

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

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SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1983

Joint Request of Canada and the European Economic Community on Management
in 1984 and 1985 of the Seal Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic

The Government of Canada and the European Economic Community request advice of the NAFO Scientific Council on the scientific basis for management in 1984 and 1985 of harp seals and in 1984 for hooded seals within national fishery limits in NAFO Subareas 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4. Specifically, the Scientific Council is requested to review and advise on the following:

1. Northwest Atlantic harp seals

- a) Current stock size and pup population and recent trends in these parameters.
- b) Current replacement yield and sustainable yield at present stock size and in the long term and under varying options of age compositions in the catch, including that recently occurring; specifically, how would the replacement yield change if the age composition of the catch changed from that recently observed?
- c) Trends in population size based upon differing levels of catch assuming quota regulation of all removals except that by traditional hunting in the Canadian Arctic and at Greenland.
- d) Trends in catches in Canada, north of 60°N latitude and at Greenland.
- e) Future research requirements and need for coordination with ICES.

2. Hooded seals

Advice for hooded seals, to the extent possible, is requested on the above questions, as well as consideration of the limits to any change in the population abundance of hooded seals over the next five years, given a range of catch levels maintained during that period.

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