

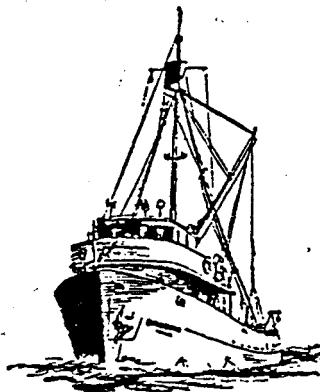


NOAA TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM
NMFS-F/SWR-002

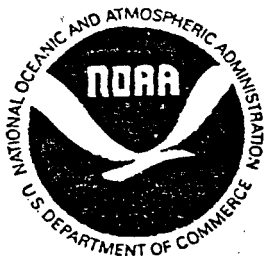
SURVEY OF NEW
U.S. COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS
DELIVERED TO THE WEST COAST IN 1979

WESLEY SILVERTHORNE
BRIAN BROWN
JOHN SHELDON

DECEMBER 1979



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE



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WESLEY SILVERTHORNE

AND

BRIAN BROWN

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

300 SOUTH FERRY STREET

TERMINAL ISLAND, CALIFORNIA 90731

AND

JOHN SHELDON

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 1979

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Richard A. Frank, Administrator

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Terry L. Leitzell, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

Many vessels destined for the West Coast are built in other parts of the country. However, it was felt that virtually all these vessels would be manufactured by firms with national reputations or national advertising in publications such as The Fish Boat. Since these firms were the most likely to be on the initial nationwide list, it was assumed that all such vessels would be covered by surveying this list.

Since our major objective was to estimate the number of new vessels which would be entering West Coast fisheries in 1979, an attempt was made to achieve an exhaustive sample of boat builders. Therefore, additional boatyards and boat builders on the West Coast were added to the list by contacting West Coast Sea Grant Marine Advisors, West Coast Production Credit Associations, insurance companies, and by looking in the yellow pages of coastal area phone books. In the course of obtaining phone numbers for the builders, it was found that 13 firms on our list had no telephone number. These were eliminated from the list on the assumption that they were no longer in business under that name.

The final list of probable West Coast boat builders to be contacted for telephone interviews contained 134 firms. Of these, 123 were contacted; the other 11 did not answer the phone. Seven of the 123 people contacted refused to be interviewed. Thus, of the 134 probable builders, 116 were interviewed for a response rate of 86.6%.

In many coastal communities there are vessels being constructed outside the established boatyards. Since it was felt that these "backyard" boats could be a significant portion of the total vessel construction activity on the West Coast, a field investigation was undertaken to locate the builders of such boats and interview them. Approximately 6 man-weeks were spent in coastal communities from San Diego, California to Bellingham, Washington, and 76 additional builders working on 202 vessels were interviewed.

All telephone interviews of West Coast builders were conducted by a single interviewer. The telephone interviews for the rest of the country were conducted by this same interviewer working with one other interviewer. The survey questionnaire used in these interviews (see Appendix) contained 12 questions, most of which have not been used for this report. The data presented here were obtained from the answers to question 4. Vessels less than 20 feet in length were not considered, nor were support vessels such as seine skiffs. Tenders were included because their introduction into fisheries such as the Alaskan salmon fishery allow the limited number of licensed fishing vessels to increase their fishing time.

RESULTS

The survey responses indicate 1,323 new commercial fishing vessels 20 feet or over delivered or expected to be delivered in 1979 for use on the West Coast.

Table I shows the distribution of the 1,323 boats to be delivered in 1979 by length and gear type. Since vessels having more than one kind of gear enter the table more than once, the vertical columns do not sum to the totals given in the table.

Table II gives the distribution of the same 1,323 vessels by gear type and area (state) where they expect to fish. Since many vessels were designated for more than one state, and since some vessels were only designated as "West Coast," neither the vertical columns nor the horizontal rows sum to the totals given in the table. Table II shows that well over half of the vessels intend to fish in Alaska. The great majority of gillnetters, purse seiners, and crab boats are indicated for Alaska. However, California shows more trawlers and trollers than Alaska. Many of California's trollers indicate they intend to fish albacore, but make no reference to salmon.

Tables III-VI give a state-by-state breakdown of vessels by gear type combinations and length. As these tables show, a substantial percentage of new boats are combination boats.

