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Summary of information on discards and industrial fish for the year 1972

by Assistant Executive Secretary

Introduction

In accordance with previous recommendations of the Statistics and Sampling Subcommittee, member countries have since 1964 been requested to collect statistics on discards (fish thrown overboard at sea) and on industrial fish (whole fish utilized for fish meal at sea) and report these data annually on forms provided by the Secretariat (ICNAF Statistics Form 4). Data for 1972 were requested by Circular Letter 73/1, dated 3 January 1973, and a supply of forms (revised) was included with the Circular Letter. The deadline for the receipt of these statistics at the Secretariat was 15 July 1973.

Forms used in previous years contained space for entering the quantities of fish discarded and used for reduction, but the nature of the submissions was such that it was difficult to meaningfully relate the information on discards with the nominal catches reported on STATLANT Forms. The form to be used for reporting 1972 statistics on discards and industrial fish was therefore revised with the addition of space for entering the nominal catches to which the discard and industrial fish statistics applied. A copy of the form with instructions for its use is given in the Appendix.

Nature of Data Submissions

Between 7 May and 17 October 1973, reports were received from 11 of the 16 member countries of ICNAF (8 were received after the 15 July deadline): Canada, France (M), Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, USSR, UK and USA.

In most cases the reports were very unsatisfactory, largely due to incompleteness of data and the use of forms other than those provided. Some countries reported on forms in use as early as 1967. There was a great degree of inconsistency in the manner in which the data were reported. Of the 11 countries reporting, only two submissions could be classed as satisfactory: Federal Republic of Germany and Romania.

Table 1 represents a summary of the available data by country and subarea. Due to the absence of nominal catch figures in most of the reports received, the nominal catches given in Table 1 are derived from Statistical Bulletin, Vol. 22. In the case of discards, the percentages relate to the total catch (nominal catch + discards); in the case of reduction, the percentages relate to the nominal catches.

The following comments on the various submissions for 1972 may be noted:

Canada (MQ) - Nil return.

Canada (N) - Data reported on copies of 1967 forms, but not summarized here due to the problem of not being able to relate discards to nominal catches.

France (M) - Correct forms not used; nominal catches not listed; discarded and industrial fish recorded for three species categories (cod, redfish and mixed with sporadic entries for haddock and flounders); catches in SA 5 and 6 not covered.

Fed.Rep. Germany - Report covered all divisions both for discards and industrial fish of the species and species groups requested, including nominal catches which agreed with those given in Statistical Bulletin; the only inadequacy was the lack of breakdown by tonnage classes.

Japan - Correct forms not used; nominal catches not listed; no industrial fish reported; all discards reported as mixed; no mention of discards for catches in SA 3.

- Poland - Correct forms not used; nominal catches not listed; report pertained only to herring and mackerel fisheries in SA 5 and 6; no coverage for catches of various species in SA 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Portugal - Correct forms used but nominal catches not listed; discards and industrial fish relate to cod catches only; no mention of other species.
- Romania - Did not report on forms provided, but used similar format; information by divisions and species were provided as requested for industrial; the lack of entries for discards suggest that there were none.
- Spain - Correct forms used and nominal catches listed, but in many cases these did not agree with those given in Statistical Bulletin; data provided two classes of fishing units only (otter trawl and pair trawl) with no breakdown by tonnage class and no distinction between side and stern otter trawlers; no mention of industrial fish; data pertain to three species categories only (cod, haddock and mixed).
- USSR - Correct forms not used; data pertain only to industrial fish and reported only by subarea; no information provided on catches of many of the principal species (cod, haddock, redfish, flounders, red hake, herring, etc.) which make up the bulk of quantities grouped as "others" in Table 1; no breakdown by gear or tonnage classes.
- UK - Correct form used but report covered only a part of the Div 2J cod catch; no reference to catches in SA 1, 3 and 4.
- USA - Correct form used but report covered only the discards in the yellowtail fishery in SA 5 by division and also by management area; no reference to discards of other species in SA 4, 5 and 6.

