

# NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION



## Scientific Council Studies Number 5

Symposium on Environmental Conditions  
in the Northwest Atlantic During 1970-79  
September 1981

Dartmouth, Canada  
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## Foreword

In recognition of the important part played by the environment in determining the distribution and abundance of marine organisms in the Northwest Atlantic, the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics of ICNAF (International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries) organized special meetings and symposia during the 1960's and 1970's to consider the effects that the environment might exert on the fish stocks. The first of these symposia was held at Rome, Italy, in 1964 and dealt with the 1950-59 decade (*ICNAF Special Publication*, No. 6, 1965). The symposium on environmental conditions in the Northwest Atlantic during 1960-69 was held at Dartmouth, Canada, in May 1971 (*ICNAF Special Publication*, No. 8, 1972). Other related meetings included the special session on ice and the symposium on environmental conditions in the Newfoundland Grand Bank area in 1972, both of which were held at Copenhagen, Denmark, in May 1973 (*ICNAF Special Publication*, No. 9 and 10).

At the Annual Meeting of the Scientific Council of NAFO in September 1980, it was agreed that a review of environmental conditions in the Northwest Atlantic during the 1970-79 decade was desirable. Consequently, a symposium was held at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, on 15-16 September 1981, during which 15 contributions were discussed (*NAFO Scientific Council Reports for 1981*). Several of the papers were solicited by the convener to ensure that the major aspects of environmental conditions were covered. Twelve of the contributions are included in this volume.

30 December 1982

E. J. Sandeman, Symposium Convener  
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre  
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