

Report of the 28th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Hosted by EU/Poland
20 November 2023– 15 July 2024
Virtual Conference

1. Opening of the Conference

Mr. Bernard Błażkiewicz (EU/Poland) opened the 28th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea on 20 November 2023.

2. Opening Statements

2.1 Poland/EU and Japan made opening statements. Opening statements are provided in Appendix 1.

3. Elections (Chair and Rapporteur)

3.1 Bernard Błażkiewicz (EU/Poland) was elected Chair of the Annual Conference. Bernard Błażkiewicz was elected as the Rapporteur.

3.2 The following persons served as the contact points and “voices” for their respective Parties during Annual Conference e-mail exchanges; Takumi Fukuda (Japan), Ilkang Na (the Republic of Korea), Ignacio Granell (Poland/EU), Alexander Glubokov (Russian Federation), Jason Gasper (USA). China was not able to participate in the Annual Conference meeting.

3.3 The list of the Annual Conference participants is provided in Appendix 2.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

4.1 The Agenda, as adopted, is provided in Appendix 3.

5. Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee

5.1 The Report of the 28th Annual Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea is provided in Appendix 4. The final Report was distributed to the Parties on 25 October 2023.

5.2 Documents submitted for the S&T meeting were distributed to the Parties during the S&T meeting.

6. Action Items

6.1 The review of scientific data and conservation measures of the Coastal States related to Pollock fishing in the Bering Sea.

6.1.1 The United States and the Russian Federation provided in the Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee a detailed review of Bering Sea pollock catch and effort statistics, pollock research survey results, and the status of pollock stocks since the 27th Annual Conference.

6.1.2 Japan provided information about incidental Pollock bycatch during an annual salmon survey in the Central Bering Sea in the Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee. The United States notes in

the Report of the Scientific Technical Committee that due to funding limitations and other priorities, the Bogoslof Island survey was suspended this year.

6.1.3 Japan stated that given the essential role of the biannual survey in the Bogoslof area in estimating the abundance of Pollock, it is regrettable that the survey was suspended this year. It stressed the importance that the planned survey will be conducted in 2024 as currently scheduled.

6.1.4 The United States appreciated the concerns expressed about the Bogoslof Island survey and agrees this survey provides important scientific information. The United States stated that they have carefully considered the timing of the survey in relation to scientific information needs and constraints on survey resources. While the pollock biomass did experience a small increase during the late 2010's, biomass estimates have since peaked and also have high uncertainty, suggesting that a large change in Pollock biomass is unlikely within the next few years. For these reasons, the United States stated that they anticipate conducting this survey in 2024 and are considering a 4-year survey cycle for the long-term, noting that this schedule would be revisited should conditions change.

6.2 Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year.

6.2.1 There were no recommendations for a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year.

6.3 Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level (AHL).

6.3.1 The Parties support the recommendations from the Scientific and Technical Committee for setting the Allowable Harvest Level (AHL) at zero (0) for 2022 because the minimum biomass level needed to trigger a non-zero AHL has not been reached in accordance with the Convention Annex.

6.3.2 The Parties support the Scientific and Technical Committee recommendation, the process described in Article VII Part 1 of the Annex to the Convention is followed and the AHL for 2024 will be set at zero.

6.4 Establishment of the Individual National Quotas.

6.4.1 Individual National Quotas were not established because the AHL for 2024 is zero.

6.5 Adoption of appropriate conservation and management measures based upon the advice of the Scientific and Technical Committee.

6.5.1 Based on the report of the Scientific and Technical Committee, there was no new advice and consequently, no new conservation and management measures were adopted.

6.6 Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing.

6.6.1 The Parties agreed to adopt the same terms and conditions for trial fishing in 2024 as agreed to at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

6.6.2 As in past Annual Conferences, the Parties recommended that countries planning to conduct trial fishing give at least one month lead time prior to fishing in order to facilitate enforcement efforts.

6.7 Trial fishing plans for the following year.

6.7.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.

6.8 Measures taken to investigate and penalize violations of the Convention.

6.8.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.

6.9 Consideration of matters related to the conservation and management of living marine resources other than pollock in the Convention Area.

6.9.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.

6.10 Meeting Observers.

6.10.1 There were no observers.

7. Future Annual Conferences

7.1 Consideration of virtual meetings.

7.1.1 There was no particular discussion on this matter.

7.2 29th Annual Conference

7.2.1

The Chair noted willingness from a few Contracting Parties to host the Annual Conference and Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting in 2024. Unfortunately, no consensus has been reached on choosing new host. Therefore, current host continued until Contracting Parties agree on the host of the next Annual Conference. The 28th Annual Conference was extended until Contracting Parties agree on the host of the next Annual Conference.