#### Concluding Remarks

Annually since 1964 STACRES has recommended that member countries collect and report statistics on discards and industrial fish. It was conceivable that the information provided in the early years would not be satisfactory, but that the quality would gradually improve. However, a brief survey of the submissions of previous years indicates that there has been little, if any, improvement. In some cases there has been a deterioration in the quality of reporting, and the lack of sufficient information renders the data practically meaningless. Individuals and/or national agencies, responsible for preparing the submissions, seem to show a lack of concern by not using the correct forms provided, by not completing the forms properly, and in general by not following the instructions provided. Consequently the usefulness of the data provided must be in doubt for some of the submissions. For example, countries reporting nominal catches and discards (or industrial fish) for only one or two species, must invariably catch quantities of a variety of other species, little or none of which are recorded as nominal catch or discards or industrial fish.

Besides the absence of reports from a number of countries, the lack of adherence to the established deadline must also be noted. Of the 11 reports received covering 1972 data, five were available by the end of July 1973 (deadline 15 July 1973), three were received in August, two in September and one in October. Despite the various requests by the Secretariat that countries use airmail services to submit material, some submissions took 2-3 months after mailing to reach the Secretariat.

Table 1. Summary of information on discards and industrial fish in relation to nominal catch (metric tons) for 1972.

			Subarea 1				Subarea 2				Subarea 3				Subarea 4							
			Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction	
				Amt.	%	Amt.	%		Amt.	%	Amt.	%		Amt.	%	Amt.	%		Amt.	%		
Fra(M)	OTSI	Cod	4952	30	0.6	-	-	1468	19	1.3	-	-	7284	34	0.5	-	-	9366	219	2.3	-	-
		Red	-	22	100.0	-	-	-	13	100.0	-	-	-	54	100.0	20	0.3	-	-	109	100.0	64
		Others	8	?	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	212	?	-	-	-	31	?	-	-	-	
	OTSN	Cod	563	9	1.6	-	-	3392	9	0.3	-	-	7337	9	0.1	-	-	10316	39	0.4	-	-
		Red	-	70	100.0	6	1.0	14	2	12.5	35	1.0	7	62	90.0	148	1.9	-	-	383	100.0	234
		Others	16	?	-	-	139	?	-	-	-	268	?	-	-	-	164	?	-	-	-	
FRG	OT	Cod	16833	18	0.1	59	0.4	10165	5	0.0	376	3.7	19987	82	0.4	449	2.2	2	-	-	-	-
		Red	2614	2	0.1	52	2.0	201	-	-	201	100.0	628	-	-	226	36.0	-	-	-	-	
		Flo	279	-	-	93	33.3	61	-	-	2	3.3	54	-	-	8	14.8	-	-	-	-	
