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The Status of the Greenland Halibut (Reinhardtius hippoglossoides)

Stock in NAFO Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KL

by

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Introduction

Landings of Greenland halibut averaged about 25,000-30,000 t annually from 1969-76 then increased to a peak of 39,000 t in 1978. Since that time landings have steadily declined to a level of near 24,500 t in 1983 and 1984 (Table 1). The main prosecutors of this fishery have been Canada, the Soviet Union, Poland, and GDR. In recent years, however, Canada (N) accounted for about 70-80% of the total catch. The main components of this fishery in 1984 were offshore otter trawlers from Canada, the Soviet Union, Poland, GDR, and Japan which, when combined, accounted for 55% of the landings with most of the remainder accounted for by Canada (N) gillnets. The landings in 1984 were within average levels despite a 6 month strike in the largest otter trawl fleet in Canada (N).

The TAC on this stock was 30,000 t annually from 1976-79 and was exceeded in 1977-79 inclusive. The TAC was increased to 35,000 t in 1980 due to some indication of good recruitment. In 1981, with more detailed data available on recruiting year-classes and fishing mortality, the TAC was raised to 55,000 t for Div. 2J3KL and remained in effect until 1985. An additional 20,000 t was allocated to Div. 2GH. In 1985 a TAC of 75,000 t was placed on the whole stock area (unsegregated) and is considered to be a conservative level for this stock given good recruitment and low fishing mortality.

Research vessel surveys:

i) Biomass estimates in Divisions 2J3KL

Results of stratified-random biomass surveys for groundfish in Div. 2J (1977-84) and 3KL (1978-84) carried out in autumn by the research vessel GADUS ATLANTICA are presented in Tables 2 and 3. Results of the stratified-random biomass surveys in Div. 3L carried out in autumn by the A. T. CAMERON in 1981-82 are shown in Table 4. Results of the W. TEMPLEMAN survey in the autumn of 1983, summer of 1984, and winter of 1985 are also shown in Table 4.

The area surveyed in Div. 2J in 1984 gave a biomass estimate of 81,200 t, compared to 78,500 t in 1984 (Table 2). Compared to 1983, however, there were three strata not surveyed in 1984. These three strata in 1983 accounted for an estimated biomass of over 4,000 t.

In Div. 3K the 1984 estimate of biomass for the area covered was 111,600 t, compared to 97,800 t in 1983 (Table 3). Two deepwater strata (640, 642) were surveyed in 1984 but not in 1983. These strata accounted for about 6,000 t of the 1984 biomass estimate.

In Div. 3L the first complete survey was carried out by the research vessel W. TEMPLEMAN during the summer of 1984 and yielded a biomass estimate of 17,500 t (Table 4). It is clear from Table 4 that previous surveys did not cover the major concentrations of Greenland halibut in Div. 3L. A winter survey in 1985 with the same coverage as the 1984 summer survey provided an estimate of biomass of 9,500 t nearly half that of the previous survey. This would suggest that seasonal trends in distribution probably occur although the same strata seem to be most important in both surveys. It is likely that much of the biomass in wintertime moves into deeper water at the continental slope outside the range of the survey.

The combined estimate of biomass for 1984 for Div. 2J3KL from the surveys was 210,400 t. It should be pointed out, however, that this estimate is probably minimal since most deepwater areas at the slope of the continental shelf are not surveyed and it is these areas where most of the larger Greenland halibut are concentrated. It is further noted that the only available information on catchability coefficients for the species indicate that as much as 80-85% can escape trawling gear.

Although Canadian groundfish surveys have not been carried out in Div. 2GH in recent years, previous estimates (1978-81) suggest that minimum trawlable biomass estimates were probably in the order of 200,000 t.

ii) Catch numbers at age

Average numbers at age caught per 30 minute set (weighted by stratum area) for Div. 2J3K autumn surveys are presented in Table 5 for 1978-84. Only strata common to all years were used in the calculations.

The total numbers caught per tow (Table 5) range from 38.60 in 1981 to 54.48 in 1978. However, in general the numbers per tow have been relatively stable over the period for the area examined (Table 5). The strong year-classes of the early 1970's have now essentially passed through the fishery. However, there appears to be good recruitment from the more recent year-classes. The 1979 year-class which has been predicted to be relatively strong has shown up in the surveys at age 5 in 1984 as the strongest in the series. In standardizing these data to common strata from year to year, however, many of the more important deeper strata were eliminated. From 1981 to 1984 survey coverage was much more complete and for practical purposes can be directly compared. With the inclusion of the deeper strata, it is clear that the mean number per tow increased substantially (Table 6). However, the distributions were not greatly affected. From this table the 1979 year-class still appears strongest at age 5 in the four years for both divisions with the 1980 year-class also showing strength.

What is particularly evident from the survey data is that none of the year-classes stands out as being particularly poor.

iii) Length and age frequency distributions from shrimp surveys in Hopedale (Div. 2H) and Cartwright (Div. 2J) channels.

Research vessel surveys directed towards shrimp have been conducted annually in the month of July since 1979 in Hopedale (Div. 2H) and Cartwright (Div. 2J) channels off Labrador. Since Greenland halibut is such an important by-catch of these surveys, length frequencies have been obtained from each cruise (with the exception of 1979) and in 1984 these were further supplemented by an age sample. The length frequency distributions are shown in Fig. 1 with the 1984 age composition shown in Fig. 2. Both are shown separately by division.

From the length frequency distributions, it is clear there is a very high abundance of pre-recruits in all years, particularly in Div. 2J. The 1979 year-class (assuming the modes are representative of age-classes) stands out as being particularly strong and also possibly the 1980 year-class. The 1980 year-class at ages 1 and 2 is in fact more abundant in Div. 2J than the 1979 year-class although this is not quite true in Div. 2H. The 1984 survey length frequency shows the 1983 year-class at age 1 to be more abundant than any other at the same age throughout the series in Div. 2J.

