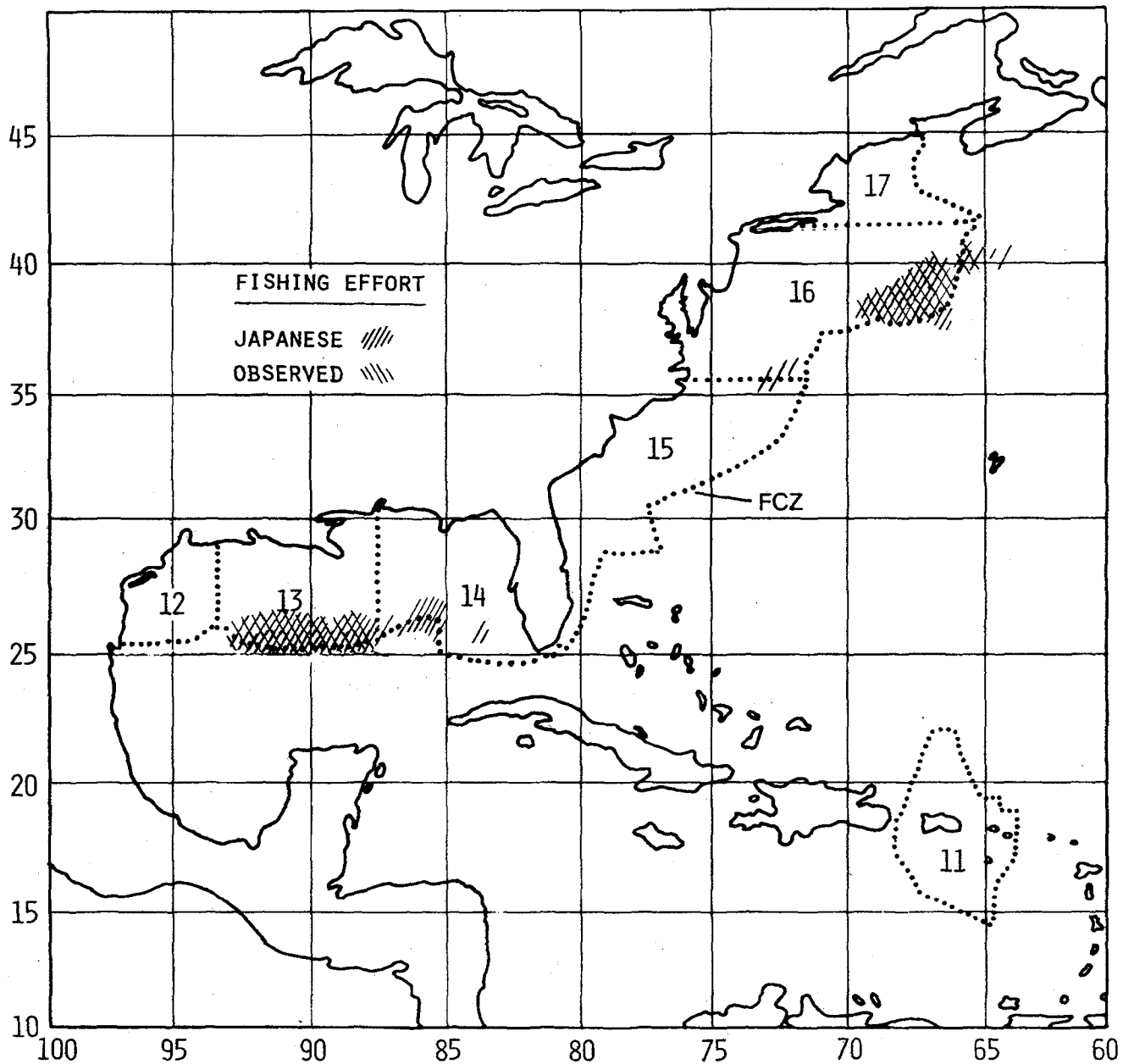


Figure 4. Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the first quarter, January to March, of 1979.

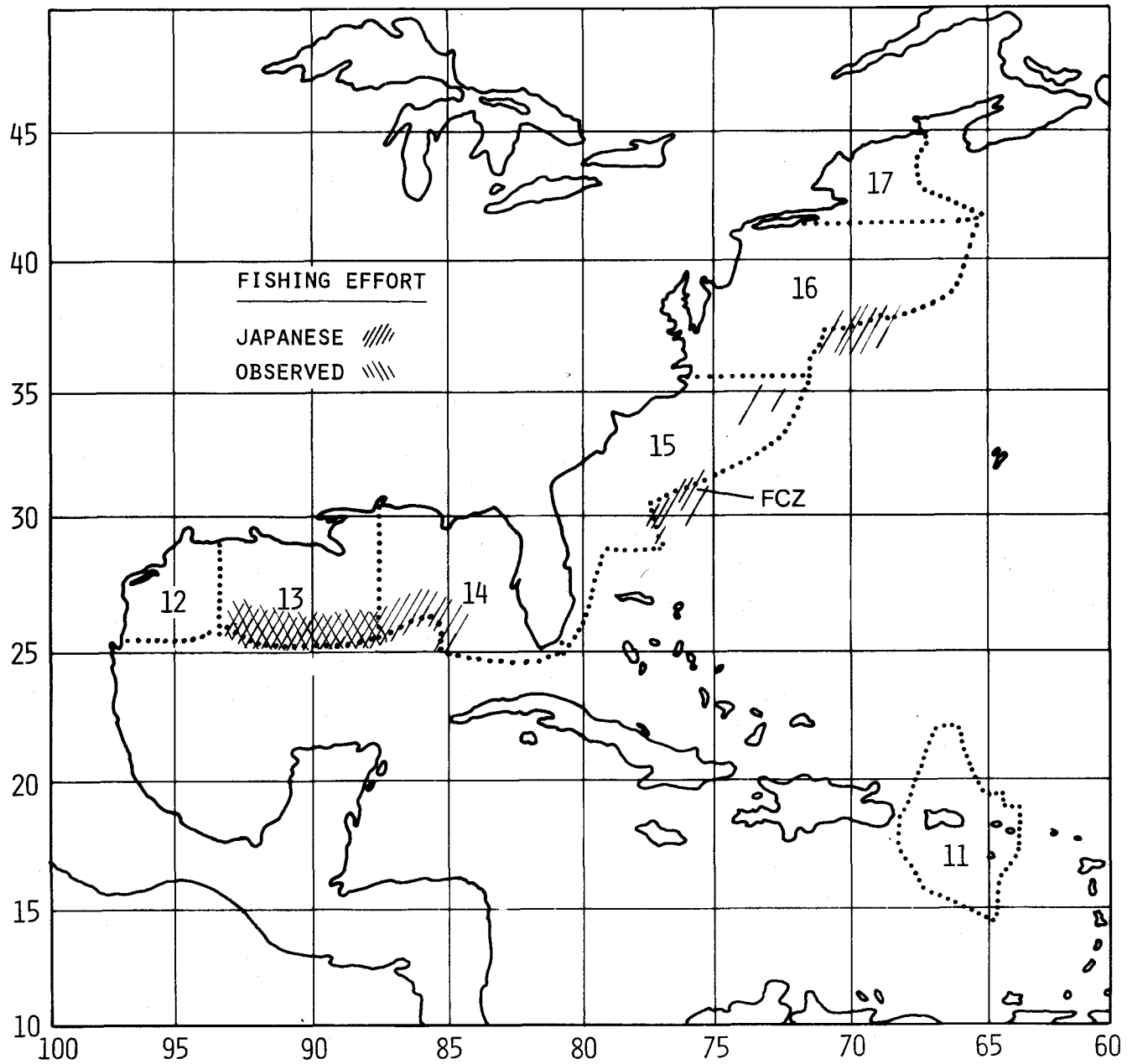


Figure 5. Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the second quarter, April to June, Of 1979.

