

DRAFT STANDARD FORM C

PRELIMINARY CRUISE REPORT

Cruise name/number:	Research cruise, biological condition of Pacific salmon stocks - U2023-004
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Authorizations:

Coastal State	Authorization Document Number	National Participant(s)
Bering Sea	U2023-004	None

Scientist in charge of reporting:

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Brief description of scientific objective:

Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) is one of the most important fishery resources in the North Pacific. Japanese research vessels have monitored the condition of Pacific salmon stocks since 1952. The current R/V Hokko maru was launched in 2004 and the salmon research cruise using a surface trawl in the summer Bering Sea has been carried out since 2007. The main objective for this cruise is to conduct the annual monitoring survey for Japanese chum salmon (*O. keta*) stocks in the Bering Sea known as their major feeding ground. A positive correlation between annual CPUE of immature chum salmon in each research cruise and a subsequent harvest along Japanese coasts of the corresponding blood-year stocks has found in most cases to date, suggesting the possibility to predict future resource conditions. The annual monitoring survey includes the collection of data on physical oceanography, trophic interactions among zooplankton, salmonids, and organisms at higher trophic levels, and genetic analysis of stock composition of chum salmon.

Update on anticipated dates for delivery of final results:

Metadata:	N/A
Raw Data:	N/A
Processed Data:	N/A
Data Analysis:	N/A
WODC Data Registration (if applicable):	N/A

Append image or URL illustrating the route of the platform, locations where measurements were taken, and actual cruise track: See attachment 1.

Area of Operation:

All monitoring stations and actual cruise track of U2023-004 are shown in Fig. 1.

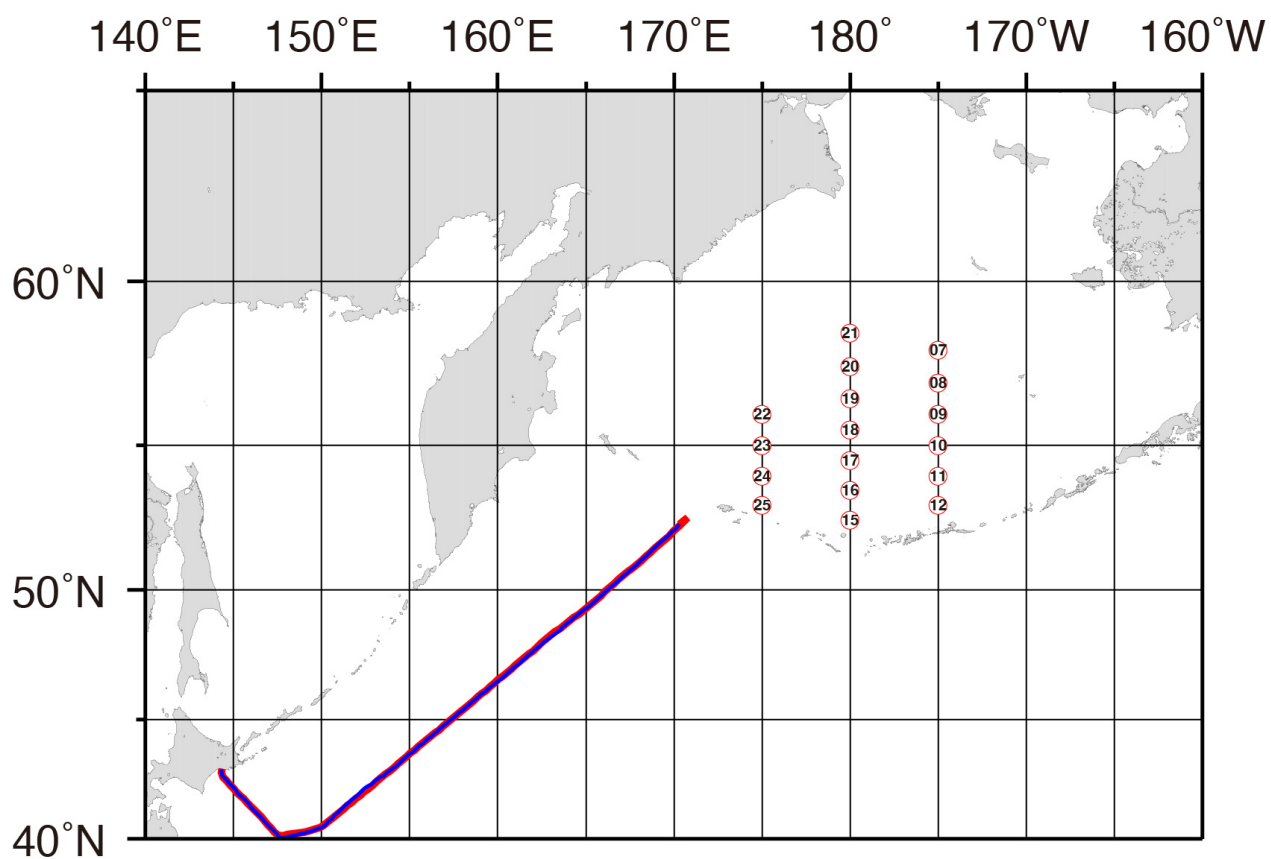


Fig. 1 All monitoring stations and actual cruise track of U2023-004. No measurement has been conducted due to spread of COVID-19 infection on the way to the Bering Sea. Red and blue lines show outward and homeward, respectively.