		Her	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	-	-	-	-	590	-	-	-	-
		Mac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Others	726	2	0.3	170	23.4	76	3	3.8	50	65.8	171	9	5.0	83	48.5	19	-	-	10	52.6
Jap	OT	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2165	?	-	?	-	4512	76	1.7	-	?	
Pol	OTSI	Her	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	
		Mac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	OTSN	Her	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Others	282	-	-	-	24055	-	-	-	-	35693	-	-	-	-	243	-	-	-	-	
Por	OTSI	Cod	-	-	-	-	13519	317	2.3	91	0.7	48543	816	1.7	360	0.7	4245	29	0.7	6	0.1	
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	?	?	?	-	
		OTSN	-	-	-	-	6361	17	0.3	404	6.4	21526	45	0.2	1080	5.0	7785	16	0.2	207	2.7	
		Others	-	-	-	-	433	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	358	?	?	?	?		
Rom	OTSN	Cod	-	-	-	-	675	-	-	112	16.6	2021	-	-	854	42.2	-	-	-	-	-	
		Red	-	-	-	-	231	-	-	52	22.5	141	-	-	50	13.5	-	-	-	-	-	
		Flo	-	-	-	-	162	-	-	66	40.7	665	-	-	84	12.6	-	-	-	-	-	
		Her	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		O P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Others	-	-	-	-	56	-	-	23	41.1	62	-	-	33	53.2	-	-	-	-	-	
Spa	OT	Cod	-	-	-	-	1664	2	0.1	-	-	15486	26	0.2	-	-	7771	4	0.1	-	-	
		Had	-	-	-	-	2	33	94.3	-	-	132	57	30.2	-	-	113	30	21.0	-	-	
		Others	-	-	-	-	15	254	94.4	-	-	274	1987	87.9	-	-	130	492	79.1	-	-	
		PT	Cod	12951	82	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	142113	900	0.6	-	-	31484	40	0.1	-	-	
		Had	144	?	-	-	-	-	-	2272	25	1.1	-	-	1842	15	0.8	-	-			
		Others	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	576	3383	85.5	-	-	944	737	43.8	-	-			
USSR	A11	RNG	2164	-	-	807	37.2	2867	-	-	994	34.7	21157	-	-	2597	12.3	-	-	-	-	
		Cap	-	-	-	-	17814	-	-	3115	17.5	48362	-	-	7913	16.4	-	-	-	-	-	
		S H	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		OPu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Scu <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Sha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		O F	69	-	-	69	100.0	2032	-	-	2032	100.0	370	-	-	370	100.0	5241	-	-	5241	100.0
		Squ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4355	-	-	3920	90.0	7775	-	-	-	7692	98.9
		Others	1290	-	-	?	-	110383	-	-	?	-	7	-	?	100.0	1824	-	-	-	1824	100.0
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	235300	-	-	?	-	59907	-	-	-	?		
UK	OT	Cod	846	?	-	-	3116	2400	43.5	-	-	8153	?	-	-	-	1180	?	-	-	-	
		Others	131	?	-	-	1174	?	-	-	1401	?	-	-	-	150	?	-	-	-	-	
USA	OT	Ye1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	?	-	-	-	
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15487	?	-	-	-	

