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A. Status of the Fisheries

In 1965 Icelandic trawlers fished mainly in Divisions 1D, 1E, 3K, 3L and 3M. In the whole area fishing effort was rather similar to that of the year before; there was a decrease in fishing effort in Subarea 1, but an increase in Subarea 3.

Table 1. Fishing effort and landings of redfish and cod by Icelandic trawlers in the ICNAF area in 1964 and 1965.

Subareas	1		2		3		Total	
	64	65	64	65	64	65	64	65
Years	64	65	64	65	64	65	64	65
Hours fished	2314	1918	111	368	1709	2117	4580	4403
Redfish (tons)	1954	1253	379		1999	1942	4341	3195
Redfish tons/100 hours	84	65	341		117	92	95	73
Cod (tons)	3091	3376	114	598	887	1235	4274	5209
Cod tons/100 hours	134	176	103	163	52	58	93	118

Cod and redfish constituted 97% of the total landings. As shown in Table 1 there was a substantial decrease in catch per unit effort of redfish in Subareas 1 and 3 compared to 1964. For the whole area the decrease in catch per unit effort of redfish was about 25%.

As for cod there was an increase of 31% in catch per unit effort in Subarea 1, but the total landings from this subarea were rather similar to those of the year before. In the whole area the increase in catch per unit effort of this species was 27%.

B. Sampling of cod from commercial trawlers

Three samples for length and age were taken from commercial cod landings from West Greenland. The first one taken from the Lille Hellefiskebank in the beginning of April, showed a marked dominance of the 1960 year-class (53%) and the 1959 year-class (22%). The second sample was from Fiskenesbank in the beginning of May, but in this sample the 1961 year-class was the most abundant (39%), followed by the 1960 year-class (22%). The third sample covers the Fiskenesbank, Noname Bank and Danas Bank at the end of May. Here there was a clear dominance of the 1957 year-class (38%), but the 1960 year-class was second with 18%.

Three samples are available from the Angmagsalik area in April and they will show a very similar age distribution.

The 1956 year-class was dominant with 26%, then came the 1953 year-class (16.3%) followed by the 1957 year-class (14.3%) and the 1958 year-class (12.3%). This age distribution is rather like that of the Icelandic spawning stock of cod at the same time, except for the lack of the 1953 year-class in the samples from Iceland.