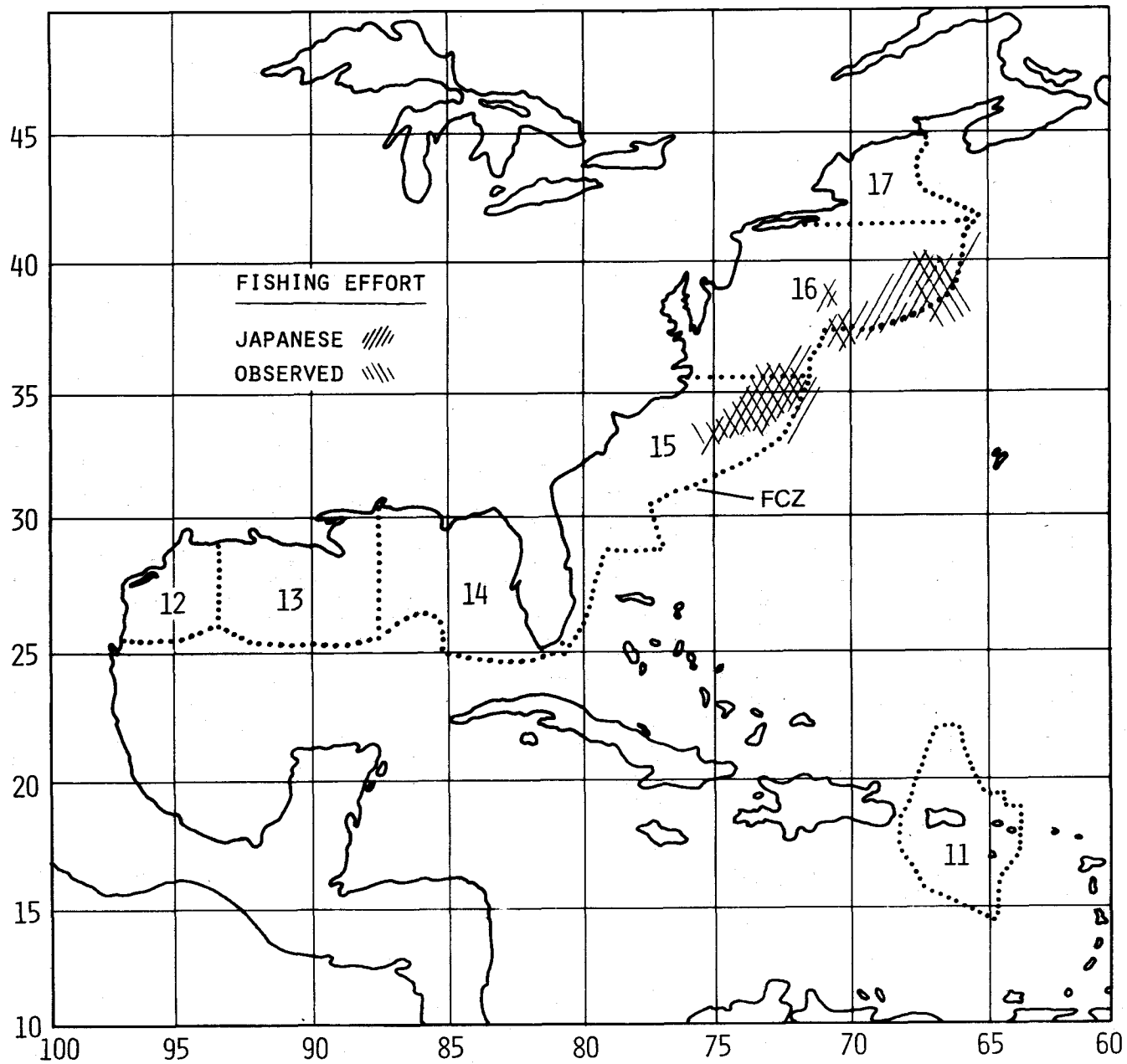


Figure 6. Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the third quarter, July to September, of 1979.

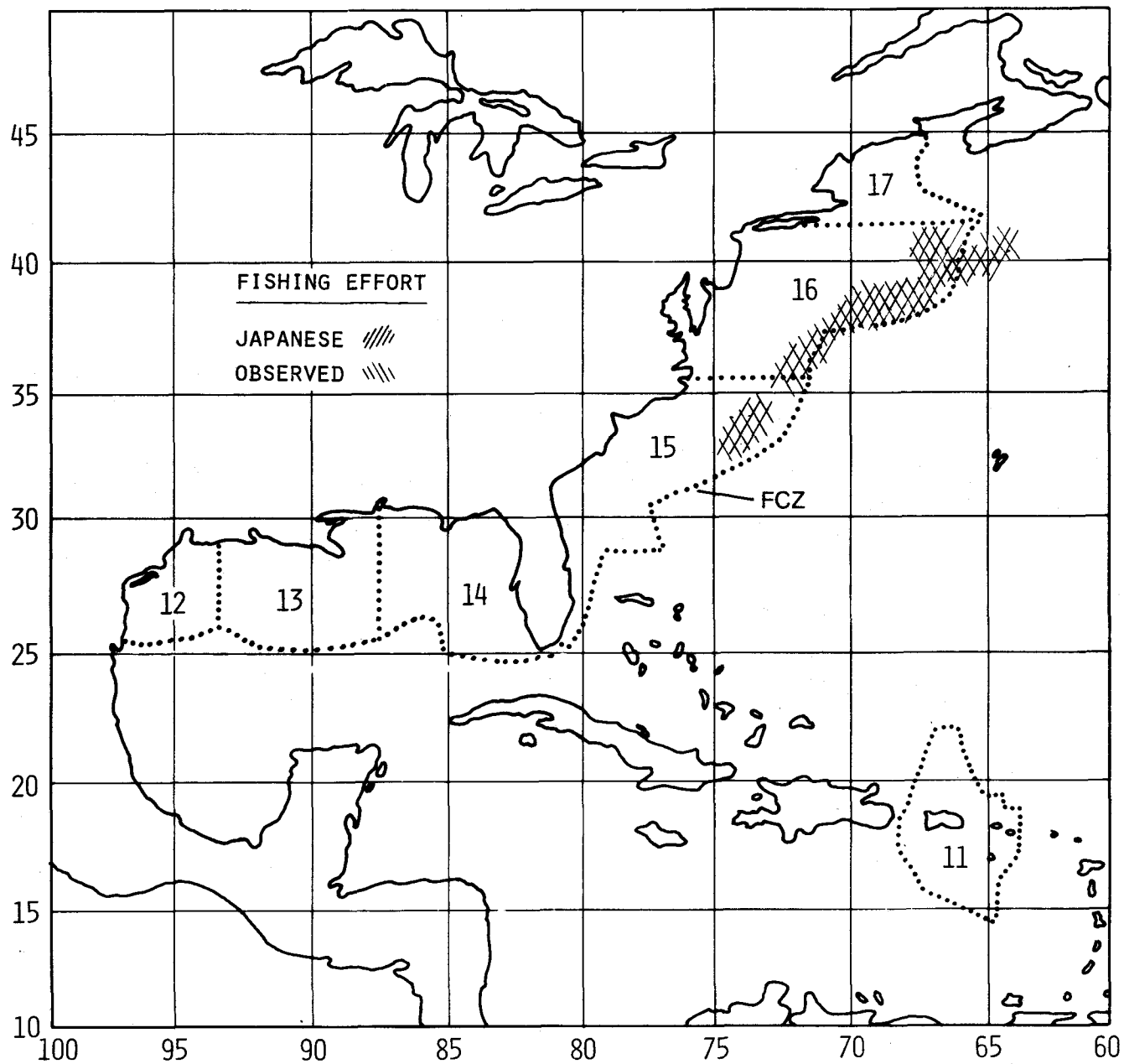


Figure 7. Japanese fishing effort and observer coverage for the fourth quarter, October to December, Of 1979.