The age composition from the 1984 survey in Div. 2H indicates that the 1979 year-class is by far the most abundant followed by the 1980 year-class with each preceding year-class weaker than the one following for pre recruits. In Div. 2J the opposite is true with the 1983 year-class being the most abundant followed by the 1982, 1981, and 1979 respectively. Ages 6+ are much less abundant in Div. 2J than in Div. 2H. A comparison of the Div. 2H length and age distribution suggests that considerable overlap in the length frequency as early as age 2 can occur. The age structure (Fig. 2) suggests that age 2 is stronger than age 3, however, the length frequency shows a much stronger mode at what is believed to be age 3 than at what is believed to be age 2. One must, therefore, be careful when converting length frequency modes directly into year-classes.

Commercial data

i) Catch and effort

The fishery for Greenland halibut is highly variable in nature depending upon market conditions, ice conditions, and interest in other species. Furthermore, the species is very migratory throughout the whole North Atlantic and its distribution and migratory patterns are still not fully understood. As a result, obtaining long-term catch and effort statistics as indicators of abundance is difficult. Some information from

directed fisheries by Canada (N) and Polish otter trawlers are available for recent years. It should be pointed out, however, that the catch per unit effort information from these fisheries are based upon relatively low proportions of the total catch (Table 8).

The Canada (N) CPUE declined in Div. 3K from 1980-82 but increased from 0.416 t/hr in 1982 to 0.587 t hr in 1983 and 0.901 t hr in 1984 for the same months (Table 8). The Canada (N) CPUE in Div. 2J increased from 0.610 t hr in 1982 to 1.153 t hr in 1983 and 1.509 t hr in 1984. A similar increasing trend occurred in Div. 2H from 0.924 t hr in 1982 to 1.423 t hr in 1983. The rate declined to 1.120 t hr in 1984. In most cases, however, the catch rates improved as the fishery moved northward. The Polish catch rates showed an increase in catch rate in Div. 3K from 0.85 t hr in 1983 to 1.07 t hr in 1984 and a decline from 1.50 t hr in 1983 to 1.31 t hr in 1984 for Div. 2H. Overall, however, catch rates appear to be increasing over the last few years. This increase has been attributed to strong year-classes of the early 1970's but these have now essentially passed through the fishery. However, subsequent year-classes may also be moderate to strong which would keep catch rates up. Furthermore, with the catches considerably lower than the TAC's in recent years, there is probably substantial surplus stock which could result in relatively high catch rates.

ii) Numbers and weights at age

The numbers and weights at age for the commercial catch from 1975-83 were taken directly from NAFO SCR Doc. 84/VI/62. The 1984 catch numbers at age were computed by breaking down the catch weight according to the sampling scheme shown in Table 7. The results of the calculations are shown in Table 9a with the sum of products shown in 9b. A comparison of the sum of products for the 1984 catch breakdown suggests an error of about 1%. The catch matrix and weights at ages used in subsequent VPA's are shown in Table 10. More than 85% of the catch in 1984 was attributed to the 1975-78 year-classes with the 1976 and 1977 year-classes accounting for nearly 60% alone. The year-classes prior to 1975 now only account for less than 10% of the 1984 catch.

iii) Partial recruitment

Partial recruitment for 1984 was derived as in previous years by comparing the catch at age from the commercial fishery to the catch at age from the research vessel survey in NAFO Div. 2J+3K (Table 11). Since numbers were low in the 13+ age groups, a mean of age 13, 15, and 16 was taken and applied to all 13+ age groups. This yielded a value = 0.40, compared to 0.39 used last year. In the 1984 fishery the only age group considered to be fully recruited was age 9, compared to ages 7 and 8 in last year's assessment. The vector is dome shaped, however, as normally expected from this fishery. It should be remembered, however, that the surveys do not cover the whole stock area and in particular, do not survey adequately the deep waters along the continental slope where most large Greenland halibut are concentrated. This would cause the partial recruitment values for older fish to be overestimated and subsequently any estimates of abundance and biomass from VPA to be underestimated.

Fully recruited fishing mortality

Determining an accurate level of fully recruited fishing mortality was not possible due to the short time series of catch and effort data as well as survey data. In recent assessments of this stock, however, it was the consensus of STACFIS that fishing mortality on this stock in recent years was quite low, probably below a level of  $F = 0.10$ . With the low level of catch in 1984, increasing catch rate and good recruitment, it is believed that the 1984 fishing mortality is at least as low or even lower than in recent years. Since fully recruited  $F$ 's could not be accurately determined, a series of VPA's were run using fully recruited  $F$ 's ranging from 0.05 to 0.20 at increments of 0.05. The results of these analyses are presented in Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15 respectively.

Yield per recruit

A Thompson and Bell yield per recruit analysis was performed and the results presented in Table 16. The partial recruitment vector and mean weights at age were those derived from the 1984 fishery. The  $F_{0.1}$  value was calculated to be = 0.28. This compares well with  $F_{0.1} = 0.29$  which is considered to be the long-term average for this stock barring any radical change in partial recruitment.

Table 1. Greenland halibut landings (metric tons) by year and country for Subarea 2 and Division 3KL.