In addition, Russian Federation asked to attach to this report the historical practice of rotation of hosting Bering Sea meetings (Appendix 5 – Table of the order of Annual Conferences).

The Chair acknowledged the historical order of rotation, emphasizing that this rotation is not ‘automatic’. Contracting Parties must decide for the next hosting Party at the preceding meeting.

In July 2024, the Chair noted that no consensus has been reached for hosting of the next Annual Conference. It was decided to close 28th Annual Conference. The current host will start organising 29th Annual Conference unless new host is agreed.

7.3 Election of the Chair and the Vice Chair.

7.3.1 According to Rule 2 of the Annual Conference Rules of Procedure, the Chair of the next Annual Conference shall be from the host Party and the Parties shall elect a Vice-Chair, if necessary. The Parties shall also elect a Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Committee. A vacancy shall be filled by a nominee of the same Party, subject to the approval of the other Parties. The host Party will inform other Parties of the names of the Chairs of the S&T Committee Meeting and the 29th Annual Conference in advance of the meetings.

8. Other Issues

8.1 Discussion of Accession to the Convention

8.1.1 Poland/EU recalled that in 2016 Poland submitted a request to the Depositary of the Convention for an amendment to the Convention to allow the Contracting Parties to invite 'Regional Economic Integration Organisations' (REIOs) to become a party to the Convention, which would allow the EU to become a party to the Bering Sea Convention. The proposed amendment is needed because the EU has exclusive competence over the conservation of marine biological resources on behalf of its Member States. The proposal has been sent by the Depositary to all Contracting Parties. The amendment will update the Convention to reflect standard international practice and be consistent with other international/regional fisheries management agreements which allow for REIOs to join and will support cooperation between the Contracting Parties in the conservation and management of the Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

8.1.2 Poland/EU encouraged Contracting Parties to notify the Depositary of their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval following Article XVII of the Convention to support the proposed amendment. Poland/EU recalled that no Contracting Party expressly opposed the proposed amendment following last year's Annual Conference and they were confident that the amendment will be accepted.

8.2 Website of the Convention

Poland/EU expressed gratitude to the USA for hosting the website of the Convention.

8.3 Administrative Matters

8.3.1 There was no particular discussion on this matter.

9. Closing Statements

Appendices:

1. Opening Statements
2. List of participants
3. Agenda for the Annual Conference
4. Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee

28th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea (CBS)

Hosted by Poland and the European Union
November 20 – December 1, 2023

Opening Statement by Japan

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an honor for Japan to participate in the virtual 28th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

Japan would like to draw attention of the Parties to the fact that the interim moratorium on pollock fishing in the CBS was agreed by the 6 states in 1992, which was before the Convention entered into force. Japan signed the Convention in 1994 with the hope of restoring pollock resources in the CBS and reopening its commercial fishing in the area through concerted actions and cooperation among the Parties to the Convention.

One of the objectives of the Convention is to restore and maintain the pollock resources in the Bering Sea at levels which will permit their maximum sustainable yield. It is unfortunate that so far we have not been able to reopen the pollock fishing in this area.

On the other hand, we have seen positive signs since 2014 on the status of Aleutian Basin pollock stocks, including the general increasing trend of the stock biomass in the “specific area” stipulated in the Annex of the Convention. In this regard, it is regrettable that the Bogoslof Island survey was suspended this year.

In order to fulfill the objectives of the Convention and support our sustainable fishing industry, we have to continue cooperation, to the utmost extent, in gathering and sharing scientific information, which is vital for the establishment of Acceptable Harvest Level (AHL).

We wish that this meeting will bring fruitful and meaningful progress for each Party.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by Poland and the European Union
28th Annual Conference of the Bering Sea Convention, virtual meeting,
20 November – 1 December, 2023

Mr Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour and a pleasure for Poland and the European Union to host and participate in the Bering Sea Convention Annual Conference. Building on the experience from previous years, we are convinced that this virtual meeting will be able to take the necessary decisions. We look forward to the active participation of all Contracting Parties.

Poland and the European Union are fully committed to sustainable fisheries management and recognise the key role RFMOs play in the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fish stocks. We are supportive of scientific research and management decisions based on scientific advice as a benchmark for responsible resource management and will continue to promote this approach.