<sup>1</sup> Sculpins + sea robins.

Abbreviations and Symbols Used

<b>Country -</b>	Fra(M) - France (Metropolitan)	<b>Species -</b>	Had - haddock
	FRG - Federal Republic of Germany		Red - redfish
	Jap - Japan		S H - silver hake
	Pol - Poland		Ye1 - yellowtail
	Por - Portugal		Flo - flounders
	Rom - Romania		Her - herring
	Spa - Spain		Mac - mackerel
	USSR - Union of Socialist Soviet Republics		O P - other pelagics
	UK - United Kingdom		RNG - roundnose grenadier
	USA - United States of America		Cap - capelin
<b>Gear -</b>	OT - otter trawl		Ang - angler
	OTSI - otter trawl side		OPu - ocean pout
	OTSN - otter trawl stern		Scu - sculpins
	MT - midwater trawl		Sha - sharks
	PT - pair trawl		Ska - skates
			Squ - squids
			Others - for each country the catches pertain to all species other than those listed for that country

Table 1. (Continued)

			Subarea 5				Subarea 6				Subareas 1-6				Remarks regarding method of obtaining information			
			Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		Nominal catch	Discards		Reduction		
				Amt.	%	Amt.	%		Amt.	%	Amt.	%		Amt.		%	Amt.	%
Fra(M)	OTSI	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23070	302	1.3	-	-	-	-	
		Red	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198	100.0	84	0.4	-	-		
		Others	6	-	-	297	-	-	-	-	567	?	-	-	-	-		
	OTSN	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21608	66	0.3	-	-	-		
		Red	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	517	96.1	423	1.9	-		
		Others	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1087	?	-	-	-	-		
FRG	OT	Cod	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47004	105	0.2	884	1.9	Information from logbooks and based on 100% of trips.		
		Red	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3446	2	0.1	656	19.0			
		Flo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	394	-	-	103	26.1			
		Her	30633	-	-	6	0.0	-	-	-	31333	-	-	6	0.0			
		Mac	757	29	3.7	345	45.6	13	-	-	770	29	3.8	358	46.5			
		Others	1039	10	1.0	504	48.5	426	-	-	2457	24	1.0	844	34.4			
Jap	OT	Total	12539	816	6.1	?	16280	2113	11.5	?	35496	3005	7.8	?	?	From trip reports of captains		
Pol	OTSI	Her	4792	-	-	1341	14.5	6448	-	-	11268	-	-	2540	8.4	From trip reports of captains. Returns indicate that 100% of trips were used to obtain the estimates.		
		Mac	4470	-	-	14537	-	1199	5.7	19009	-	-	-	-				
		Others	1505	-	-	1188	-	2693	-	-	-	-	-	-				
	OTSN	Her	36432	-	-	14188	15.2	1820	-	-	38252	-	-	27519	17.0			
		Mac	57016	-	-	65976	-	13331	19.7	123235	-	-	-	-				
		Others	9635	-	-	2855	-	72649	-	-	72649	-	-	-	-			
Por	OTSI	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66307	1162	1.7	457	0.7	Information from logbooks and based on 100% of trips.		
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	?	-				
	OTSN	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35672	78	0.2	1691	4.7			
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4514	?	-	?	-			
Rom	OTSN	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2696	-	-	966	35.8	Information from logbooks and based on 100% of trips.		
		Red	14	-	-	1	7.1	-	-	-	386	-	-	103	26.7			
		Flo	32	-	-	2	6.3	42	-	-	901	-	-	154	17.1			
		Her	2059	-	-	185	9.0	97	-	-	2156	-	-	186	8.6			
		O P	596	-	-	161	27.0	2107	-	-	2703	-	-	255	9.4			
		Others	97	-	-	54	55.7	300	-	-	515	-	-	174	33.8			
Spa	OT	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24921	32	0.1	-	-	Information from logbooks and based on 100% of trips.		
		Had	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	247	120	32.7	-	-			
		Others	29	218	88.2	18	-	39	68.4	-	466	2733	85.4	-	-			
	PT	Cod	6701	37	0.5	3	-	-	-	-	193252	1059	0.5	-	-			
		Had	1098	6	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	5356	46	1.0	-	-			
		Others	292	56	16.1	-	-	-	-	-	1812	4176	69.7	-	-			
USSR	A11	RNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26188	-	-	4398	16.8			
		Cap	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66176	-	-	11028	16.7			
		S H	94150	-	-	3558	3.8	7735	-	-	207924	-	-	8063	3.9			
		Mac	103686	-	-	1244	1.2	30371	-	-	109455	-	-	1461	1.3			
		Ang	4092	-	-	4092	100.0	-	-	-	6964	-	-	6964	100.0			
		OPu	975	-	-	952	97.6	92	-	-	975	-	-	952	97.6			
		Scu <sup>1</sup>	4500	-	-	4500	100.0	5826	-	-	4500	-	-	4500	100.0			
		Sha	12486	-	-	12253	98.1	8364	-	-	14938	-	-	14705	98.4			
		Ska	7957	-	-	7957	100.0	-	-	-	13568	-	-	13568	100.0			
		O F	11925	-	-	10654	89.3	5406	-	-	26156	-	-	24367	93.2			
		Squ	6381	-	-	5553	87.0	595	-	-	8212	-	-	7384	89.9			
		Others	167581	-	-	?	-	23252	-	-	597713	-	-	?	-			
UK	OT	Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13295	?	-	-	-		Information from port interview and based on 10% of trips.	
		Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2856	?	-	-	-			
USA	OT	Yel	24115	3100	11.4	4994	?	?	?	29113	-	-	-	-	-	Port interviews and observers on vessels.		
		Others	90094	?	-	2334	?	-	-	107915	-	-	-	-	-			

<sup>1</sup> Sculpins + sea robins.