Country	Year																
	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83 <sup>a</sup>	84 <sup>a</sup>	
Canada(M)	-	1	10705	9406	2	8952	6840	5745	7782	9085	17738	23510	28077	31251	23565	1554	
Canada(N)	11553	-	10705	9406	-	-	-	25	221	229	1182	1863	523	560	632	333	
FRG	202	13	-	86	707	515	622	927	755	1022	15	55	-	17694	16235	19405	
Poland	5406	8266	5234	6986	9060	7105	8447	5942	5998	5215	1813	203	1806	203	57	-	6
Iceland	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norway	4	-	-	1389	501	117	-	-	6	15	3	8	1	-	-	-	8
USSR	9279	7384	9094	10183	8652	9650	9439	6799	4308	5632	1961	238	3325	1471	143	368	
Romania	-	225	7	120	80	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
GDR	-	-	647	402	1681	2701	2025	1512	1953	1636	178	316	1350	2487	-	2499	
Den-F	-	-	-	970	950	4	-	-	350	268	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
UK	-	-	731	201	1112	62	-	476	53	110	22	-	-	-	1	-	-
Den-G	-	-	-	-	65	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	-	-	-	-	207	161	231	73	119	-	38	21	16	1818	-	-	-
FRA-M	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRA-Sp	-	-	-	-	-	6	48	32	-	5	1	-	-	7	-	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	12	60	14	-	582
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2054	-
Total	26445	26594	24392	29822	28944	27123	28681	24598	31941	38532	34068	32642	30682	26206	24322	24453	

<sup>a</sup>Provisional.

Table 2. Average weight (kg) of Greenland halibut caught per set from research vessel surveys by the GADUS ATLANTICA in Division 2J. Numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of sets per stratum.

Stratum	Gadus 3 1977	Gadus 15 1978	Gadus 29 1979	Gadus 44 1980	Gadus 58 1981	Gadus 71&72 1982	Gadus 86,87,&88 1983	Gadus 101,102,103 1984
201	7.26(2)	1.36(3)	0.45(2)	2.83(3)	2.70(5)	9.67(6)	3.72(6)	4.83(3)
202	21.34(2)	25.20(2)	7.48(2)	51.00(2)	34.50(2)	45.50(2)	30.75(2)	92.75(2)
203	31.55(2)			25.75(2)	52.00(2)	64.33(3)	226.83(3)	179.25(2)
204	175.70(2)				170.50(2)	284.00(3)	250.83(3)	260.00(2)
205	20.97(4)	6.58(4)	10.21(2)	3.75(4)	14.94(8)	24.09(12)	14.25(8)	6.97(8)
206	20.80(11)	7.78(7)	8.11(8)	10.11(7)	37.18(11)	18.72(18)	8.70(14)	10.86(11)
207	77.77(5)	25.54(4)	10.39(5)	6.90(5)	18.22(9)	10.33(15)	7.65(10)	6.26(7)
208	186.14(4)	183.12(3)	127.46(2)	189.25(2)	240.75(2)	348.67(3)	110.00(2)	496.17(3)
209	65.25(7)	15.66(4)	47.61(5)	144.37(4)	55.67(6)	129.64(11)	52.77(7)	37.42(7)
210	19.41(6)	5.20(4)	4.09(2)	3.50(3)	5.00(3)	20.88(6)	41.50(2)	26.88(4)
211	34.96(2)	64.92(2)	36.28(2)	32.70(3)	35.75(2)	55.75(2)	134.75(2)	55.75(2)
212	189.61(4)				147.75(2)	144.10(5)	44.75(3)	70.83(3)
213	16.46(8)	17.59(4)	8.84(4)	11.70(5)	29.33(6)	34.19(10)	23.25(10)	20.50(5)
214	38.97(6)	67.76(4)	12.93(4)	11.33(3)	60.10(5)	84.31(8)	44.63(8)	59.75(4)
215	37.68(4)	34.14(5)	8.00(4)	23.00(2)	12.30(5)	38.28(9)	14.46(8)	42.00(3)
216	102.83(2)		111.58(2)	137.50(2)	63.25(2)	215.25(2)	102.67(3)	173.00(2)
217	141.95(3)				41.00(2)	58.25(2)	64.50(2)	
218	217.92(2)				156.50(2)	40.00(2)	39.00(2)	
219					48.00(2)		103.00(2)	
220								
221								
222	115.32(4)	42.07(3)	8.39(2)	16.25(2)	55.75(2)	188.00(3)	131.50(3)	27.67(3)
223	251.52(2)				94.75(2)	88.00(2)	61.75(2)	113.75(2)
224	173.65(2)				115.00(2)	36.50(2)	50.50(2)	37.50(2)
225	39.95(2)							
226								
227	115.32(4)				43.50(2)	54.90(5)	38.50(4)	36.67(3)
228	6.53(8)		4.88(4)	4.33(3)	8.00(6)	9.25(10)	10.33(6)	16.50(7)
229	39.03(4)	19.52(2)	28.35(2)	5.25(2)	30.50(2)	21.50(4)	36.50(4)	11.00(3)
230	243.28(3)				60.25(2)	30.80(2)	93.00(2)	21.50(2)
231	64.24(2)					93.75(2)	51.25(2)	98.75(2)
232	49.03(2)							
233								
234	49.03(2)	18.38(2)	101.38(2)	101.50(2)	52.00(2)	98.00(3)	46.71(3)	90.70(2)
235	117.59(4)				39.00(2)	89.67(3)	252.50(2)	82.00(3)
236	98.06(2)				44.75(2)	66.75(2)	101.00(2)	53.00(2)
Biomass (tons)	106,834	32,064	28,319	45,119	76,661	104,233	78,546	81,234

Table 3. Average weight (kg) of Greenland halibut caught per set from research vessel surveys by the GADUS ATLANTICA in Division 3K. Numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of sets per stratum.

