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Relative Abundance of Gulf of Alaska Sablefish and Other Groundfish Based on the Domestic Longline Survey, 1989

by
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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ABSTRACT

The Alaska Fisheries Science Center has conducted an annual longline survey of sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) and other groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska since 1987. This survey replicates as closely as practical the Gulf of Alaska portion of a Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey conducted from 1979 to 1994 and also samples gullies not sampled during the cooperative longline survey. In 1989, 73 stations were sampled from 26 June to 12 September. Each day, 16 km of groundline containing 7,200 hooks baited with squid was set from the chartered fishing-vessel Ocean Prowler.

Sablefish relative population numbers (RPN) on the upper continental slope decreased significantly: 18% from 1988 to 1989. Most of the decrease was observed in the western and central areas of the Gulf of Alaska; the RPN remained -about the same in the eastern areas. The strong 1984 year class expected to recruit in 1989 was not apparent in the survey results, nor was there evidence for later strong year classes. The rougheyeye (*Sebastes aleutianus*)- and shortraker (*S. borealis*) rockfish RPN increased 35% from 1988 to 1989; this increase was not statistically significant. The thornyhead [*Sebastolobus alascanus*] RPN increased significantly (77%).

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INTRODUCTION

From 1979 to 1994, Japan and the United States annually conducted a cooperative longline survey covering the upper continental slope of the eastern Bering Sea, the Aleutian Islands, and the Gulf of Alaska. The research has supplied information needed to estimate the abundance of sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) and other groundfish species (Lowe and Sigler 1989; Yoshimura and Sasaki 1989; Clausen and Sigler in press).

Since 1987, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Alaska Fisheries Science Center has conducted an additional annual longline survey designed to continue the time series of the Gulf of Alaska portion of the Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey. The domestic longline survey covers the same stations, (Fig. 1) and season, and uses similar sampling gear as used on the Gulf of Alaska portion of the cooperative longline survey. The primary purpose of the domestic longline survey is to determine annually the relative abundance and size composition of sablefish, shortspine thornyhead (*Sebastolobus alascanus*), rougheye rockfish (*Sebastes aleutianus*), and shortraker rockfish (*Sebastes borealis*) in the Gulf of Alaska.

This report presents results of the 1989 domestic longline survey and updates the 1987 and 1988 surveys (Sigler and Zenger 1989; Zenger et al. 1992). The analysis of sablefish for the 1989 Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey is reported in Fujioka (1991) for the Gulf of Alaska and in Lowe (1991) for the eastern Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. A comparison of the catch rates of sablefish between the domestic and cooperative longline surveys will be reported in a separate document (Zenger 1992).

METHODS

Vessel and Gear

The survey vessel was the chartered fishing vessel *Ocean Prowler* (47 m, 155 ft). Each day, 16 km (8.6 nautical miles) of groundline was set. The groundline consisted of 160 sections called skates; each skate was 100 m (55 fathoms) long and included 45 Mustad¹ size 13/0 circle hooks spaced 2 m (6.5 ft) apart. The groundline was weighted with 3.2-kg (7-lb) lead balls snapped on at the end of every skate. Each hook was baited by hand with chopped squid (*Illex* spp.) at a rate of about 5.5 kg (12.0 lb) per 100 hooks.

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Bait type, gangion and becket line strength, and hook brand differed between 1987 and 1988-1989. Details and reasons for the changes are described in Zenger et al. (1992). Because of these differences, the 1987 survey was considered experimental and is not included in the 1988-1989 time series.

Survey Area and Operations

The survey area extends from Islands of Four Mountains (lat. 52°45'N, long. 170°W) eastward to Dixon Entrance (Fig. 1) and covers the upper continental slope and selected gullies. The area of the sablefish commercial fishery generally corresponds to the upper continental slope and gullies with bottom depths greater than 400 m, such as Spencer Gully. Adult sablefish also inhabit shallower gullies (bottom depths 200-400 m) not targeted during the commercial fishery. Sampling of gullies has expanded each year (1987-89) of the domestic longline survey to increase the amount of adult sablefish habitat sampled (Table 1). With this expansion, the survey area in 1989 generally corresponded to the area inhabited by adult sablefish. Sampled depths ranged from about 200 to 1,000 m, although at some stations depths less than 150 m were sampled.

The survey was from 26 June to 12 September 1989. Seventy-three stations were sampled--45 along the upper continental slope, 27 in gullies, and 1 on the continental shelf².

The sampling gear was set from shallow to deep and usually was retrieved in the same order. Set and retrieval began about 0630 and 0930 hours, respectively, and retrieval was completed about 2000 hours. Soak time ranged from 3 to 11 hours.

Data Collection

Fish species and hook condition were recorded during sampling gear retrieval. Hook condition was classified as baited, unbaited, or ineffective. Ineffective hooks were missing, broken, or tangled. Time and depth were recorded when every fifth skate was hauled aboard.

¹The 45 stations on the upper continental slope correspond to station numbers 62-86, 88-102, and 104-108 of the Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey (Yoshimura and Sasaki 1989). Gully station 26 corresponds to station 87 of the cooperative longline survey. Shelf station 42 corresponds to station 103 of the cooperative longline survey and is on the continental shelf off Baranof Island. The remaining 26 gully stations are additional to the original 47 stations of the cooperative longline survey.

Sablefish, Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*), arrow-tooth-flounder (*Atheresthes stomias*), rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.), and thornyhead (*Sebastolobus* spp.) fork lengths were measured. Vent length--the length from snout to vent (SV)--was measured, for grenadiers (Macrouridae). Sablefish and Pacific cod were sorted into eight depth strata (Table 2) for measuring length and determining sex, whereas other species were not.

Analytical Methods

The number of fish caught per skate (catch per unit effort, CPUE) was calculated by species for each stratum at a station. The CPUE for each stratum of a station was multiplied by the area of the stratum (Table 3) to compute relative population numbers (RPN, an index of relative abundance in numbers) (Gulland 1969; Quinn et al. 1982; Sasaki 1985). The resultant values were averaged within the area to obtain an RPN for each stratum and area. Relative population numbers were calculated only for depths 201-1,000 m because this range generally corresponds to the depths sampled. Relative population numbers were not calculated for shallower depths because depths less than 200 m were sampled at only some stations (see Survey Area and Operations).

Relative population number weighted length frequencies (RPN LF) were computed for depths 201-1,000 m to examine the size compositions of the species. Catch per unit effort weighted length frequencies (CPUE LF) of sablefish were computed for depths 101-200 m for evidence of relatively strong year classes. Length compositions for depths 101-200 m from previous Japan-U.S. cooperative longline surveys were used to document the relatively strong 1977 and 1980 year classes of sablefish (Sigler and Fujioka 1988). A CPUE LF was calculated instead of an RPN LF because RPNs were not estimated for these depths for the reason noted in the previous paragraph. Relative population weights (RPW, an index of relative abundance in weight) were computed from the RPN LF and length-weight equations to assess relative biomass. Computation of the RPN, RPW, and length compositions is described in more detail in Sigler and Zenger (1989)³.

³All stations established by the cooperative longline survey (stations 1-47) previously were classified as upper continental slope stations, although this classification was incorrect for two stations. These two stations, 26 in Amatuli Gully and 42 off Baranof Island, have been reclassified now that the domestic longline survey extensively samples gully areas. As a result, the RPNs and RPWs for 1980 presented in Zenger and Sigler (unpubl. manusc.) differ slightly from those presented in this report:

The RPNs apply only to the area surveyed and represent only the portion of each species' population that is resident in the survey area. For sablefish, rougheye and shortraker rockfishes, and shortspine thornyheads, the survey area covers most of the area inhabited by the adults of these species (M. Sigler, unpubl. data) and therefore generally represents the adult fraction of these species' populations. In contrast, the area inhabited by Pacific cod, Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*), rockfish species other than rougheye and shortraker rockfishes, grenadiers, and arrowtooth flounder is broader than the survey area. Thus, the RPNs do not reflect the abundance of these species as a whole.

As noted earlier, fewer gullies were sampled in 1988 than in 1989 (Table 1). Therefore, to compare gulf-wide abundance interannually, overall RPNs are restricted to gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989 and the upper continental slope. The area sampled in 1988 was 88% of the size sampled in 1989. Unlike overall 1989 RPN, overall 1989 length compositions are not restricted to areas also sampled in 1988, because their shape was similar to overall length compositions that included all areas sampled in 1989.

Relative population numbers for the upper continental slope in 1988 and 1989 were compared to determine whether differences between years were statistically significant. The null hypothesis tested was that $RPN_{i,j} - RPN_{i',j} = 0$, where $i = 1988$, $i' = 1989$, $j = \text{species}$. As in Sigler and Fujioka (1988), the bootstrap method (Efron 1982; Efron and Tibshirani 1986) was used to compare RPNs. Only the RPNs for the upper continental slope for each species were compared because of the limited number of gullies sampled in 1988.

ANALYSIS OF THE CATCH

Sablefish

Sablefish abundance for the upper continental slope decreased 18% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 4); this drop in RPN was statistically significant ($p < 0.001$). Abundance decreased only for the western and central Gulf of Alaska, dropping 46, 27, and 13% for the Shumagin, Chirikof, and Kodiak International North Pacific Fisheries Commission's (INPFC) statistical areas, respectively, and remained about the same for the Yakutat and Southeastern INPFC areas. The RPN for the four gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989 (Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully) increased slightly from 1988 to 1989. The overall RPN combining these gullies and the upper continental slope

decreased slightly (10%) from 668,186 in 1988 to 601,517 in 1989.

Mean length increased from 1988 to 1989 in several areas (Fig. 2): females and males in the Kodiak (Fig. 2c) and Yakutat INPFC areas (Fig. 2d), Shumagin Gully (Fig. 2g), Shelikof Trough (Fig. 2h), Amatuli Gully (Fig. 2i), and Spencer Gully (Fig. 2j). This increase in mean length was due to an increase in the proportion of relatively large fish. In the remaining INPFC areas--females and males in Shumagin (Fig. 2a), Chirikof (Fig. 2b), and Southeastern (Fig. 2e)--length compositions were similar in shape and location in 1988 and 1989. Overall, from 1988 to 1989, the number of relatively small fish decreased for females and was similar for males, and the number of relatively large fish increased for both females and males (Fig. 2k).

From 1988 to 1989, RPW decreased (12%) for the upper continental slope and increased (8%) for the four gullies sampled both years (Table 5). The percentage changes differ from those for the corresponding RPNs because of an increased proportion of larger sablefish from 1988 to 1989 (i.e., although there were fewer sablefish in 1989 than in 1988, they were larger; therefore, the RPW did not decrease as much as the RPN).

There was no evidence from the length compositions for 101-200 m of any upcoming strong year classes in 1985 or later. Length-at-age distributions for sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska sampled previously in the cooperative longline survey showed age-4 males were mostly 46-54 cm fork length (FL) (mean 51.7 cm) and age-4 females 46-58 cm FL (mean 54.6 cm) (Clausen and Sigler in press). There were no distinct modes at or below these length ranges in 1988 or 1989 (Fig. 3) except for a mode about 54 cm FL in 1988 for both males and females in the Yakutat INPFC area (Fig. 3d).

The length compositions for 101-200 m changed somewhat from 1988 to 1989, probably due to a year class originating before 1985. From 1988 to 1989, the proportion of fish 55-65 cm FL often decreased (Shumagin (Fig. 3a) and Yakutat INPFC areas (Fig. 3d)), whereas the proportion of fish 60-70 cm FL often increased (Chirikof (Fig. 3b) and Yakutat INPFC areas (Fig. 3d), Shumagin Gully (Fig. 3f) and Shelikof Trough (Fig. 3g)). In the Shumagin and Chirikof INPFC areas and in Shelikof Trough and Shumagin Gully, the FL mode progressed from 57-59 cm in 1988 to 60-62 cm in 1989 for males, and from 59-61 cm to 63 cm for females. Based on the length-at-age data from the cooperative longline survey (Fig. 4), the modes represent 4- or 5-year-old fish in 1988 (1984 or 1983 year class) and 5-year-old fish in 1989 (1984 year class).

Rougheye and Shortraker Rockfish

The combined RPN for rougheye and shortraker rockfish on the upper continental slope increased 35% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 6); however, this increase in the RPN was not statistically significant ($p = 0.064$). The PPN increased in all areas of the upper continental slope. The RPN for the Southeastern INPFC area increased the most (92%).

The number of rougheye and shortraker rockfish in gullies is relatively unimportant compared to the number on the upper continental slope and accounted for only 9% of the total rougheye and shortraker rockfish PPN in 1989. A notable change in population size was observed for Shelikof Trough, where abundance increased 105%. This change is suspect, however, because the RPNs are based on catches of only 38 rockfish in 1988 and 85 rockfish in 1989. (The RPN appears relatively large because of the large area of Shelikof Trough.)

The combined RPW for rougheye and shortraker rockfish for the upper continental slope also increased markedly from 1988 to 1989 (Table 7). The increase is due to increased rougheye rockfish RPW (81%). Shortraker rockfish RPW remained about the same.

From 1988 to 1989, the length composition was similar for rougheye rockfish (Fig. 5) and dissimilar for shortraker rockfish (Fig. 6a). The change for shortraker rockfish was due to differences in the length compositions at lengths less than 55 cm FL. (At larger sizes, the length compositions were similar.) A distinct mode (composed of two smaller modes) at 35-50 cm FL was observed in 1988, but not in 1989. This mode and subsequent change is attributable to the length compositions observed in the Shumagin INPFC area (Fig. 6b).

Thornyheads

Thornyhead abundance on the upper continental slope increased 77% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 8); this increase in the RPN was significant ($p < 0.001$). The gully RPN accounted for 21% of the total RPN in 1989. Thus, the gully fraction is an important part of the thornyhead population. In 1989, relatively large numbers of thornyheads were found in Amatuli Gully, Yakutat Valley, Ommaney Trench, and Dixon Entrance. Of these areas, only Amatuli Gully was sampled in both 1988 and 1989. The RPN increased 95% in Amatuli Gully.

Like the RPN, the thornyhead RPW for the upper continental slope increased markedly (69%) (Table 9). The RPW increased in all areas of the upper continental slope and

also in Amatuli Gully. The size composition was similar in 1988 and 1989 (Fig. 7). The mean length decreased slightly.

Other Species

As mentioned in the Analytical Methods section, only an unknown fraction of the following species' populations was sampled. Thus, these results do not represent the populations as a whole.

Grenadier abundance on the upper continental slope increased 87% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 10); this increase in the RPN was significant ($p < 0.001$). Greatest increases were in the Shumagin, Chirikof, and Kodiak areas, accounting for 96% of the change. In contrast to the large numbers of grenadier on the upper continental slope, the number in the gullies was trivial, less than 1% of the total grenadier RPN.

The proportion of giant grenadiers (*Albatrossia pectoralis*) shorter than 31 cm SV increased from 1988 to 1989 (Fig. 8), and, as a result, the mean length decreased 1 cm. This change was apparent in the Shumagin and Chirikof areas, but not in the remaining INPFC areas of the upper continental slope. Unlike giant grenadiers, the length composition for popeye grenadier (*Coryphaenoides cinereus*) was similar from 1988 to 1989 (Fig. 9). (Popeye grenadier were caught primarily in the Kodiak, Yakutat, and Southeastern INPFC areas.)

Pacific cod abundance on the upper continental slope decreased 28% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 11); this change in the RPN was not statistically significant ($p = 0.182$). Abundance decreased in all INPFC areas of the upper continental slope except the Kodiak area, where abundance remained about the same.

The gully fraction was an important part of the sampled Pacific cod population, 82% of the total RPN for 1989. The most important area was Shelikof Trough, which comprised 76% of the total RPN in 1989. The RPN for sampled gullies decreased 13% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 11).

The length composition was similar in 1988 and 1989, except the proportion of females at 65-77 cm FL increased (Fig. 10). The mean length increased 1 cm as a result of this change. The additional females at 65-77 cm FL were apparent only in Shelikof Trough (Fig., 10b).

Pacific halibut abundance on the upper continental slope increased 15% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 12); this change in the RPN was not significant ($p = 0.366$). The RPN increased in the Shumagin and Chirikof INPFC areas, remained about the

same in the Kodiak INPFC area, and decreased in the Yakutat and Southeastern INPFC areas. The gully fraction was an important part of the sampled Pacific halibut population, 73% of the total Pacific halibut RPN in 1989. The RPN for gullies sampled both years was similar.

Arrowtooth flounder abundance for the upper continental slope increased 13% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 13); this increase in the RPN was not significant ($p = 0.400$). The RPN increased in the Shumagin and Kodiak INPFC areas, remained about the same in the Chirikof and Southeastern INPFC areas, and decreased in the Yakutat INPFC area. The gully fraction was an important part of the sampled arrowtooth flounder population, 69% of the total arrowtooth flounder RPN in 1989.

The arrowtooth flounder size composition for 1988 was bimodal with modes at 55 and 70 cm FL (Fig. 11a). In 1989, the number of arrow-tooth flounder 55-70 cm FL increased and a single mode at 58 cm FL was observed. Mean length increased from 59.6 to 62.3 cm FL from 1988 to 1989. The change in the size composition was due to increased numbers of 55-70 cm FL fish in the Shumagin, Chirikof (Fig. 11b), Kodiak, and Yakutat INPFC areas, Amatuli Gully, and a shift in the mode from 55 to 59 cm FL in Shelikof Trough (Fig. 11c).

Skate abundance on the upper continental slope increased 14% from 1988 to 1989 (Table 14); this increase in RPN was not significant ($p = 0.715$). The gully fraction of the skate population was important, 86% of the total skate RPN in 1989. Two gullies (Shelikof Trough and Amatuli Gully) accounted for 68% of the total skate RPN in 1989. The RPN increased 77% in Shelikof Trough and decreased 21% in Amatuli Gully.

Forty-seven additional species (or species groups) were caught during the survey (Table 15). They were a minor component of the catch: less than 2% of the total RPN in 1989.

Year-Class Strength of Sablefish

There was no evidence from 1988 or 1989 length compositions for the 101-200 m depth stratum of a strong year class of sablefish originating in 1985 or later (Fig. 3a-i). These length compositions indicate a distinct, though not necessarily strong, year class originating in 1983 or 1984. Previous evidence for a strong 1984 year class is conflicting (Clausen and Sigler in press). Supporting information includes an observed abundance of age-1 sablefish in the inside waters of Southeast Alaska in 1985 (Fujioka 1987), and length compositions from the 1986 trawl survey of the eastern Bering Sea (McDevitt 1987), the cooperative longline survey in 1986-87 (Sigler 1987, 1989), and the domestic longline

survey in 1987 (Sigler and Zenger 1989). More recent evidence does not support the presence of a strong 1984 year class and includes length compositions from the 1987 trawl survey in the eastern Bering Sea (McDevitt 1988) and the cooperative longline survey in 1988 (Clausen and Sigler in press) and sampling in inside waters of Southeast Alaska in 1988 (Bracken 1988).

Further evidence contrary to the presence of a strong 1984 year class is the decrease from 1988 to 1989 in the numbers of relatively small females and the absence of change in the numbers of relatively small males in the length compositions for 201-1,000 m (Fig. 2k). These observations indicate the lack of substantial recruitment to the upper continental slope in 1989. Previous strong year classes in 1977 and 1980 fueled sharp jumps in sablefish abundance in 1980-82 and 1984-85, respectively (Sigler and Fujioka 1988), which led to the expectation that the 1984 year class would primarily recruit to the upper continental slope in 1989 (Sigler 1989). The lack of substantial recruitment in 1989 indicates that the 1984 year class is not strong. Further, the absence of substantial recruitment to replace fish lost to fishing and natural mortality probably accounts for the decline in sablefish abundance from 1988 to 1989.

Possible Reasons for Changes in Sablefish RPN

The number of relatively large fish increased from 1988 to 1989 (Fig. 2k), perhaps due to growth in length or migration of sablefish into the Gulf of Alaska. A recent migration study concludes that a nontrivial number of sablefish migrate in and out of the Gulf of Alaska each year (Heifetz and Fujioka 1991). A similar unexplained increase in the number of relatively large sablefish was observed in 1985 (Fujioka 1987).

The Shumagin INPFC area RPN decreased sharply from 1988 to 1989. There is some concern that the commercial fishery, which was in progress at the time of the survey, may have depressed survey catch rates. A "season effect" is unlikely to account for the entire drop because the fishery and survey also co-occurred in the Shumagin INPFC area in 1988 (Table 16) and because the RPN also dropped sharply in the adjacent Chirikof INPFC area, where most commercial fishing finished more than 4 weeks before the 1989 survey began.

Relationship Between Changes in Sablefish, Thornyhead, and Grenadier RPNs

Grenadier RPN nearly doubled from 1988 to 1989. Their catch rates (Fig. 12) increased primarily in areas where sablefish catch rates declined (Fig. 13), indicating that the

two changes are related. One scenario is that as sablefish numbers decreased, the number of baited hooks available to grenadiers increased. (We believe that sablefish can outcompete grenadiers for baited hooks, although this hypothesis has not been tested.) Under this scenario, the increase in the grenadier RPN reflects the increased availability of baited hooks and not a change in the number of grenadiers in the survey area. Another scenario is that grenadiers, whose range extends deeper than the surveyed depths, moved upslope into the survey area as sablefish abundance decreased. This theory is reasonable because the distance to move upslope is relatively short--less than several kilometers. Under this scenario, the number of grenadiers within the survey area increased.

Thornyhead RPN also increased from 1988 to 1989; again, the change may reflect the decrease in sablefish abundance. Thornyhead RPN increased in all areas of the Gulf of Alaska (Table 8), whereas sablefish RPN decreased only in the western and central areas of the gulf (Table 4); thornyhead catch rates generally increased where sablefish catch rates declined (e.g., stations 2-16, especially at depths greater than 401 m; stations 37-40, depths less than 400 m) (Fig. 14). Unlike grenadiers, however, the increased numbers of thornyheads are not due to immigration because the survey generally covers the adult thornyhead range in the Gulf of Alaska. Instead, increased availability of baited hooks due to decreased sablefish numbers may be the cause of the increased thornyhead RPN.⁴

Rockfish RPN also increased from 1988 to 1989. The increased rockfish RPN is due primarily to increased catch rates at stations 34-38 (Yakutat INPFC area) at depths 201-400 m and stations 39-47 (Southeastern INPFC area) at depths 201-800 m (Fig. 15). These increased rockfish catches are not related to decreased sablefish catches. Further, the survey area generally covers the extent of roughey and shortraker rockfish habitat in the Gulf of Alaska; thus, the changes in RPN are probably not because of immigration.