CONCLUSIONS

The data presented here are more suggestive than conclusive. They suggest, for example, that the entry rate of new vessels into West Coast fisheries is very high, particularly in Alaska. However, no firm conclusions or projections on this subject can be drawn without considering historical rates as yet undetermined. Similarly, no firm conclusions as to growth rates of the total fleet or of its components can be drawn without considering the size of each component, the age structure, and the average fishing life of vessels in each component. For example, the significance of the large number of Bristol Bay gillnetters being delivered in 1979 cannot be evaluated without knowing how big the fleet was in 1978, how old the boats were at that time, the probability of needing replacement at each age, and the financial history of licensed Bristol Bay gillnetters. Much of this type of data is available from the state and federal governments, but is not presented here.

Table VI shows 26 new vessels over 90 feet in length with the capability of fishing either king crab or bottomfish. These vessels represent a substantial harvest capability should the domestic Alaskan pollock fishery develop as many hope it will.

TABLE I. New Vessels to be Delivered in 1979 for West Coast Fisheries, including Alaska

Gear Type or Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Purse Seine	115	50	--	--	165
Beach Seine	37	--	--	--	37
Trawl: Bottomfish	24	59	27	4	114
Shrimp	---	38	1	--	39
Midwater	---	8	--	--	8
Total Trawl	24	79	28	4	135
Gillnet	606	2	--	--	608
Line: Longline	16	15	--	--	31
Troll	187 ^{1/}	46 ^{2/}	--	--	233
Sablefish	5	8	--	--	13
Trap: Crab	128	57	64	11	260 ^{3/}
Lobster	1	--	--	--	1
Harpoon	31	1	--	--	32
Diving Outfit	15	--	--	--	15
Oyster Dredge	---	1	--	--	1
Tender	40	9	3	--	52
Freezer	---	--	--	1	1
Processor	---	--	2	5	7
Sportfisher	2	8	3	--	13
"Combination"	22	--	--	--	22
Unclassified	39	10	2	--	51
Total*	1039	200	72	12	1323

^{1/}Includes 57 "salmon" boats which did not indicate type of gear.

^{2/}Includes 2 "salmon" boats which did not indicate type of gear.

^{3/}Includes 46 boats specifically designated for the king crab fishery. However, based on vessel size and area to be fished, there are probably 208 new vessels destined for this fishery.

*Exclusive of duplication

TABLE II. New Vessels to be Delivered in 1979 for West Coast Fisheries, including Alaska

Gear Type or Target Species	CA	OR	WA	AK	Unknown	Total*
Purse Seine	7	1	14	146	3	165
Beach Seine	---	5	5	32	---	37
Trawl: Bottomfish	39	31	24	43	18	114
Shrimp	20	23	19	4	9	39
Midwater	1	2	---	2	3	8
Total Trawl	50	41	33	49	19	135
Gillnet	24	2	114	469	50	608
Line: Longline	9	4	1	15	2	31
Troll	100	29	34	83	26	233 ^{1/}
Sablefish	6	5	1	2	1	13
Trap: Crab	21	21	18	197	17	260 ^{2/}
Lobster	1	--	---	---	---	1
Harpoon	32	--	---	---	---	32
Diving Outfit	12	--	---	---	3	15
Oyster Dredge	---	--	1	---	---	1
Tender	---	--	---	50	2	52
Freezer	---	--	---	1	---	1
Processor	---	--	---	5	2	7
Sportfisher	9	--	1	---	3	13
"Combination"	---	21	5	1	14	22
Unclassified	2	--	1	9	39	51
Total*	177	86	194	853	161	1323

^{1/} Includes 59 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

^{2/} Includes 46 boats specifically designated for the king crab fishery. However, based on vessel size and area to be fished, there are probably 208 new vessels destined for this fishery.

