

**RACE SPECIAL COLLECTION REQUEST FORM
GULF OF ALASKA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS SURVEYS**

Name of Special Collection: Whole Groundfish
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Purpose and General Description of Collection: Collections of 4 species of groundfish will be examined for the presence and distribution of parasites that may affect Steller sea lion health. In addition, the collections will be used to compare parasite fauna near- and off-shore from rookeries; the literature suggests that parasite fauna is significantly different around pinniped rookeries and haul-out areas than off-shore. Finally, collections will be used to examine general fish health and possible industry parasite/disease concerns.

Specific Collection Procedures: Special collections procedures other than currently used in the field are not required; collections can be frozen after proper labeling. A **minimum of 10 and maximum of 15** randomly selected fish per species that are less than 50 cm standard length are requested from 12 stations (Table 1). Each vessel will be provided with enough supplies for complete collections.

Sampling and shipping supplies: (per vessel)

- 15 - Wax freezer boxes
- 100 - Plastic bags
- 1000 - Plastic sleeves
- 50 - Large Pacific cod bags
- 1000 - Specimen labels
- 15 - Address labels for shipping
- Tape
- Markers

What: Whole fish less than 50 cm standard length of the following species: Walleye Pollock (*Theragra chalcogramma*), Atka Mackerel (*Pleurogrammus monopterygius*), Arrowtooth Flounder (*Atheresthes stomias*) and Pacific Cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*). However, larger Pacific cod are requested and one to three Pacific Cod that are greater than 50 cm may be collected in lieu of the smaller size and quantity. **NOTE:** Past experience indicates that not all species will be collected at each designated station. As a result, far less than the maximum (15 fish X 4 species X 12 stations = 720 fish) is expected.

When: At 12 identified stations (see Tables 1 & 2) throughout the Aleutian Islands.

How: Record standard length and place label noting length, vessel, cruise, vessel and species into plastic sleeve. Fish of the same species can then be placed in a larger plastic bag with vessel

cruise and haul noted on label. Fish must then be placed in ships freezer. Large Pacific cod will require initial individual freezing in a plastic bag and may then remain separate. Freezer boxes will be provided for storage, packing and shipping.

How many: Minimum of 10 fish per species at designated stations but no more than 15.

Delivery of samples: Samples from each charter vessel will be delivered by RACE personnel to FTS for transport to a cold storage facility upon their arrival. Arrangements will be made by the PI for shipment to Seattle and payment of all associated charges.

Hazardous Material Management: No hazardous substances are required for the requested collections.

Table 1. Geographic locations of selected stations for whole fish collections.

Aleutian Island	Site	Survey Station Nos.
Akun Is.	Billings Head	1, 2
Sequam Is.	Saddleridge Pt.	152, 154
Adak Is.		195, 198
Amchitka Is.	Column Rocks	288, 290
Buldir Is.		341, 338
Attu Is.	Cape Wrangell	399, 402