Stratum	Gadus 15 1978	Gadus 29 1979	Gadus 44 1980	Gadus 58&59 1981	Gadus 71&72 1982	Gadus 86,87,&88 1983	Gadus 101,102,103 1984
618							1.50(5)
619							1.90(7)
620	24.13(7)	37.32(7)	24.80(9)	25.72(10)	22.33(9)	19.25(10)	13.08(13)
621	159.03(7)	120.09(8)	54.42(10)	32.77(11)	14.68(14)	31.87(12)	18.32(14)
622				132.50(2)	120.83(3)	224.00(2)	143.75(4)
623	154.06(3)	36.55(3)	111.00(4)	83.33(4)	146.20(5)	217.17(6)	270.00(5)
624	14.57(3)	11.34(2)	1.25(2)	3.75(2)	5.25(4)	2.38(4)	5.00(4)
625	21.49(3)	11.19(3)	10.25(4)	31.50(4)	8.75(2)	66.33(3)	42.95(5)
626	51.87(4)	35.08(3)	178.50(3)	58.20(5)	120.40(5)	101.75(4)	217.75(6)
627				189.75(6)	124.43(7)	220.83(6)	300.56(8)
628	39.95(5)	72.13(2)	36.56(4)	16.33(6)	12.92(6)	36.08(6)	27.21(7)
629	8.63(3)	13.38(2)	19.83(3)	31.33(3)	68.50(2)	65.67(3)	31.13(4)
630		11.11(2)	11.25(2)	117.25(2)		67.75(2)	7.73(3)
631				68.60(5)	38.00(2)	66.70(5)	105.30(5)
632	4.15(3)	2.04(2)	3.88(2)	6.25(2)	7.50(3)	3.43(3)	
633	7.49(5)	5.41(6)	14.64(7)	9.98(8)	7.93(7)	12.38(12)	12.05(10)
634	5.72(5)	9.26(6)	5.80(5)	5.41(7)	14.09(11)	6.60(5)	5.93(7)
635	6.06(5)	5.17(5)	23.13(4)	12.00(5)	17.10(5)	7.83(6)	10.19(8)
636	1.97(3)	4.40(5)	14.00(5)	12.75(6)	21.85(10)	4.05(6)	7.40(8)
637	5.11(4)	6.58(4)	6.63(4)	8.25(6)	9.71(7)	14.80(5)	4.97(6)
638	10.73(5)	11.97(7)	12.50(6)	21.31(8)	20.39(15)	18.05(11)	12.55(10)
639	5.33(5)	4.31(2)	7.88(4)	7.38(6)	19.05(10)	11.71(7)	2.41(8)
640				36.00(2)	21.50(2)		13.75(2)
641				21.80(2)	24.50(4)	61.33(3)	62.50(3)
642				9.33(3)	33.33(6)		81.35(6)
643							
644							
645				21.75(2)	17.67(3)	3.25(2)	54.25(2)
646				63.25(2)	15.50(2)	91.25(2)	100.50(2)
647				82.50(2)	39.50(2)		
648							
649							
Biomass (tons)	65,695	52,641	52,819	77,966	70,870	97,790	111,612

Table 4. Average wt. (kg) of Greenland halibut per set from research vessel surveys in Division 3L in autumn. Numbers in parentheses indicate number of sets per stratum.

Stratum	ATC 323, 324, 325 1981 (Fall)	ATC 333, 334 1982 (Fall)	W.T. 7, 8, & 9 1983 (Fall)	W.T. 16, 17, 18 1984 (Summer)	W.T. 22, 23, 24 1985 (Winter)
328				0.20(4)	0.19(6)
341	0.50(3)	0.19(4)	0.80(4)	0.50(5)	0.15(8)
342	1.33(3)	2.83(3)	0.87(4)	0.00(2)	0.20(3)
343	0.88(4)		0.53(3)	0.00(4)	0.03(3)
344	6.94(4)	1.00(3)	4.34(6)	0.18(6)	1.14(7)
345	20.75(4)	8.67(6)	9.25(8)	39.60(7)	13.17(3)
346	9.00(3)	11.63(4)	17.50(5)	27.33(6)	7.50(4)
347	1.83(3)	3.02(4)	2.58(6)	0.17(6)	0.40(5)
348	0.42(6)	2.08(5)	0.30(11)	0.11(11)	0.44(8)
349	0.09(7)	0.03(5)	0.43(9)	0.10(14)	0.01(10)
350	0.00(6)	0.00(2)	0.00(8)	0.00(12)	0.00(9)
363	0.00(4)	0.00(3)	0.00(3)	0.00(8)	0.02(8)
364	0.49(9)	0.25(11)	0.87(11)	0.00(10)	0.08(12)
365	2.88(4)	2.75(4)	1.30(5)	0.30(4)	0.55(4)
366	5.00(3)	9.58(6)	6.00(4)	6.23(11)	0.62(5)
368	21.50(2)	28.75(2)		17.75(2)	5.75(2)
369	13.25(2)	13.00(4)	14.00(6)	5.19(7)	0.63(5)
370	0.00(4)	0.50(6)	0.44(6)	0.39(7)	0.06(7)
371	0.01(4)	0.00(5)	0.00(5)	0.00(7)	0.00(6)
372	0.00(5)	0.00(7)	0.00(4)	0.00(13)	0.00(11)
384		0.00(4)	0.00(3)	0.00(6)	0.00(4)
385	0.26(8)	2.19(8)	3.20(5)	0.50(12)	0.01(11)
386	37.00(3)	21.75(4)		12.69(8)	0.35(5)
387	67.50(2)	43.67(3)		49.00(3)	6.88(4)
388		2.33(3)		24.00(2)	5.67(3)
389		7.88(4)		19.25(6)	4.57(4)
390	0.00(3)	3.50(4)	0.07(3)	0.00(3)	0.00(5)
391		2.75(2)	21.50(2)	18.75(2)	4.75(4)
392		14.00(2)	15.25(2)	26.50(2)	7.50(2)
729				70.75(2)	54.75(2)
730				12.25(2)	26.75(2)
731				41.75(2)	46.50(3)
732				12.63(2)	80.75(2)
733				12.75(4)	17.50(3)
734				17.67(3)	119.25(2)
735		33.00(2)		42.00(3)	4.00(2)
736			30.00(2)		
	12,722	11,649	6,634	17,548	9,519

Table 5. Average numbers caught per set for 2J+3K November surveys weighted by stratum area. Only common strata fished in each survey were used in calculation.