The increases in the grenadier and thornyhead RPN (Tables 8, 10) were statistically significant, whereas the RPN increases for rockfish (Table 7) were not. Thus the

⁴We assume that sablefish can outcompete grenadiers, thornyheads, and rockfish for baited hooks, but do not know among these latter three species which is the best competitor. In this discussion, we are assuming that they are equal competitors, thus implying that increased numbers of baited hooks will result in increased RPN for all three species.

change in the rockfish RPN may be due to inherent variability in the index rather than a real change in abundance.

Alternatively, the increased RPN for grenadiers, thornyheads, and rockfish may be due to recruitment of young fish. The lack of change in the length compositions for thornyhead and rockfish (except for shortrakers in the Shumagin INPFC area) (Figs. 5-7) indicates that recruitment was not responsible for the RPN changes for these two species. For giant grenadiers, the proportion of fish shorter than 31 cm SV increased (Fig. 8), indicating that recruitment might be responsible for the increased RPN. The likelihood of this scenario cannot be differentiated from the other two scenarios previously discussed for grenadiers, however.

The apparent connection between changes in the grenadier, thornyhead, and sablefish RPN indicates the danger of simply, interpreting longline catch rate changes as reflecting real changes in abundance. The previous discussion indicates that the changes in grenadier and thornyhead RPN do not reflect changes in their abundance. Experiments with hook timers, electromechanical devices which measure the arrival time of fish to the hook, imply that sablefish longline catch rate is a linear function of sablefish density (Sigler 1993). Similar experiments could be completed to examine the functional form of this relationship for grenadiers and thornyheads.

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TABLES

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Table 1.--Number of stations sampled in Gulf of Alaska gullies by year. Domestic longline surveys, 1987-89.

Gully name	1987	1988	1989
Shumagin Gully		3	2
Shelikof Trough	2	4	8
Amatuli Gully	1	2	3
W-grounds			2
Yakutat Valley			2
Alsek Strath			2
Spencer Gully		1	2
Ommaney Trench	2		2
Iphigenia Gully			2
Dixon Entrance			2

Table 2.--Depth stratification. Domestic longline surveys, 1987-89.

Strata	Depth range (m)
0	All depths
1	0- 100
2	101- 200
3	201- 300
4	301- 400
5	401- 600
6	601- 800
7	801-1,000
8	1,001-1,200

Table 3.--Area (km²) of the Gulf of Alaska for depths 201-1,000 m.
Area is listed by International North Pacific Fisheries
Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully
for the gully areas.

Sampled site	Depth: (m)	Area (km ²)					
		201- 300	301- 400	401- 600	601- 800	801- 1,000	201- 1,000
<u>Upper continental slope</u>							
Shumagin		2,737	1,264	2,269	1,629	1,248	9,147
Chirikof		1,533	817	1,766	1,955	2,012	8,083
Kodiak		1,626	1,480	2,255	1,923	2,296	9,580
Yakutat		1,494	1,494	1,666	1,470	1,489	7,613
Southeastern		891	891	822	1,006	1,165	4,774
Total		8,281	5,946	8,778	7,983	8,210	39,197
<u>Gullies</u>							
Shumagin Gully		665	0	0	0	0	665
Shelikof Trough		13,076	0	0	0	0	13,076
Amatuli Gully		6,346	0	0	0	0	6,346
W-Grounds		1,008	302	0	0	0	1,310
Yakutat Valley		1,268	768	0	0	0	2,036
Alsek Strath		565	0	0	0	0	565
Spencer Gully		189	189	301	50	0	729
Ommaney Trench		521	610	122	0	0	1,253
Iphigenia Gully		1,918	0	0	0	0	1,918
Dixon Entrance		1,130	793	58	0	0	1,980
Total		26,685	2,662	481	50	0	29,878

Sources: E. Brown, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, RACE Division, Seattle, WA, pers. commun., 1985; R. Haight, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Auke Bay Laboratory, pers. commun., 1986.

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 4.--Relative population number (RPN) for sablefish by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	20,783	20,883	11,893	7,035	2,840	63,435
	1989	18,537	21,276	9,837	10,055	3,231	62,936
301- 400	1988	10,922	10,649	11,162	9,098	7,133	48,964
	1989	5,681	8,057	9,429	9,660	6,554	39,380
401- 600	1988	29,692	25,830	30,596	24,855	13,052	124,026
	1989	12,836	17,062	31,911	22,304	12,394	96,507
601- 800	1988	15,719	26,086	26,860	23,747	18,242	110,653
	1989	4,268	12,484	30,885	21,928	18,543	88,108
801-1000	1988	7,045	5,185	28,279	13,482	19,210	73,202
	1989	4,020	6,231	13,090	14,999	20,698	59,038
201-1000	1988	84,161	88,632	108,790	78,218	60,478	420,278
	1989	45,342	65,109	95,153	78,946	61,420	345,969
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	9,419	141,730	90,575			
	1989	12,210	142,693	92,806	16,020	12,994	2,712
301- 400	1988						
	1989				3,716	5,267	
201-1000	1988	9,419	141,730	90,575			
	1989	12,210	142,693	92,806	19,737	18,261	2,712

Table 4.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					241,723	305,158
	1989	2,967	1,957	11,922	6,274	247,710	310,646
301- 400	1988						48,964
	1989	5,168	10,656		15,261		39,380
401- 600	1988	6,184				6,184	130,210
	1989	7,839			1,024	7,839	104,346
601- 800	1988						110,653
	1989	1,302					88,108
801-1000	1988						73,202
	1989						59,038
201-1000	1988	6,184				247,908	668,186
	1989	17,276	12,613	11,922	22,559	255,548	601,517

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 5.-Relative population weight (RPW) for sablefish by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPW for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPW for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	-Year	RPW					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	58,765	63,560	37,392	24,852	9,760	194,329
	1989	50,611	61,872	32,760	40,945	11,388	197,576
301- 400	1988	33,477	34,848	34,401	18,240	24,968	145,935
	1989	16,703	26,718	29,961	36,307	21,161	130,850
401- 600	1988	103,138	86,365	95,341	85,983	45,222	416,049
	1989	45,558	62,927	111,752	79,739	39,979	339,954
601- 800	1988	57,697	89,923	91,176	85,137	63,396	387,329
	1989	16,110	51,335	129,040	85,686	66,182	348,353
801-1000	1988	25,585	20,942	92,747	53,111	73,397	265,781
	1989	14,408	11,454	58,428	67,593	78,431	230,314
201-1000	1988	278,662	295,637	351,057	267,323	216,743	1,409,423
	1989	143,390	214,305	361,941	310,269	217,141	1,247,047
Gullies							
		Shumagin 'Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	23,406	397,913	307,237			
	1989	30,866	415,133	338,545	55,570	42,726	7,522
301- 400	1988						
	1989				12,267	18,247	
201-1000	1988	23,406	397,913	307,237			
	1989	30,866	415,133	338,545	67,837	60,973	7,522

Table 5.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					728,555	922,884
	1989	7,605	5,275	34,195	12,833	784,544	982,120
301- 400	1988						145,935
	1989	16,320	33,705		42,032		130,850
401- 600	1988	21,220				21,220	437,269
	1989	25,595			3,059	25,595	365,549
601- 800	1988						387,329
	1989	4,252					348,353
801-1000	1988						265,781
	1989						230,314
201-1000	1988	21,220				749,775	2,159,198
	1989	53,772	38,979	34,195	57,924	810,139	2,057,186

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 6.--Relative population number (RPN) for rougheye and shortraker rockfish by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	2,551	194	889	1,612	468	5,714
	1989	3,444	1,062	1,483	1,926	1,439	9,354
301- 400	1988	3,470	1,957	3,732	5,465	3,811	18,435
	1989	3,973	1,639	4,112	6,819	6,694	23,237
401-600	1988	706	76	234	1,470	1,310	3,796
	1989	1,204	39	293	1,708	2,501	5,745
601- 800	1988	10	0	0	125	109	243
	1989	6	43	0	125	430	605
801-1000	1988	498	0	0	79	174	751
	1989	0	0	0	6	229	235
201-1000	1988	7,234	2,227	4,855	8,751	5,872	28,939
	1989	8,627	2,783	5,889	10,585	11,294	39,178
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	11	839	380			
	1989	28	1,719	478	0	66	191
301- 400	1988						
	1989				0	271	
201-1000	1988	11	839	380			
	1989	28	1,719	478	0	337	191

Table 6.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					1,230	6,944
	1989	0	39	49	0	2,225	11,580
301- 400	1988						18,435
	1989	7	794		34		23,237
401- 600	1988	21				21	3,816
	1989	13			12	13	5,758
601- 800	1988						243
	1989	2					605
801-1000	1988						751
	1989						235
201-1000	1988	21				1,251	30,189
	1989	22	833	49	45	2,238	41,416

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 7.--Relative population weight (RPW) for rougheye and shortraker rockfish by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPW for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPW for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

	RPW			
	Rougheye		Shortraker	
	1988	1989	1988	1989
<u>Upper continental slope</u>				
Shumagin	3,348	6,610	4,924	4,272
Chirikof	1,186	2,414	2,574	1,441
Kodiak	2,786	3,752	5,010	5,795
Yakutat	3,816	5,121	13,233	13,246
Southeastern	5,976	13,068	2,458	3,362
Total	17,112	30,965	28,199	28,116
<u>Gullies</u>				
Shumagin Gully	8	8	0	7
Shelikof Trough	68	1,469	426	399
Amatuli Gully	237	160	0	179
W-grounds		0		0
Yakutat Valley		271		65
Alsek Strath		129		49
Spencer Gully	0	0	0	49
Ommaney Trench		838		897
Iphigenia Gully		43		35
Dixon Entrance		96		0
Total	313	3,014	426	1,680
GOA total	17,425	33,979	28,625	29,796

Table 8.--Relative population number (RPN) for thornyheads by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	2,390	504	438	656	388	4,376
	1989	2,656	524	625	1,443	642	5,891
301- 400	1988	1,428	504	823	1,034	238	4,027
	1989	1,298	478	617	1,600	516	4,509
401- 600	1988	1,645	1,137	1,156	555	438	4,931
	1989	2,724	1,523	1,907	1,342	674	8,170
601- 800	1988	1,558	1,416	990	401	253	4,617
	1989	1,877	2,444	2,154	1,180	672	8,327
801-1000	1988	1,412	0	431	393	254	2,491
	1989	2,985	2,150	1,949	1,600	688	9,372
201-1000	1988	8,433	3,560	3,838	3,039	1,571	20,442
	1989	11,540	7,119	7,252	7,165	3,192	36,268
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	0	0	1,471			
	1989	0	0	2,874	526	1,077	54
301- 400	1988						
	1989				47	394	
201-1000	1988	0	0	1,471			
	1989	0	0	2,874	573	1,471	54

Table 8.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					1,471	5,847
	1989	0	852	449	1,895	2,874	8,765
301- 400	1988						4,027
	1989	4	932		445		4,509
401- 600	1988	100				100	5,030
	1989	160			75	160	8,329
601- 800	1988						4,617
	1989	27					8,327
801-1000	1988						2,491
	1989						9,372
201-1000	1988	100				1,571	22,012
	1989	190	1,784	449	2,415	3,034	39,301

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 9.--Relative population weight (RPW) for thornyheads by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPW for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPW for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

	<u>Thornyhead RPW</u>	
	1988	1989
<u>Upper continental slope</u>		
Shumagin	4,655	5,953
Chirikof	1,965	4,311
Kodiak	1,876	3,454
Yakutat	1,628	3,352
Southeastern	1,014	1,753
Total	11,138	18,823
<u>Gullies</u>		
Shumagin Gully	0	0
Shelikof Trough	0	0
Amatuli Gully	500	1,202
W-grounds		299
Yakutat Valley		625
Alsek Strath		50
Spencer Gully	0	90
Ommaney Trench		757
Iphigenia Gully		131
Dixon Entrance		1,734
Total	500	4,888
GOA total	11,638	23,711

Table 10.--Relative population number (RPN) for grenadiers by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	87	0	0	314	0	401
	1989	650	13	111	0	7	780
301- 400	1988	6,151	2,884	2,024	284	6	11,349
	1989	12,006	5,304	3,747	569	240	21,865
401- 600	1988	17,589	12,358	7,692	1,894	123	39,656
	1989	34,386	29,532	14,309	3,288	644	82,158
601- 800	1988	19,877	18,977	8,707	3,663	491	51,714
	1989	31,918	38,737	16,740	4,308	1,195	92,898
801-1000	1988	13,853	29,544	18,906	9,861	2,301	74,465
	1989	19,367	57,999	42,497	11,339	3,486	134,688
201-1000	1988	57,558	63,763	37,328	16,016	2,922	177,586
	1989	98,326	131,585	77,404	19,504	5,571	332,390
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	0	42	28			
	1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
301- 400	1988						
	1989				0	0	
201-1000	1988	0	42	28			
	1989	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					70	471
	1989	17	0	0	63	0	780
301- 400	1988						11,349
	1989	210	0		0		21,865
401- 600	1988	48				48	39,704
	1989	167			0	167	82,326
601- 800	1988						51,714
	1989	28					92,898
801-1000	1988						74,465
	1989						134,688
201-1000	1988	48				118	177,704
	1989	422	0	0	63	167	332,558

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 11.--Relative population number (RPN) for Pacific cod by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	14,027	3,024	3,881	3,179	989	25,099
	1989	9,634	2,423	3,771	1,297	576	17,700
301- 400	1988	58	0	28	169	95	349
	1989	403	0	297	21	0	721
401- 600	1988	0	0	87	83	0	169
	1989	61	0	0	0	2	63
601- 800	1988	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	12	0	0	12
801-1000	1988	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
201-1000	1988	14,085	3,024	3,995	3,431	1,084	25,618
	1989	10,098	2,423	4,079	1,318	578	18,495
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	1,090	88,659	4,069			
	1989	166	79,441	2,305	26	132	38
301- 400	1988						
	1989				0	0	
201-1000	1988	1,090	88,659	4,069			
	1989	166	79,441	2,305	26	132	38

Table 11.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					93,818	118,917
	1989	0	835	3,145	378	81,913	99,613
301- 400	1988						349
	1989	0	13		26		721
401- 600	1988	0				0	169
	1989	0			2	0	63
601- 800	1988						0
	1989	0					12
801-1000	1988						0
	1989						0
201-1000	1988	0				93,818	119,436
	1989	0	848	3,145	406	81,913	100,408

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 12.--Relative population number (RPN) for Pacific halibut by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	3,239	978	2,379	2,359	2,549	11,503
	1989	5,004	2,861	2,580	1,340	1,152	12,936
301- 400	1988	301	119	664	432	384	1,901
	1989	559	608	772	205	193	2,337
401- 600	1988	7	11	12	16	11	57
	1989	8	25	68	30	33	165
601- 800	1988	0	0	0	0	2	2
	1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
801-1000	1988	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
201-1000	1988	3,547	1,108	3,055	2,806	2,946	13,463
	1989	5,571	3,494	3,420	1,575	1,378	15,438
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	145	19,944	3,921			
	1989	375	20,057	3,997	720	660	582
301- 400	1988						
	1989				76	409	
201-1000	1988	145	19,944	3,921			
	1989	375	20,057	3,997	796	1,069	582

Table 12.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					24,010	35,513
	1989	207	1,008	5,582	7,395	24,429	37,366
301- 400	1988						1,901
	1989	5	360		740		2,337
401- 600	1988	0				0	57
	1989	0			37	0	165
601- 800	1988						2
	1989	0					0
801-1000	1988						0
	1989						0
201-1000	1988	0				24,010	37,472
	1989	212	1,368	5,582	8,172	24,429	39,867

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 13.--Relative population number (RPN) for arrowtooth flounder by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	4,975	3,718	4,872	2,254	685	16,505
	1989	6,772	3,012	4,858	1,956	583	17,182
301- 400	1988	1,806	983	1,753	1,511	448	6,501
	1989	1,884	1,336	2,428	1,026	363	7,037
401- 600	1988	376	160	160	236	86	1,018
	1989	1,207	436	920	188	161	2,911
601- 800	1988	7	66	4	6	19	101
	1989	42	73	29	8	38	191
801-1000	1988	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	5	5
201-1000	1988	7,165	4,927	6,789	4,007	1,236	24,124
	1989	9,906	4,857	8,235	3,179	1,150	27,326
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	509	19,510	7,005			
	1989	486	42,342	9,076	405	1,541	1,396
301- 400	1988						
	1989				14	322	
201-1000	1988	509	19,510	7,005			
	1989	486	42,342	9,076	419	1,863	1,396

Table 13.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					27,023	43,528
	1989	0	1,282	1,692	2,463	51,903	69,085
301- 400	1988						6,501
	1989	11	786		272		7,037
401- 600	1988	66				66	1,084
	1989	14			18	14	2,926
601- 800	1988						101
	1989	2					191
801-1000	1988						0
	1989						5
201-1000	1988	66				27,089	51,214
	1989	27	2,068	1,692	2,752	51,918	79,243

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 14.--Relative population number (RPN) for skates by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission area for the upper continental slope and by gully for gully areas. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) total is the combined RPN for areas sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Gully total is the combined RPN for gullies sampled in both 1988 and 1989. Domestic longline surveys, 1988 and 1989.

Depth (m)	Year	RPN					
Upper continental slope							
		Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeastern	Total
201- 300	1988	783	55	226	344	103	1,510
	1989	528	118	101	337	226	1,310
301- 400	1988	142	80	107	112	51	493
	1989	324	123	133	167	70	817
401- 600	1988	34	9	10	33	17	103
	1989	62	57	50	44	32	245
601- 800	1988	45	11	0	0	17	73
	1989	71	0	12	1	16	101
801-1000	1988	0	0	0	0	5	5
	1989	0	0	0	0	14	14
201-1000	1988	1,003	155	343	490	193	2,184
	1989	985	297	297	549	358	2,486
Gullies							
		Shumagin Gully	Shelikof Trough	Amatuli Gully	W-Ground	Yakutat Valley	Alsek Strath
201- 300	1988	255	5,217	3,687			
	1989	60	9,242	2,918	130	148	229
301- 400	1988						
	1989				24	103	
201-1000	1988	255	5,217	3,687			
	1989	60	9,242	2,918	153	251	229

Table 14.--Continued.

		Spencer Gully	Ommaney Trench	Iphigenia Gully	Dixon Entrance	Gully total	GOA total
201- 300	1988					9,158	10,669
	1989	103	233	721	639	12,220	13,531
301- 400	1988						493
	1989	7	294		445		817
401- 600	1988	4				4	107
	1989	0			41	0	245
601- 800	1988						73
	1989	0					101
801-1000	1988						5
	1989						14
201-1000	1988	4				9,163	11,347
	1989	110	527	721	1,125	12,220	14,706

Discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

Table 15.- Numbers of each species caught during the 1989 domestic longline survey that are not discussed in the text.

Common name	Scientific name	Number caught
Spiny dogfish	<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	727
Redbanded rockfish	<i>Sebastes babcocki</i>	509
Yelloweye rockfish	<i>Sebastes ruberrimus</i>	420
Dover sole	<i>Microstomus pacificus</i>	206
Walleye pollock	<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>	160
Lingcod	<i>Ophiodon elongatus</i>	125
Starfish	Class Asteroidea	125
Flathead sole	<i>Hippoglossoides elassodon</i>	78
Yellow Irish lord	<i>Hemilepidotus jordani</i>	48
Pacific flatnose	<i>Antimora microlepis</i>	39
Sculpin unidentified	Cottidae	32
Rosethorn rockfish	<i>Sebastes helvomaculatus</i>	27
Coho salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	25
Spotted ratfish	<i>Hydrolagus colliei</i>	24
True Tanner crab	<i>Chionoecetes tanneri</i>	18
Pacific sleeper shark	<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	18
Dusky rockfish	<i>Sebastes ciliatus</i>	12
Giant wrymouth	<i>Delolepis gigantea</i>	11
Octopus	Octopus, unidentified	9
Pacific pomfret	<i>Brama japonica</i>	8
Basketstarfish	Basketstarfish, unidentified	7
Searcher	<i>Bathymaster signatus</i>	6
Salmon shark	<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	6
Blue shark	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	5
Tanner crab	<i>Chionoecetes</i> , unidentified	5
Brittlestarfish	Ophiuroid, unidentified	5
Salmon	Salmonidae, unidentified	5
Scarlet king crab	<i>Lithodes couesi</i>	4
Silvergray rockfish	<i>Sebastes brevispinis</i>	3
Sponge, unidentified		3
Rock sole	<i>Pleuronectes bilineatus</i>	3
Greenstriped rockfish	<i>Sebastes elongatus</i>	3
Blackfin sculpin	<i>Malacocottus kincaidi</i>	3
Crab, unidentified		2
Canary rockfish	<i>Sebastes pinniger</i>	2
Prowfish	<i>Zaprora silenus</i>	2
Eelpout unidentified	Zoarcidae	2
Rex sole	<i>Errex zachirus</i>	2
Red king crab	<i>Paralithodes camtschaticus</i>	1
Rockfish unidentified	<i>Sebastes</i> , unidentified	1
Great sculpin	<i>Myoxocephalus polyacanthocephalus</i>	1
Aurora rockfish	<i>Sebastes aurora</i>	1
Crinoid, unidentified		1
Harlequin rockfish	<i>Sebastes variegatus</i>	1
Golden king crab	<i>Lithodes aequispina</i>	1
Twoline eelpout	<i>Bothrocara brunneum</i>	1
Pomfret unidentified	Bramidae	1

Table 16.--Sablefish commercial fishing season start and end dates, 1988-1989, in the Gulf of Alaska for the Central and Western North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) management areas" and survey dates.

Year	Area	Fishery	Dates	Survey dates
1988	Western	longline	4/1-7/ 8	6/26-7/8
		trawl	1/1-12/31	
	Central	longline	4/1-5/27	7/ 9-8/1
		trawl	1/1-9/15	
1989	Western	longline	4/1-7/13	6/26-7/8
		trawl	1/1-8/10	
	Central	longline	4/1-5/27	7/ 9-8/1
		trawl	1/1-6/ 6	

*Ron Berg, National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Regional Office, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802. Pers. commun., July 1990.