*Exclusive of duplication

TABLE III. Gear Type Combination and Length of New Vessels Entering California Fisheries in 1979

Gear Type of Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Crab/Dive	6	--	---	---	6
Crab/Drag/Shrimp	---	6	---	---	6
Crab/Longline	---	1	---	---	1
Crab/Longline/Seine	---	2	---	---	2
Crab/Shrimp/Troll	---	2	---	---	2
Crab/Troll	3	1	---	---	4
Drag	9	14	---	---	23
Drag/Harpoon/Troll	6	--	---	---	6
Drag/Shrimp	---	2	---	---	2
Drag/Shrimp/Troll	---	2	---	---	2
Gillnet	1	--	---	---	1
Gillnet/Harpoon	1	--	---	---	1
Gillnet/Harpoon/Troll	11	--	---	---	11
Gillnet/Longline/Troll	1	2	---	---	3
Gillnet/Seine/Troll	2	--	---	---	2
Gillnet/Troll	6	--	---	---	6
Longline/Troll	2	1	---	---	3
Sablefish	---	3	---	---	3
Sablefish/Troll	1	2	---	---	3
Troll	30 ^{1/}	17	---	---	47
Harpoon	3	--	---	---	3
Harpoon/Sport	---	1	---	---	1
Harpoon/Troll	10	--	---	---	10
Midwater Trawl	--	1	---	---	1
Shrimp	---	8	---	---	8
Seine	---	2	---	---	2
Seine/Troll	---	1	---	---	1
Sportfisher	1	7	---	---	8
Diving Outfit	6	--	---	---	6
Lobster	1	--	---	---	1
Unclassified	---	2	---	---	2
Total	100	77	---	---	177

^{1/} Includes 6 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

TABLE IV. Gear Type Combinations and Length of New Vessels Entering Oregon Fisheries in 1979

Gear Type or Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Beach Seine	5	--	--	---	5
Crab	2	1	--	---	3
Crab/Drag	2	1	--	---	3
Crab/Drag/Longline	1	--	--	---	1
Crab/Drag/Shrimp	---	7	1	---	8
Crab/Longline/Seine	---	1	--	---	1
Crab/Sablefish	2	--	--	---	2
Crab/Shrimp	---	1	--	---	1
Crab/Troll	1	1	--	---	2
Shrimp	---	8	--	---	8
Drag	8	4	--	---	12
Drag/Midwater Trawl/ Shrimp	---	1	--	---	1
Drag/Shrimp	---	3	--	---	3
Drag/Shrimp/Troll	---	2	--	---	2
Drag/Troll	---	1	--	---	1
Midwater Trawl	---	1	--	---	1
Gillnet	2	--	--	---	2
Longline	2	--	--	---	2
Sablefish	1	1	--	---	2
Sablefish/Troll	1	--	--	---	1
Troll	17 ^{1/}	6	--	---	23
"Combination"	2	--	--	---	2
Total	46	39	1	---	86

^{1/} Includes 5 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

TABLE V. Gear Type Combinations and Length of New Vessels Entering Washington Fisheries in 1979

Gear Type or Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Crab/Drag	---	1	---	---	1
Crab/Drag/Longline	1	--	---	---	1
Crab/Drag/Shrimp	---	6	---	---	6
Crab/Gillnet	2	--	---	---	2
Crab/Seine	5	--	---	---	5
Crab/Shrimp	---	1	---	---	1
Crab/Troll	2	--	---	---	2
Shrimp	---	8	---	---	8
Drag	4	7	---	---	11
Drag/Shrimp	---	2	---	---	2
Drag/Shrimp/Troll	---	2	---	---	2
Drag/Troll	---	1	---	---	1
Gillnet	101	--	---	---	101
Gillnet/Troll	11 ^{1/}	--	---	---	11
Seine	---	9	---	---	9
Beach Seine	5	--	---	---	5
Sablefish	---	1	---	---	1
Sportfisher/Troll	1	--	---	---	1
Troll	12 ^{2/}	5	---	---	17
Oyster Dredge	---	1	---	---	1
"Combination"	5	--	---	---	5
Unclassified	1	--	---	---	1
Total	150	44	---	---	194

^{1/}Includes 3 "salmon/gillnet" boats.