We would like to recall that Poland submitted to the Depositary of the Convention a request in 2016 for an amendment to the Convention to allow the membership of ‘Regional Economic Integration Organisation’ for the EU to become a member of the Bering Sea Convention.

The European Union is actively involved in 18 RFMOs and Regional Fisheries Bodies worldwide and has a long track record of good cooperation with Signatories to the Bering Sea Convention. This amendment would allow the EU to join the Convention, and would thus enable the EU and the Signatories to the Convention to fulfil their obligation under Article 8(3) of UNFSA and Article 63(2) of UNCLOS to cooperate in the conservation and management of the Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. The EU’s membership would be beneficial to this organisation as it would allow us to contribute with our expertise in the management of fisheries and our extensive experience of cooperation within RFMOs around the world, in particular on scientific issues and the adoption and implementation of monitoring, control and management measures.

Since the last Annual Conference meeting, no Contracting Party has expressly opposed the proposed amendment. At the last year Annual Conference one Contracting Party stated that they are considering the amendment text Poland/EU proposed, which would allow the EU to replace Poland in the Agreement. We therefore trust that this request for the membership of the European Union will this year be given proper consideration.

We look forward to participating in this meeting and hope it will be a productive and successful one.

Thank you

List of Participants

Contracting Party	Voice	Members
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Proposed Agenda for the Annual Conference

28th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

**Virtual Meeting hosted by EU/Poland
20 November –**

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Opening Statements
3. Elections (Chair and Rapporteur)
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Report of the Scientific & Technical Committee
6. Action Items
 - 6.1 Review of the scientific data and conservation measures of the Coastal States related to Pollock fishing in the Bering Sea
 - 6.2 Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year
 - 6.3 Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level
 - 6.4 Establishment of Individual National Quotas
 - 6.5 Adoption of appropriate conservation and management measures based upon the advice of the Scientific and Technical Committee
 - 6.6 Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing
 - 6.7 Trial Fishing Plans for the following year
 - 6.8 Measures taken to investigate and penalize violations of the Convention
 - 6.9 Consideration of matters related to the conservation and management of living marine resources other than Pollock in the Convention Area
7. Future Annual Conferences
 - 7.1 Consideration of virtual meetings.
 - 7.2 29th Annual Conference
 - 7.3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
8. Other Matters
 - 8.1 Discussion of Accession to the Convention
 - 8.2 Website of the Convention
 - 8.3 Administrative Matters
9. Closing Statements

REPORT OF THE 28th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

Virtual Process Meeting hosted by Poland/EU
16 October – 27 October 2023

1 Opening of the Meeting

Piotr Pankowski (Poland/EU) opened the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) Meeting as Chair this year. A list of the participants is provided in Appendix 1.

The Chair also served as rapporteur to compile the STC report. The following individuals served as the contact point and “voice” from each party for email exchange – the United States (Jim Ianelli), the Republic of Korea (Hyejin Song), Poland/EU (Piotr Pankowski), Japan (Tomonori Hamatsu), the Russian Federation (Alexander Glubokov). The People's Republic of China did not participate.

2 Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda (Appendix 2) was adopted.

3 Discussion of Science Issues

3.1 Update catch and effort statistics

The United States and the Russian Federation provided updated pollock catch statistics by year and region (Appendix 3). Two figures at the end of the report are provided to show the geographical/statistical areas of the Bering Sea (Appendix 4).

3.2 Review results of trial fishing

The parties reported that no trial fishing was conducted in the Convention area during the period of 2022–2023.

3.3 Review results of research cruises

Regular surveys within the U.S. zone of the Bering Sea include:

- (1) Eastern Bering Sea (EBS) shelf: the annual bottom trawl survey to assess groundfish and crabs in the summer months (June to August) occurred and extended into the northern area outside of the standard survey grid (but within US waters).

Vessels chartered for the bottom-trawl survey (described in bullet above) also collected acoustic backscatter data that is compiled into a validated index for use in the EBS pollock stock assessment.

Cruise results from the U.S. surveys become available typically about mid-September and draft reports are made to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Plan Teams. Draft results from the bottom trawl survey have been provided to the NPFMC [here](#)

Subsequently, analysts compile stock assessment reports for review during the November and December meetings of the NPFMC so that they can deliberate on fishery management decisions for the following year. The website for these annual Plan Team reports can be found in at the

[NPFMC.org](https://www.npfmc.org) website. Pertinent parts of the U.S. survey and pollock stock assessments are discussed in section 3.4 below.