FIGURES

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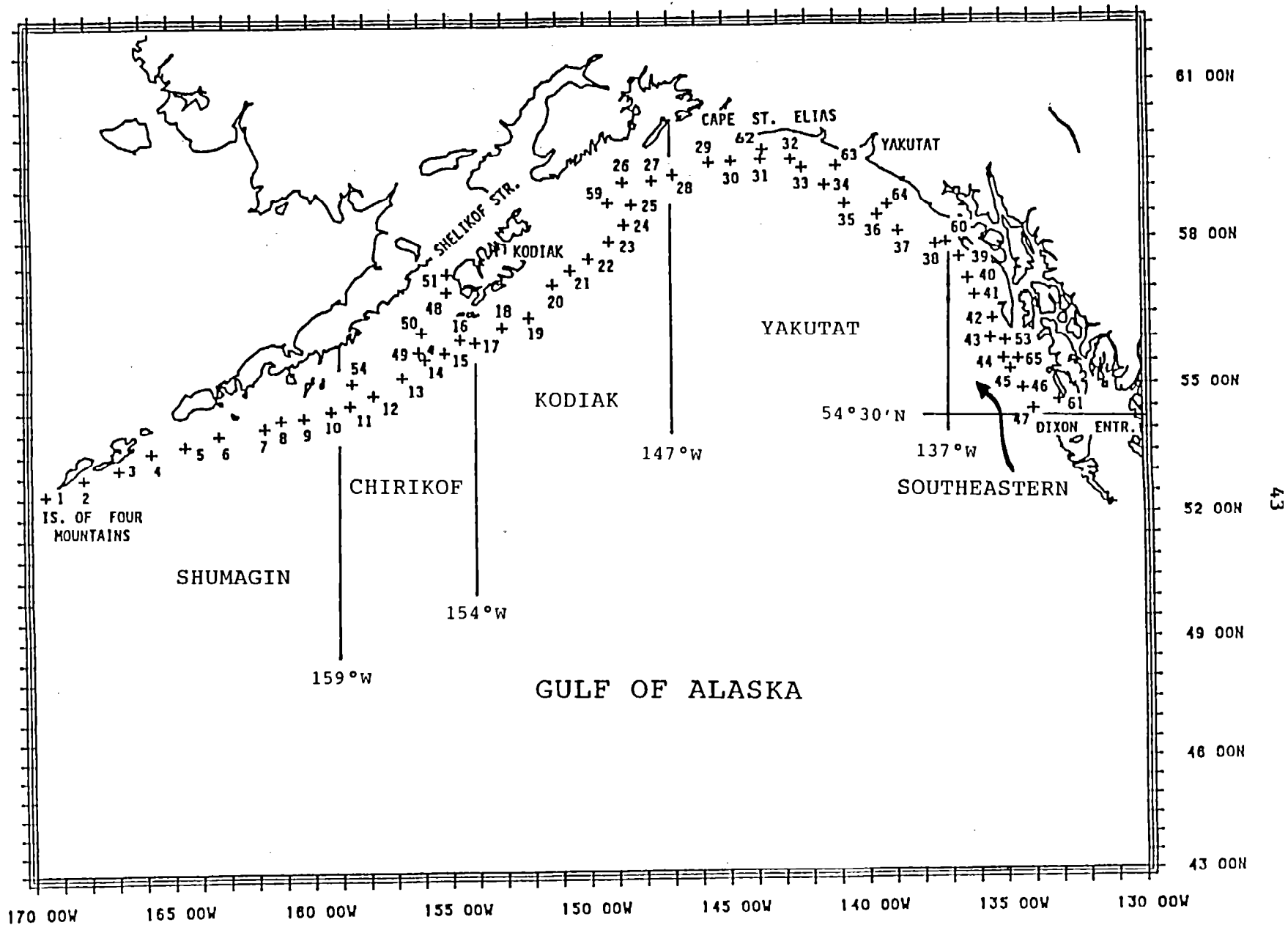


Figure 1 --Station locations for the 1989 NMFS longline survey of the Gulf of Alaska and boundaries of International North Pacific Fisheries Commission statistical areas.

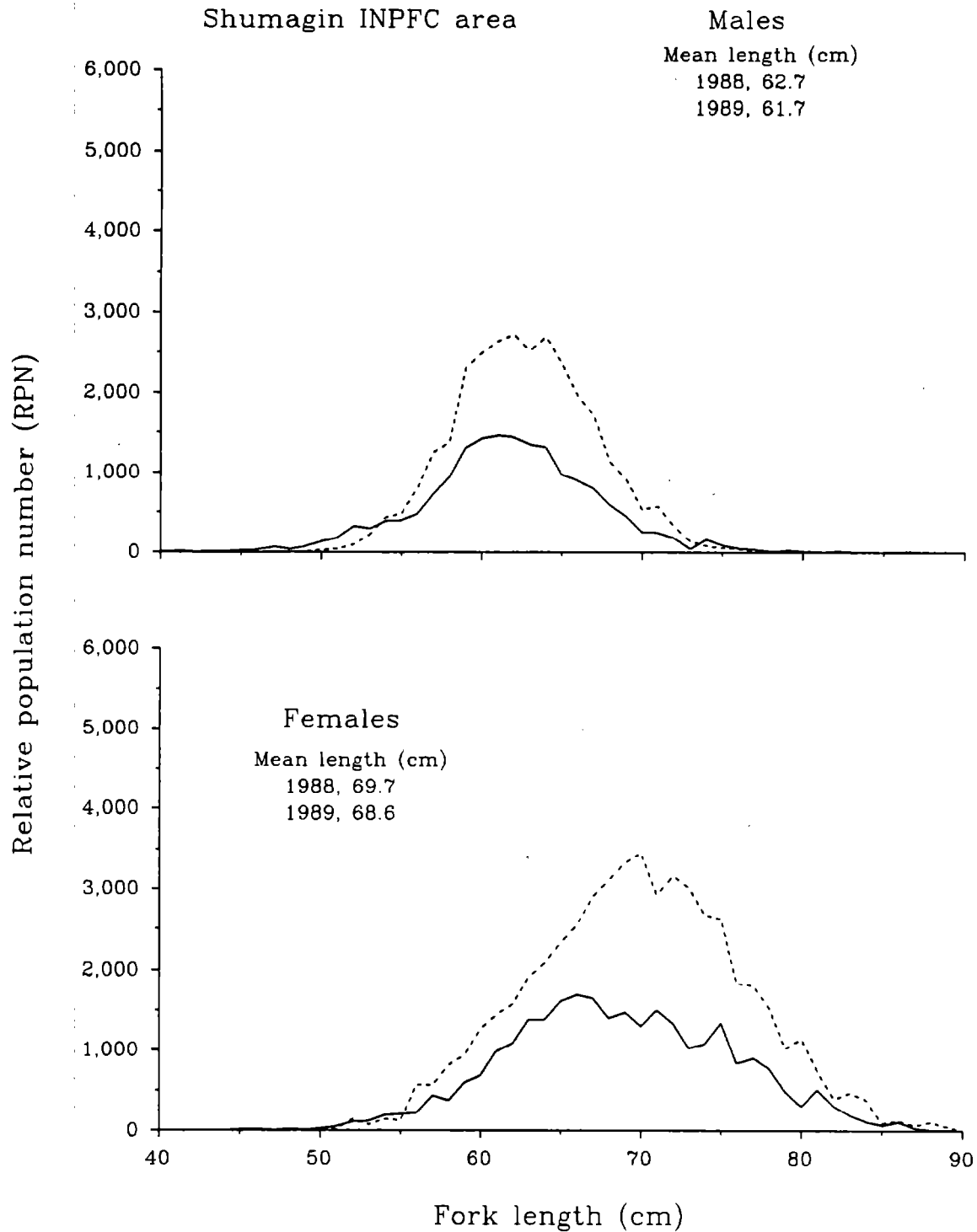


Figure 2a. --Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Shumagin statistical area, upper continental slope, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

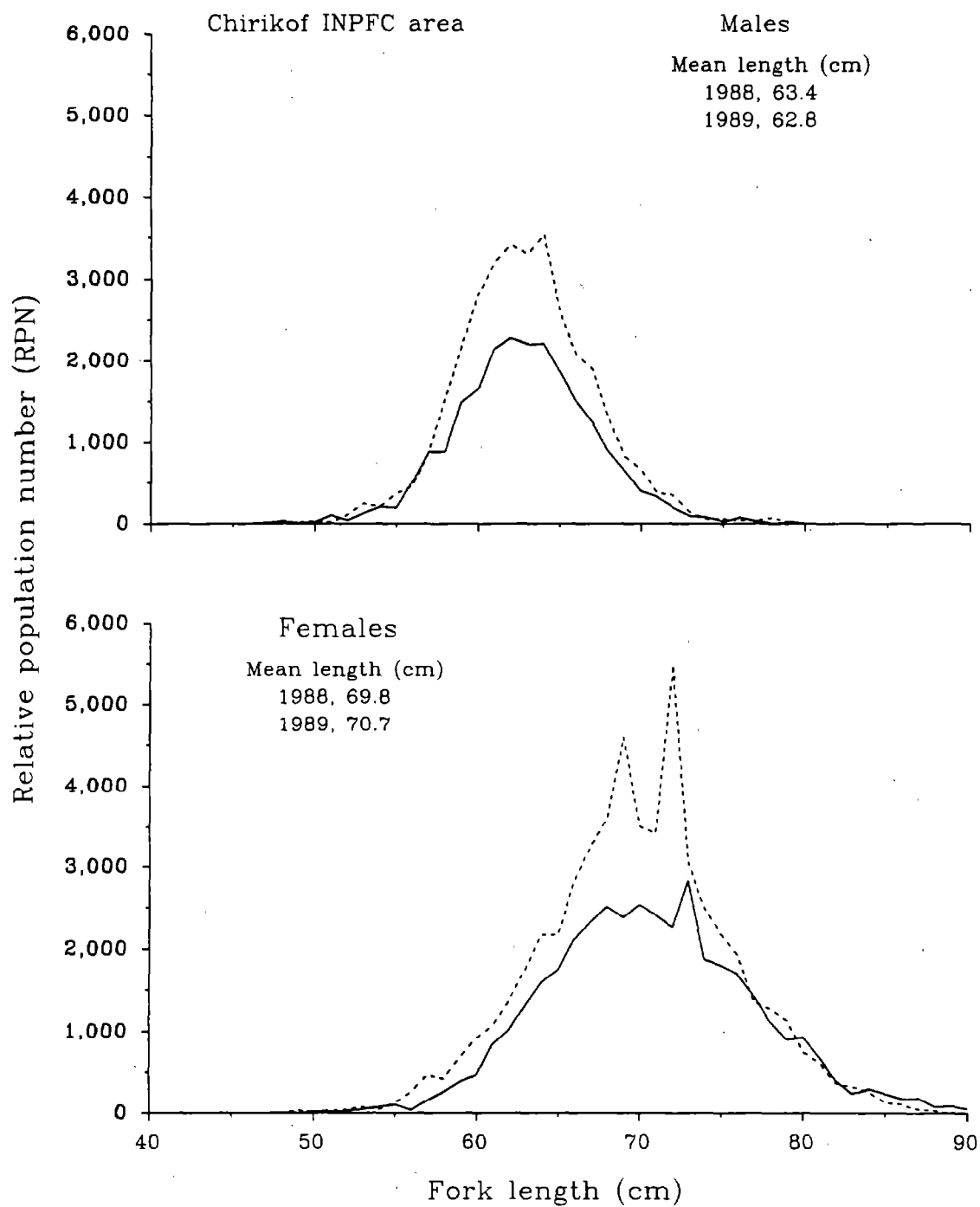


Figure 2b.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Chirikof statistical area, upper continental slope, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

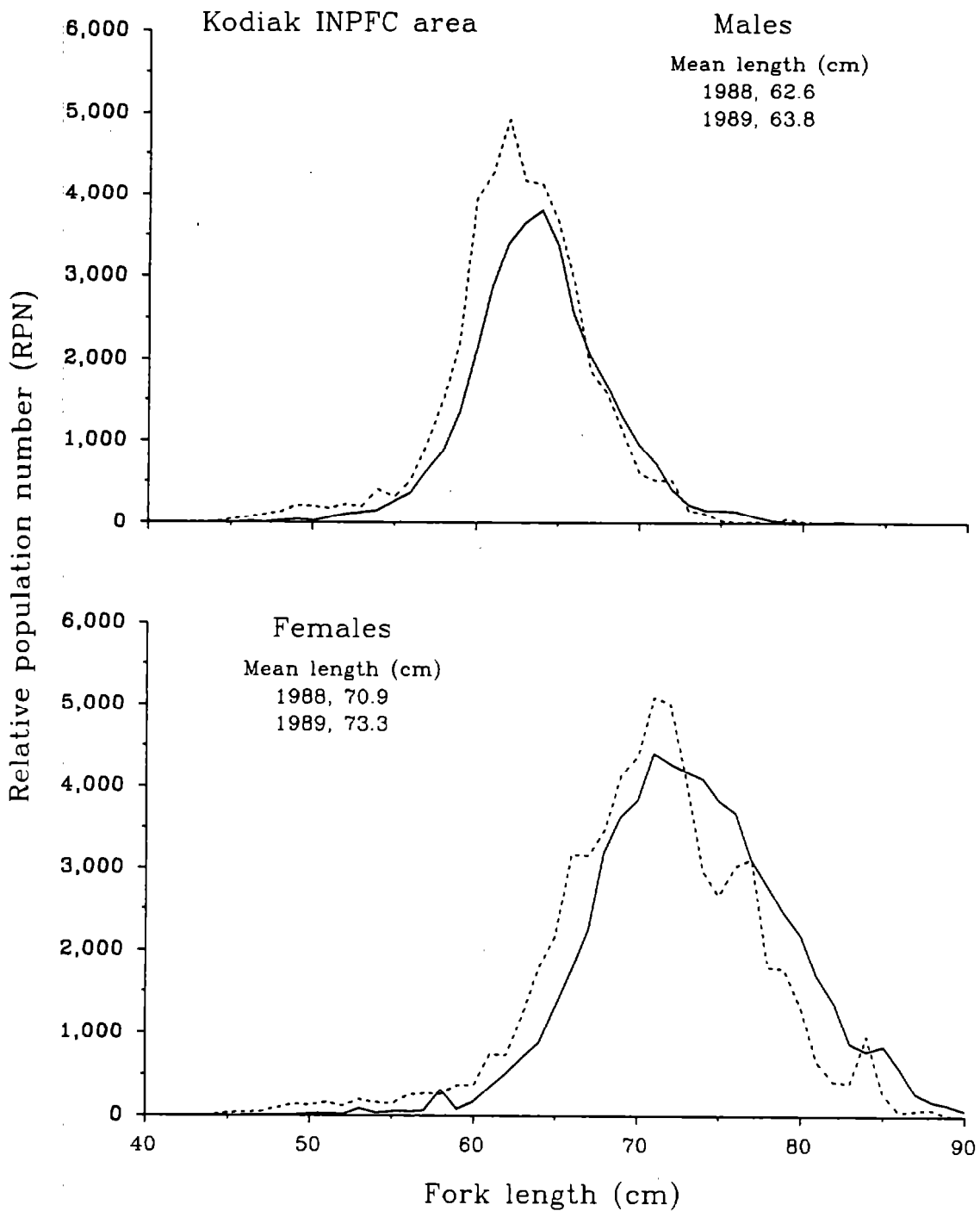


Figure 2c. --Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Kodiak statistical area, upper continental slope, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

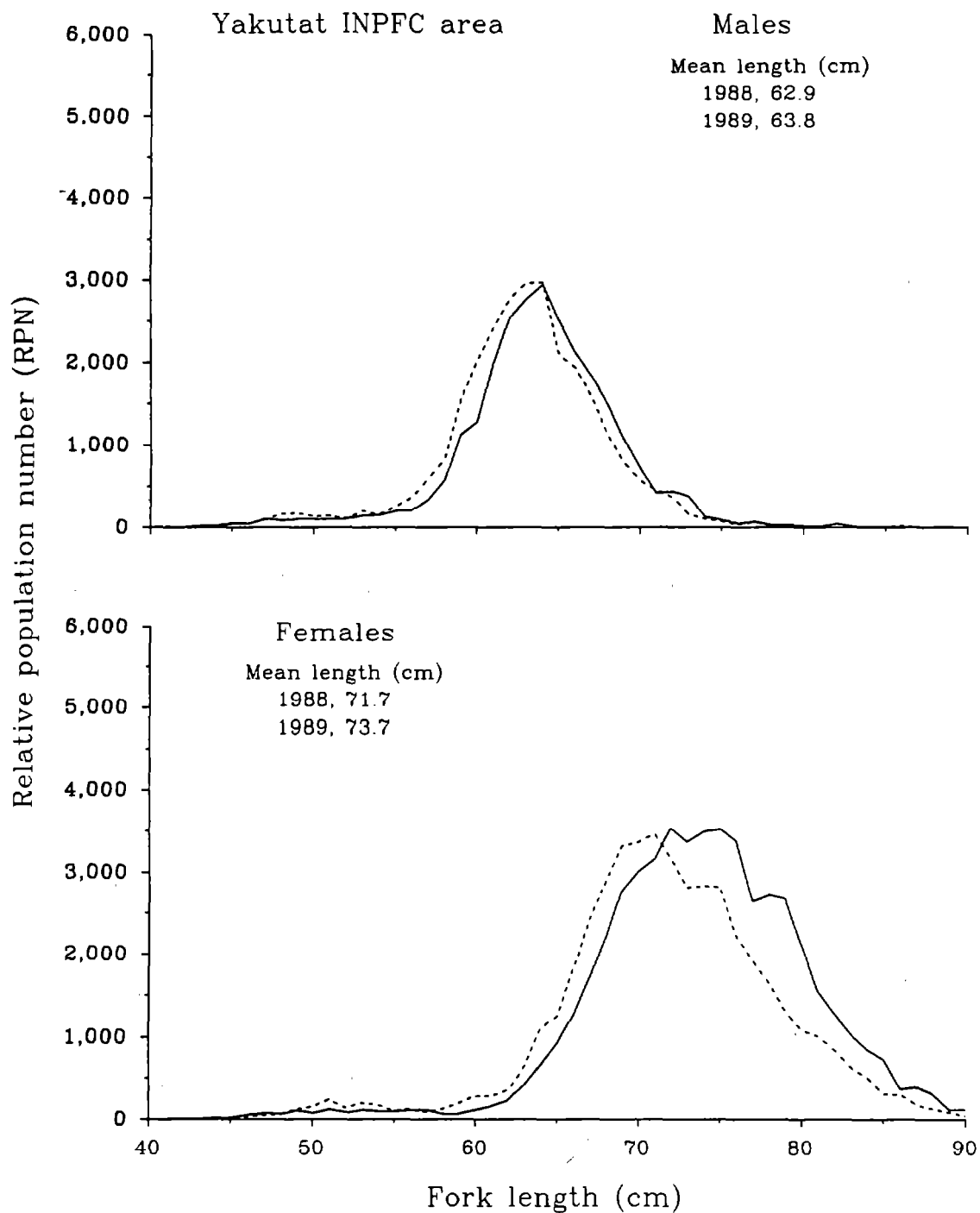


Figure 2d.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Yakutat statistical area, upper continental slope, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

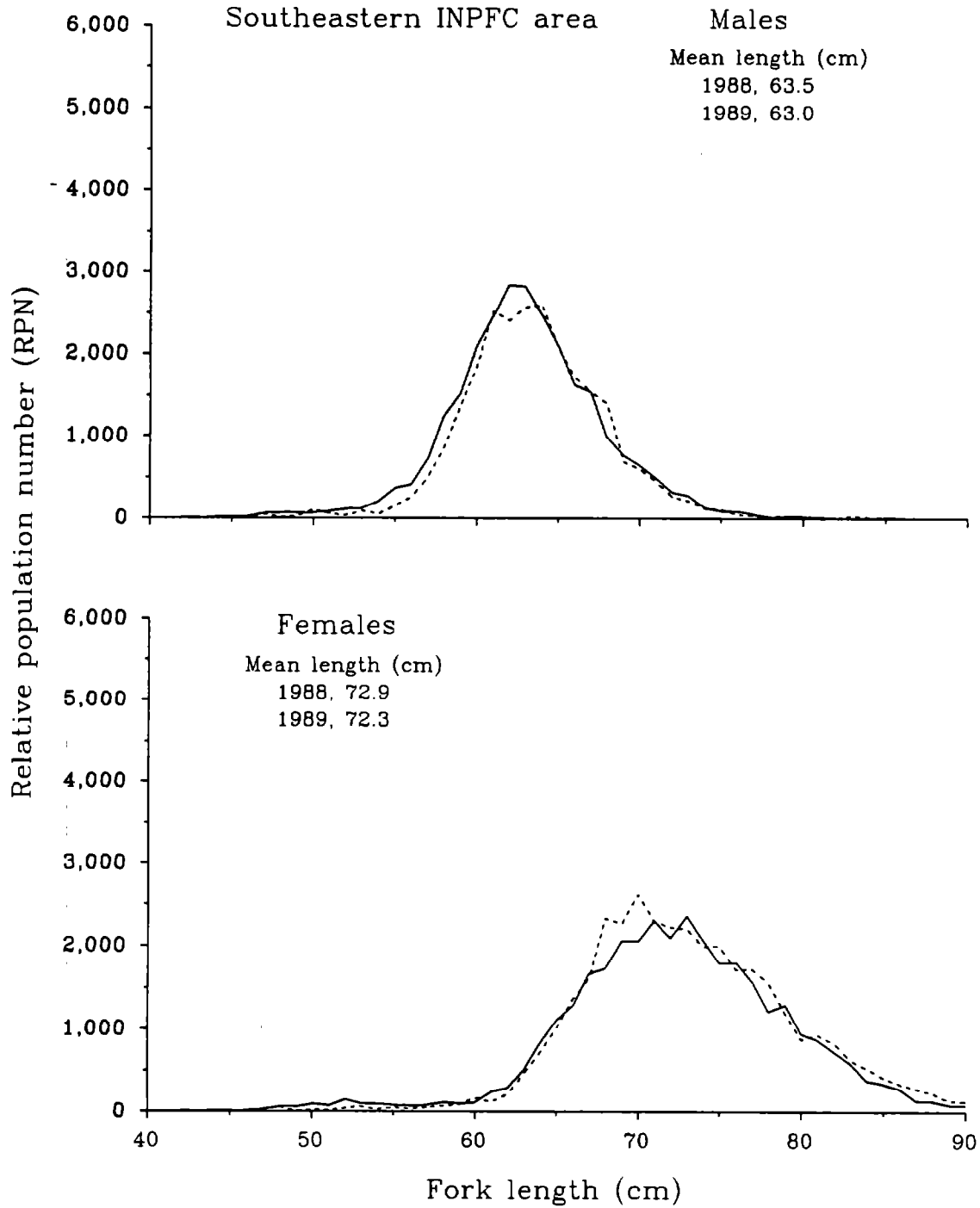


Figure 2e.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Southeastern statistical area, upper continental slope, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