^{2/}Includes 5 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

TABLE VI. Gear Type Combinations and Length of New Vessels Entering Alaska Fisheries in 1979

Gear Type or Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Crab	3	6	38	5	52
Crab/Drag	---	--	22	2	24
Crab/Drag/Longline	3	--	--	--	3
Crab/Drag/Processor	---	--	--	1	1
Crab/Drag/Seine	---	7	--	--	7
Crab/Drag/Tender	---	--	1	--	1
Crab/Gillnet	5	--	--	--	5
Crab/Gillnet/Seine	2	--	--	--	2
Crab/Gillnet/Longline	5	--	--	--	5
Crab/Longline/Seine	---	6	--	--	6
Crab/Midwater Trawl/ Tender	---	2	--	--	2
Crab/Processor	---	--	--	2	2
Crab/Seine	68	1	--	--	69
Crab/Seine/Tender	6	--	--	--	6
Crab/Shrimp	---	1	--	--	1
Crab/Tender	1	5	--	--	6
Drag	4	2	--	--	6
Drag/Troll	---	1	--	--	1
Shrimp	---	3	--	--	3
Seine	30	24	--	--	54
Seine/Troll	1	--	--	--	1
Beach Seine	28	--	--	--	28
Beach Seine/Crab	4	--	--	--	4
Catcher/Processor	--	--	2	--	2
Freezer/Processor	---	--	--	1	1
Gillnet	435	--	--	--	435
Gillnet/Longline/Troll	1	--	--	--	1
Gillnet/Troll	21 ^{1/2}	--	--	--	21

TABLE VI. Gear Type Combinations and Length of New Vessels Entering Alaska Fisheries in 1979

Gear Type or Target Species	Vessel Length				Total
	20-50'	51-90'	91-130'	Over 130'	
Troll	49 ^{2/}	10 ^{3/}	--	--	59
Sablefish q	1	1	--	--	2
Tender	33	2	--	--	35
"Combination"	1	--	--	--	1
Unclassified	---	7	--	--	7
Total	701	78	63	11	853

^{1/} Includes 7 "salmon/gillnet" boats which did not indicate gear.

^{2/} Includes 21 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

^{3/} Includes 2 "salmon" boats which did not indicate gear.

Firm Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Person interviewed:

Called by:

Record of calls (date/time)

Good (Morning, afternoon). "I am calling for the NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES Service, which is an agency in the U.S. Department of Commerce. We are conducting a telephone survey of boatyards. I would appreciate speaking with someone who can answer a few questions on the construction of commercial fishing vessels." _____ (When connected with appropriate party, proceed as follows): "Thank you for answering (Mr/Mrs. etc). I am (name) and I am calling for the National Marine Fisheries Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. We are conducting a telephone survey of boatyards to determine the number and types of commercial fishing vessels that are under construction. We need this information because we are trying to determine the impact that the 200-mile fisheries extended jurisdiction law (the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976) has had on boat building. The Congress is very much interested in this information as are others involved in fisheries management and development. I have a few questions I would like to ask concerning fishing vessel construction in your yard. All information, of course, will be treated in strictest confidence. Survey results will in no way reveal the answers of individual respondents.

1. a) How many commercial fishing vessels will your yard deliver in 1979?

b) How many of these are for U.S. buyers? _____ How many
 foreign? _____

2. How many vessels did you deliver last year (1978)?

a) Domestic? _____

b) Foreign? _____

3. How many do you expect to deliver next year? (1980)

a) Domestic? _____

b) Foreign? _____

4. Of the commercial fishing vessels that have been or will be delivered during 1979 and 1980 can you give me a general breakdown, by size and type, any information on where the vessels will be used, and average cost (with standard equipment). _____

First,

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Fishery</u> (location)	<u>Average</u> <u>Cost</u>
Let's consider vessels between 20 and 50 feet				
1979:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Fishery</u> <u>(location)</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>Cost</u>
1980:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Next,</u>				
Between 50 feet and 90 feet	_____	_____	_____	_____
1979:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
1980:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Next</u>				
Over 90 feet and 130 feet	_____	_____	_____	_____
1979:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
1980:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

And finally.

Vessels over
130 feet

1979:

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

1980:

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

5. Of the vessels you will deliver in 1979, can you indicate how many (and what type) are being financed (wholly or in part) through a government program?

Number

Type

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

6. Is your yard now operating at full capacity? If no, what percentage of capacity are you utilizing? _____. If yes, how many orders do you have that will be delivered after 1979?

7. If I were to contract with you today, for a vessel, when would construction on this vessel begin? _____

8. Do you have any immediate plans to expand your facilities? If yes, how many more vessels per year will your yard (or yards) be able to deliver?
 9. How long (years) has your yard been operating? _____
 10. How many persons are employed in your yard? _____
 11. Can you readily find qualified persons to fill vacancies in skilled positions as they occur?
 12. In your opinion, what 3 or 4 factors are having the most important effect on your business?
-