Japan planned to conduct its salmon survey (that may catch pollock incidentally) in the central Bering Sea in 2023. However, the survey was not carried out by expansion of COVID-19 in the investigation ship.

3.4 Review the status of Aleutian Basin Pollock stocks

The Aleutian Basin also encompasses the central Bering Sea Convention Area (see the 2 figures at the end of this report). Surveys covering the region are impractical due to the size of the area. However, the Convention established a specific area (defined in Convention Annex Part 1) around Bogoslof Island where an important component of the central Bering Sea pollock stock is thought to spawn. As noted above, the abundance of pollock is estimated during the February-March surveys conducted aboard the NOAA ship *Oscar Dyson* every 2 years and that these estimates provide an indirect indicator of central Bering Sea Pollock stock abundance. However, due to continued funding limitations and other priorities, the Bogoslof Island survey has been suspended and it is unclear when the next survey will be funded. However, age composition data and a full assessment for the Bogoslof Island region was completed in 2022 and is available online [here](#).

The results of the surveys are therefore unchanged from last year and Figure 1 shows that the most recent estimate (from 2020) is about 345,000 t. Based on the standard expansion (see Annex), suggests then that the CBS stock is about 575,000 t.

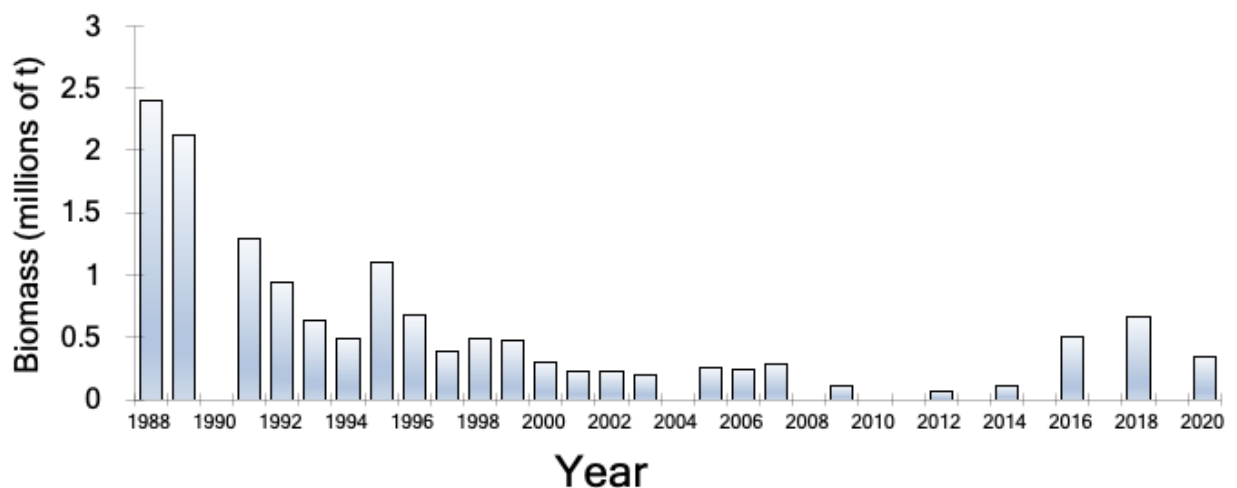


Figure 1. Biomass estimates obtained during acoustic-trawl surveys for walleye Pollock in the Bogoslof Island area, 1988-2020. The United States conducted all the surveys; except for the 1999 survey, which was conducted by Japan. The survey has been suspended and it is unclear when it will next occur.

Russian EEZ of the Bering Sea: Russia reported on results of studies of the Bering Sea pollock conducted in 2017-2022.

Bottom trawl survey for pollock biomass assessment conducted in the northwestern Bering Sea in August-September 2021 aboard R/V Professor Kaganovskiy.

Pollock biomass according to the 2021 bottom trawl survey data estimated at 0,815 mln.t. Most abundant pollock consisted 2020 year class (31,0%), size group 43-54 cm consisted 34,8%. Pollock abundance by age 4+-7+ consisted at 37,2% (2,2 billion fish).

Comparative analysis of long-term data on pollock resources assessment by EIMWT and bottom trawl surveys indicates that resources of pollock in the northwestern Bering Sea close to the average level in 2020-2022.