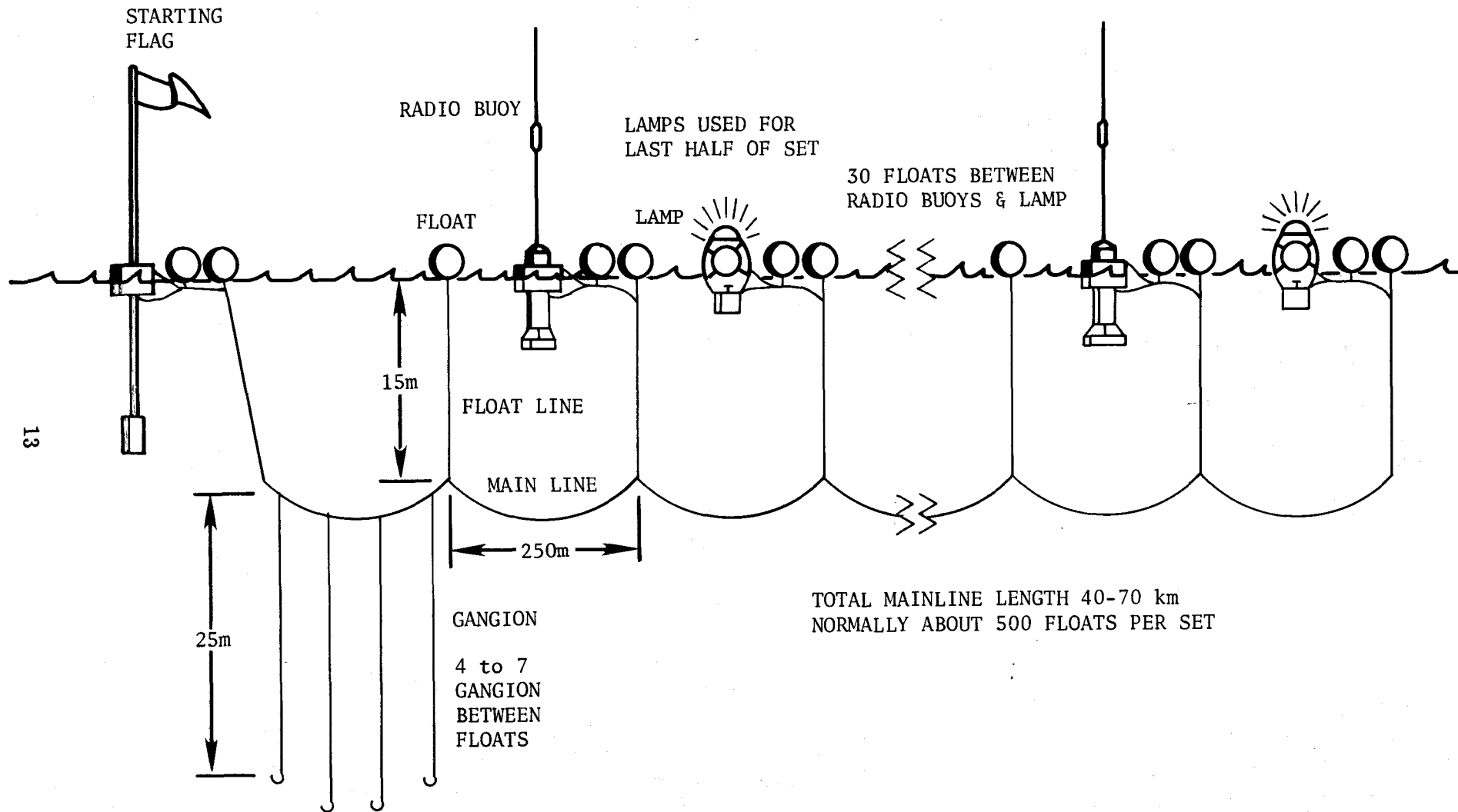


Figure 8. A typical Japanese longline set for tuna.

To collect data, the observer positions himself in a location with a relatively unrestricted view of the haulback operation. The observer records on a data sheet all pertinent information regarding gear setting operations, gear descriptions, haulback operations, and environmental data for each day of fishing (Appendix A). Catch information on species hooked is recorded with biological information for that species. During haulback, an observer must also tag billfishes and sharks, take specimens, record marine mammal and sea turtle sightings, and collect data related to compliance functions for NMFS enforcement.

The data are checked for errors, keypunched, and verified for input into the SEFC Data Management System after the observer has returned from his tour of duty.

2.6 JAPANESE DATA

Specific reporting requirements by the foreign fishing vessels are determined by the Foreign Fishing Regulations (December 19, 1978). For vessels of a nation without an applicable allocation, such as the 1979 Japanese longline tuna fishery, the regulations covering the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico exempt these vessels from the requirement of maintaining daily cumulative catch data and submitting a weekly catch report. However, weekly reports of receipts of U.S. harvested fish and of marine mammal incidental catches, if they occur, are required. Additionally, the Japanese are required to submit quarterly reports on catch effort data (Appendix B). These data are summarized weekly by one degree squares and include the following: (1) number of hooks set, (2) number of sharks caught under allocation, and (3) number of prohibited species (by species code) caught and released alive. Also required is a quarterly summary of vessel activities containing the following information (Appendix C): (1) permit number of each vessel fishing, and (2) the noon-day location (within 0.1 degree of latitude and longitude) of each vessel in the FCZ for each successive day of the reporting period.

The quarterly reports are to be submitted no later than 60 days after the end of the quarter to the Director, SEFC, Miami, Florida. Upon submission, the quarterly report normally is keypunched and verified for input into the SEFC Data Management System.

Foreign fishing regulations also require specific radio reports from foreign fishing vessels in the FCZ. These include the time and at what position the vessel began fishing, the time and position of its return to the fishing grounds, the time and position of any shift in fishing zones, and the time and at what position the vessel ceases fishing (i.e., leaves the FCZ). These communiques are radioed to the Coast Guard where they are entered into the Enforcement Management Information System (EMIS).

SECTION 3.0

DATA EVALUATION

The SEFC Foreign Fishery Observer Project is responsible for data evaluation of descriptive and summary statistical reports on Japanese longline fishing activities, review of Japanese quarterly reports, and for providing preliminary estimates of the total catch of prohibited species. This data evaluation will be used by the SEFC in cooperation with Fishery Management Councils and other management authorities for development and evaluation of Fishery Management Plans, position papers, and other documentation needed for research and management of fishery stocks in the FCZ.

