

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR

THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES  
Document No. 9THIRD ANNUAL MEETINGUnited States Research in the Convention Area Planned for 1953

Agencies in the United States proposing to carry out investigations in hydrography and fishery biology in the Convention area in 1953 are the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Weather Bureau and the U.S. Navy.

The plans of the first four agencies are listed below. The plans of the U.S. Navy are not available.

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Chart 1)

1. Ichthyological Survey of continental slope in zone between 100 and 1000 fathom contours, extending from south of Long Island to the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. Surveys were made in this zone last year and it is intended to continue this work, if funds become available. (Chart 1)
2. Hydrographic survey in pattern including parts of Georges Bank and the waters southeast of the Bank. This pattern was occupied once and set up for systematic resurvey. Further surveys depend upon securing vessel time. (Chart 1)
3. Bio-acoustic studies. These have been conducted from time to time and will be continued. The area involved just barely includes a corner of the Convention Area. (Chart 1)
4. Hydrographic surveys by boat and plane of the Gulf Stream area. (Chart 1)
5. Thermographs. Recently developed long recording thermographs will probably be set out in Subarea 5 during the year.

Vessels used by the Institution: Atlantis and Caryn and chartered vessels.

U.S. Coast Guard for International Ice Patrol (Chart 1)

1. Network of stations in Area A. Occupied each year during April, May, June and July.
2. "Bonavista Triangle" in Subarea 3 (B). A triangle of three hydrographic sections. Occupied two or more times annually between April and July.
3. Hydrographic Section between Labrador and Cape Farewell, Greenland ("L"). Occupied once each July.
4. Occasional hydrographic sections across the major currents of the northern part of the Labrador Sea and the southern part of Laffin Bay.

Observations include temperature and salinity, and sometimes depths.

Vessel: "Evergreen" operated by U.S. Coast Guard on behalf of International Ice Patrol.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Chart 2)

1. Research Vessel. Albatross III will survey Georges Bank, Gulf of Maine and western Nova Scotian Banks. Will conduct biological and hydrographic studies. (Chart 2)
2. Commercial Vessels. Two observers will work throughout the year on vessels working on Georges Bank and Nova Scotian Banks. (Chart 2)
3. Shore Sampling. Practically all boats fishing in the Convention Area will be interviewed. Samples will be obtained from major ports. (Chart 2) U.S. boats land fish from as far away as the Grand Banks.

U.S. Weather Bureau (Chart 1)

1. Weather ships "Baker" and "Easy". Air temperature, barometric pressure, wind velocity, and other standard meteorological observations.

Kinds of Data.

Biological Data. Only the Fish and Wildlife Service will be collecting samples of fish; eggs, larvae, and adults. The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution will be making some productivity studies and possibly collecting general plankton studies.

Haddock: samples for studies of growth, independence of stocks, year class strength and population problems; plankton samples for study of distribution and abundance of eggs and larvae; other collections for food habits studies.

Redfish: samples for studies of growth, age determination, fecundity, spawning habits, racial problems, migrations, and parasite incidence; plankton samples for study of distribution and abundance of eggs and larvae.

Whiting: samples of fish for studies of growth, food habits, and spawning habits.

Herring: samples for abundance studies and studies of herring disease.

Hydrographic Data. The Fish and Wildlife Service will collect temperature and possibly salinity data in Subarea 5. Details of the station plan have not yet been worked out. Currents will be studied by means of drift bottles.

In the International Ice Patrol surveys temperatures and salinities are recorded and sometimes phosphorus content of the water.

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution will measure temperature and salinity in the Georges Bank area and in the Gulf Stream area indicated in chart 1.

Herbert W. Graham.

Chart 1.