Since 2006 most pollock year classes had an average abundance (2006, 2009-2011, 2013-2014, 2017, 2019-2020) and some were high abundance (2008, 2012, 2018). The 2017-2020 year-classes appeared during shifts in temperature conditions towards cooling in the Bering Sea. Usually, high abundant pollock year-classes appear during such shifts in thermal regime in the Bering Sea (2000, 2006, 2008 and 2012). The appearance of high abundant year-classes during periods with high annual gradients in water temperature is clearly seen across the entire period of recent observations in the Bering Sea. The appearance of high-abundant 2006, 2008 and 2012 year-classes were associated with thermal regime shift in the Bering Sea, when the abundance of large zooplankton species was relative high. This supports the idea on the existence of relationship between zooplankton abundance and survival of pollock yearlings during winter period.

The western pollock stock in the Karaginsky and Olutorsky Bays still stay at level below average, at the same time last some years observed slow trend of it resource increasing.

Significant distribution of the Bering Sea pollock into Chukchi Sea through Bering Pass observed by R/V TINRO bottom trawl surveys in September 2018 and August 2020. Scale of pollock distribution into Chukchi Sea in 2018 and 2020 much higher as observed by surveys in 2003 and 2014.

Pollock biomass in the Chukchi Sea in 2020 estimated by bottom survey at 153,4 ths.t (catchability coeff. - 1), most of pollock biomass (95,9%) in the Chukchi Sea consisted by big size older adult pollock (size more 50 cm, age 8+ and older).

Pollock in the U.S. Eastern Bering Sea (EBS): The EBS pollock spawning biomass in 2008 was at the lowest level since 1980. The stock increased steadily, peaked in 2016, declined for a few years but then the apparent high abundance of the 2018 year class has buoyed the stock to well above B_{MSY} in 2022 and 2023. As such, the stock condition is not being subjected to overfishing, is not overfished nor approaching an overfished condition. The most recent full assessment is available [here](#).

Aleutian Islands region: The estimated spawning biomass reached a minimum level in 1999 and then has generally increased. Low levels of fishing mortality along with improved recruitment is thought to be responsible for the increase in stock condition. The Aleutian Islands pollock stock is not being subjected to overfishing, is not overfished, nor is approaching an overfished condition. The most recent full assessment for this region is available [here](#).

Bogoslof region: The estimated biomass in the Bogoslof Island area has been increasing in recent years. The latest survey (2020 by the NOAA ship Oscar Dyson) resulted in a biomass estimate of 367,900 t. There have been no directed fisheries on the stock since 1991. Total allowable catches have been set to zero under terms of the Convention on the Conservation of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. The trigger level for a TAC to be authorized has been specified in the Convention.

The United States provided the following summary information on pollock stocks status for the Bering Sea by region. The table below is extracted from the U.S. document that summarizes the status and catch specifications of the pollock stocks in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands (BSAI) management areas in the U.S. EEZ. All units are in metric tons. The catches for 2023 are projected estimates for the year.

Area	Year	Biomass	Overfishing Level (t)	Acceptable Biological Catch (t)	Total Allowable Catch (t)	Catch (t)
1.E Bering Sea	2016	15,486,000	3,910,000	2,090,000	1,340,000	1,352,681
	2017	13,794,000	3,640,000	2,800,000	1,345,000	1,359,181
	2018	10,964,000	4,797,000	2,592,000	1,364,341	1,379,301

	2019	9,892,000	3,914,000	2,163,000	1,397,000	1,409,354
	2020	8,693,000	4,085,000	2,043,000	1,425,000	1,367,245
	2021	8,145,000	2,594,000	1,626,000	1,375,000	1,376,265
	2022	6,839,000	1,469,000	1,111,000	1,111,000	1,105,677
	2023	12,389,000	3,381,000	1,910,000	1,300,000	1,259,161
2.Aleutians	2016	239,584	39,075	32,227	19,000	1,257
	2017	250,881	43,650	36,061	19,000	1,507
	2018	256,899	49,291	40,788	19,000	1,860
	2019	255,323	64,240	52,887	19,000	1,663
	2020	257,233	66,973	55,120	19,000	3,202
	2021	292,967	61,856	51,241	19,000	1,843
	2022	308,525	61,264	50,752	19,000	3,058
	2023	264,173	52,383	43,413	19,000	3,238
3.Bogoslof	2016	106,000	31,906	23,850	500	1005
	2017	106,000	130,428	60,800	500	185
	2018	434,760	130,428	60,800	450	14
	2019	434,760	183,080	137,310	75	8
	2020	378,262	183,080	137,310	75	9
	2021	378,262	113,479	85,109	250	8
	2022	378,262	113,479	85,109	250	256
	2023	367,880	115,146	86,360	300	117

2023 catch estimates are preliminary

3.5 Factors affecting recovery of the stocks

No new information was provided.