3.1 FISHING EFFORT

Japanese vessel activity days reported in EMIS are summarized by zone in Table 1. Included in this summary is comparable information taken from noon-day locations provided by the Japanese in their quarterly reports. Discrepancies between the two data sets appeared consistently throughout the Table. An example of the discrepancies can be found with vessel permit number JA791225. EMIS shows the vessel spent 120 days in the FCZ. The noon-day locations, however, indicate the vessel only spent 109 days in the FCZ although as many as 13 of these days actually may have been outside the FCZ. Also, EMIS did not indicate the vessel had been in Zone 12 for 3 days, as shown by the noon-day location reports. The number of days shown for this vessel in Zone 16 were also significantly different in the two reports.

Total days in Table 1 indicate a total 1979 fishing effort of 3,355 days based on EMIS-derived information compared to 3,257 days from the noon-day location reports. A total of 531 days included in the noon-day reports, however, were found to be outside the FCZ. The least number of days for a zone reported by EMIS was for Zone 17 (5 days) compared to 5 days from the noon-day location reports. The maximum number of days reported for a zone by EMIS was 1,379 for Zone 13 with only 1,285 days being computed from the noon-day location reports. The largest discrepancy in days reported appears in Zone 16 with 1,119 days reported by EMIS and only 631 days indicated in the noon-day location reports.

3.2 CATCH RATES

Annual and quarterly catches and catch rates from observer data and Japanese quarterly reports were summarized and presented in the same species format used in the Japanese quarterly reports (Tables 2-8). A statistical comparison of these two data sets, however, was not straightforward due to the way the Japanese data were reported. A modification of reporting requirements for the Japanese is needed to avoid continuation of this problem.

Sample catch rates for observer data were computed by dividing the number of fish of a given species caught during a set by the number of hooks in the set. The quotient was multiplied by 100 to express catch by hundred hooks as:

Table 1 - Comparison of days obtained from Japanese radio reports (EMIS)
and Japanese quarterly reports for 1979.

| Vessel Permit Number | Report | Total Days | Reported Days Outside | | Zone | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------|---|------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | FCZ | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| JA791202 | EMIS | 48 | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | 23 | - |
| | Japanese | 35 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 24 | 7 | - |
| JA791207 | EMIS | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| | Japanese | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | - |
| JA791209 | EMIS | 33 | - | - | - | 33 | 0 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 36 | 2 | - | - | 31 | 3 | - | - | - |
| JA791210 | EMIS | 60 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | 56 | - |
| | Japanese | 62 | 7 | - | - | - | - | 13 | 42 | - |
| JA791211 | EMIS | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| | Japanese | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| JA791214 | EMIS | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - |
| | Japanese | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| JA791216 | EMIS | 94 | - | 0 | 71 | 0 | 9 | 14 | - | - |
| | Japanese | 104 | 6 | 1 | 66 | 3 | 14 | 14 | - | - |
| JA791219 | EMIS | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | - |
| | Japanese | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - |
| JA791220 | EMIS | 86 | - | 9 | 60 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Japanese | 110 | 4 | 6 | 77 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| JA791225 | EMIS | 120 | - | 0 | 74 | - | - | - | 46 | - |
| | Japanese | 109 | 13 | 3 | 67 | - | - | - | 26 | - |
| JA791228 | EMIS | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 0 | - | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | - |
| JA791229 | EMIS | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 0 | - | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | - |

| Vessel Permit Number | Report | Total Days | Reported Days Outside FCZ | Zone | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|------|----|----|-----|----|----|
| | | | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| JA791231 | EMIS | 77 | - | 3 | 74 | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 71 | 20 | 7 | 44 | - | - | - | - |
| JA791232 | EMIS | 88 | - | 0 | 53 | 6 | 0 | 29 | - |
| | Japanese | 93 | 24 | 1 | 48 | 0 | 2 | 18 | - |
| JA791234 | EMIS | 130 | - | - | 85 | 1 | 11 | 33 | - |
| | Japanese | 148 | 38 | - | 69 | 4 | 8 | 29 | - |
| JA791235 | EMIS | 150 | - | - | 73 | 12 | 21 | 44 | - |
| | Japanese | 152 | 27 | - | 66 | 13 | 21 | 25 | - |
| JA791236 | EMIS | 24 | - | - | - | - | - | 24 | - |
| | Japanese | 22 | 20 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| JA791237 | EMIS | 105 | - | - | - | - | 43 | 62 | - |
| | Japanese | 95 | 39 | - | - | - | 33 | 23 | - |
| JA791238 | EMIS | 63 | - | - | 48 | 15 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 61 | - | - | 35 | 26 | - | - | - |
| JA791239 | EMIS | 61 | - | - | - | - | - | 61 | - |
| | Japanese | 62 | 16 | - | - | - | - | 46 | - |
| JA791240 | EMIS | 191 | - | - | 44 | 13 | 77 | 57 | - |
| | Japanese | 188 | 17 | - | 29 | 24 | 71 | 47 | - |
| JA791242 | EMIS | 132 | - | - | - | - | 42 | 90 | - |
| | Japanese | 160 | 47 | - | - | - | 60 | 53 | - |
| JA791244 | EMIS | 204 | - | - | 51 | 10 | 113 | 30 | - |
| | Japanese | 196 | 6 | - | 58 | 23 | 85 | 24 | - |
| JA791245 | EMIS | 131 | - | - | 49 | 13 | 48 | 21 | - |
| | Japanese | 132 | 16 | - | 46 | 12 | 41 | 17 | - |
| JA791246 | EMIS | 62 | - | - | - | - | - | 62 | - |
| | Japanese | 62 | 43 | - | - | - | - | 19 | - |

Table 1 - (con't)

| Vessel Permit Number | Report | Total Days | Reported Days Outside FCZ | Zone | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| JA791248 | EMIS | 213 | - | - | 29 | 55 | 63 | 66 | - |
| | Japanese | 197 | 26 | - | 47 | 33 | 58 | 33 | - |
| JA791249 | EMIS | 99 | - | - | 70 | 7 | - | 22 | - |
| | Japanese | 95 | 10 | - | 55 | 18 | - | 12 | - |
| JA791250 | EMIS | 111 | - | - | 12 | 61 | 0 | 38 | - |
| | Japanese | 93 | 6 | - | 56 | 19 | 2 | 10 | - |
| JA791251 | EMIS | 85 | - | - | - | - | 53 | 32 | - |
| | Japanese | 76 | 15 | - | - | - | 40 | 21 | - |
| JA791252 | EMIS | 62 | - | 0 | 60 | 2 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 57 | 3 | 3 | 50 | 1 | - | - | - |
| JA791255 | EMIS | 76 | - | - | - | - | 22 | 54 | - |
| | Japanese | 57 | 22 | - | - | - | 13 | 22 | - |
| JA791256 | EMIS | 112 | - | - | - | - | 28 | 84 | - |
| | Japanese | 119 | 45 | - | - | - | 24 | 50 | - |
| JA791263 | EMIS | 63 | - | 0 | 63 | 0 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 62 | 2 | 1 | 57 | 2 | - | - | - |
| JA791264 | EMIS | 117 | - | 0 | 85 | 8 | - | 24 | - |
| | Japanese | 109 | 11 | 3 | 62 | 10 | - | 23 | - |
| JA791268 | EMIS | 50 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 46 | - |
| | Japanese | 41 | 11 | - | - | - | 7 | 23 | - |
| JA791269 | EMIS | 16 | - | - | - | - | - | 16 | - |
| | Japanese | 16 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 13 | - |
| JA791271 | EMIS | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| | Japanese | 4 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| JA791275 | EMIS | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - |
| | Japanese | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |

| Vessel Permit Number | Report | Total Days | Reported Days Outside FCZ | Zone | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|------|-------|-----|-----|-------|----|
| | | | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| JA791277 | EMIS | 21 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 18 | - |
| | Japanese | 18 | 3 | - | - | - | 10 | 5 | - |
| JA791278 | EMIS | 8 | - | - | - | - | 0 | 8 | - |
| | Japanese | 7 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 5 | - |
| JA791279 | EMIS | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | 11 | - |
| | Japanese | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| JA791280 | EMIS | 8 | - | - | - | - | - | 8 | - |
| | Japanese | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| JA791283 | EMIS | 76 | - | 4 | 72 | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 73 | 12 | 2 | 59 | - | - | - | - |
| JA791292 | EMIS | 9 | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| | Japanese | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | - |
| JA791294 | EMIS | 64 | - | 0 | 57 | 7 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 64 | 2 | 1 | 53 | 8 | - | - | - |
| JA791300 | EMIS | 6 | - | - | - | - | 6 | - | - |
| | Japanese | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - |
| JA791305 | EMIS | 35 | - | - | 9 | 26 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 34 | - | - | 21 | 13 | - | - | - |
| JA791308 | EMIS | 101 | - | - | 92 | 0 | 0 | 9 | - |
| | Japanese | 98 | 2 | - | 89 | 1 | 4 | 2 | - |
| JA791311 | EMIS | 45 | - | - | 37 | 8 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 44 | - | - | 36 | 8 | - | - | - |
| JA791314 | EMIS | 79 | - | - | 78 | 1 | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 78 | 5 | - | 64 | 9 | - | - | - |
| Totals | | | | | | | | | |
| | EMIS | 3,355 | - | 16 | 1,379 | 245 | 591 | 1,119 | 5 |
| | Japanese | 3,257 | 531 | 28 | 1,285 | 231 | 546 | 631 | 5 |

Table 2 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|--------|--------------------|--|--------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H:x=μ | | t | H:x=μ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 3 | 0.0056 | 0.0276 | -0.0060 | 0.0173 | 0.6922 | Accept | 33.3 | -0.3848 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 11 | 0.0017 | - | - | - | | | 45.5 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 4 | 0.0075 | 0.0254 | -0.0032 | 0.0182 | 0.6365 | Accept | 50.0 | 0.1345 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 28 | 0.0042 | - | - | - | | | 46.4 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 0 | No Data | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 1 | 0.0002 | - | - | - | | | 0.0 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 0 | No Data | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 4 | 0.0006 | - | - | - | | | 75.0 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 96 | 0.2210 | 0.4245 | 0.0418 | 0.4003 | 1.8557 | Accept | 51.6 | 0.2937 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 398 | 0.0602 | - | - | - | | | 50.0 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 371 | 0.8236 | 0.2508 | 0.7177 | 0.9295 | 4.0493 | Reject | 08.3 | -4.4989 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 4,071 | 0.6163 | - | - | - | | | 16.2 | | |
| Other | Observer | 268 | 0.5545 | 0.2838 | 0.4347 | 0.6749 | 6.8634 | Reject | 39.9 | 7.7067 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 1,037 | 0.1569 | - | - | - | | | 16.6 | | |

| | | |
|--------------|----------|---------|
| Numbers Sets | Observer | 24 |
| | Japanese | 341** |
| Number Hooks | Observer | 46,490 |
| | Japanese | 660,582 |

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (1937).

Table 3 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Report for the third quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence) * | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence) * | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|---|------------------|--------------------|---|------------------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ | | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 140 | 0.0553 | 0.0674 | 0.0428 | 0.0678 | 3.9935 | Reject | 41.4 | 0.5177 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 238 | 0.0302 | - | - | - | | | 38.7 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 594 | 0.2265 | 0.2385 | 0.1824 | 0.2706 | 2.3336 | Reject | 61.4 | 3.5051 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 1,376 | 0.1746 | - | - | - | | | 52.9 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 89 | 0.0359 | 0.0721 | 0.0226 | 0.0493 | 0.5503 | Accept | 74.2 | 2.1649 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 254 | 0.0322 | - | - | - | | | 61.8 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 141 | 0.0568 | 0.1039 | 0.0376 | 0.0760 | 2.3223 | Reject | 67.9 | 0.0403 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 270 | 0.0343 | - | - | - | | | 67.8 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 86 | 0.0329 | 0.0487 | 0.0239 | 0.0419 | 2.3582 | Reject | 84.7 | 2.9260 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 174 | 0.0221 | - | - | - | | | 68.6 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 2,227 | 0.8114 | 0.8205 | 0.6596 | 0.9632 | 0.5163 | Accept | 06.1 | -3.2978 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 6,084 | 0.7719 | - | - | - | | | 08.2 | | |
| Other | Observer | 3,103 | 1.2139 | 0.4658 | 1.1277 | 1.3001 | 17.5246 | Reject | 73.8 | 6.3277 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 3,568 | 0.4527 | - | - | - | | | 66.7 | | |

| | | |
|--------------|----------|---------|
| Numbers Sets | Observer | 115 |
| | Japanese | 351** |
| Number Hooks | Observer | 258,345 |
| | Japanese | 788,206 |

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2246).

Table 4 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Report for the fourth quarter of 1979 in the Atlantic

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|--------|--------------------|--|--------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H:x=μ | | t | H:x=μ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 30 | 0.0085 | 0.0254 | 0.0045 | 0.0126 | 1.3277 | Accept | 51.7 | 1.1854 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 72 | 0.0058 | - | - | - | | | 38.9 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 300 | 0.0839 | 0.1467 | 0.0606 | 0.1071 | 0.4598 | Accept | 63.7 | 3.7184 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 979 | 0.0785 | - | - | - | | | 51.6 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 16 | 0.0044 | 0.0146 | 0.0021 | 0.0067 | 0.6844 | Accept | 62.5 | 0.3298 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 45 | 0.0036 | - | - | - | | | 57.8 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 64 | 0.0181 | 0.0515 | 0.0099 | 0.0262 | 0.5578 | Accept | 56.3 | 0.6891 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 255 | 0.0204 | - | - | - | | | 51.4 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 329 | 0.0888 | 0.1465 | 0.0656 | 0.1120 | 2.3104 | Reject | 76.2 | 1.5574 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 768 | 0.0616 | - | - | - | | | 71.7 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 3,630 | 0.9525 | 0.7058 | 0.8417 | 1.0632 | 2.3189 | Reject | 07.1 | 2.0834 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 10,448 | 0.8374 | - | - | - | | | 06.1 | | |
| Other | Observer | 4,152 | 1.1687 | 0.2297 | 1.1327 | 1.2047 | 53.0267 | Reject | 51.6 | 7.3778 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 2,414 | 0.1935 | - | - | - | | | 42.2 | | |

| | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Numbers Sets | Observer | 156 |
| | Japanese | 541** |
| Number Hooks | Observer | 358,716 |
| | Japanese | 1,247,597 |

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2299).

