

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1966United Kingdom Research Report, 1965

by C. E. Lucas and J. A. Gulland

A. Status of the Fisheries

The total UK landings from the ICNAF area increased in 1965 by about 15% from 1964 to about 55,000 tons. Due partly to the increasing number of freezer trawlers coming into operation the amount of fishing (in total hours fishing) increased by about 20%, so that the increased landings are more than accounted for by the increased fishing.

Within the total there were big changes in the subareas fished. Both catch and effort in Subarea 1 fell to about half (total landings of ca. 15,000 tons), while landings from Subarea 2 increased by five times (to ca. 9,000 tons), and those from Subarea 3 doubled (to ca. 30,000 tons). Landings from Subareas 4 and 5 increased, but are still at a relatively low level.

In the two most important subareas the catch per hour fishing fell by about 10%, to 1.3 tons in Subarea 1 and 1.0 tons in Subarea 3.

B. Special Research StudiesI. Environmental Studies

UK research vessels did not work in the ICNAF area in 1965, but a number of members of the Lowestoft, Aberdeen and Edinburgh laboratories have been actively engaged in writing the report on the NORWESTLANT surveys; this is now nearly complete. The Continuous Plankton Recorder survey has been maintained (see more detailed account attached).

II. Biological Studies

Regular sampling for length and age continued on the fish markets (on landings of fresh fish), at processing works (on landings of whole frozen fish) and on factory ships. Altogether some 55,000 fish (cod, haddock, coalfish (pollock) and halibut) were measured. Some 2,000 otoliths were collected.

UK scientists have continued their studies of the state of the ICNAF stocks, being particularly concerned with the working group on Greenland cod.

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Annex to
United Kingdom Research Report, 1965

by R. S. Glover

The Continuous Plankton Recorder Survey was continued in 1965, providing nearly 26,000 miles of sampling over nine standard routes in the ICNAF area, as part of a survey of the North Atlantic Ocean and North Sea which yielded a total of almost 120,000 miles during the year. The program was supported by grants from the British Treasury and by Contract N62558-3612 between the Office of Naval Research, Department of the United States Navy, and the Scottish Marine Biological Association. The mileage sampled in 1965 is shown below for each of the ICNAF subareas in each month and for the whole year.

Subarea Month	1	2	3	4	5	Total	No. of Records
	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	
Jan.	-	200	1,330	122	-	1,652	5
Feb.	-	-	590	246	-	836	3
Mar.	18	-	2,209	744	97	3,068	9
Apr.	-	248	2,077	235	207	2,767	8
May	364	300	1,678	485	123	2,950	9
June	413	252	1,102	60	-	1,827	4
July	235	560	1,280	455	110	2,640	7
Aug.	462	634	1,072	414	112	2,694	9
Sept.	243	412	1,908	417	-	2,980	8
Oct.	118	87	1,217	160	113	1,695	5
Nov.	230	320	463	10	-	1,023	3
Dec.	235	445	ca. 838	253	-	1,771	6
Total	2,318	3,458	15,764	3,601	762	25,903	76

The material is being analysed in the Edinburgh Oceanographic Laboratory and the results will be incorporated into a study of the distribution and abundance of the plankton with an emphasis on the analysis of variation in the plankton and the environment. The topics studied during 1965, and relating specifically to the ICNAF area, included an analysis of collections made during the NORWESTLANT surveys, a comparative study of the food of larval cod and redfish, studies of larval and adult Sebastes in the open ocean, and detailed morphological and ecological analyses of intra-specific populations of Calanus finmarchicus and Thysanoessa longicaudata.