3.6 The effects of the moratorium and its continuation

No new information was provided.

3.7 Methodologies to determine Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) and Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)

There were no new methods proposed.

3.8 Recommendation on AHL

No new information was provided. In the past, the Parties have used Annex Part 1 of the Convention to establish AHL. The AHL level has been set at zero; because the minimum biomass level needed to trigger a non-zero AHL according to the Convention Annex has not been reached.

The Russian Federation recommends that the AHL remain at zero since the Convention Annex Part 1 trigger level has not been reached.

3.9 Research Plans

The US plans to conduct two surveys of pollock in the eastern Bering Sea shelf region in 2023. Surveys by the US in the Bogoslof area are unlikely due to funding limitations and other priorities.

Japan plans to conduct its salmon survey (that may catch pollock incidentally) in the central Bering Sea in 2024.

4 Discussion of Enforcement and Management Issues

The US Coast Guard monitors the region and noted that no known fishing vessel incursions occurred based on their surveillance.

4.1 Violations of the Convention

No new information was provided; but no IUU fishing in the Convention area was known to have been reported in 2020.

4.2 Terms and conditions for trial fishing for the following year

The Committee recommended that the terms and conditions for trial fishing remain the same as in the previous years. Trial Fishing is addressed in Article X, paragraph 4 of the Convention. In general, any trial fishing intention needs an application and trial fishing plan to be approved by the Scientific and Technical Committee. No Party has applied for trial fishing in 2020 to the Scientific and Technical Committee.

5 Other Issues and Recommendations

5.1 Future Meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee

Unless otherwise noted, the next meeting of the Committee will be held virtually as they have since 2010. The Party that will host this meeting shall be determined at the Annual Conference. Given improvements on how virtual meetings can be held, the STC:

- **recommended** that if a virtual meeting occur in the future, that set hours and presentations be made via virtual meeting software (instead of just exchanging emails);
- **recommended** that a document sharing system be adopted and to the extent practical, presentations and working papers be distributed in advance to encourage and stimulate discussion; and
- **noted** that measures to ensure the preservation and future record system of STC meetings be maintained via the internet.

6 Report to the Annual Conference

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Committee will convey the Scientific and Technical Meeting Report to the Annual Conference.

7 Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked all participants of the STC for their discussions and help in compiling this written report. The Chair closed the STC Meeting on 27 October 2023.

Appendix 1. List of Participants

1.1.1.1 People's Republic of China

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1.1.1.2 Japan

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1.1.1.4 Poland and the European Union

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1.1.1.5 Russian Federation

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1.1.1.6 United States

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Appendix 2. Agenda of the 28th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Virtual Process Meeting hosted by Poland/EU

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Discussion of Science Issues
 - 3.1 Update catch and effort statistics
 - 3.2 Review results of trial fishing
 - 3.3 Review results of research cruises
 - 3.4 Review the status of Aleutian Basin Pollock stocks
 - 3.5 Factors affecting the recovery of the stocks
 - 3.6 The effects of the moratorium and its continuation
 - 3.7 Methodologies to determine the Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) and Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)
 - 3.8 Recommendation on AHL
 - 3.9 Research plans
4. Discussion of Enforcement and Management Issues
 - 4.1 Violations of the Convention
 - 4.2 Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing for the following year
5. Other Issues and Recommendations
 - 5.1 Future Meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee
6. Report to the Annual Conference
7. Closing Remarks

Appendix 3: Table of pollock catches in the Bering Sea.

Table 1. All-nation historical catch of pollock from the Bering Sea, in metric tons, 1977-2023.