Table 5 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ | | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 12 | 0.0038 | 0.0123 | 0.0017 | 0.0059 | 2.3616 | Reject | 75.0 | 1.5328 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 30 | 0.0013 | - | - | - | | | 50.0 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 34 | 0.0107 | 0.0206 | 0.0071 | 0.0142 | 0.6204 | Accept | 58.8 | 1.4054 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 220 | 0.0096 | - | - | - | | | 45.9 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 1 | 0.0003 | 0.0038 | -0.0003 | 0.0010 | -2.1403 | Reject | 0.0 | -1.0753 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 22 | 0.0010 | - | - | - | | | 27.3 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 1 | 0.0003 | 0.0038 | -0.0003 | 0.0010 | -1.8346 | Accept | 100.0 | 1.8674 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 21 | 0.0009 | - | - | - | | | 33.3 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 301 | 0.0977 | 0.0921 | 0.0821 | 0.1134 | 2.3591 | Reject | 76.3 | 2.8765 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 1,809 | 0.0790 | - | - | - | | | 68.2 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 224 | 0.0699 | 0.0573 | 0.0602 | 0.0796 | -3.4472 | Reject | 17.4 | 0.0347 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 1,991 | 0.0869 | - | - | - | | | 17.3 | | |
| Other | Observer | 370 | 0.1198 | 0.0680 | 0.1083 | 0.1312 | 11.4823 | Reject | 71.3 | 2.7722 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 1,206 | 0.0526 | - | - | - | | | 63.6 | | |

Numbers Sets Observer 135
 Japanese 996**

Number Hooks Observer 310,926
 Japanese 2,290,711

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2303).

Table 6 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Report for the second quarter of 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ | | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 12 | 0.0087 | 0.0215 | 0.0033 | 0.0140 | 1.8233 | Accept | 50.0 | 0.9182 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 48 | 0.0038 | - | - | - | | | 35.4 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 7 | 0.0054 | 0.0180 | 0.0009 | 0.0098 | -1.9111 | Accept | 71.4 | 1.2663 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 122 | 0.0097 | - | - | - | | | 47.5 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 0 | No Data | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 5 | 0.0004 | - | - | - | | | 80.0 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 0 | No Data | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 12 | 0.0010 | - | - | - | | | 33.3 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 76 | 0.0534 | 0.0458 | 0.0420 | 0.0648 | 0.3668 | Accept | 77.6 | 3.0239 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 641 | 0.0513 | - | - | - | | | 60.8 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 142 | 0.1010 | 0.1756 | 0.0573 | 0.1448 | 0.5421 | Accept | 13.3 | -1.2496 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 1,114 | 0.0891 | - | - | - | | | 17.3 | | |
| Other | Observer | 163 | 0.1171 | 0.1497 | 0.0798 | 0.1544 | 4.0401 | Reject | 64.7 | 2.2076 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 518 | 0.0415 | - | - | - | | | 55.0 | | |

Numbers Sets Observer 64
 Japanese 616**

Number Hooks Observer 140,976
 Japanese 1,249,620

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2203).

Table 7 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Reports for 1979 in the Atlantic

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | Mortality (% Dead) | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ | | t | H: $\bar{x}=\mu$ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 173 | 0.0265 | 0.0519 | 0.0206 | 0.0325 | 4.8317 | Reject | 43.0 | 0.8845 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 321 | 0.0119 | - | - | - | | | 38.9 | | |
| White Marlin | Observer | 898 | 0.1332 | 0.1986 | 0.1105 | 0.1560 | 3.8744 | Reject | 62.2 | 5.1167 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 2,383 | 0.0884 | - | - | - | | | 52.3 | | |
| Sailfish | Observer | 105 | 0.0163 | 0.0487 | 0.0107 | 0.0219 | 1.8339 | Accept | 72.4 | 1.9947 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 300 | 0.0111 | - | - | - | | | 61.8 | | |
| Spearfish | Observer | 205 | 0.0317 | 0.0775 | 0.0228 | 0.0406 | 2.6816 | Reject | 64.2 | 1.0776 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 529 | 0.0196 | - | - | - | | | 59.9 | | |
| Swordfish | Observer | 511 | 0.0778 | 0.1699 | 0.0583 | 0.0972 | 2.8407 | Reject | 73.0 | 1.3158 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 1,340 | 0.0497 | - | - | - | | | 64.9 | | |
| Shark | Observer | 6,228 | 0.9209 | 0.9906 | 0.8079 | 1.0339 | 2.7187 | Reject | 6.8 | -4.9000 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 20,603 | 0.7641 | - | - | - | | | 8.7 | | |
| Other | Observer | 7,523 | 1.1363 | 0.1791 | 1.1159 | 1.1567 | 84.0078 | Reject | 60.5 | 11.6523 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 7,019 | 0.2603 | - | - | - | | | 50.9 | | |

| | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Numbers Sets | Observer | 295 |
| | Japanese | 1,199** |
| Number Hooks | Observer | 663,551 |
| | Japanese | 2,696,385 |

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2249).

Table 8 - Comparison of catch rates from observer records and the Japanese Quarterly Reports for 1979 in the Gulf of Mexico

| Species | Report | Number Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits | | t-Test for Diff. Between Catch Rates (95% Confidence)* | | t-Test for Diff. Between Mortalities (95% Confidence)* | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | | | Lower | Upper | t | H: $\bar{x} = \mu$ | t | H: $\bar{x} = \mu$ |
| Blue Marlin | Observer | 24 | 0.0054 | 0.0160 | 0.0032 | 0.0076 | 2.8213 | Reject | 1.8572 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 78 | 0.0022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 41.0 |
| White Marlin | Observer | 41 | 0.0089 | 0.0199 | 0.0062 | 0.0117 | -0.5671 | Accept | 1.7656 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 342 | 0.0097 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 61.0 |
| Sailfish | Observer | 1 | 0.0002 | 0.0031 | -0.0002 | 0.0007 | -2.7303 | Reject | -1.2840 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 27 | 0.0008 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37.0 |
| Spearfish | Observer | 1 | 0.0002 | 0.0031 | -0.0002 | 0.0007 | -3.1854 | Reject | 1.8831 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 33 | 0.0009 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 |
| Swordfish | Observer | 377 | 0.0835 | 0.0827 | 0.0719 | 0.0950 | 2.4393 | Reject | 4.0947 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 2,450 | 0.0692 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 76.5 |
| Shark | Observer | 366 | 0.0799 | 0.1106 | 0.0645 | 0.0952 | -0.9821 | Accept | -0.7326 | Accept |
| | Japanese | 3,105 | 0.0876 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17.3 |
| Other | Observer | 533 | 0.1189 | 0.1013 | 0.1048 | 0.1330 | 9.7898 | Reject | 3.4357 | Reject |
| | Japanese | 1,719 | 0.0486 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 69.3 |
| Numbers Sets | Observer | 199 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 1,606** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Number Hooks | Observer | 451,902 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Japanese | 3,540,331 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

*Hypothesis (H) being tested is the mean rate computed from observer data (\bar{x}) is equal to the mean rate computed from Japanese Quarterly Report data (μ). Hypothesis is rejected if the rates are significantly different at the 95% confidence level.

**Japanese number of sets estimated by dividing total hooks reported by the mean number of hooks per set recorded by observers (2271).

$$x_{ij} = \frac{F_{ij}}{H_j} \times 100 \quad (1)$$

where F_{ij} = number of i -th species caught during the j -th set, and
 H_j = number of hooks in the j -th set.