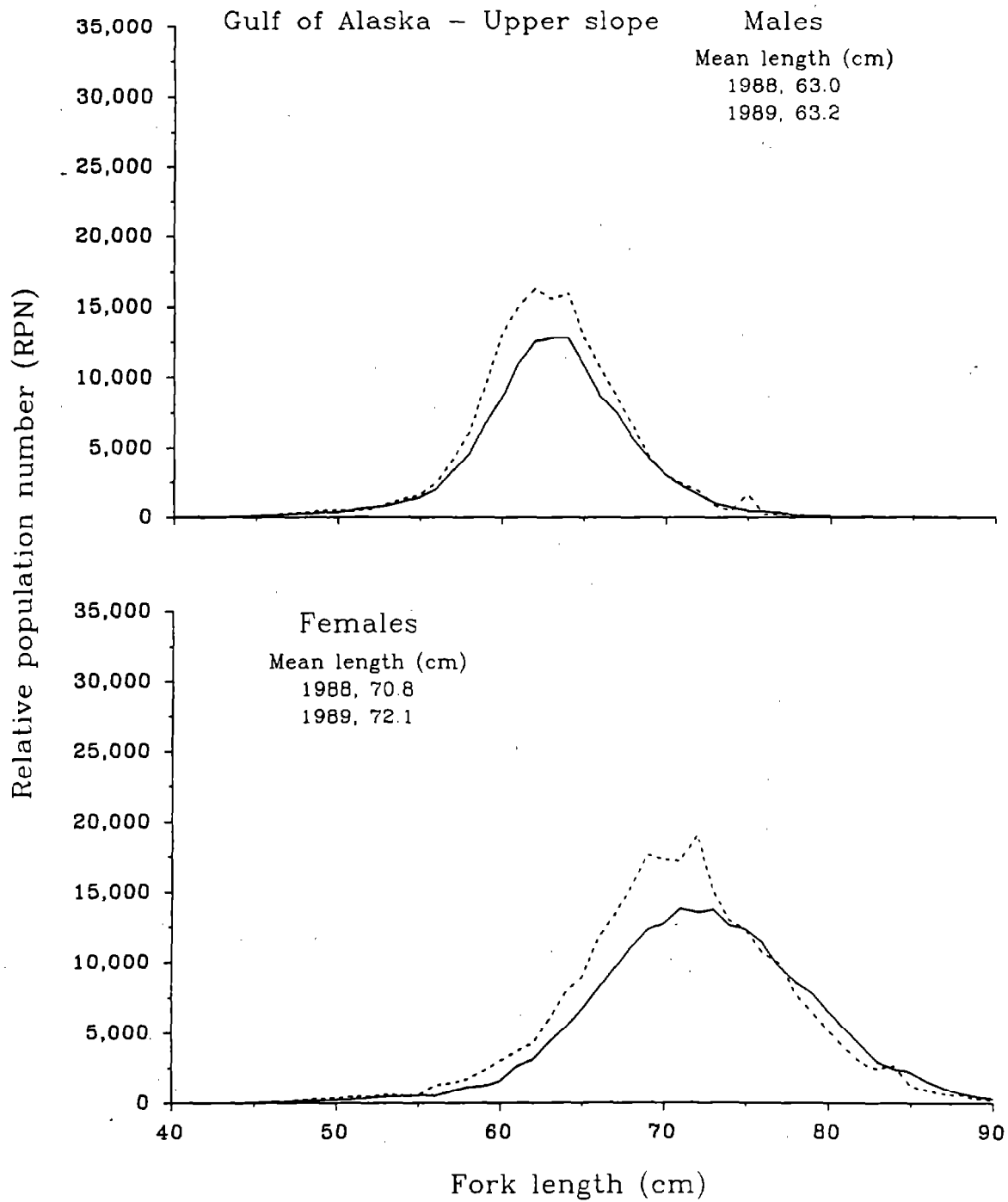


Figure 2f.-- Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the upper continental slope of the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

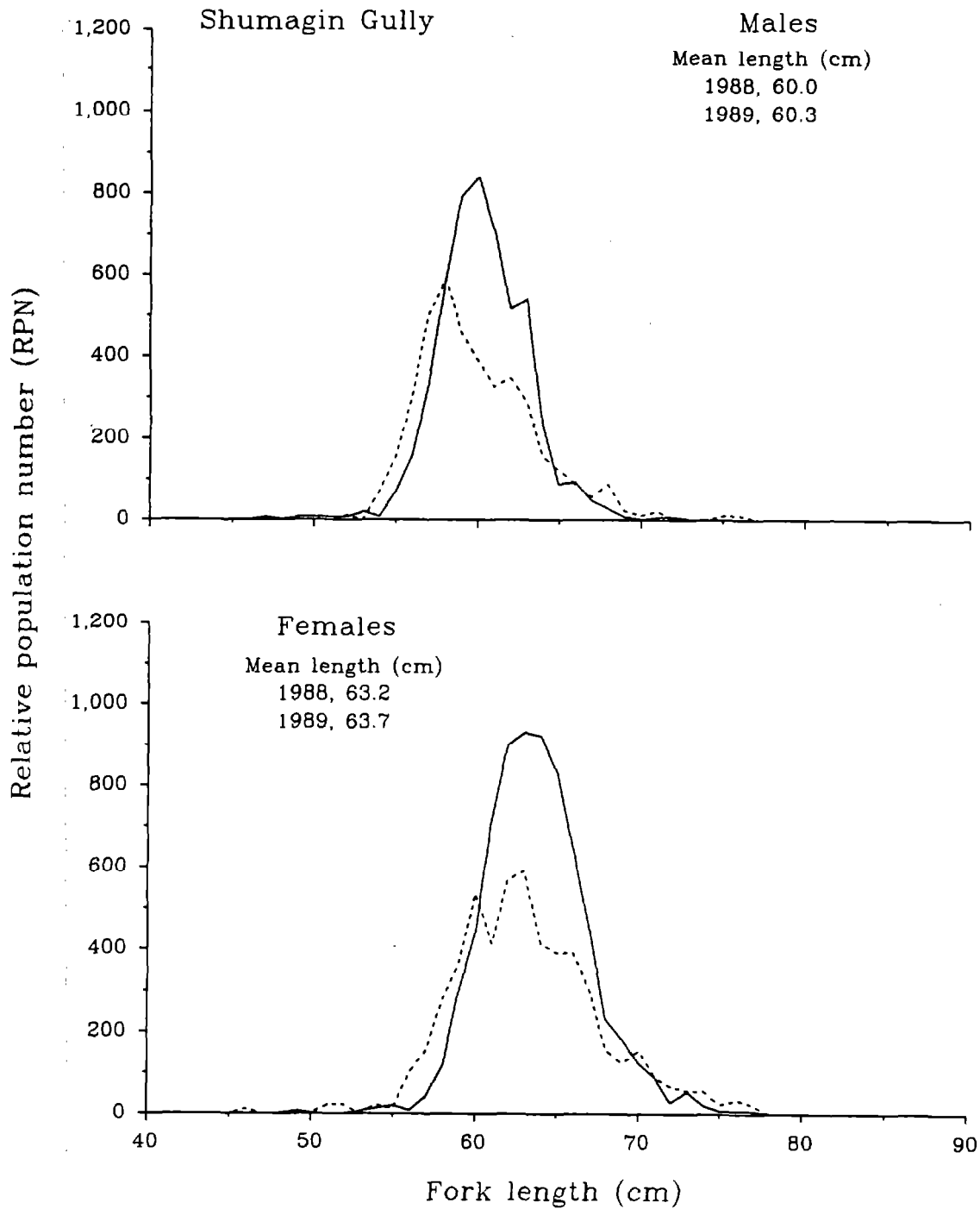


Figure 2g. --Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for Shumagin Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

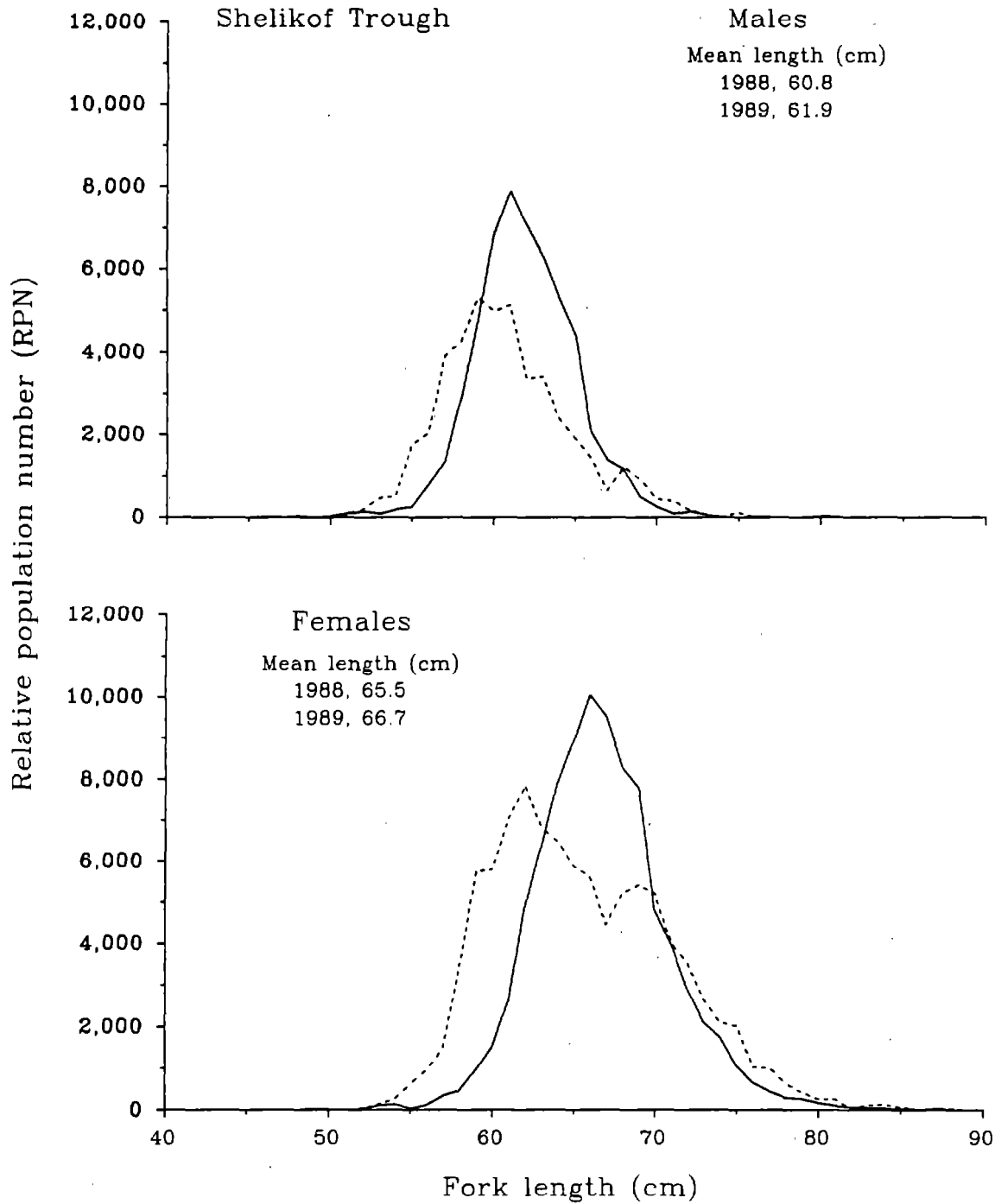


Figure 2h. --Sablefish length, frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for Shelikof Trough, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

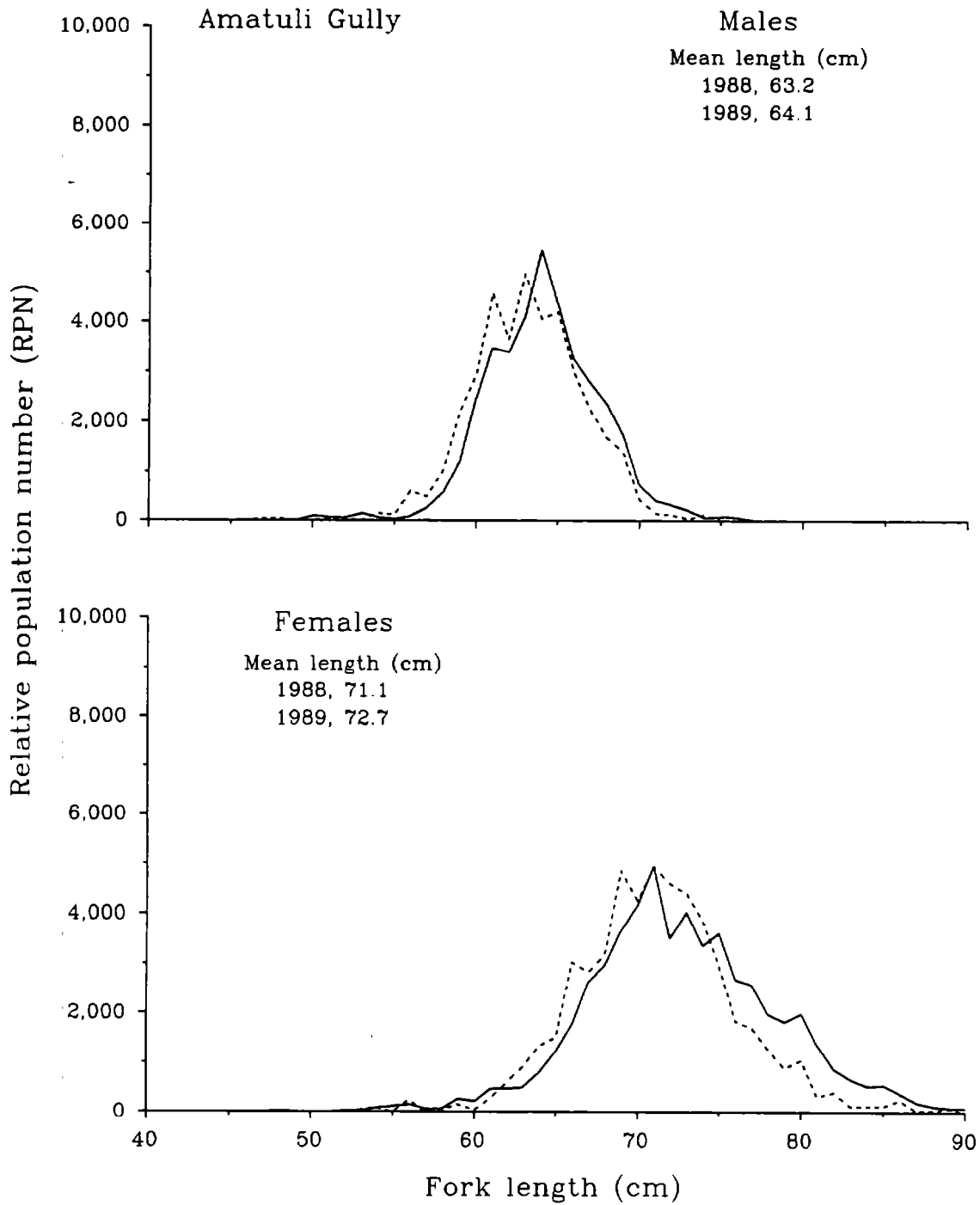


Figure 2i.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for Amatuli Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

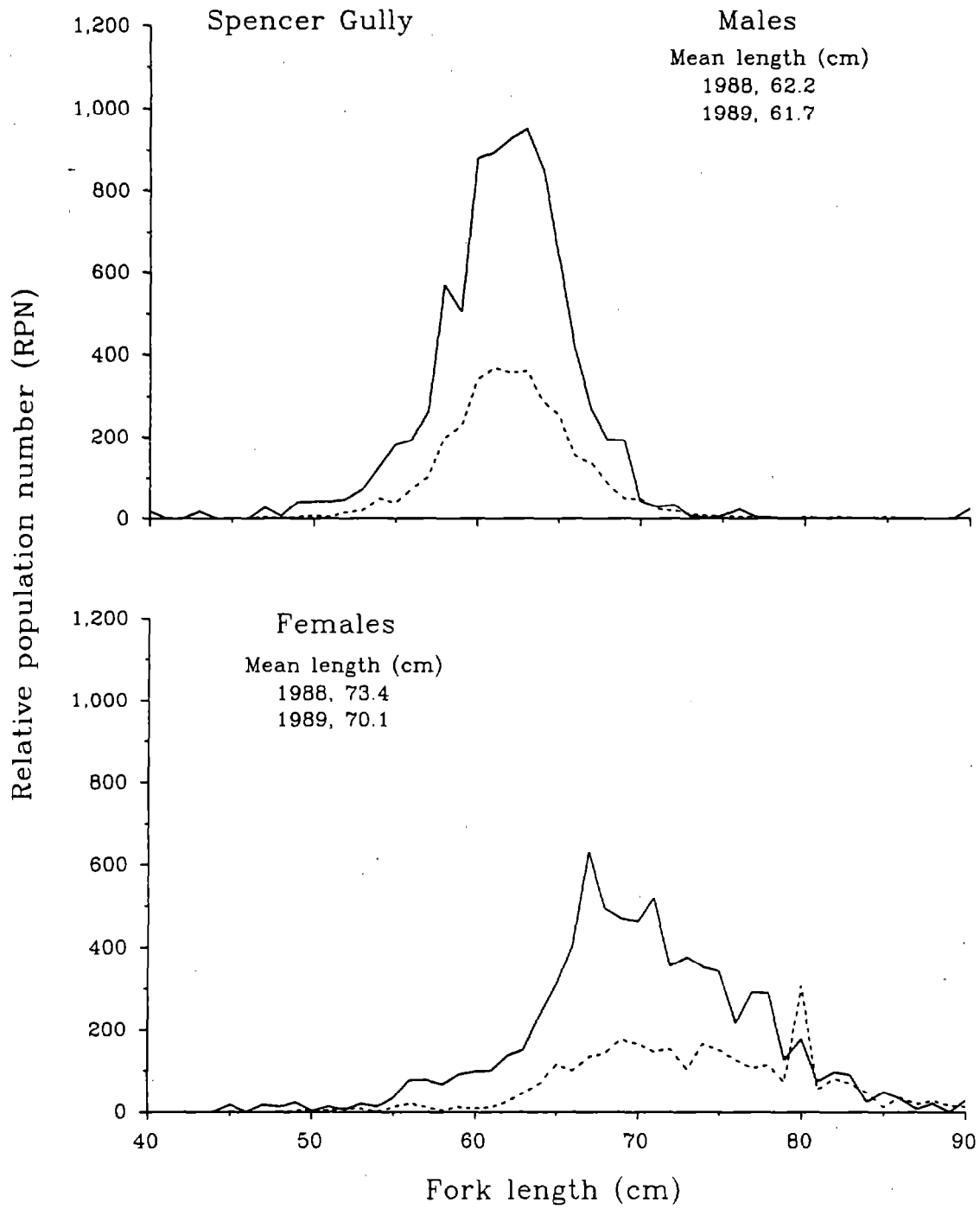


Figure 2j.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for Spencer Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-), Depth interval 401-600 m, only.

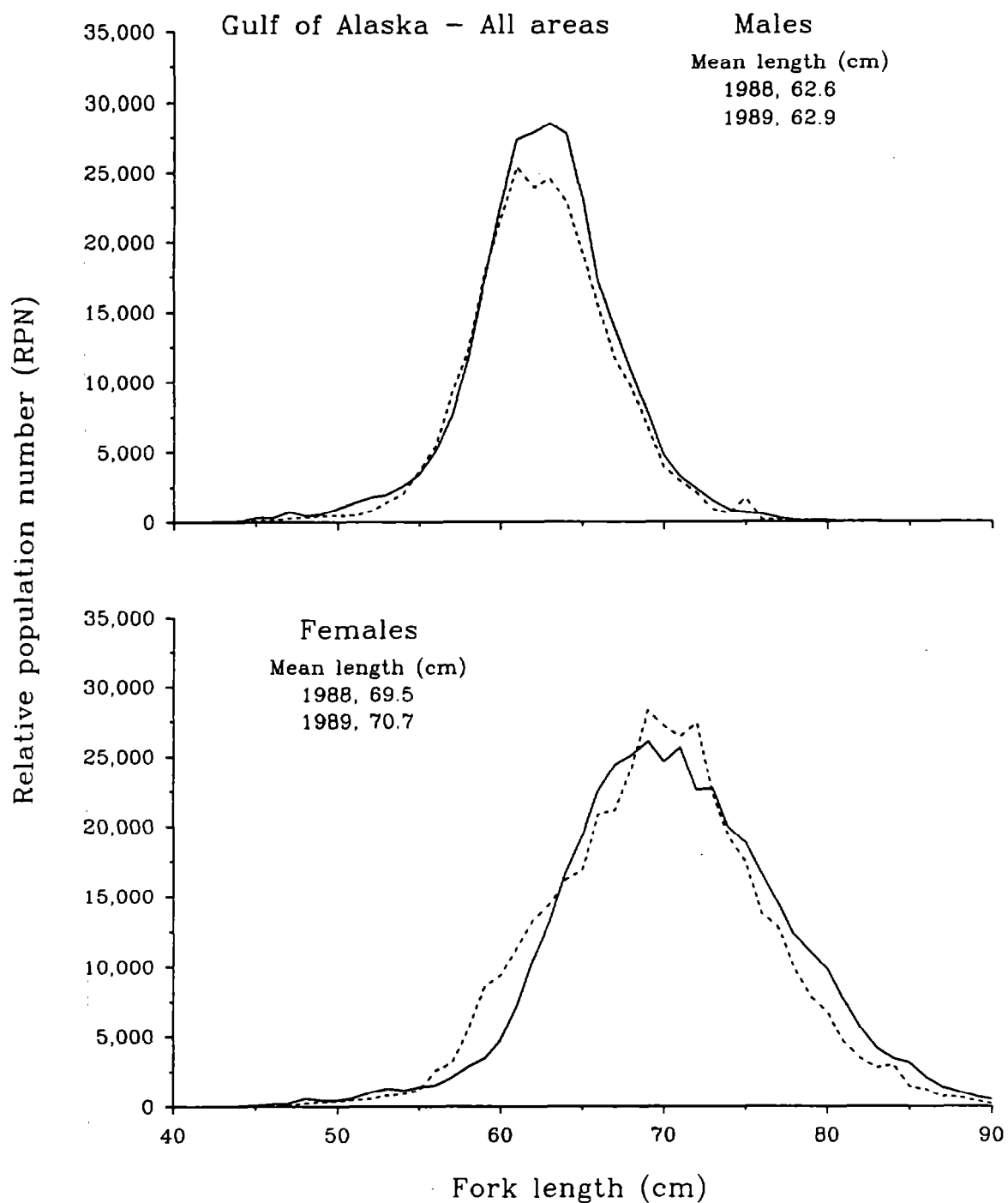


Figure 2k. --Sablefish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included the upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley, Alsek Strath, Ommaney Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

