

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION



Scientific Council Studies Number 26

Selected Papers on Harp and Hooded Seals

1996

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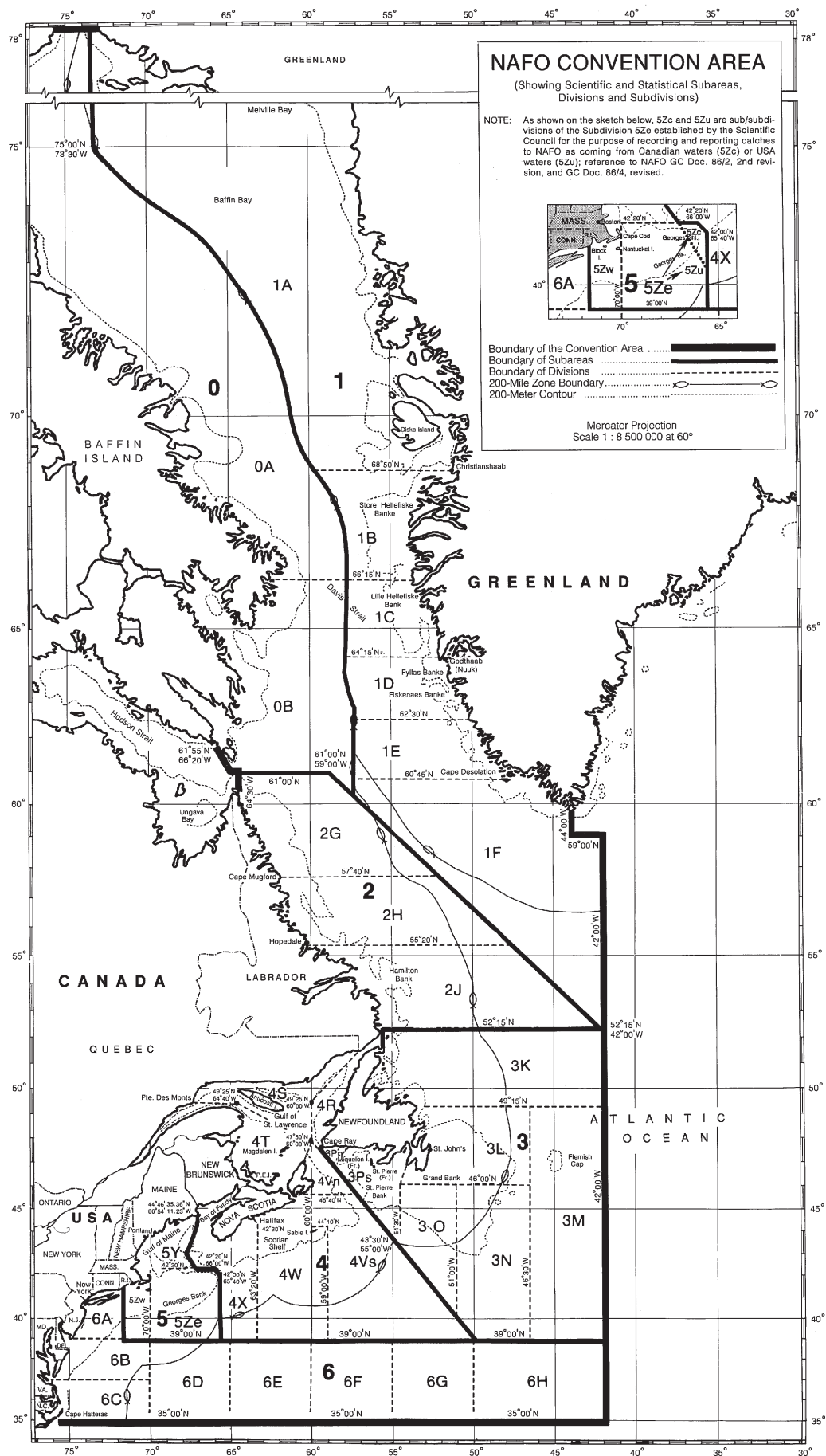
Selected Papers on Harp and Hooded Seals

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Foreword

In accordance with its mandate to disseminate information on fisheries research to the scientific community, the Scientific Council of NAFO publishes the *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science*, which contains peer-reviewed primary papers and notes on original research, and *NAFO Scientific Council Studies*, which contains review papers of topical interest and importance.

Noting that Denmark (in respect of Greenland) with the concurrence of Canada had requested advice on harp and hooded seals, the Scientific Council called a meeting of the Joint ICES/NAFO Working Group on Harp and Hooded seals. This Group met at the Keddy's Dartmouth Inn, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, during 5–9 June 1995, in conjunction with the Scientific Council meetings of 7–21 June 1995. The Group considered the assessment of the stocks and catch options, as reported in Scientific Council Reports, 1995, pages 43–48.

Noting that most of the research documents presented at the Working Group meeting were quite extensive and together presented an excellent summary of current knowledge of the status of the harp and hooded seals, the Council agreed that it would be extremely useful to compile these documents into a single issue of the *NAFO Scientific Council Studies*. Upon the approval of members of the Working Group, authors were requested to submit their revised papers for a special issue of the Council Studies.

This issue of *NAFO Scientific Council Studies* contains the information reviewed at the Working Group. The 25 previous issues of the *NAFO Scientific Council Studies* are listed on the back cover of this volume.

December, 1996

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