Age	Gadus 15 1978	Gadus 29 1979	Gadus 44 1980	Gadus 58,59 1981	Gadus 71,72 1982	Gadus 86,87,88 1983	Gadus 101,102,103 1984
1	0.60	0.54	0.22	1.57	0.35	0.09	0.15
2	3.61	3.58	0.79	3.14	0.90	0.47	0.73
3	7.22	5.27	1.79	5.56	4.25	3.34	2.21
4	9.04	5.59	3.60	4.90	6.54	7.16	6.34
5	12.78	10.61	8.64	7.00	7.85	9.55	15.13
6	10.59	9.05	13.32	7.44	7.15	8.34	8.70
7	6.82	3.30	8.05	5.13	7.81	7.68	5.66
8	1.82	0.79	1.78	2.11	7.82	4.67	3.26
9	0.59	0.30	0.42	0.82	2.84	1.54	1.36
10	0.37	0.35	0.27	0.35	0.94	0.44	0.57
11	0.46	0.13	0.34	0.26	0.48	0.31	0.27
12	0.27	0.12	0.20	0.10	0.28	0.21	0.16
13	0.13	0.12	0.07	0.05	0.19	0.13	0.13
14	0.06	0.03	0.07	0.02	0.18	0.09	0.09
15	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.03	0.03
16	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03
17	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
UK	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.14	0.01	0.00	0.00
Total	54.48	39.79	39.60	38.60	47.75	44.03	44.83

Table 6. Age composition-numbers/standard tow from autumn groundfish surveys in Div. 2J, 3K (all strata fished).

Division	Age	1981	1982	1983	1984
3K	1	1.37	0.22	0.14	0.38
	2	4.89	1.35	1.09	1.55
	3	9.20	6.75	6.20	4.46
	4	5.33	6.63	10.75	11.67
	5	7.85	7.58	12.35	23.24
	6	11.38	7.46	9.94	9.92
	7	7.22	7.31	11.33	6.76
	8	2.32	7.29	9.39	3.58
	9	0.93	2.22	3.18	2.08
	10	0.42	0.56	0.73	0.68
	11	0.23	0.34	0.41	0.33
	12	0.09	0.24	0.21	0.22
	13	0.07	0.15	0.12	0.15
	14	0.01	0.15	0.06	0.11
	15	0.0	0.03	0.01	0.03
	16	0.01	0.01	0.0	0.01
	17		0.01		
	18				
Total		51.31	48.33	65.90	65.16
2J	1	1.88	0.52	0.09	0.12
	2	5.68	0.92	0.37	1.62
	3	4.15	3.87	1.43	5.79
	4	4.04	8.07	3.55	4.24
	5	5.82	6.64	6.92	8.26
	6	5.68	5.27	6.73	6.93
	7	5.52	7.44	7.14	6.45
	8	3.53	9.05	5.52	5.99
	9	1.68	4.87	2.42	2.44
	10	1.03	2.32	0.86	1.18
	11	0.97	1.16	0.68	0.59
	12	0.46	0.71	0.58	0.39
	13	0.23	0.54	0.46	0.33
	14	0.14	0.55	0.33	0.31
	15	0.09	0.44	0.16	0.21
	16		0.17	0.04	0.16
	17		0.02	0.0	0.08
	18		0.01	0.02	
Unknown		0.25	0.02		
Total		41.15	52.61	37.31	45.08

Table 7. List of length frequency and age-length key samples available for the Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL Greenland halibut stock for 1984.

Month	Country	Gear	NAFO Div.	No. measured	No. aged	Catch (MT)
July	CAN(N)	OT	2H	328		53
August	CAN(N)	OT	2H	627		927
September	CAN(N)	OT	2H	1139		956
August	CAN(N)	OT	2J	661		1328
September	CAN(N)	OT	2J	326		867
July	CAN(N)	OT	3K	1714		888
June	CAN(N)	GN	3K	1499		629
July	CAN(N)	GN	3K	1744		1356
August	CAN(N)	GN	3K	1570		1817
September	CAN(N)	GN	3K	3486		1069
October	CAN(N)	GN	3K	324		334
May	CAN(N)	GN	3L	1641		264
June	CAN(N)	GN	3L	1846		750
July	CAN(N)	GN	3L	1347		1336
August	CAN(N)	GN	3L	2875		1778
September	CAN(N)	GN	3L	1149		894
May	CAN(N)	OT	3K	1528		1384
August	CAN(N)	GN	2J	2456		45
September	CAN(N)	GN	2J	4538		211
October	CAN(N)	GN	2J	6795		547
November	CAN(N)	GN	2J	1267		46
October	GDR	OT	2H	703		390
November	GDR	OT	2H	1791		966
December	GDR	OT	2H	1060		1143
September	Japan	OT	2J	6172		346
November	Japan	OT	2J	1900		257
September	Japan	OT	3K	492		15
November	Poland	OT	2H	2384		61
December	Poland	OT	2H	2377		230
May	Poland	OT	3K	800		927
June	Poland	OT	3K	733		34
Q2	Can(N)	OT	3K		345	
Q2	Can(N)	GN	3L		387	
Q3	Can(N)	OT	2H		712	
Q3	Can(N)	OT	2J		412	
Q3	Can(N)	GN	3K		958	
Q3	Can(N)	OT	3K		515	
Q3	Can(N)	GN	3L		988	
Q4	Can(N)	GN	3K		834	
Q4	Can(N)	GN	3L		421	
Q4	Can(N)	GN	2J		787	

Table 8. Catch and effort statistics of Greenland halibut in NAFO Div. 2HJ3K from Canada(N) and Poland where effort was considered directed in 1979-84.