Catch rates from the Japanese quarterly reports were computed by dividing the total number of a given species caught in a quarterly or annual time period by the total number of hooks reported during the same period. The quotient was multiplied by 100 to express catch rate on a hundred hook basis. The computation provided quarterly and annual catch rates which, if accurately reported by the Japanese, should represent population means (μ).

Population variances for the Japanese data were not computed due to confounding, a problem which should be corrected. Confounding was caused by the reporting procedure which required the Japanese to summarize catch data by one degree squares and 7-day periods. Thus, instead of a report entry representing a single set from which useful catch statistics could be computed; it represented anywhere from one to seven or more sets. While this type of reporting requirement probably does not significantly affect mean quarterly or annual catch rates, it essentially eliminates any possibility of deriving useful measures of population variances.

The Japanese-reported catch rates were evaluated quarterly and annually by comparison with observer-derived catch rates. This evaluation was done by a t -test as:

$$t_i = \frac{(\bar{x}_i - \mu_i) \sqrt{n}}{s_i} \quad (2)$$

where: \bar{x}_i = mean catch rate for i -th species from observer data

$$\bar{x}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} / n$$

μ_i = population catch rate for i -th species from Japanese data
 (assumes no reporting errors);

n = number of observer sets; and

s_i = standard deviation of observer reported catch rates for
 i -th species.

The mortality associated with prohibited species reported by observers was computed as:

$$Po_i = \frac{D_i}{T_i} \quad (3)$$

where: D_i = number of species of i reported dead, and

T_i = number dead + number alive of species i .

Total catch of a prohibited species was not used in the denominator because the observers were instructed not to guess if there was any question about the condition of a given animal. This resulted in a relatively small, but nevertheless significant, number of "unknowns" being reported which were excluded from the mortality computations. The Japanese, on the other hand, reported all captures as either dead or alive, without a category for "unknown." Thus, mortalities for the Japanese-reported catches of a given species were computed by dividing the number dead by the total number caught.

Capture mortalities reported by the Japanese were evaluated based on those derived from the observer data according to a technique described by Sokal and Rohlf (1969).

This technique relies on a t-test as:

$$t = \frac{\arcsin \sqrt{Po_i} - \arcsin \sqrt{Pj_i}}{\sqrt{820.8 (1/To_i + 1/Tj_i)}} \quad (4)$$

where: Po_i = dead proportion of species i reported by observers

Pj_i = dead proportion of species i reported by Japanese

To_i = number dead + number alive of species i reported by observers

Tj_i = number dead + number alive of species i reported by Japanese

820.8 = constant representing the parametric variance of a distribution of arcsine transformations of proportions.

Observers also record species of turtles and marine mammals caught in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico by foreign fishing vessels. Numbers caught, catch rates, and mortalities are listed in Tables 9 and 10. Comparable data are not provided in the Japanese quarterly reports.

3.3 TOTAL CATCH

The foreign Fishing Regulations require the Japanese to record in the quarterly reports all billfishes, sharks and other species hooked within the FCZ. A separate report is also required on endangered species and marine mammals hooked on longline gear within the FCZ.

Table 9 - Observed catches of sea turtles and marine mammals in the Atlantic for 1979

| Species | No. Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits Lower | Upper | Mortality(%) |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Unidentified Turtle | 8 | 0.0011 | 0.0069 | 0.0004 | 0.0019 | 37.5 |
| Leatherback | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Loggerhead | 9 | 0.0013 | 0.0089 | 0.0003 | 0.0023 | 00.0 |
| Unidentified Porpoise | 2 | 0.0004 | 0.0044 | -0.0001 | 0.0009 | 00.0 |
| Bottlenose | 1 | 0.0001 | 0.0021 | -0.0001 | 0.0004 | 00.0 |
| False Killer Whale | 2 | 0.0003 | 0.0055 | -0.0003 | 0.0010 | 50.0 |

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| No. of Sets | 295 |
| No. Hooks | 663,551 |

Table 10 - Observed catches of sea turtles and marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico for 1979

| Species | No. Caught | Mean Catch/100 Hooks | Standard Deviation | 95% Confidence Limits Lower | Upper | Mortality(%) |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Unidentified Turtle | 10 | 0.0022 | 0.0105 | 0.0007 | 0.0036 | 10.0 |
| Leatherback | 2 | 0.0004 | 0.0043 | -0.0002 | 0.0010 | 50.0 |
| Loggerhead | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unidentified Porpoise | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bottlenose | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| False Killer Whale | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| <hr/> | | | | | | |
| No. of Sets | 199 | | | | | |
| No. Hooks | 451,902 | | | | | |

Annual total catches of species hooked in the Atlantic (Table 11) and Gulf of Mexico (Table 12) were computed as:

$$H_i = \frac{\bar{X}_1 \times JH}{100} \quad (5)$$

where: H_i = total number hooked

\bar{X}_1 = mean observer catch rate/100 hooks for species i

Jh = total Japanese hooks

An additional total catch estimate was computed by converting the number of days reported to EMIS by area into the number of hooks. The EMIS estimated hook number was derived as:

$$Eeh = Ed \times \% df \times \bar{x}hs \quad (6)$$

where: Eeh = EMIS estimated hooks

Ed = EMIS days reported by area (Table 1) in the FCZ

$\%df$ = % days fished (Atlantic 71.4% and Gulf 91.6%) computed from observer data

$\bar{x}hs$ = mean hooks per set (Atlantic 2,249 and Gulf 2,271) computed from observer data

The EMIS estimated hook number was then used to compute the EMIS total catch estimates given in Tables 11 and 12.

Table 11 - Comparison of Total Japanese Reported 1979 Catches for the Atlantic

| Species | Japanese Reports | Observer Estimates | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| | | Japanese Hook Reports* Catch | 95% Conf.(+) | EMIS Estimated Hooks** Catch | 95% Conf.(+) |
| Blue Marlin | 321 | 715 | 159 | 730 | 162 |
| White Marlin | 2,383 | 3,592 | 612 | 3,668 | 625 |
| Sailfish | 300 | 440 | 151 | 449 | 154 |
| Spearfish | 529 | 855 | 240 | 873 | 245 |
| Swordfish | 1,340 | 2,098 | 526 | 2,143 | 537 |
| Sharks | 20,603 | 24,831 | 3,047 | 25,361 | 3,112 |
| Other Fish | 7,019 | 30,639 | 550 | 31,293 | 562 |
| Unidentified Turtles | - | 30 | 19 | 30 | 19 |
| Leatherback Turtles | - | - | - | - | - |
| Loggerhead Turtles | - | 35 | 27 | 36 | 28 |
| Unidentified Porpoises | - | 11 | 13 | 11 | 14 |
| Bottlenose Dolphins | - | 3 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| False Killer Whales | - | 8 | 16 | 8 | 17 |

*Japanese Reported 2,696,385 hooks

**EMIS Estimated 2,753,923 hooks

Table 12 - Comparison of total Japanese Reported 1979 Catches for the Gulf of Mexico

| Species | Japanese Reports | Observer Estimates | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | | Japanese Hook Reports* Catch | 95% Conf. (+) | EMIS Estimated Hooks** Catch | 95% Conf. (+) |
| Blue Marlin | 78 | 191 | 78 | 184 | 75 |
| White Marlin | 342 | 315 | 96 | 304 | 92 |
| Sailfish | 27 | 7 | 14 | 7 | 14 |
| Spearfish | 33 | 7 | 14 | 7 | 14 |
| Swordfish | 2,450 | 2,956 | 411 | 2,849 | 396 |
| Sharks | 3,105 | 2,829 | 545 | 2,726 | 525 |
| Other Fish | 1,719 | 4,209 | 499 | 4,056 | 481 |
| Unidentified Turtles | - | 78 | 53 | 75 | 51 |
| Leatherback Turtles | - | 14 | 21 | 14 | 20 |
| Loggerhead Turtles | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unidentified Porpoises | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bottlenose Dolphin | - | - | - | - | - |
| False Killer Whales | - | - | - | - | - |

*Japanese Reported 3,540,331 hooks

**EMIS Estimated 3,411,587 hooks

SECTION 4.0

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This technical report was prepared in accordance with requirements set forth in the Foreign Fishery Observer Project Management Plan. It specifically addresses data: those collected by the foreign fishery observers and those reported quarterly by the Japanese to the Southeast Fisheries Center. In this report, two other topics also are briefly discussed — observer deployments and the Enforcement Management Information System (EMIS). All of the above topics are discussed in the following sections and recommendations are provided to eliminate occurrence of any noted problems.

