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Decapod Crustacea of the Inlets

Survey, 1951

T.H. Butler

Pacific Biological Station

February, 1952

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DECAPOD CRUSTACEA OF THE INLETS SURVEY, 1951.

An oceanographic survey of the large mainland inlets of British Columbia was conducted by the Institute of Oceanography of the University of British Columbia during the summer of 1951, with the C.N.A.V. "Ehkoli". The survey was conducted during the period May 15th to August 1st, and ranged from Toba Inlet in the south to Portland Canal in the north.

A small trawl was used for biological collecting at depths ranging from 5 to 40 feet. The trawl was towed from a small skiff. Of the marine invertebrates collected, only the decapod crustaceans have been examined. Thirty-one species, representing nine families, have been identified definitely.

Most of the species have been recorded previously from shallow water. However, there are several interesting exceptions. One spider crab (Maiidae), Chorilia longipes was recorded previously from moderately deep water (below 20 fathoms). The prawns (Pandalidae) which are generally found in fairly deep water appear in the collection. Since four of the prawns are caught commercially, their distribution in the inlets may be important for future fishing operations.

Two forms of shrimps (Hippolytidae) appear to differ from previously recorded species. One form has been listed tentatively as Spirontocaris spina, and the other as Spirontocaris sp. Further study will be necessary before they can be designated as new forms.

The shrimp Sclerocrangon boreas is listed, and is believed to be a first record in B.C. waters. The species is circumpolar, and had been recorded previously from Alaska.

A complete list of the species is given below. The code letters after each species designate locality of capture and are formed by taking the first two letters of the name of the body of water, e.g. Bute Inlet has the code letters Bu. (See P.B.S. MS. Rept. by F.H.C. Taylor on the fishes collected during the inlets survey - for a list of localities -)

Decapod Crustacea

Locality of Capture

Family Cragonidae (shrimps)

- Crago franciscorum (Stimpson) Ga, De, Do, Nass.
" intermedia (Stimpson) Bu.
" nigricauda (Stimpson) Ga, De, Be, Bu, Do, Nass.
Argis (Nectocrangon) crassa (Rathbun) Bu.
Sclerocrangon boreas (Phipps) De.
Paracrangon echinata (Dana) Ga.

Family Pandalidae (prawns)

- Pandalus danae (Stimpson) De, Bu, Wo.
" platyceros (Brandt) Wo.
" borealis (Kroyer) Nass.
" hypsinotus (Brandt) De.
" Stenolepis (Rathbun) Ga, Bu.

Family Hippolytidae (shrimps)

- Spirontocaris brevirostris (Dana) Ga, Bu.
" suckleyi (Stimpson) De, Nass.
" spina (Sowerby)? De.
" lamellicornis (Dana) Bu.
Spirontocaris sp. Wo.

Family Paguridae (hermit crabs)

- Pagurus setosus (Benedict) Ga.
- " ochotensis (Brandt) Bu.
- " hirsutiusculus (Dana) Ga, Bu.
- " alaskensis (Benedict) Nass.
- " splendescens (Owen) De.
- " beringanus (Benedict) Bu.
- " tenuimanus (Dana) Wo.

Family Maitidae (spider crabs)

- Oregonia gracilis (Dana) Ga, Be, Bu.
- Hyas lyratus (Dana) Ga, Wo, Do, Nass, Bu.
- Chionoecetes bairdii (Rathbun) Ku, Be.
- Chorilia longipes (Dana) Ga, Wo, Bu.

Family Cancridae

- Cancer magister (Dana) Be, Do, Nass,
- " productus (Randall) Be.
- " oregonensis (Dana) Wo.

Family Atelecyclidae (horse crabs)

- Telmessus cheiragonus (Tilesius) Wo.

Family Xanthidae

- Lophopanopeus bellus (Stimpson) Bu.

Family Grapsidae (shore crabs)

- Hemigrapsus oregonensis (Dana) Ga.

The writer wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of Mr. F.H.C. Taylor of the Pacific Biological Station, and members of the Institute of Oceanography of the University of British Columbia.