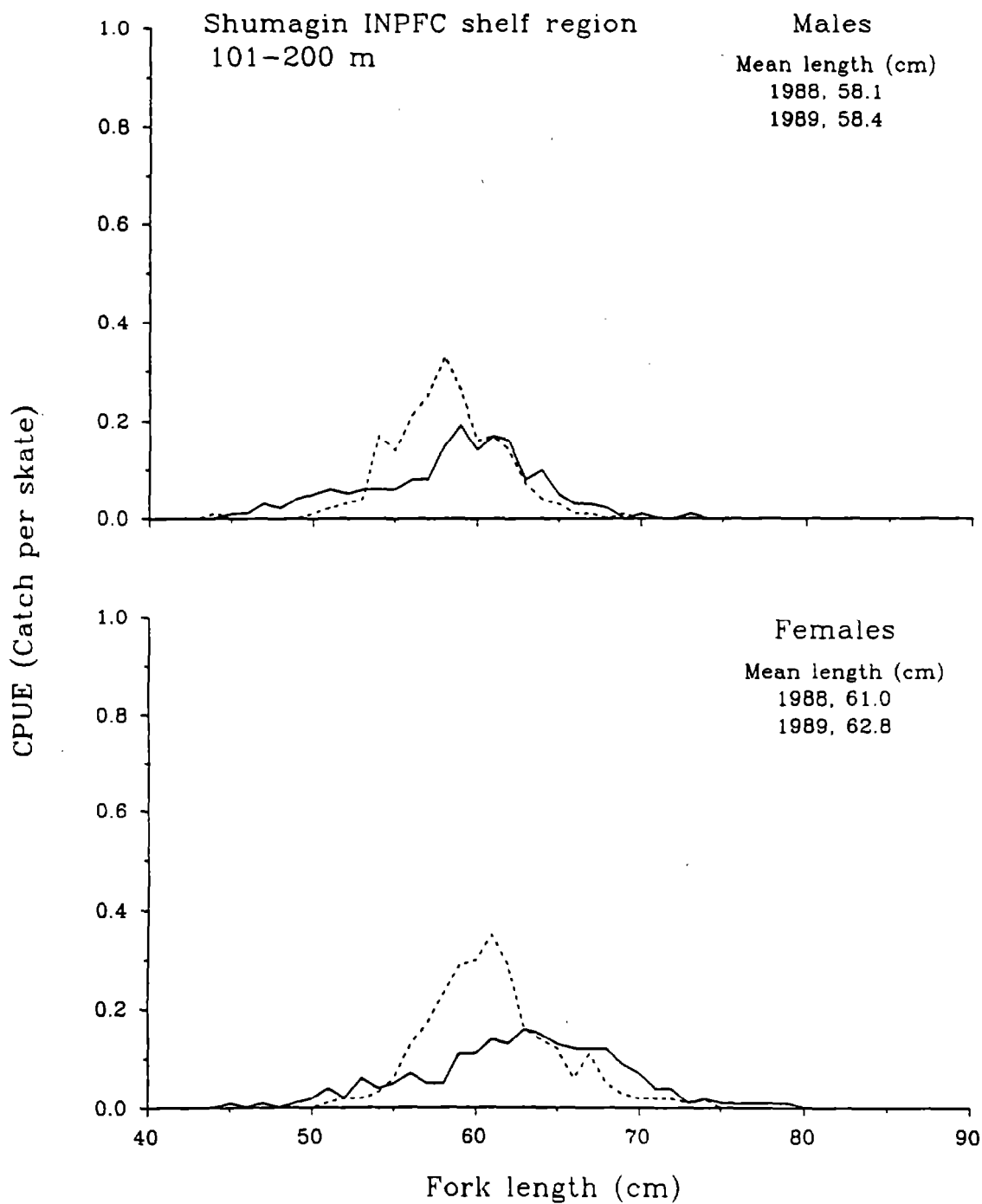


Figure 3a.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Shumagin statistical area, sampled along the outer continental shelf during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

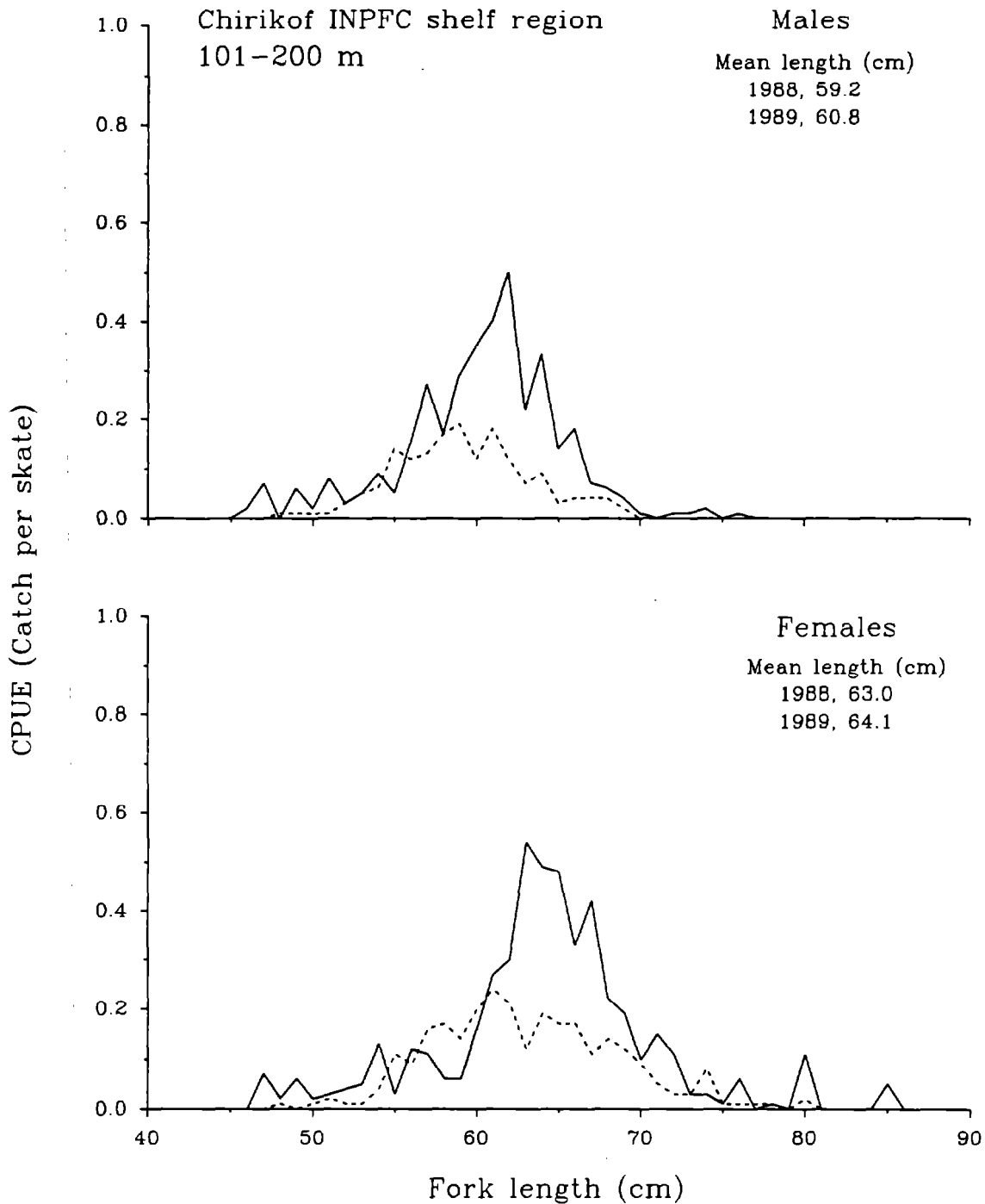


Figure 3b.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Chirikof statistical area, sampled along the outer continental shelf during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

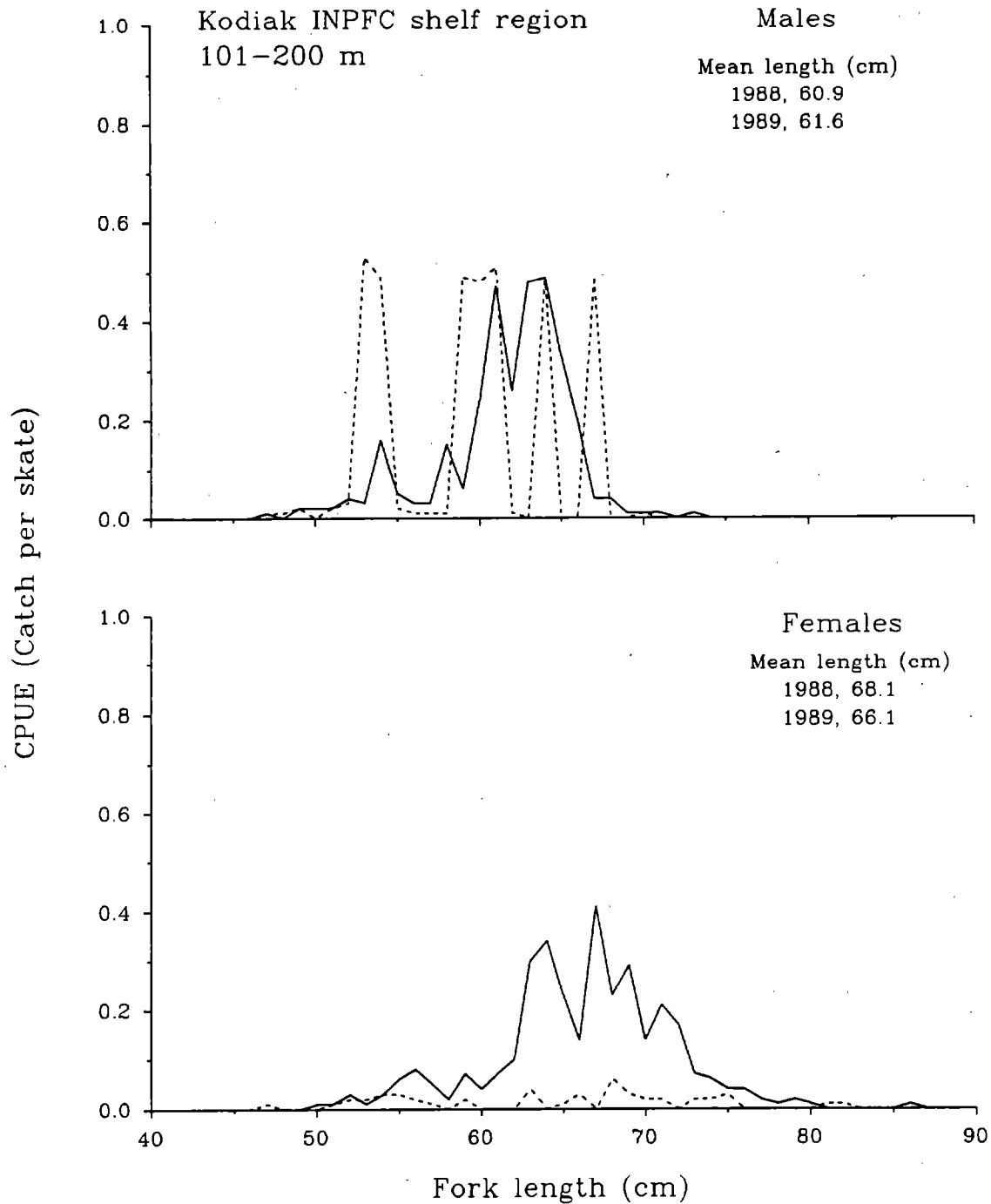


Figure 3c.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Kodiak statistical area, sampled along the outer continental shelf during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

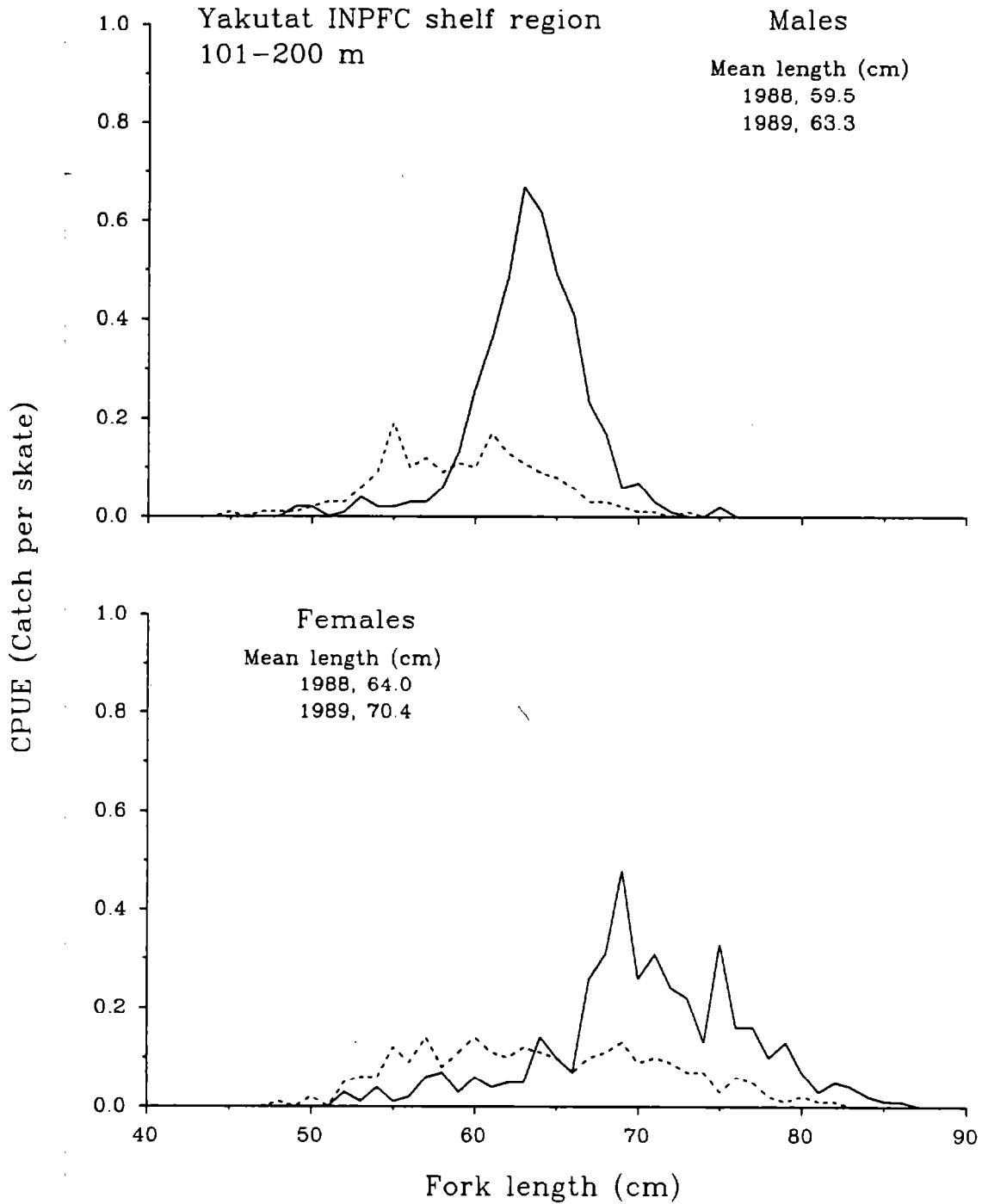


Figure 3d.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Yakutat statistical area, sampled along the outer continental shelf during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

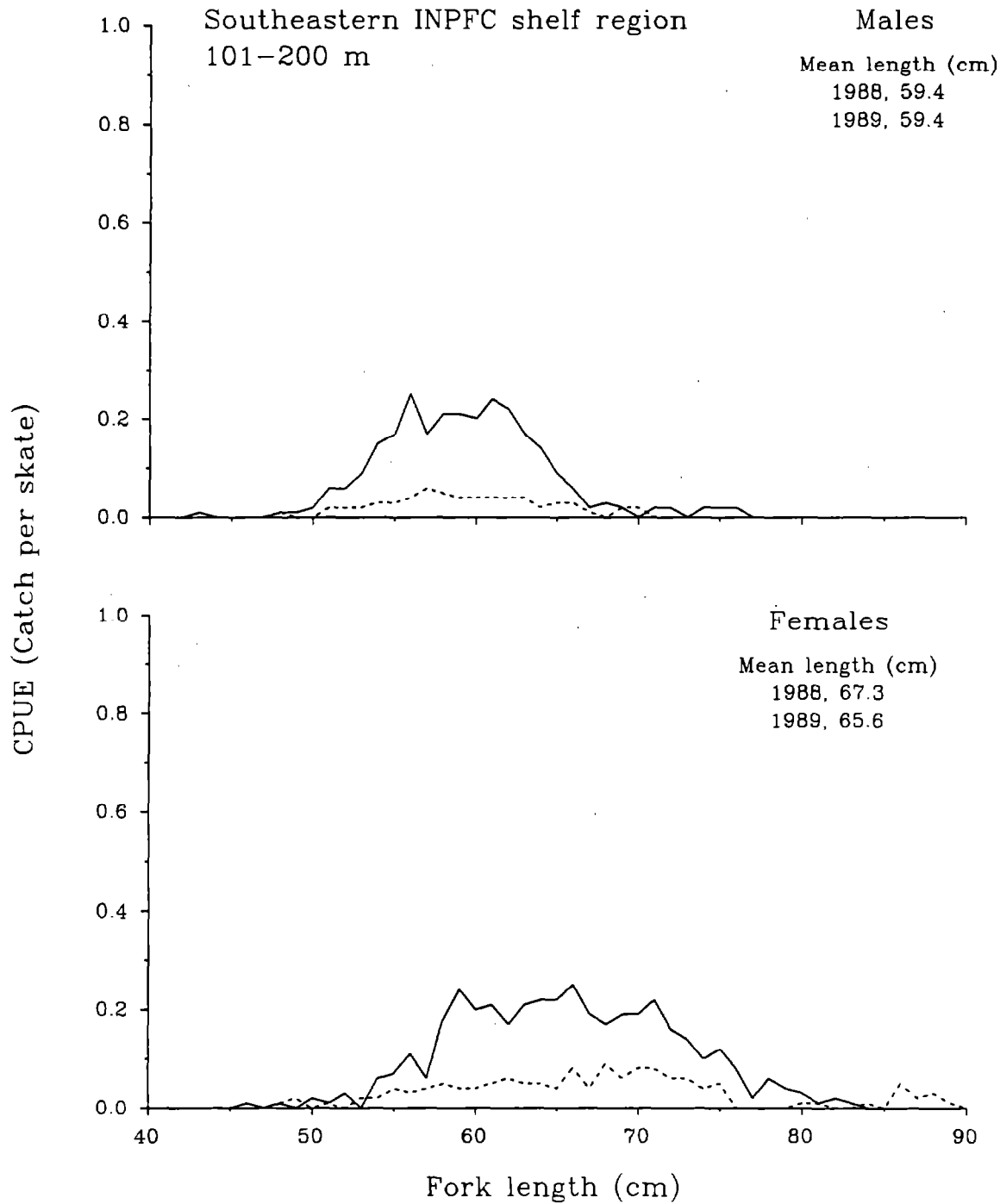


Figure 3e.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Southeastern statistical area, sampled along the outer continental shelf during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

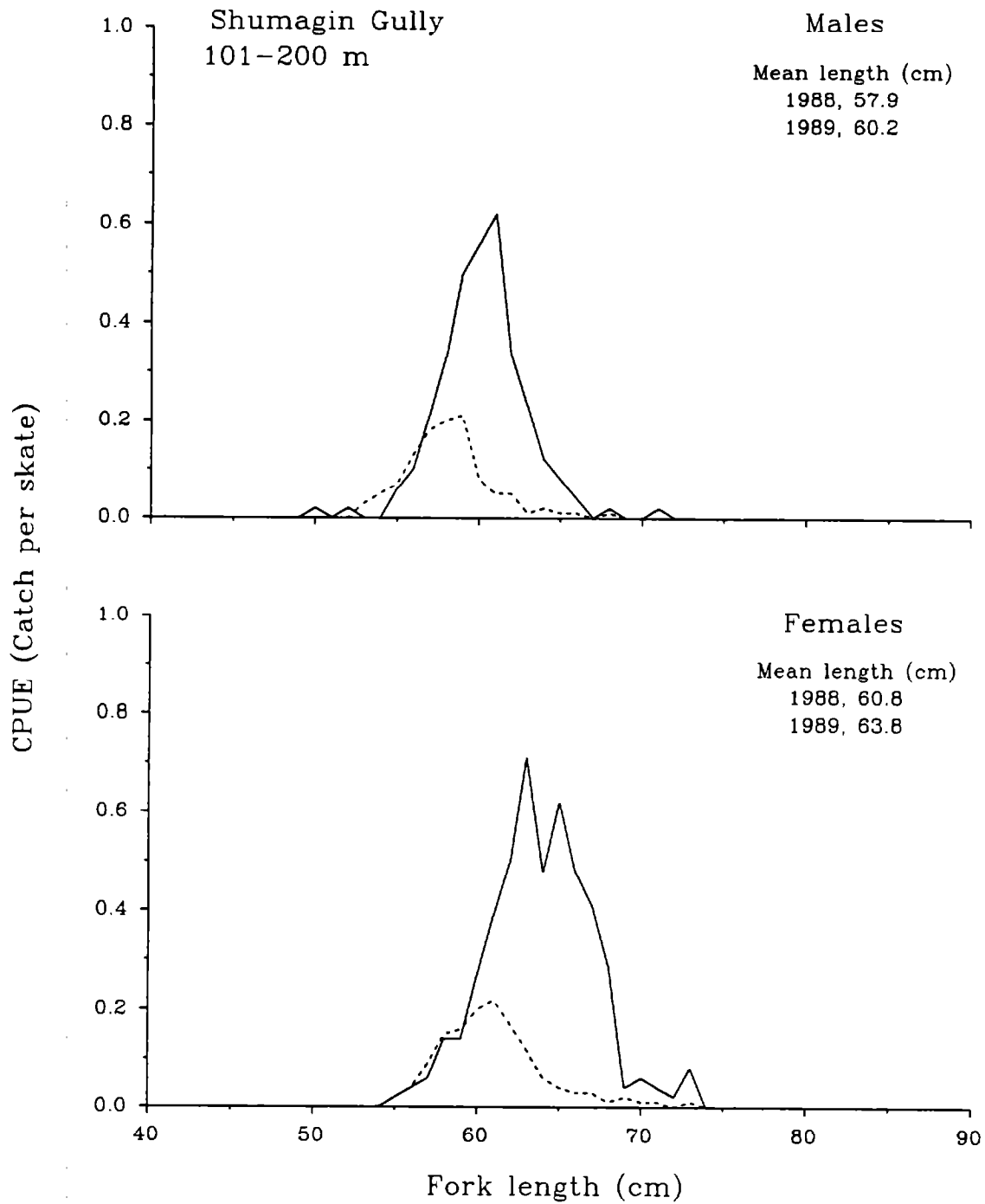


Figure 3f.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in Shumagin Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (- -) and 1989 (-).