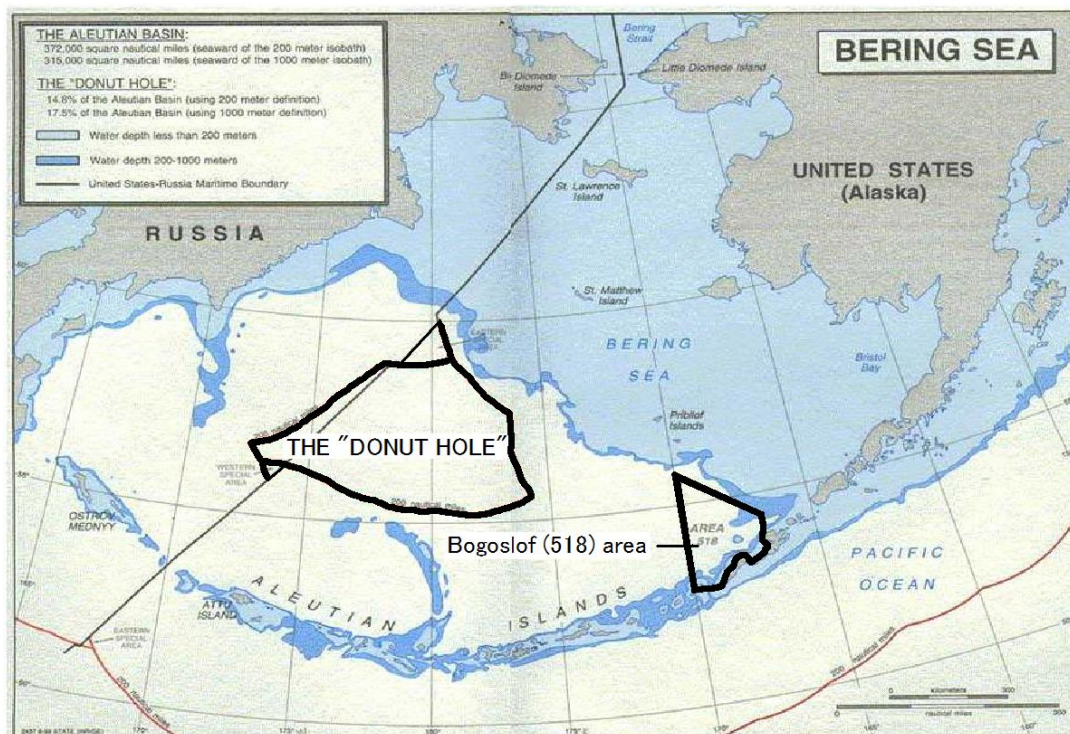
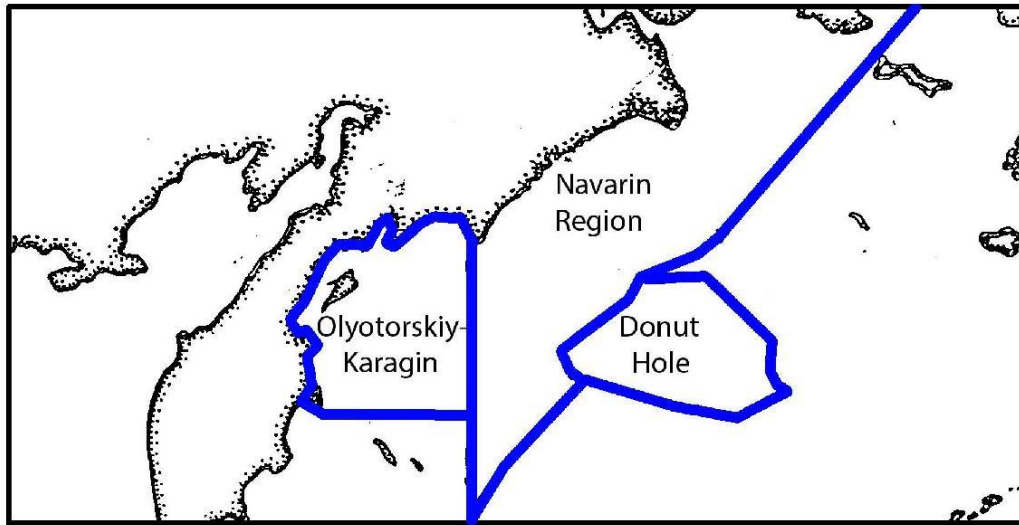
Sources: Reported by the Parties to the Convention, *2023 values preliminary

