

TITLE: MOCNESS-3.xlsx

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DATA SET OVERVIEW:

The MOCNESS is a 1-m<sup>2</sup> multiple opening-closing net system (Wiebe et al (1976) which was equipped with 500 µm mesh nets and an external flowmeter for computing volume filtered. The MOCNESS was towed obliquely from the surface to 100 m depth or to just above the bottom at locations shallower than 100 m. Samples were taken at approximately 20 m depth increments from maximum tow depth to the surface.

Each sample was poured into a sorting tray and large organisms, primarily shrimp and jellyfish, were removed and enumerated. The sample was sequentially split using a Folsom splitter until the smallest subsample contains about 100 specimens of the most abundant taxa. All taxa in the smallest subsamples were identified, staged, enumerated and weighed. Identifications were to the lowest taxonomic level possible. Each larger subsample was examined to identify, enumerate and weigh the larger, less abundant taxa. Blotted wet weights of all specimens of each taxa and stage in each sample were taken until the mean weight changed by less than 5%. In practice, only calanoid copepods had consistent wet weights after weighing each taxa and stage in about 10-15 samples. Therefore, wet weights on euphausiids, shrimp and other larger taxa were measured and recorded individually for each sample. Wet weight measurements were done on a Cahn Electrobalance or Mettler top loading balance, depending on the size of the animal. The data were entered twice into a Microsoft Access data base. The duplicate data tables were compared and missing, duplicate or inconsistent records were marked and corrected. The data are reported in numbers per cubic meter or grams wet weight per cubic meter for each taxon.

The data were collected from the eastern Bering Sea:

HL802: 56.0 to 59.2 N Lat, 163.3 to 178.8 W Lon

HL803: 54.3 to 62.1 N Lat, 163.3 to 178.8 W Lon  
HL902: 56.0 to 59.5 N Lat, 164.1 to 175.2 W Lon  
KN903: 54.3 to 62.2 N Lat, 161.0 to 179.4 W Lon  
TN249: 55.4 to 62.2 N Lat, 164.5 to 178.9 W Lon  
TN250: 54.2 to 62.9 N Lat, 161.0 to 179.4 W Lon

**DATA FORMAT:**

The data are in a standard EXCEL data file. Each cruise is in a separate spread sheet. Columns A through P contain the header data for each record. Columns Q through V contain the species identification information, abundance and biomass, columns W through AH contain the taxonomic hierarchy for the taxon in each data record.

**DATA REMARKS:** This data set contains a partially completed portion of MOCNESS data collected during the BEST program. These files are incomplete because sample processing for these awards is ongoing. For administrative reasons, we have been asked to submit data as they are entered into our data bases rather than wait till the sample processing is complete before submitting.

**REFERENCES:**

Wiebe PH, Burt KH, Boyd SH, Morton AW (1976) A multiple opening/closing net and environmental sensing system for sampling zooplankton. *J Mar Res* 34: 313-325

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