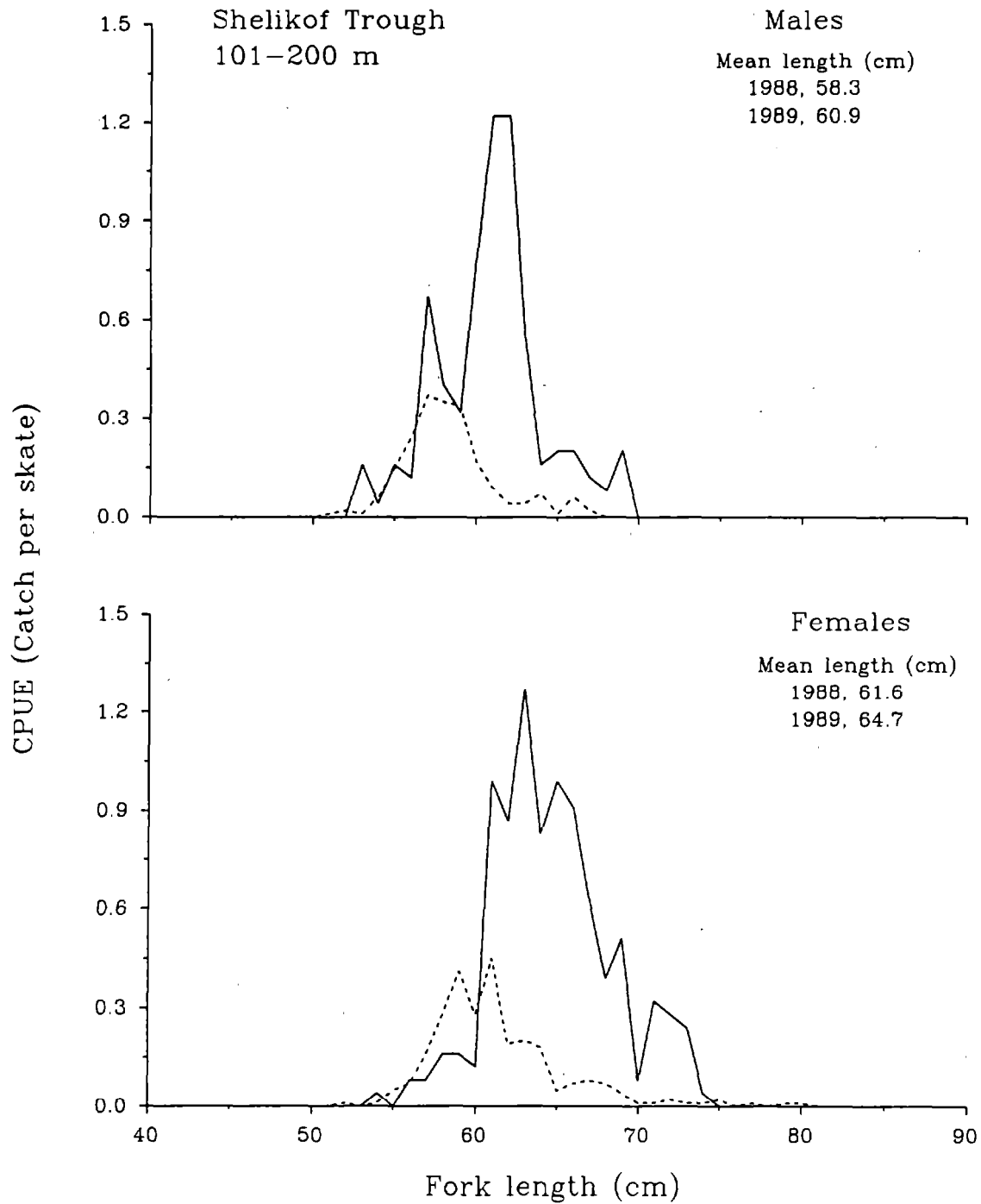


Figure 3g.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in Shelikof Trough, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

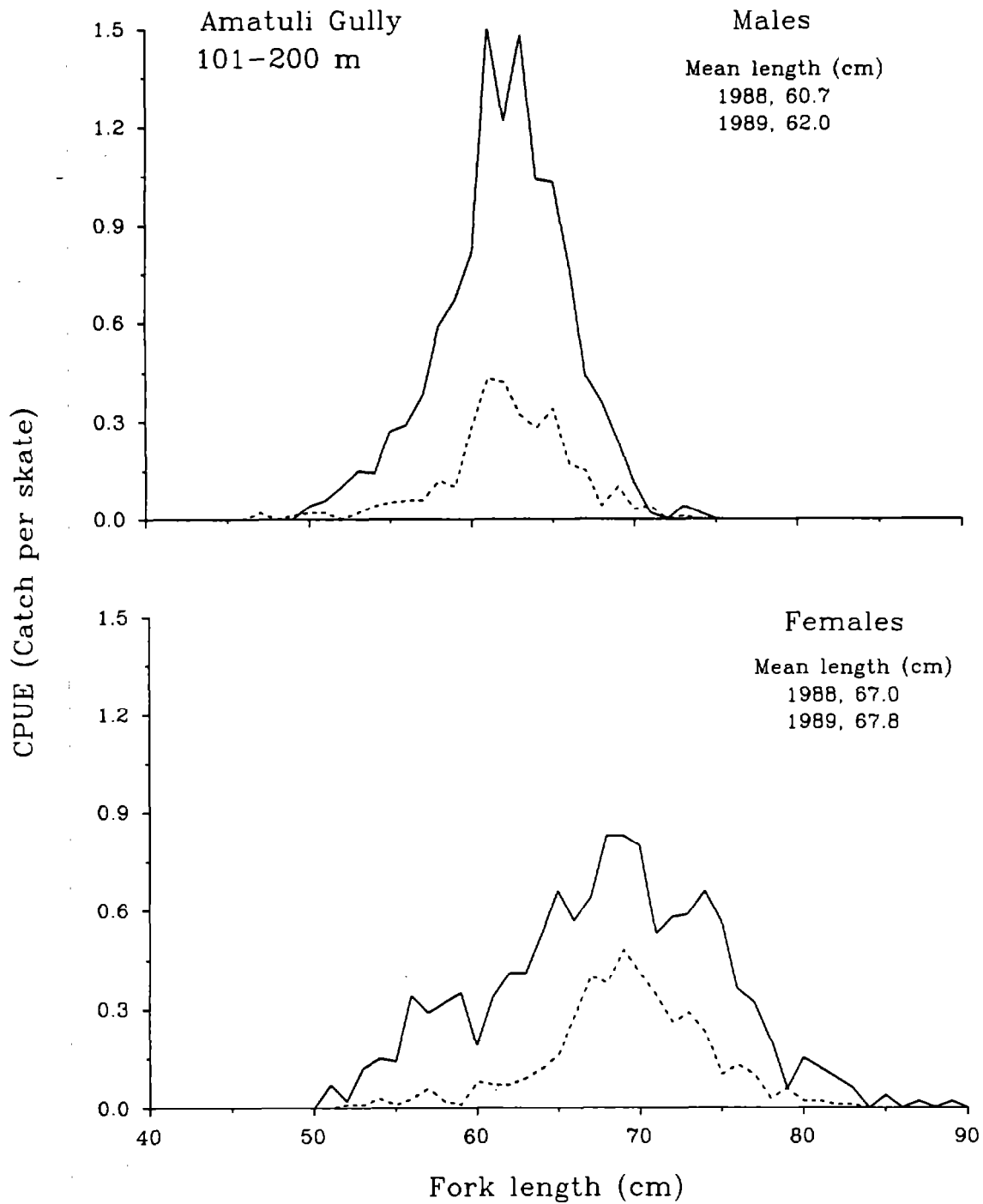


Figure 3h.--Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m in Amatuli Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

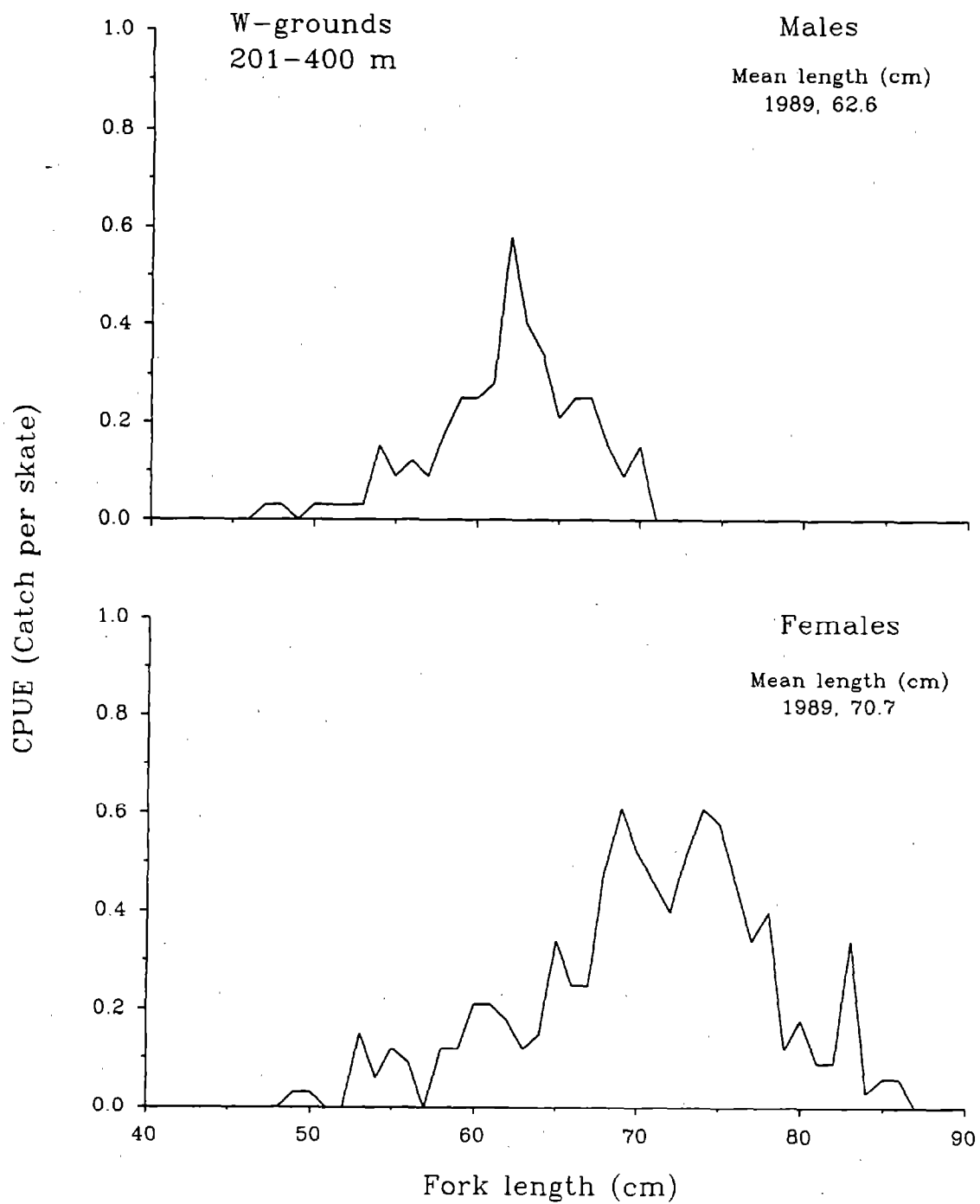


Figure 3i. --Sablefish length frequencies weighted by catch per unit effort (CPUE), by sex, for depths 101-200 m on the W-grounds, sampled during the 1989 National Marine Fisheries Service longline survey of the Gulf of Alaska.

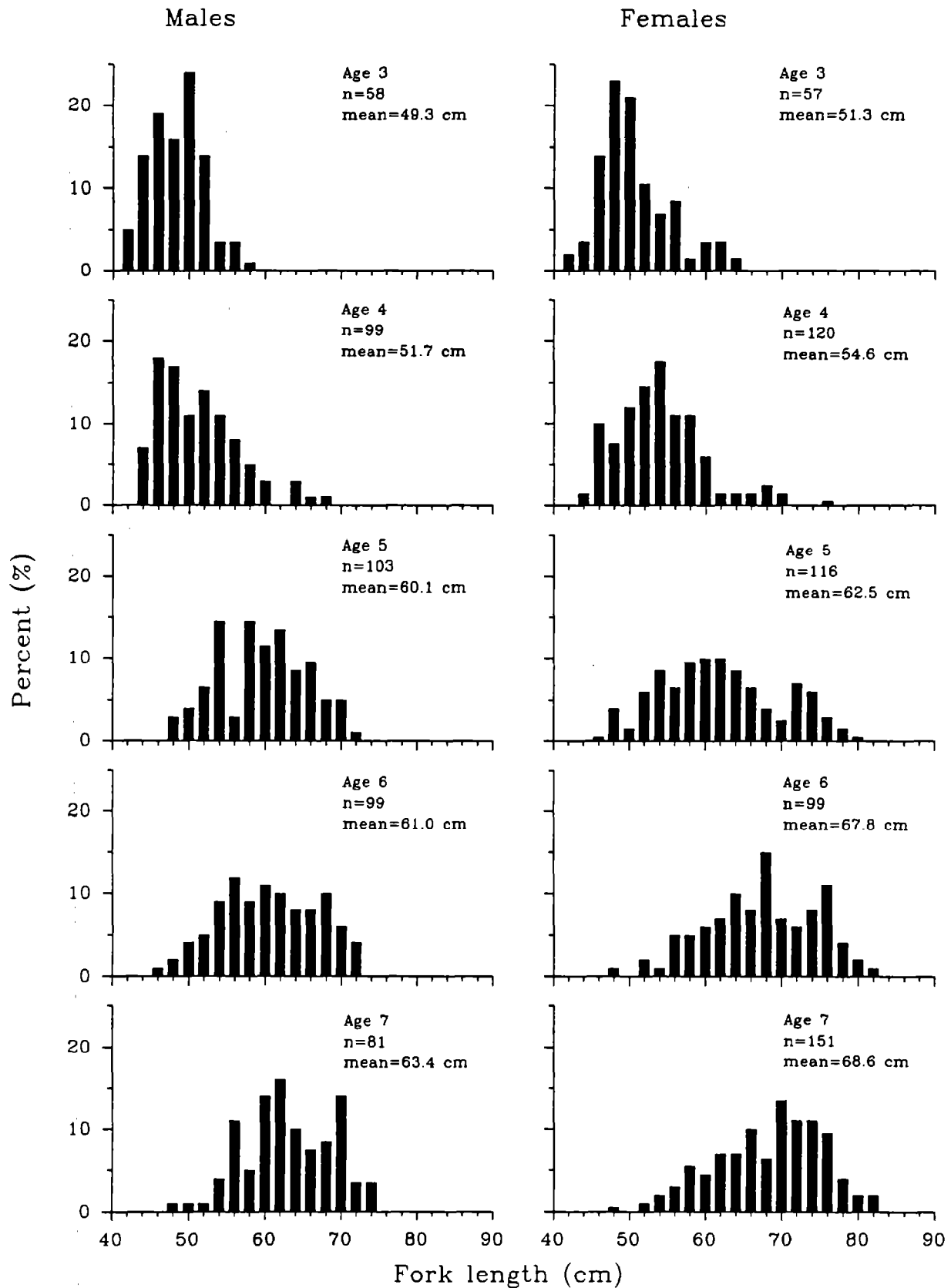


Figure 4.--Length-at-age distribution of sablefish for the upper continental slope of the Gulf of Alaska (201- 1,000 m depth), based on samples collected during the 1984 Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey. "n" refers to the number of fish aged. (Ages determined by the "break-and-burn" method, a technique that is being reevaluated. Thus changes in the above ages may result. From Clausen and Sigler 1989).

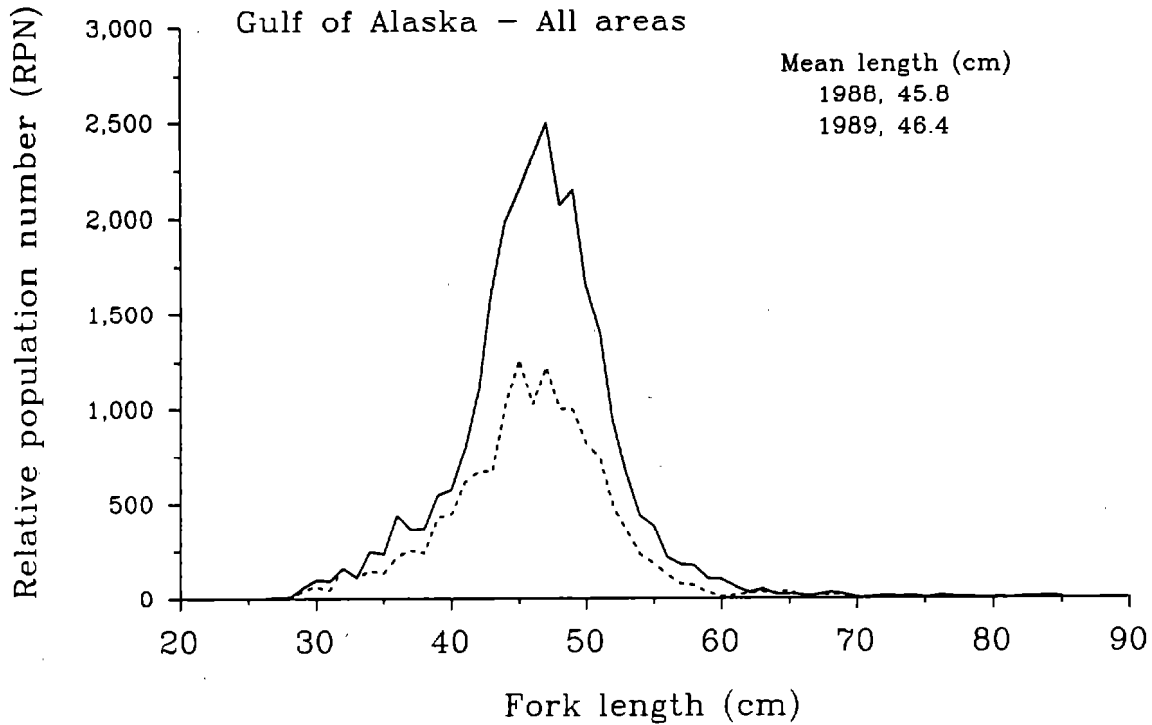


Figure 5.--Rougheye rockfish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included the upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley, Alek Strath, Ommany Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

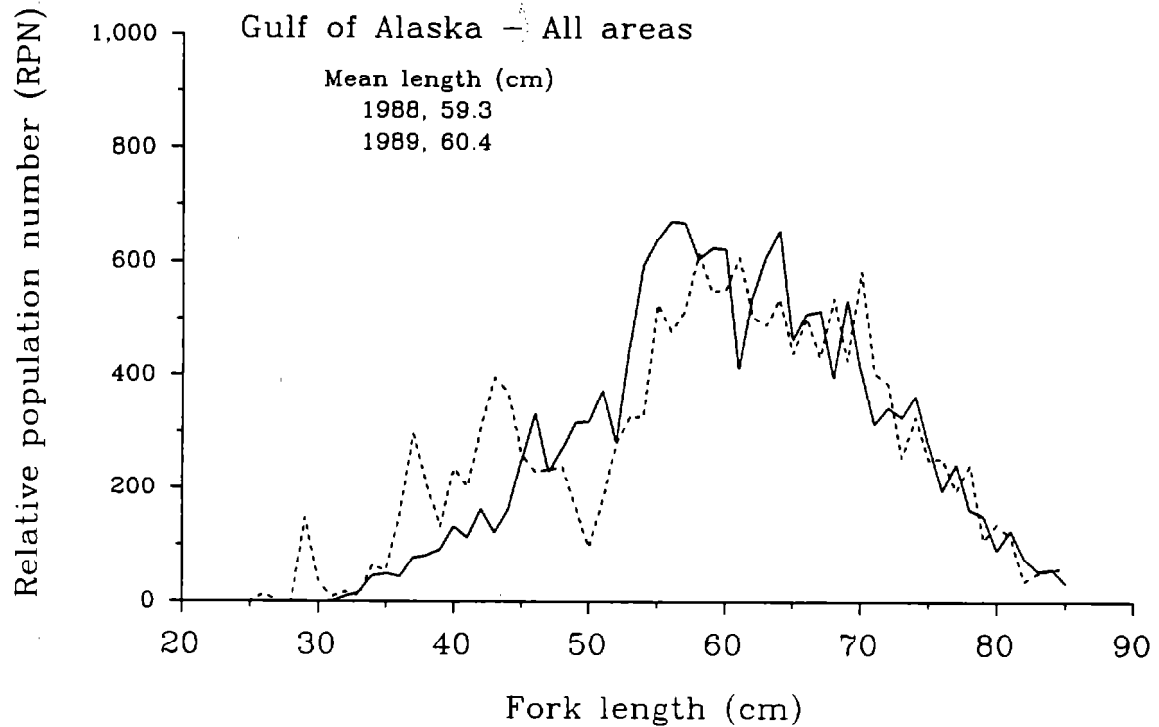


Figure 6a.--Shortraker rockfish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley, Alsek Strath, Ommaney Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