Year	NAFO Div.	Months	Mean CPUE (t/hr.)	Sets observed	Directed catch (t)
<u>Canada(N) (TC 5)</u>					
1980	3K	Mar.-May	0.559	-	1148
1981	3K	Mar.-May	0.485	-	3118
1982	3K	May	0.416	-	304
	2J	Aug.-Sept.	0.610	-	1132
	2H	Aug.-Sept.	0.924	-	3406
1983	3K	May-July	0.587	-	1471
	2J	Aug.	1.153	-	1465
	2H	Aug.-Sept.	1.423	-	2168
1984	3K	May-July	0.901	-	1838
	2J	Aug.	1.509	-	1140
	2H	Aug.-Sept.	1.120	-	1541
<u>Poland (TC 7)</u>					
1979	3K	May-June	1.53	88	-
	2H	Aug.	0.51	25	-
1981	3K	Jan.-June	1.54	117	-
	2H	Q3	0.71	103	-
1982	2H	July-Aug.	1.53	61	-
1983	2H	July-Aug.	1.50	63	-
	3K	May-June	0.85	221	-
1984	2H	Dec.	1.31	44	-
	3K	May-June	1.07	37	-

Table 9a. Calculated catch numbers at age for the 1984 Greenland halibut fishery in NAFO Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KL.

AGE	AVERAGE		CATCH		
	WEIGHT	LENGTH	MEAN	STD. ERR.	C, V,
*3	0.133	27.000	-----	0.01	0.01
*4	0.257	32.744	118	20.85	0.18
*5	0.394	37.190	809	38.35	0.05
*6	0.607	42.266	2086	60.85	0.03
7	0.856	46.847	5245	102.48	0.02
8	1.134	50.922	6894	116.15	0.02
9	1.507	55.404	3668	84.16	0.02
*10	1.998	60.267	1130	41.06	0.04
*11	2.700	65.972	365	19.68	0.05
*12	3.568	71.678	128	12.30	0.10
*13	4.585	77.263	95	8.97	0.09
*14	5.848	83.047	52	9.81	0.19
*15	6.982	87.493	69	10.79	0.16
*16	8.482	92.762	26	5.13	0.20
*17	9.740	96.450	17	6.34	0.38
*18	11.007	100.139	3	1.78	0.63
*19	14.554	109.000	1	0.01	0.01

Table 9b. Sum of products of the catch numbers and mean weights at age for the Greenland halibut fishery in NAFO Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KL, 1975-84.

TABLE , CALCULATED CATCH BIOMASS(T) AT AGE,										
AGE	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
5	196	12	283	1837	1329	105	318	129	290	319
6	2066	517	3307	6468	6065	1339	2537	1436	2231	1266
7	5297	3438	8952	9664	11198	7745	7266	5124	8383	4490
8	5699	7188	7601	9133	6688	9891	10592	5915	8755	7818
9	6037	6634	4023	4579	1689	6020	4996	4494	3735	5528
10	3596	5428	1942	3212	972	4684	1421	2722	1520	2258
11	1827	2491	516	1973	707	1553	590	1281	619	985
12	438	978	381	1251	458	338	466	800	296	457
13	1045	439	392	874	509	162	192	659	527	436
14	598	164	119	502	383	52	160	418	507	304
15	373	124	107	343	450	45	161	422	485	482
16	293	7	157	386	400	14	113	256	79	221
17	339	8	55	308	347	10	49	164	138	166
5+	27805	27427	27834	39529	31196	31969	28860	23819	27564	24728

Table 10. Catch numbers at age, percent catch numbers at age and mean weight at age of Greenland halibut from the commercial fishery in NAFO SA 2+Div. 3KL, 1975-84.

CATCH NUMBERS AT AGE ( $\times 10^{-3}$ ).

AGE	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
5	322	19	464	3016	2182	204	810	236	672	809
6	2719	680	4351	8511	7980	2032	4242	2020	3411	2086
7	5547	3600	9374	9072	11726	8913	9209	5552	9398	5245
8	4781	6030	6377	7662	5611	9429	10753	5064	7206	6894
9	3821	4199	2546	2898	1069	5259	4045	3112	2201	3668
10	1628	2457	879	1454	440	3729	836	1480	663	1130
11	677	923	191	731	262	987	240	524	201	365
12	130	290	113	371	136	125	133	225	73	128
13	269	113	101	225	131	52	40	143	102	95
14	131	36	26	110	84	14	27	70	82	52
15	63	21	18	58	76	9	20	55	65	69
16	41	1	22	54	56	2	13	29	9	26
17	43	1	7	39	44	1	5	14	12	17
5+	20172	18370	24469	34201	29797	30755	30373	18524	24095	20584

PERCENT CATCH AT AGE,

AGE	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
5	1.6	0.1	1.9	3.8	7.3	0.7	2.7	1.3	2.8	3.9
6	13.5	3.7	17.8	24.9	26.8	6.6	14.0	10.9	14.2	10.1
7	27.5	19.6	38.3	26.5	39.4	29.0	30.3	30.0	39.0	25.5
8	23.7	32.8	26.1	22.4	18.8	30.7	35.4	27.3	29.9	33.5
9	18.9	22.9	10.4	8.5	3.6	17.1	13.3	16.8	9.1	17.3
10	8.1	13.4	3.6	4.3	1.5	12.1	2.8	8.0	2.8	5.5
11	3.4	5.0	0.8	2.1	0.9	3.2	0.8	2.8	0.8	1.8
12	0.6	1.6	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.3	0.6
13	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.5
14	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3
15	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
16	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
17	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1