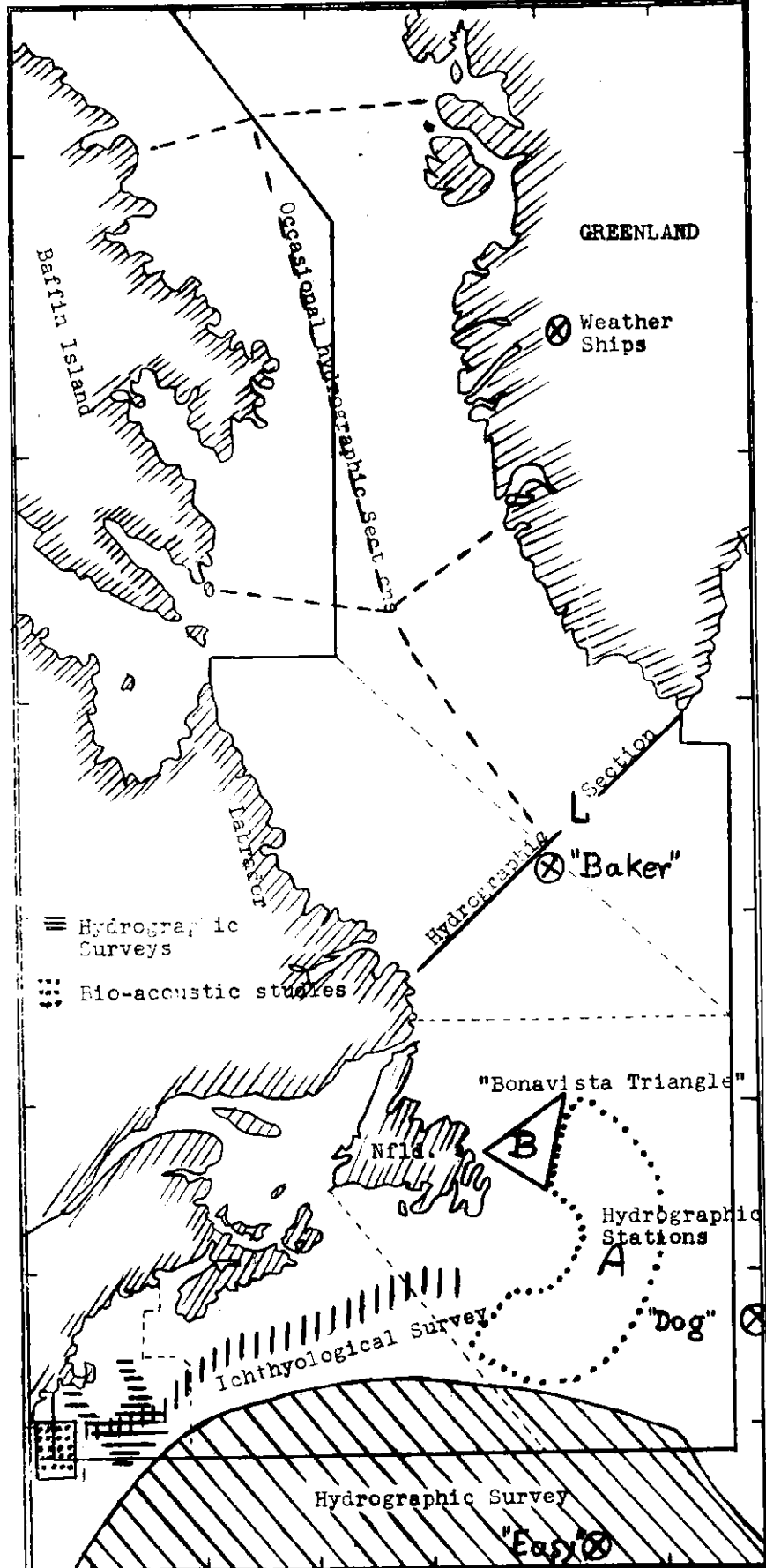
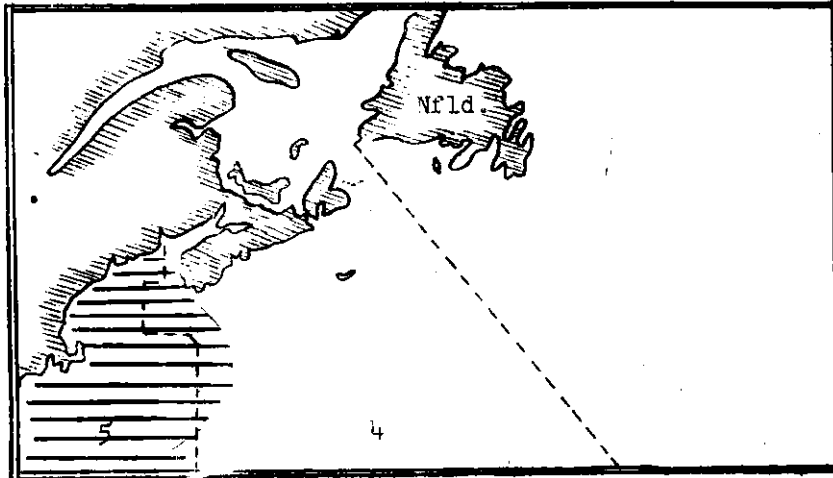


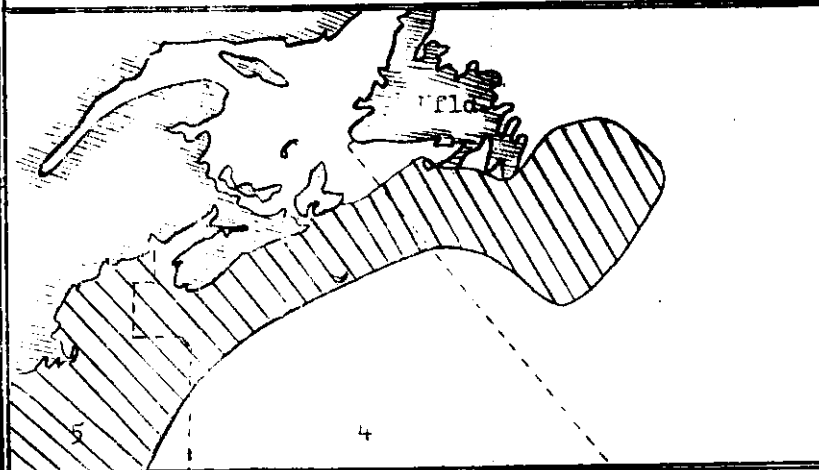
Chart 2

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Albatross  
III



Area from  
which shore  
samples  
will be  
obtained



Observers  
on commer-  
cial vessels