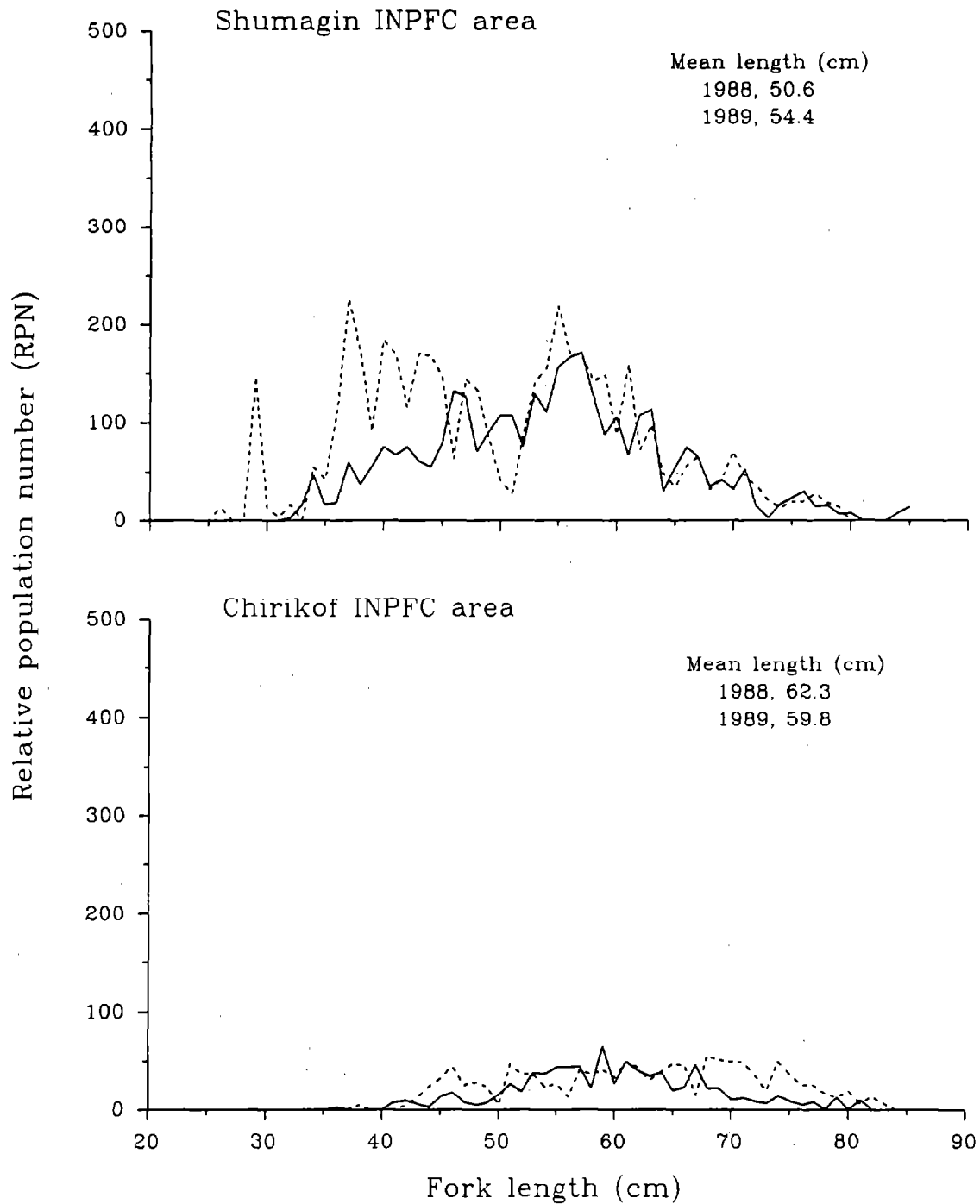


Figure 6b.--Shorttraker rockfish length frequencies weighted by relative population number for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Shumagin and Chirikof statistical areas, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

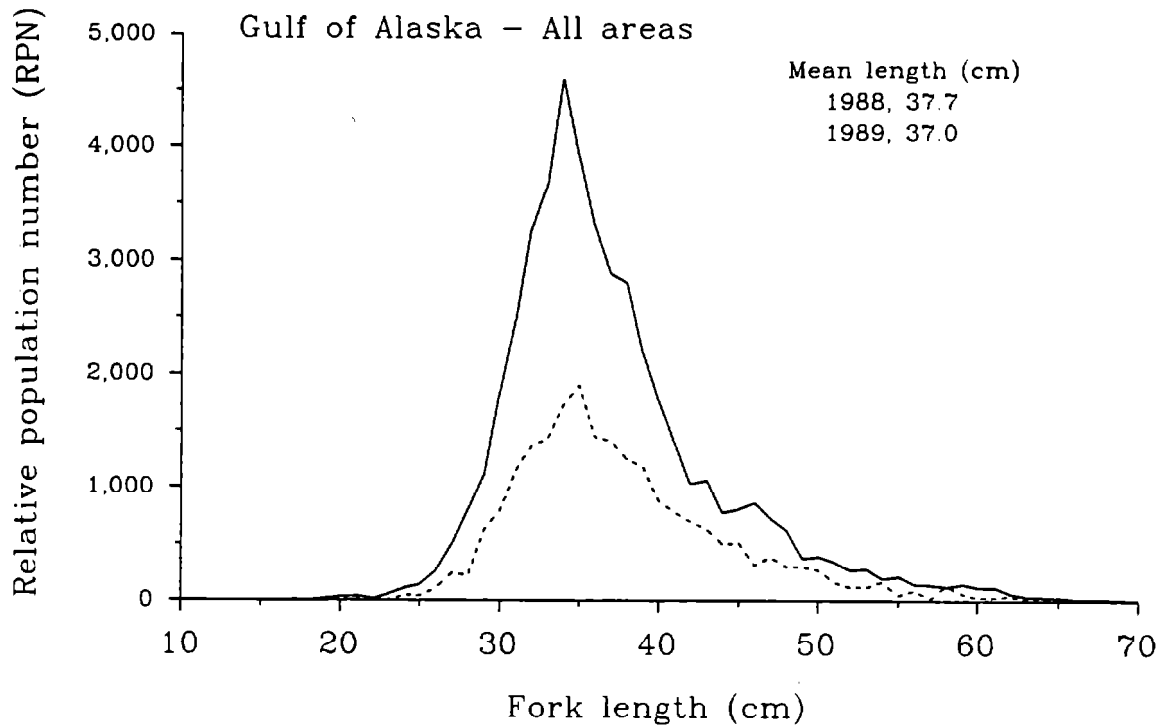


Figure 7.--Thornyhead rockfish length frequencies weighted by relative population number, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included the upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley Alsek Strath, Ommaney Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

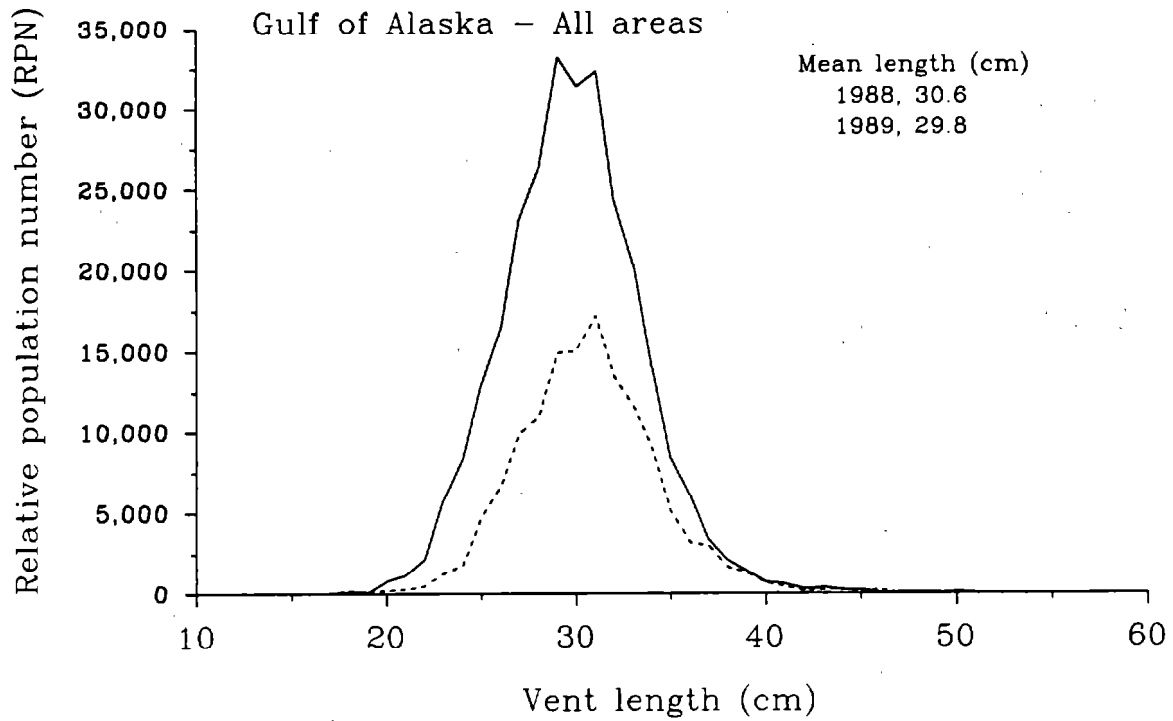


Figure 8.--Giant grenadier length frequencies weighted by relative population number, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

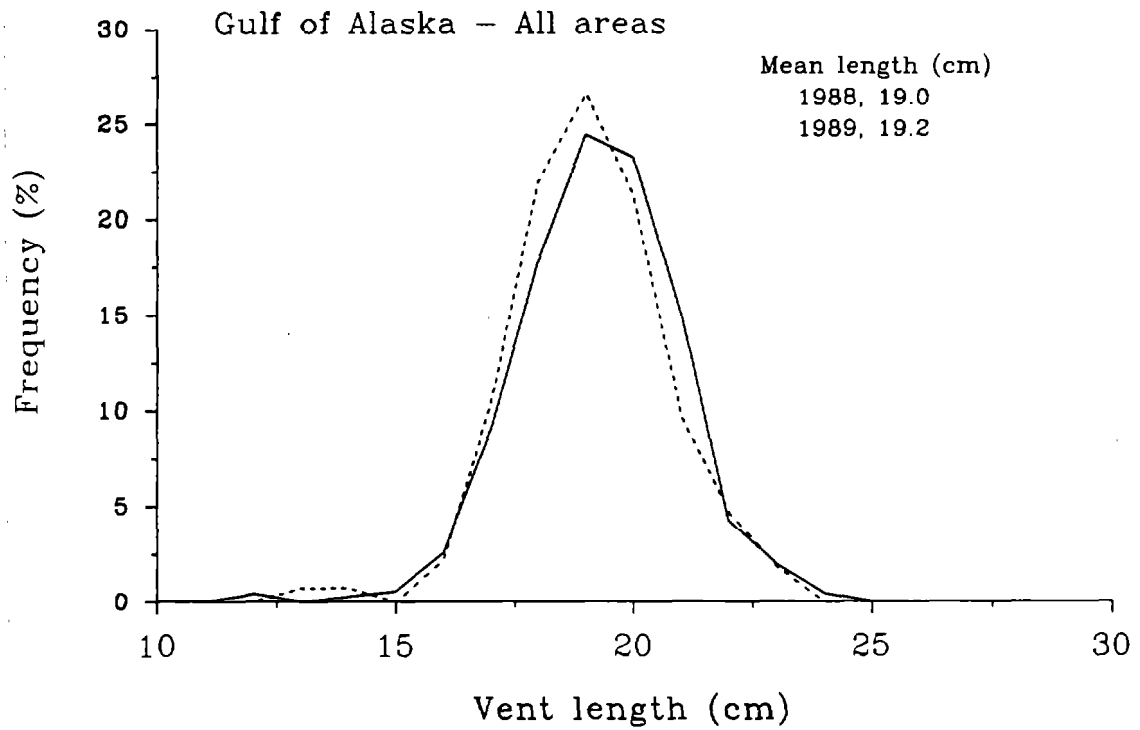


Figure 9.--Popeye grenadier percent length frequencies for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

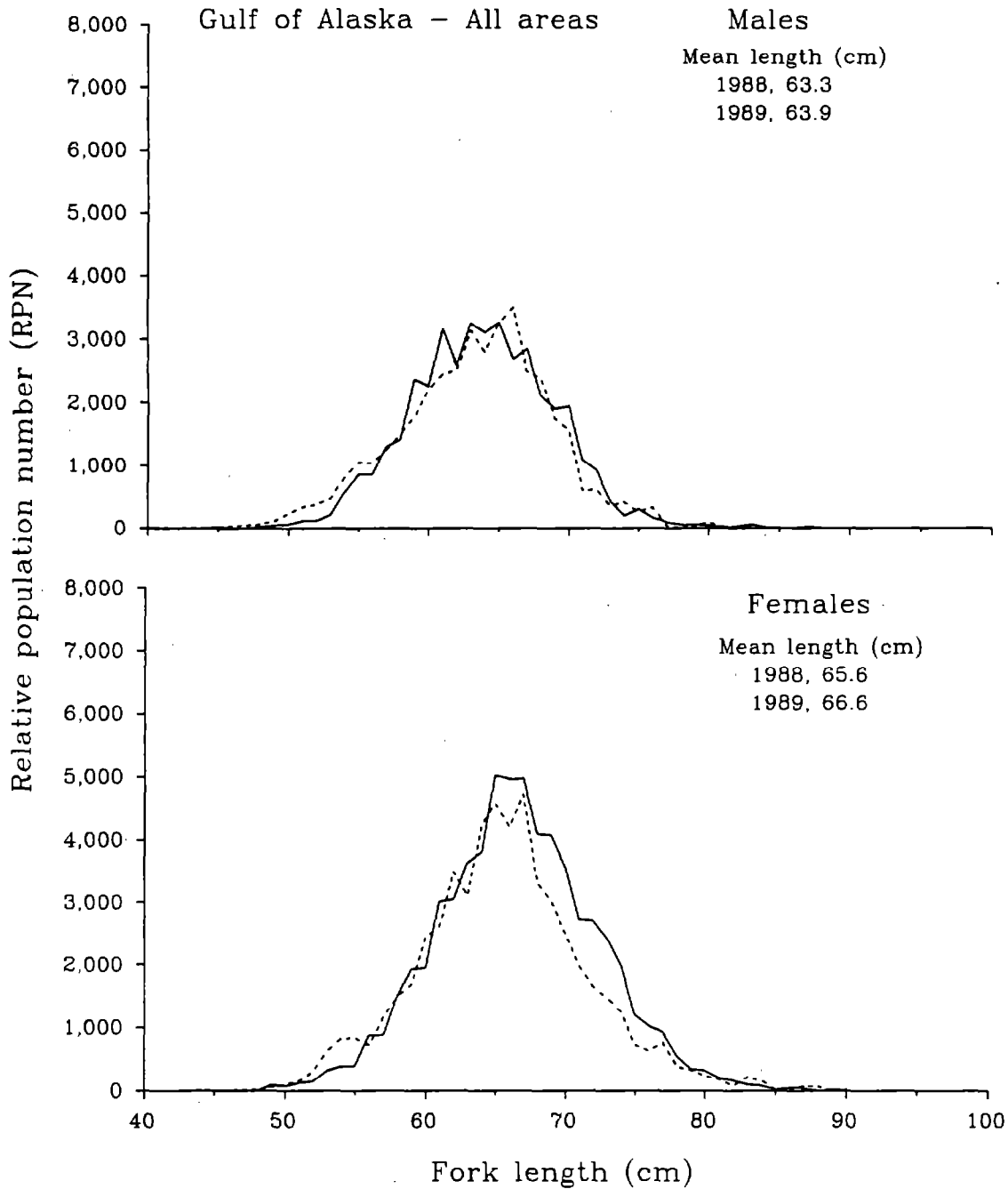


Figure 10a.--Pacific cod length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included the upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley, Alek Strath, Ommaney Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

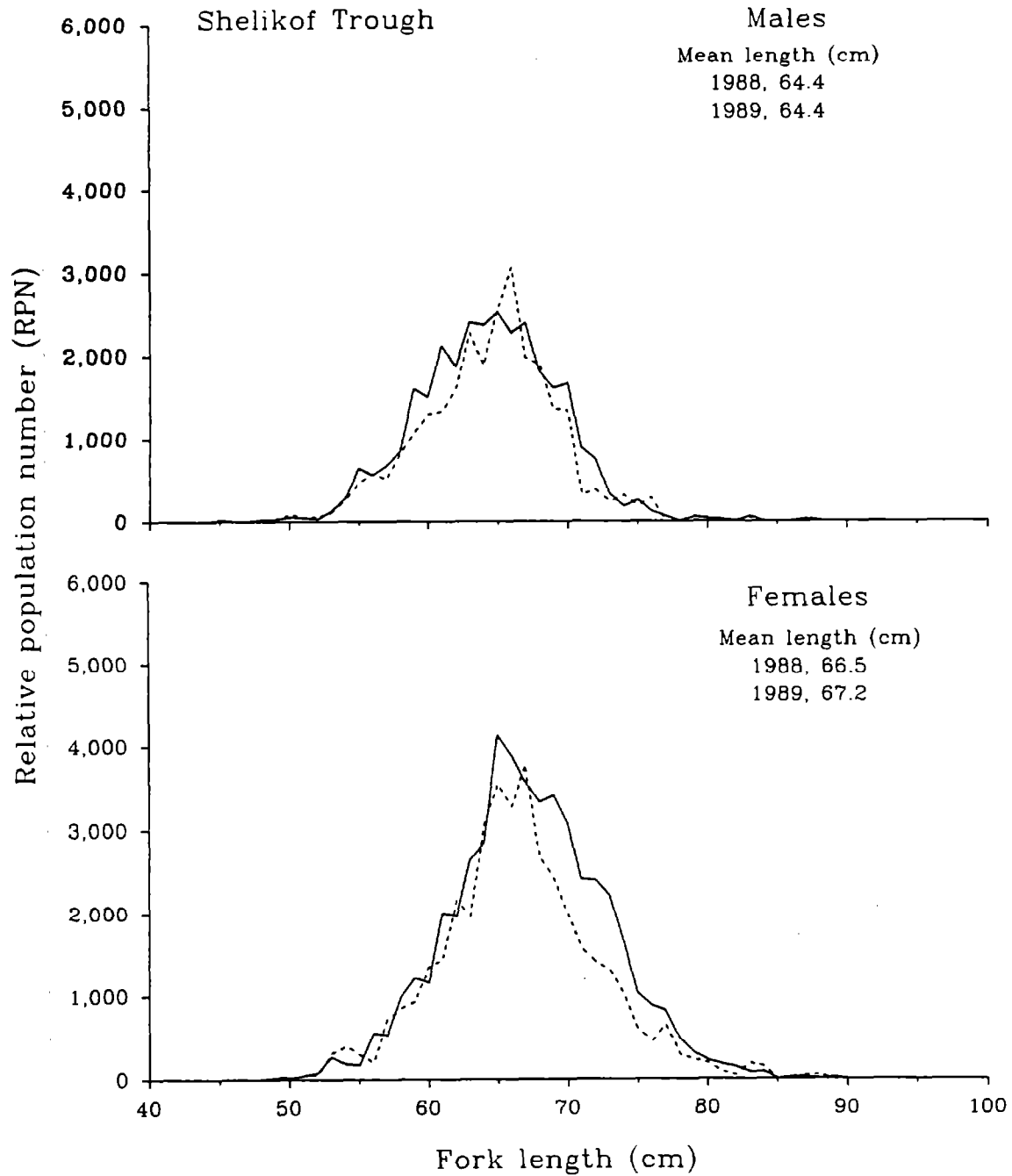


Figure 10b. --Pacific cod length frequencies weighted by relative population number, by sex, for Shelikof Trough, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

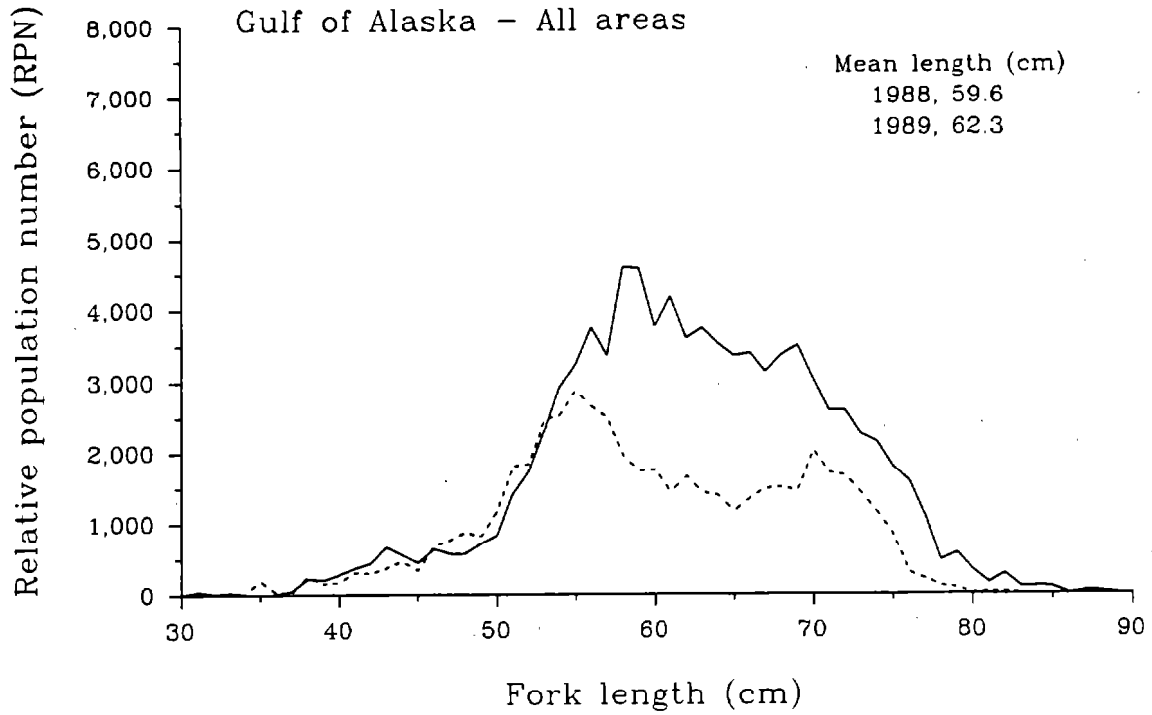


Figure 1 la.--Arrowtooth flounder length frequencies weighted by relative population number, for the combined areas sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-). Note: In 1988, sample included the upper continental slope, Shumagin Gully, Shelikof Trough, Amatuli Gully, and Spencer Gully; in 1989, sample included the above plus W-grounds, Yakutat Valley, Alek Strath, Ommaney Trench, Iphigenia Gully, and Dixon Entrance.