WEIGHTS AT AGE (KG.),

AGE	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
5	0.609	0.609	0.609	0.609	0.609	0.514	0.392	0.547	0.431	0.394
6	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.659	0.598	0.711	0.654	0.607
7	0.955	0.955	0.955	0.955	0.955	0.869	0.789	0.923	0.892	0.856
8	1.192	1.192	1.192	1.192	1.192	1.049	0.985	1.168	1.215	1.134
9	1.580	1.580	1.580	1.580	1.580	1.145	1.235	1.444	1.697	1.507
10	2.209	2.209	2.209	2.209	2.209	1.256	1.700	1.839	2.292	1.998
11	2.699	2.699	2.699	2.699	2.699	1.573	2.460	2.445	3.081	2.700
12	3.371	3.371	3.371	3.371	3.371	2.708	3.507	3.554	4.055	3.568
13	3.884	3.884	3.884	3.884	3.884	3.115	4.794	4.605	5.169	4.585
14	4.563	4.563	4.563	4.563	4.563	4.418	5.944	5.966	6.180	5.848
15	5.918	5.918	5.918	5.918	5.918	5.037	8.055	7.669	7.454	6.982
16	7.144	7.144	7.144	7.144	7.144	7.022	8.710	8.841	8.755	8.482
17	7.887	7.887	7.887	7.887	7.887	10.147	9.576	11.719	11.507	9.740

Table 11. Calculation of partial recruitment for the 1984 Greenland halibut fishery in NAFO Subarea 2 and Division 3KL

Age	1984 Survey index 2J+3K	1984 Commercial catch	% At age research	% At age comm.	Rel. PR	PR
5	67,580	861	40.88	4.34	0.11	0.04
6	34,674	2,015	20.98	10.17	0.48	0.15
7	26,574	4,774	16.08	24.09	1.50	0.48
8	18,468	6,344	11.17	32.01	2.87	0.92
9	8,958	3,347	5.42	16.89	3.12	1.00
10	3,578	1,105	2.16	5.57	2.58	0.83
11	1,756	467	1.06	2.36	2.23	0.71
12	1,176	280	0.71	1.41	1.99	0.64
13	904	128	0.55	0.65	1.18	0.38
14	790	53	0.48	0.27	0.56	0.18
15	417	69	0.25	0.35	1.40	0.45
16	286	38	0.17	0.19	1.12	0.36
17	136	65	0.08	0.33	4.13	
T =	165,297	19,546				

$\bar{x}=0.40$







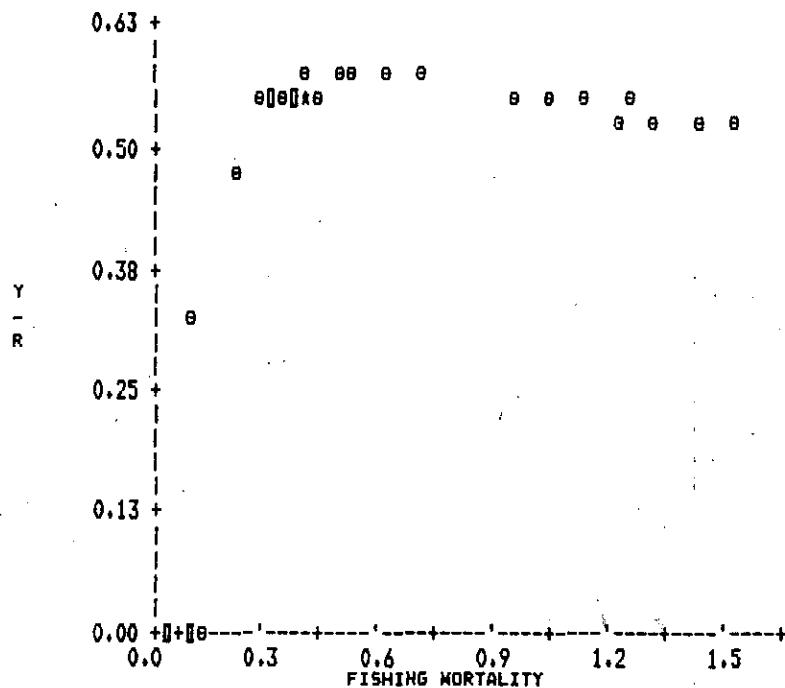


Table 16. Yield per recruit analysis for Greenland halibut in NAFO SA2+Div. 3KL.

YIELD PER RECRUIT ANALYSIS

FISHING MORTALITY	CATCH (NUMBER)	YIELD (KG)	Avg. WEIGHT (KG)	YIELD PER UNIT EFFORT
0.1000	0.174	0.333	1.913	1.725
0.2000	0.287	0.486	1.693	1.258
F0.1---	0.2813	0.351	0.543	1.000
0.3000	0.363	0.552	1.548	0.952
0.4000	0.417	0.575	1.519	0.744
FMAX---	0.4928	0.454	0.580	0.609
0.5000	0.456	0.580	1.272	0.600
0.6000	0.486	0.577	1.187	0.497
0.7000	0.510	0.570	1.119	0.422
0.8000	0.529	0.563	1.065	0.364
0.9000	0.545	0.556	1.020	0.320
1.0000	0.559	0.550	0.984	0.285
1.1000	0.571	0.544	0.954	0.256
1.2000	0.581	0.539	0.928	0.233
1.3000	0.591	0.535	0.905	0.213
1.4000	0.599	0.531	0.886	0.196
1.5000	0.607	0.527	0.868	0.182