4.1 OBSERVER DEPLOYMENTS

The Foreign Fishery Observer Project is mandated to maintain a level of observer coverage aboard foreign fishing vessels commensurate with research needs and in support of FCMA compliance functions on a regional and interregional basis. A prerequisite for maintaining such coverage lies with establishing observer vessel boardings in a time frame consistent with FCZ entry. Otherwise, observer coverage becomes erratic and can fall below an optimum level. Realizing the complexity of communicating with foreign fishing fleets entering the United States FCZ and to ensure smooth observer boarding schedules, the following is recommended:

Require that Japanese tuna vessels, which intend to conduct fishing operations in the FCZ, notify the Southeast Observer Project through their U.S. Shipping Agents 14 days prior to commencing fishing activities.

4.2 JAPANESE QUARTERLY REPORTS

One of the most serious problems noted during the analysis of data from the Japanese quarterly reports was the way in which their catch data were recorded. Briefly, they record their data summarized by one degree squares and 7-day periods. This reporting method virtually eliminates any possibility of deriving useful information on the variances associated with their catch rates and also makes it difficult to determine whether a set actually occurred in or outside the FCZ. These problems could be eliminated by requiring the Japanese to record catches on a set or daily basis. Furthermore, they should be required to record the number of hooks used in each set and to provide the exact positions (latitude and longitude) of start and end of the haulback.

Another serious problem is the differences between the Japanese reported catch rates and catch rates computed from observer data. For example, six out of seven catch rates reported by the Japanese for the Atlantic and five out of the seven reported rates for the Gulf of Mexico were lower than catch rates calculated from observer records (Tables 7 and 8). For the majority of these, the Japanese reported catches were significantly lower than those reported by the observers. These differences are apparently real. Observers aboard the vessels have compared their daily catch records with those maintained by the Japanese, and in almost every instance, they reported that the Japanese catches are less than those they recorded.

Mortalities for prohibited species reported by the Japanese also are less than those recorded by the observers (Tables 7 and 8).

A significant amount of valuable data are not being reported by the Japanese due to limited reporting requirements. It would be highly desirable to require that the Japanese record all species caught, including tunas, instead of lumping the catches into the broad species categories identified in the regulations. This reporting improvement could be cooperatively developed with the Japanese in a way that would not adversely affect their fishing operations and would still provide information needed for research and management applications.

4.3 ENFORCEMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (EMIS)

As discussed in Section 2.5, there appear to be discrepancies in the Japanese daily vessel activity and movement reports radioed to the U.S. Coast Guard and those subsequently recorded in EMIS. Due to these discrepancies, it could be concluded that:

- The Japanese are not reporting vessel movements from one FCZ zone to another to the Coast Guard;
- The Japanese vessels are not reporting accurate entry or exit dates in the FCZ to the Coast Guard;
- The Japanese vessels are not reporting vessel days accurately in their quarterly reports, and/or
- The Coast Guard is not receiving or inputting all vessel reports into EMIS.

NMFS Enforcement and Coast Guard personnel should monitor EMIS on a regular basis and compare Japanese Quarterly Report vessel movements quarterly to locate those vessels which do not report accurate vessel movements within the FCZ.

LITERATURE CITED

SOKAL, R. R. and ROHLF, F. J., 1969. Biometry, the principles and practice of statistics in biological research, pp. 607 to 610. Copyright. 1969 by W. H. Freeman and Company.

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Appendix A

PASCAGOULA LABORATORY SURFACE LONGLINE OBSERVER FORM

VESSEL NAME: _____
 CAPTAIN'S NAME: _____
 OBSERVER: _____

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|----|-------------------|-----|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--|----|-------------|--|
| 1 | VESSEL | 3 | MONTH | DAY | YEAR | 9 | SET | 10 | PERMIT NUMBER | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| START SET | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | | TIME | | VES. SPD | | DIRECTION | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| END SET | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | | TIME | | TARGET | | BAIT | | | | |
| 33 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 47 | GANGION LENGTH | 49 | FLOATLINE LENGTH | | 52 | LENGTH FLOAT-FLOAT | | 55 | NO. OF HOOKS | | | 59 | NO. OF FLTS | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| START HAUL | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | | TIME | | VES. SPD | | DIRECTION | | | ZONE | |
| 62 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| END HAUL | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | | TIME | | OBSVR. | | CAPTAIN | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WATER TEMP. | START SET | | END SET | | START HAUL | | | END HAUL | | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ENVIRO. RECORD AT NOON | WIND DIRECT. | | WIND SPD. | | WAVE DIRECT. | | | Hk. Bt. Ft. | | WAVE HT. | | | | |
| 36 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 48 | AIR TEMP. | | BAROMETRIC PRESS. | | | Δ | TOTAL CATCH NO. | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TUNA NO. | | | | | SHARKS NO. | | | | | BILLFISH NO. | | | OTHER NO. | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

GEAR DIAGRAM

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| COMMENTS: | SET |
| | |
| | HAULBACK |
| | |

Appendix B.

QUARTERLY STATISTICAL REPORT (1979)
 CATCH AND EFFORT DATA REQUIRED BY FOREIGN FISHING REGULATION
 611.60(g) (i)

VESSEL NAME: _____ MARU NO. _____ PERMIT NUMBER: _____

| DURATION | AREA | | NO. OF HOOKS | NUMBER OF FISHES (BY SPECIES CODE) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|------|--------------|------------------------------------|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|---|---|--|--|
| | 1° SQ | | | 252 | | 260 | | 256 | | 264 | | 254 | | 469 | | 299 | | 236 | | 240 | | 244 | | | | | |
| | LAT | LONG | | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B | | |
| (N) | (W) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FROM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

A: NUMBER OF FISHES CAUGHT AND RELEASED
 B: NUMBER OF FISHES RELEASED ALIVE

Appendix D.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Blue Marlin | - | <u>Makaira nigricans</u> |
| White Marlin | - | <u>Tetrapturus albidus</u> |
| Sailfish | - | <u>Istiophorus albicans</u> |
| Spearfish | - | <u>Tetrapturus pfluegeri</u> |
| Swordfish | - | <u>Xiphias gladius</u> |
| Leatherback | - | <u>Dermochelys coriacea</u> |
| Loggerhead | - | <u>Caretta caretta</u> |
| Bottlenose | - | <u>Tursiops truncatus</u> |
| False Killer Whale | - | <u>Pseudorca crassidens</u> |