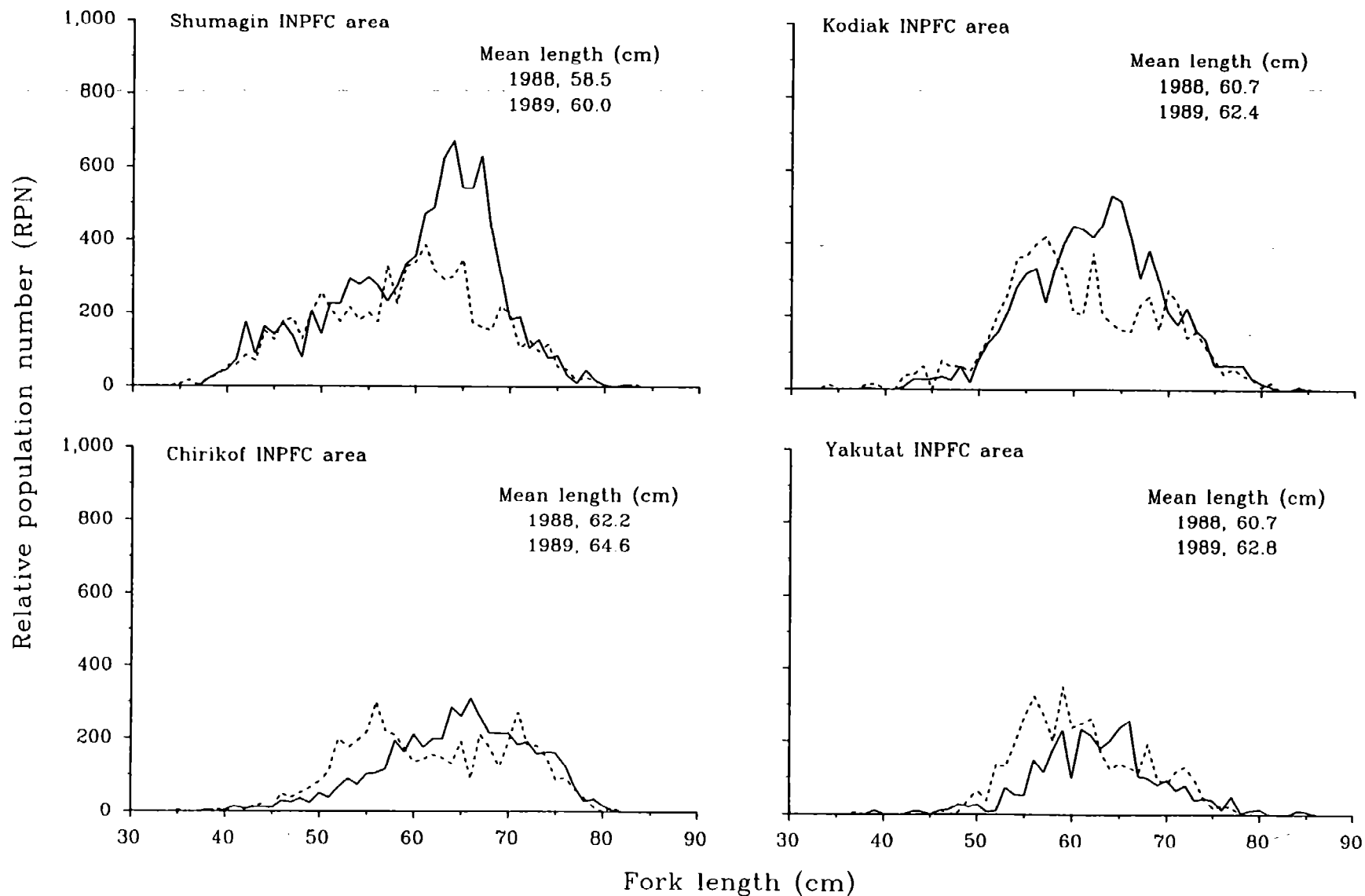


Figure 11 b.--Arrowtooth flounder length frequencies weighted by relative population number for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Shumagin, Chirikof, Kodiak, and Yakutat statistical areas, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

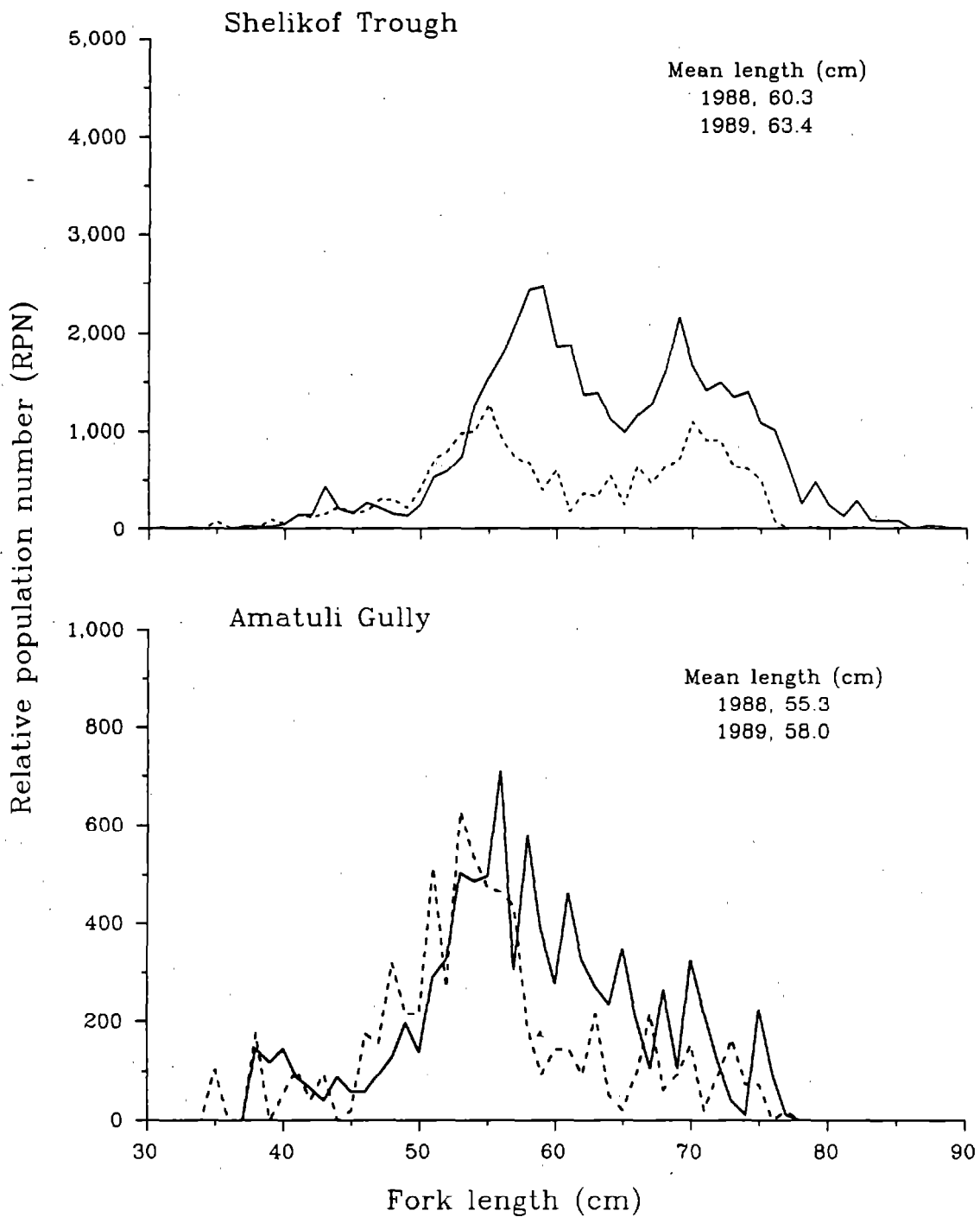


Figure 11c.--Arrowtooth flounder length frequencies weighted by relative population number for Shelikof Trough and Amatuli Gully, sampled during National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988 (--) and 1989 (-).

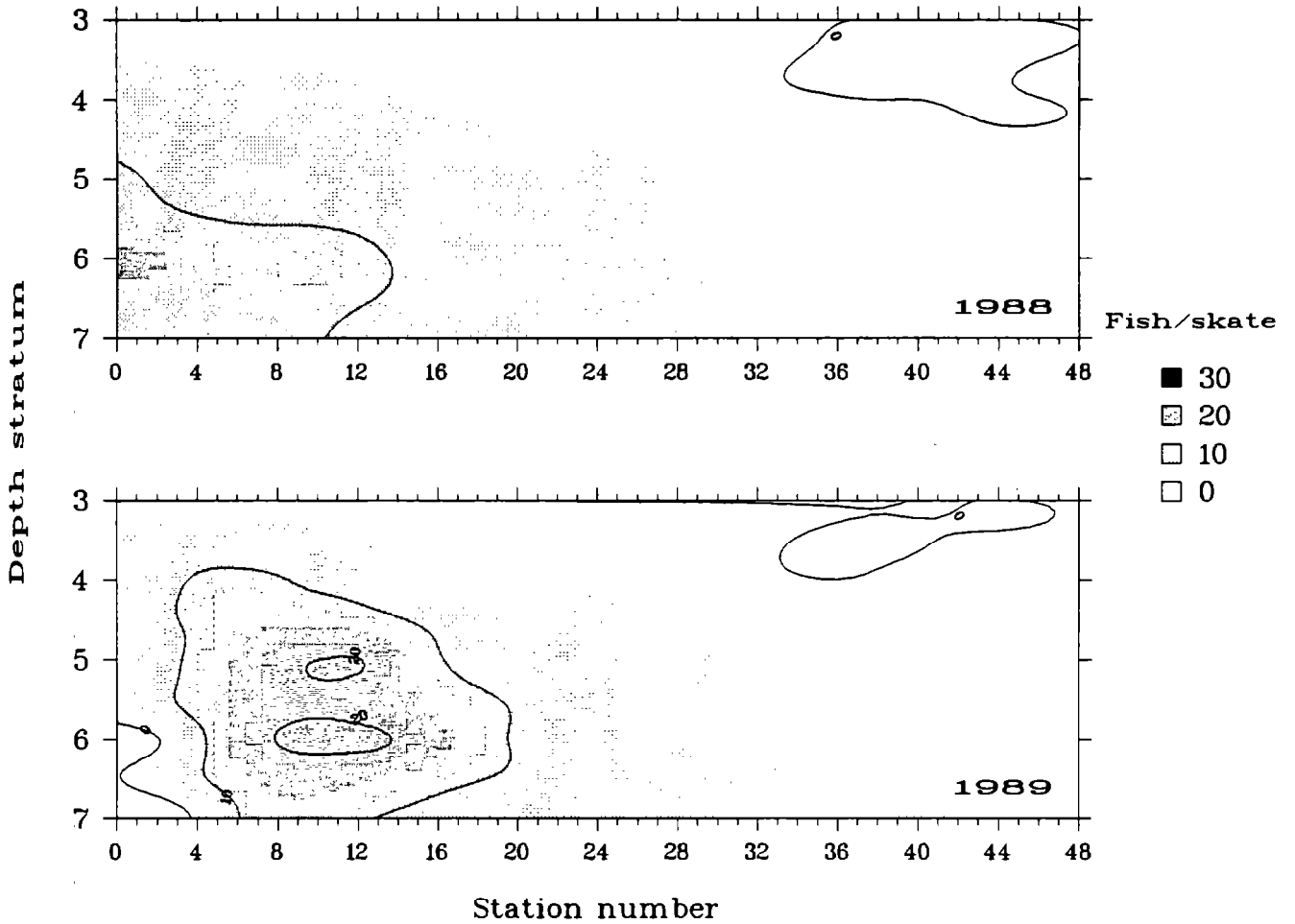


Figure 12.--Distribution of giant grenadier catch per unit effort (fish/skate) from National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988-89, smoothed by distance-weighted least squares with depth stratum and station number. Depth strata: 3 = 201-300 m; 4 = 301-400 m; 5 = 401-600 m; 6 = 601-800 m; and 7 = 801-1,000 m.

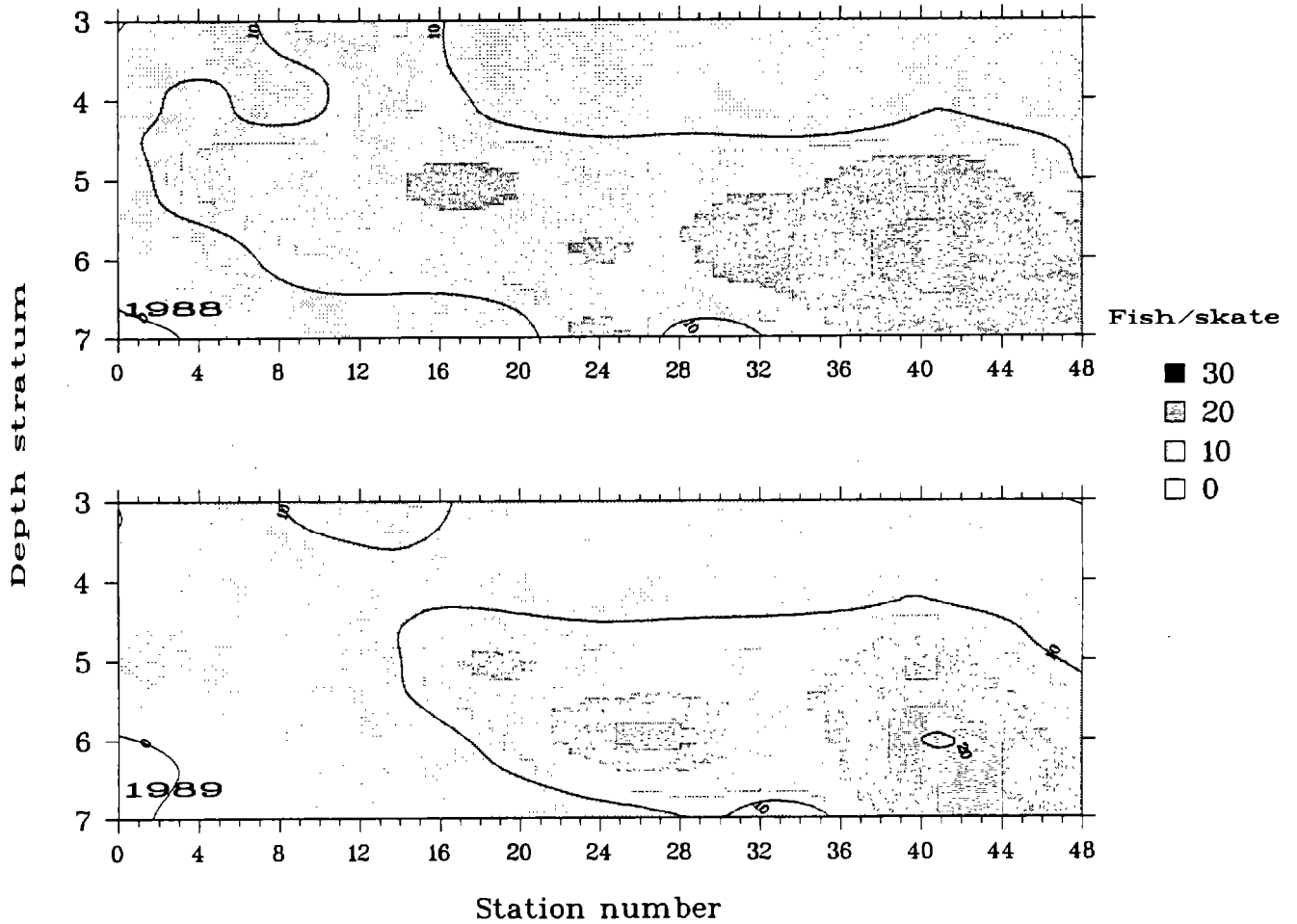


Figure 13.--Distribution of sablefish catch per unit effort (fish/skate) from National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988-89, smoothed by distance-weighted least squares with depth stratum and station number. Depth strata: 3 = 201-300 m; 4 = 301-400 m; 5 = 401-600 m; 6 = 601-800 m; and 7 = 801-1,000 m.

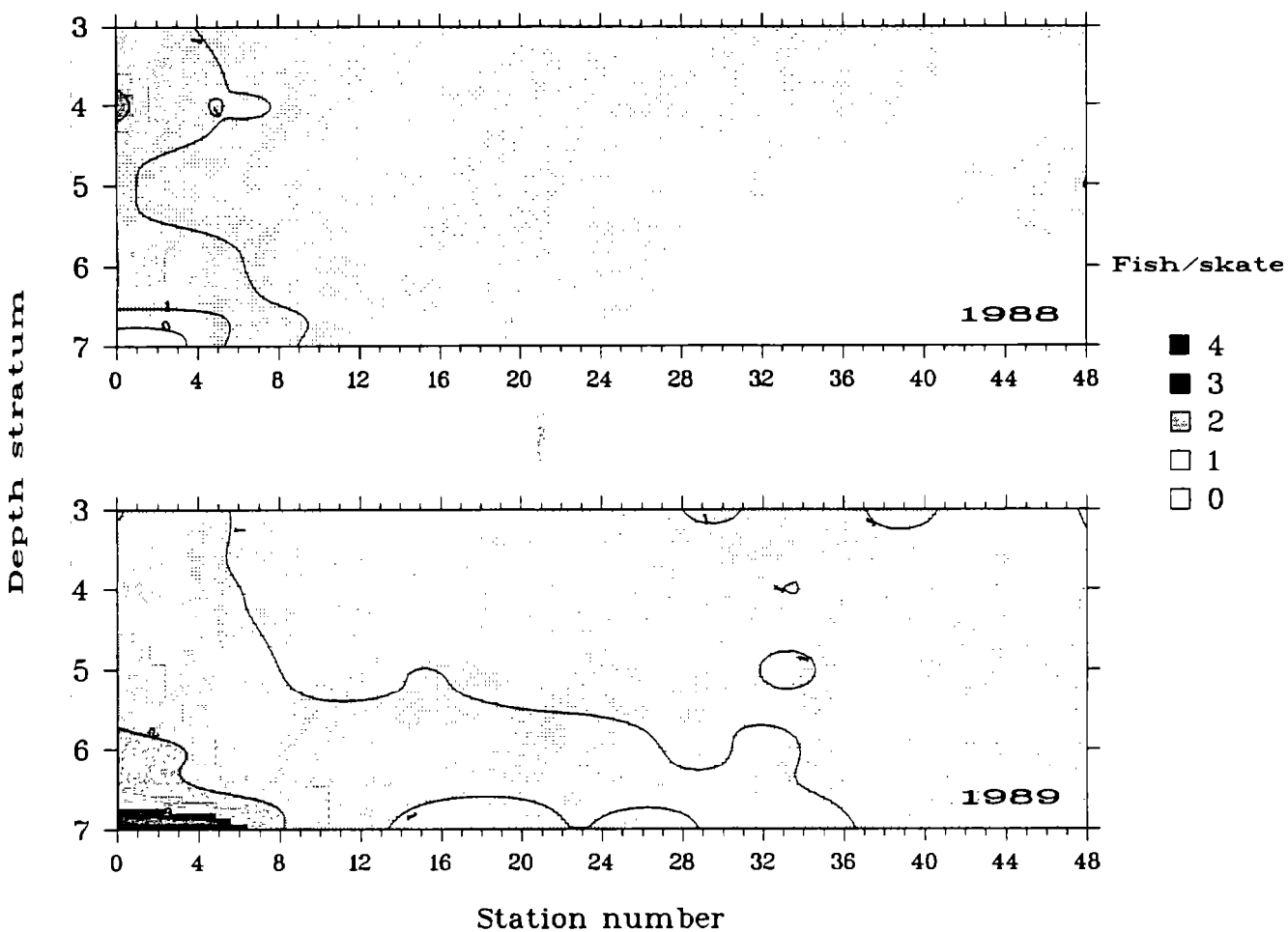


Figure 14.--Distribution of thornyhead catch per unit effort (fish/skate) from National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988-89, smoothed by distance-weighted least squares with depth stratum and station number. Depth strata: 3 = 201-300 m; 4 = 301-400 m; 5 = 401-600 m; 6 = 601-800 m; and 7 = 801-1,000 m.

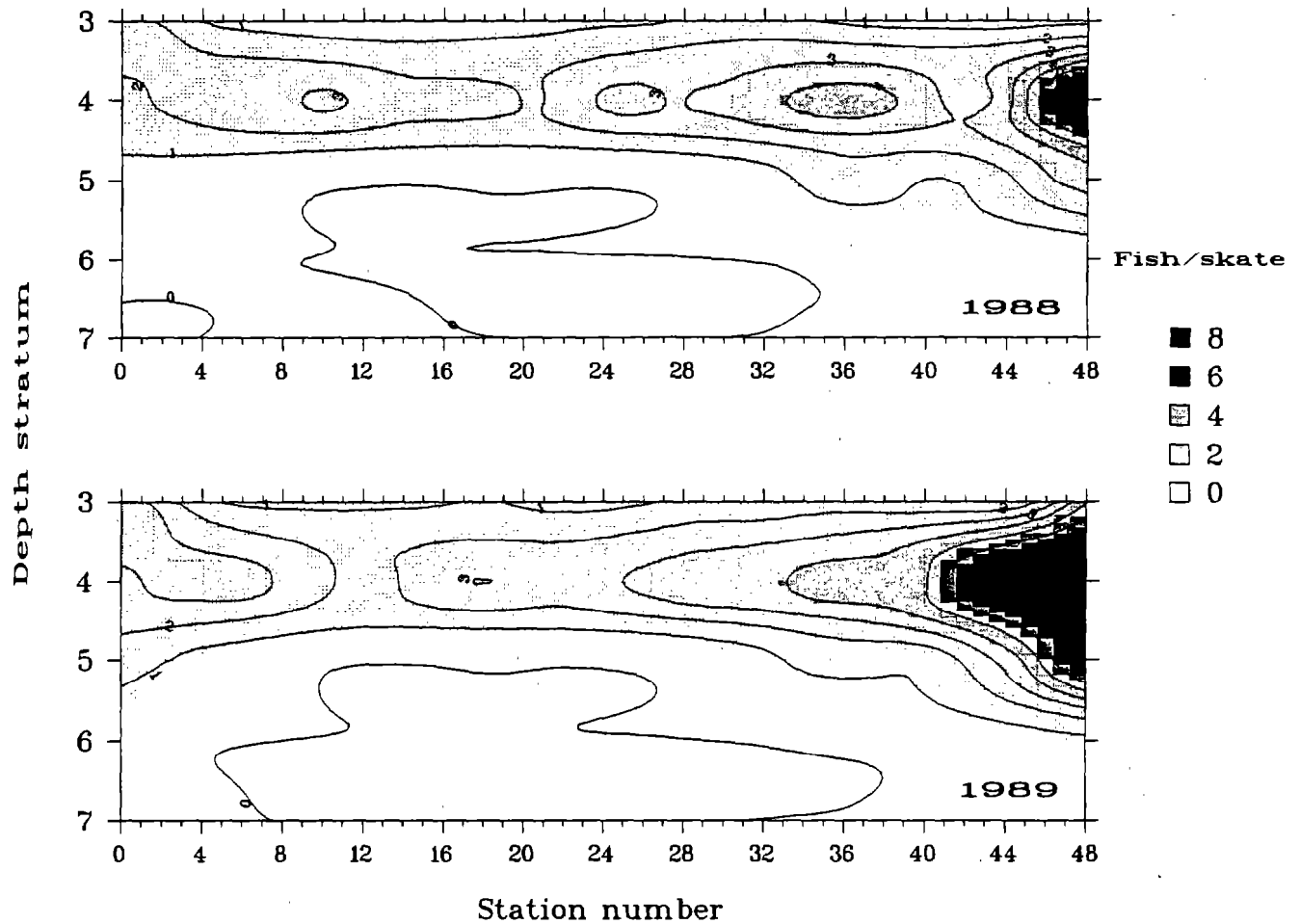


Figure 15.--Distribution of combined shorttraker and roughey rockfish catch per unit effort (fish/skate) from National Marine Fisheries Service longline surveys of the Gulf of Alaska, 1988-89, smoothed by distance-weighted least squares with depth stratum and station number. Depth strata: 3 = 201-300 m; 4 = 301-400 m; 5 = 401-600 m; 6 = 601-800 m; and 7 = 801-1,000 m.

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