COMPUTED YIELD PER RECRUIT VS. FISHING MORTALITY



Y/R AT F0.1 IS INDICATED BY  $\circ$

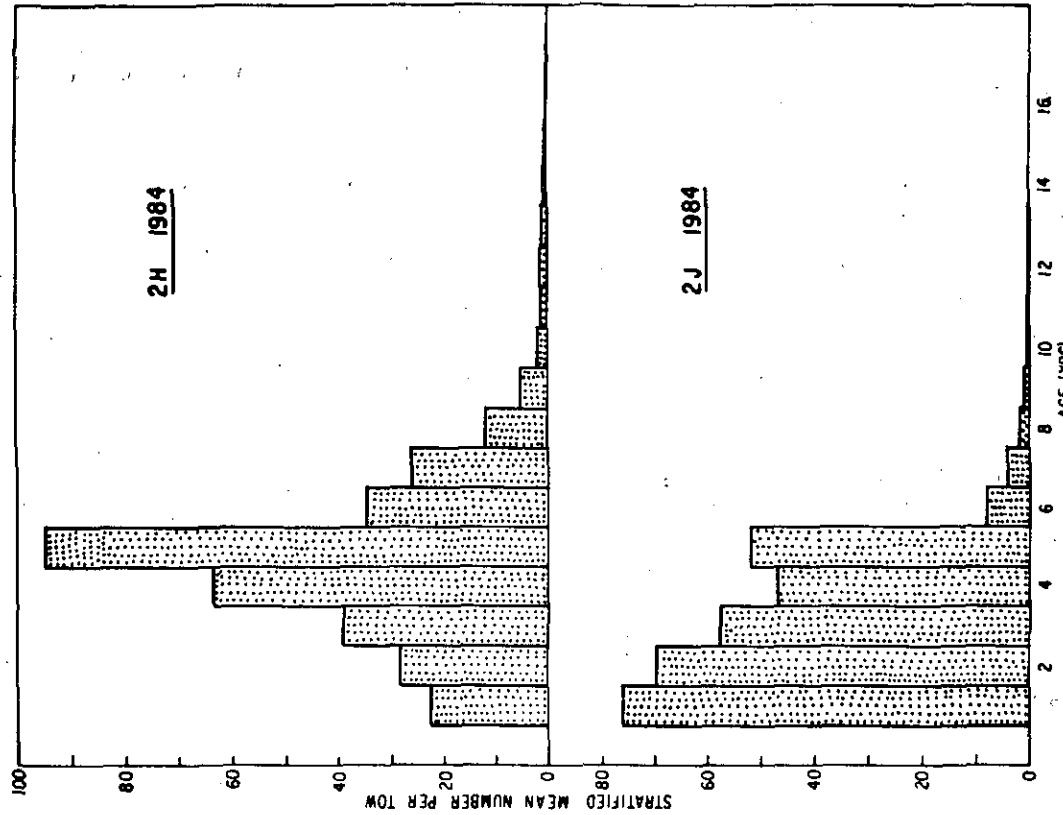


Fig. 2. Age compositions of Greenland halibut from the 1984 shrimp survey in Hopedale (Div. 2H) and Cartwright (Div. 2J) channels off coastal Labrador in 1984.

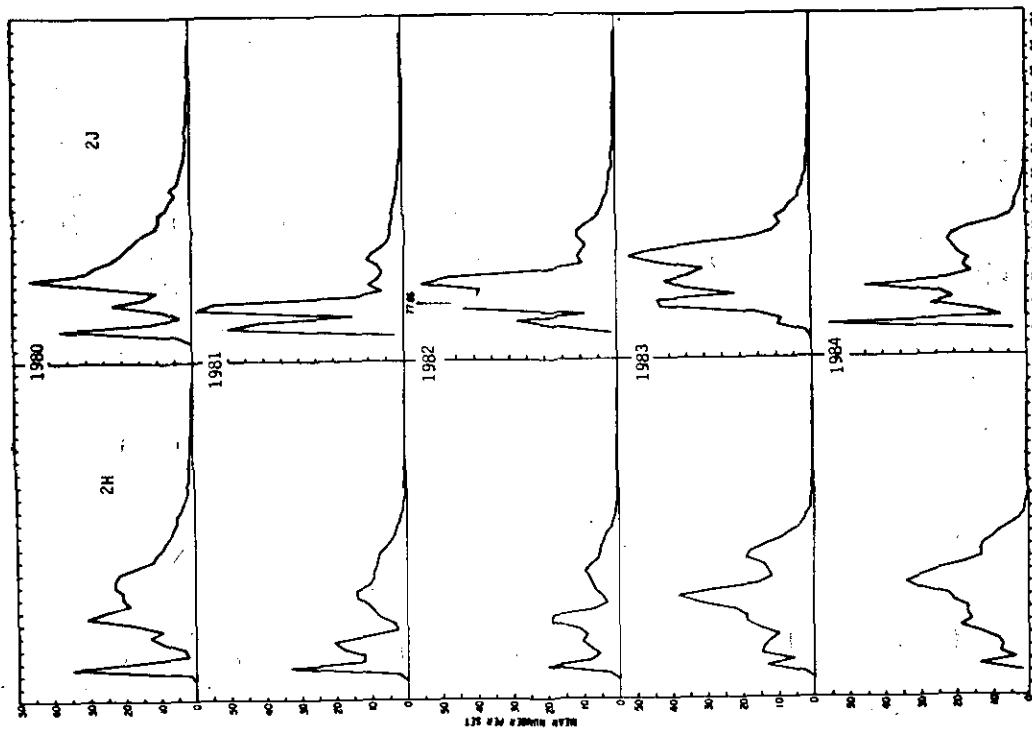


Fig. 1. Length frequency distributions of Greenland halibut from shrimp surveys in Hopedale (Div. 2H) and Cartwright (Div. 2J) channels off coastal Labrador 1980-84.