Year	Olyotorskiy-Karagin (W of 170W)	Navarin Region (E of 170W)	Donut Hole	Bogoslof	Aleutian Region	Eastern Bering Sea	Total Bering Sea
1977	265,000				7,625	978,370	1,250,995
1978	417,000				6,282	979,431	1,402,713
1979	546,000				9,504	935,714	1,491,218
1980	825,000				58,156	958,280	1,841,436
1981	1,133,000				55,516	973,502	2,162,018
1982	976,000				57,978	955,964	1,989,942
1983	1,006,000				59,026	981,450	2,046,476
1984	252,000	503,000	181,200		81,834	1,092,055	2,110,089
1985	134,000	488,000	363,400		58,730	1,139,676	2,183,806
1986	297,000	570,000	1,039,800		46,641	1,141,993	3,095,434
1987	349,000	463,000	1,326,300	377,436	28,720	859,416	3,403,872
1988	475,000	852,000	1,395,900	87,813	30,000	1,228,721	4,069,434
1989	345,000	684,000	1,447,600	36,073	15,531	1,229,600	3,757,804
1990	582,000	232,000	917,400	151,672	79,025	1,455,193	3,417,290
1991	326,000	178,000	293,400	316,038	98,604	1,195,664	2,407,706
1992	282,000	315,000	10,000	241	52,352	1,390,309	2,049,902
1993	288,000	389,000	1,957	886	57,132	1,326,609	2,063,584
1994	204,000	288,900	NA	556	58,659	1,329,373	1,881,488
1995	79,000	427,300	Trace	334	64,925	1,264,247	1,835,806
1996	34,000	753,000	Trace	499	29,062	1,192,781	2,009,342
1997	30,000	735,000	Trace	163	25,940	1,124,433	1,915,536
1998	25,000	719,000	Trace	8	23,798	1,102,159	1,869,965
1999	46,000	639,000	Trace	29	1,010	989,680	1,675,719
2000	15,000	507,000	Trace	29	1,244	1,132,710	1,655,984
2001	25,000	526,000	-	258	825	1,387,197	1,939,280
2002	8,000	370,000	-	1,042	1,177	1,480,776	1,860,995
2003	14,600	411,200	-	24	1,649	1,490,779	1,918,252
2004	6,200	424,500	-	0	1,158	1,480,552	1,912,410
2005	4,400	446,800	-	0	1,621	1,483,022	1,935,843
2006	3,900	462,500	-	0	1,745	1,488,031	1,956,176
2007	62,600	587,900	-	0	2,519	1,354,502	2,007,521
2008	50,632	507,127	-	9	1,278	990,578	1,549,624
2009	26,052	328,517	-	73	1,662	810,784	1,167,089
2010	43,352	319,543	-	176	1,289	810,186	1,174,546
2011	37,189	336,690	-	173	1,208	1,199,041	1,574,300
2012	26,300	390,040	-	71	975	1,205,222	1,622,608
2013	29,800	358,900	-	57	2,964	1,270,770	1,662,491
2014	15,100	342,400	-	427	2,375	1,297,422	1,657,724
2015	11,000	383,500	-	733	913	1,321,584	1,717,730
2016	6,900	442,600	-	1,005	1,257	1,352,681	1,804,443
2017	6,300	431,300	-	185	1,507	1,359,181	1,798,473
2018	8,000	392,100	-	14	1,860	1,379,301	1,781,275
2019	12,300	403,300	-	8	1,663	1,409,354	1,826,625
2020	11,689	381,725	-	9	3,202	1,367,245	1,763,870
2021	21,469	366,574		8	1,843	1,376,265	1,766,159
2022	59,964	502,335		256	3,058	1,105,677	1,671,290
2023*	23,508	491,871		117	3,238	1,259,161	1,777,895

*- data for 26.09.2023

Appendix 4: Map of the Bering Sea and the Bogoslof (518) area

Statistic areas in the Bering Sea



Appendix 5: Annual Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Number	Year, dates	Country
1	1996, 13-15.XI	Russia

2	1997, 5-7.XI	USA
3	1998, 30.XI-4.XII	Japan
4	1999, 8-12.XI	Korea
5	2000, 6-10.XI	China
6	2001, 17-21.IX	Poland
7	2002, 16-19.IX	Russia
8	2003, 15-18.IX	USA
9	2004, 7-10.IX	Japan
10	2005, 6-9.IX	Korea
11	2006, 5-8.IX	Poland
12	2007, 4-5.IX	China
13	2008, 1-3.IX	Russia
14	2009, 31.VIII–01.IX	USA
15	2010, 20.IX–06.X	USA
16	2011, 22.IX–22.XI	Japan
17	2012, 12.XI-21.XII	Korea
18	2013, 4-15.XI	Poland
19	2014, 16-30.X	Russia
20	2015, 23.XI-04.XII	USA
21	2016, 31.X-11.XI	Japan
22	2017, 23.X-03.XI	Korea
23	2018, 01-14.X	Poland/EU
24	2019, 25.X-18.XI	Russia
25	2020, 04.XI-07.XII	USA
26	2021, 08-19.XI	Japan
27	2022, 14-25.XI	Korea
28	2023, 20.XI-2024, 15.VII	Poland/EU