Abbreviations and Symbols Used

<u>Country</u> -	Fra(M) - France (Metropolitan)	<u>Species</u> -	Had - haddock
	FRG - Federal Republic of Germany		Red - redfish
	Jap - Japan		S H - silver hake
	Pol - Poland		Yel - yellowtail
	Por - Portugal		Flo - flounders
	Rom - Romania		Her - herring
	Spa - Spain		Mac - mackerel
	USSR - Union of Socialist Soviet Republics		O P - other pelagics
	UK - United Kingdom		RNG - roundnose grenadier
	USA - United States of America		Cap - capelin
<u>Gear</u> -	OT - otter trawl		Ang - angler
	OTSI - otter trawl side		OPu - ocean pout
	OTSN - otter trawl stern		Scu - sculpins
	MT - midwater trawl		Sha - sharks
	PT - pair trawl		Ska - skates
			Squ - squids
			Others - for each country the catches pertain to all species other than those listed for that country

APPENDIX

Circular Letter 73/1

P.O. Box 638  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada

3 January 1973

Reporting of Statistics on Discards and Industrial Fish, 1972  
(ICNAF Statistics Form 4)

1. In accordance with a 1966 recommendation adopted by the Subcommittee on Statistics and Sampling, Member Countries of ICNAF are requested to report the weights of whole fish thrown overboard at sea (DISCARDS) and the weights of whole fish turned into fish meal at sea (INDUSTRIAL) annually on ICNAF Statistics Form 4. These data are summarized annually in meeting documents.

2. In accordance with Recommendation 11 of the Statistics and Sampling Subcommittee (Redbook 1972, Part I, page 70), the form has been slightly modified to include space for recording the nominal catches to which the information on discards and industrial fish pertains. The inclusion of these data will greatly facilitate the compilation of the annual summary by the Secretariat as well as enable direct comparison of discarded and industrial fish data with nominal catches in order to reduce or eliminate certain discrepancies which were prevalent in some submissions for previous years.

3. Enclosed are copies of the revised ICNAF Statistics Form 4 with instructions for its completion and with hypothetical examples showing the correct use of the form.

4. You are kindly requested to complete the form (using as many sheets as are necessary), giving information on discarded and industrial fish for the year 1972, and submit the data to the ICNAF Secretariat not later than 15 July 1973.

5. In accordance with a 1969 recommendation of the Statistics and Sampling Subcommittee (Redbook 1969, Part I, page 48), information on discarded and industrial fish for 1967 was published in Redbook 1969, Part III, pages 115-123, for 1968 in Redbook 1970, Part III, pages 181-188, for 1969 in Redbook 1971, Part III, pages 297-303, and for 1970 in Redbook 1972, Part III, pages 97-100.

Yours sincerely

VMH:VCK  
Enclosures



V.M. Hodder  
Assistant Executive Secretary

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ICNAF STATISTICS FORM 4

For reporting weights of whole fish thrown overboard at sea (discarded) or used for fish meal at sea (industrial).

Year	Country	Gear Class	Tonn. Class	Main Species	Method used for obtaining information (check appropriate spaces)			
					Logbook	Boat observer	Port interview	Other (specify)

ICNAF Division	Disposition	Total Weight for the Year by Species and/or Species Groups (Metric Tons Round Fresh)											Percent of catch, or of number of trips, sampled*				
		Cod	Haddock	Redfish	Silver Hake	Flounders		Other Gro'fish		Herring	Other Pelagics			Others			
						Amount	Main Species	Amount	Main Species		Amount	Main Species		Amount	Main Species		
	Nominal catch																
	Discarded																
	Industrial																
	Nominal catch																
	Discarded																
	Industrial																
	Nominal catch																
	Discarded																
	Industrial																
	Nominal catch																
	Discarded																
	Industrial																
	Nominal catch																
	Discarded																
	Industrial																

\* For information on quantities of fish discarded at sea or used for industrial purposes.

S6S/IM/1/73