

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N476

NAFO SCS Doc. 81/XI/28

SPECIAL MEETING OF SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL - NOVEMBER 1981

Provisional Sealing Statistics for the Northwest Atlantic, 1981

by

NAFO Secretariat

Reports on sealing catch and effort in the Northwest Atlantic for 1981 have been received from Canada for the "Front" and "Gulf" areas and Norway for the "Front" area. No reports are yet available for Danish seal catches in Subarea 1 and Canadian seal catches in Subarea 0.

All available data on catches of harp and hooded seals for the calendar year 1981 are listed in Table 1, and corresponding statistics on hunting effort are given in Table 2. Norwegian statistics for harp seals do not distinguish between "bedlamer" and "old harp", and Canada(Q) statistics given for Magdalen Islands and North Shore separately as the latter do not distinguish between "bedlamer" and "old harp".

Abbreviations and Definitions

Abbreviations for Countries

Can (M)	- Canada (Maritimes)
Can (N)	- Canada (Newfoundland)
Can (Q)	- Canada (Quebec)
Den (G)	- Denmark (Greenland)

Common and Scientific Names

Harp seal	- <i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>
Hooded seal	- <i>Cystophora cristata</i>

Definition of Seal Age Categories

Whitecoat	- less than 2 weeks old with unmoulted white fur (lanugo)
Beater	- more than 2 weeks old
Bedlamer	- 1 year or older with spotted pelt, roughly equivalent to immature animals
Old harp	- animals with conspicuous saddle mark on back and sides, roughly equivalent to mature animals

Explanation of Effort Terms

Engine HP	- brake horsepower
Landsmen	- shore fishermen, including those using small vessels or aircraft
No. of men	- total number in crew of "vessel" and number of hunters if "landsmen"
Days absent	- number of days absent from port including the day the vessel sails but not the day of landing

Table 1. Harp and hooded seal catches in the Northwest Atlantic, 1981.

Area	Catching category	Country	HARP SEALS				Total harps	HOODED SEALS			GRAND TOTAL
			White-coat	Beater	Bed-lamer	Old harp		Young	1 and older	Total hoods	
Front	Ships >150	Can(M)	9955	102	50	50	10157	805	161	966	11123
	Ships >150	Can(N)	43976	395	345	337	45053	2483	453	2936	47989
	Ships >150	Norway	14816	7145	(421)		22382	4084	1283	5367	27749
	Ships <150	Can(N)	30023	4824	3709	2221	40777	1832	743	2575	43352
	Landsmen	Can(N)	7884	10489	4002	2550	24925	571	212	783	25708
		TOTAL		106654	22955	(13685)		143294	9775	2852	12627	155921
Gulf	Ships >150	Can(M)	4058	-	-	2	4060	-	-	-	4060
	Ships >150	Can(N)	8602	-	-	6	8608	-	-	-	8608
	Magdalen I.	Can(Q)	8764	4	1	58	8827	13	-	13	8840
	North Shore	Can(Q)	1336	-	(7234)		8570	-	-	-	8570
	Ships <150	Can(N)	8042	1261	1677	703	11683	642	150	792	12475
	Landsmen	Can(M)	2707	1	-	-	2708	-	-	-	2708
		Can(N)	10998	946	319	149	12412	241	13	254	12666
	TOTAL		44507	2212	(10149)		56868	896	163	1059	57927
TOTAL ALL AREAS			151161	25167	(23834)		200162	10671	3015	13686	213848

Table 2. Statistics of seal hunting effort in the Northwest Atlantic, 1981.

Area	Catching category	Country	No. of Vessels	Tonnage		Engine HP	No. of Men	Days Absent	Seals Caught
				Gross	Net				
Front	Ships >150	Can(M)	1	599	280	1350	28	38	11123
	Ships >150	Can(N)	6	3641	2125	6990	148	129	47989
	Ships >150	Norway	3	1323	475	5900	54	138	27749
	Ships <150	Can(N)	93	2396	1728	13412	371	971	43352
	Landsmen	Can(N)	1477	-	-	-	2878	-	25708
Gulf	Ships >150	Can(M)	1	457	191	1250	21	23	4060
	Ships >150	Can(N)	1	470	93	2000	20	14	8608
	Magdalen I.	Can(Q)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8840
	North Shore	Can(Q)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8570
	Ships <150	Can(N)	44	970	738	6712	179	300	12475
	Landsmen	Can(M)	...	-	-	-	240	-	2708
		Can(N)	413	-	-	-	850	-	12666