

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N2128

NAFO SCS Doc. 92/21

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1992

Faroe Islands Research Report for 1991

by

Jákup Reinert

Fiskirannsóknarstovan (Fishery Laboratory of the Faroes)  
Nóatún, P. O. Box 3051, FR-110 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

A. Status of the fisheries (Subareas 0-4 inclusive)

Total Faroese catches in Subareas 0-4 increased from 6,015 t in 1990 to 6,650 t in 1991 (Table 1). This increase is mainly due to increased catches of porbeagle and Greenland halibut. The observed decreases in catch of shrimp derive from reallocation of a part of the shrimp quota from West to East Greenland waters.

B. Special Research Studies

2. Biological studies

a) The catches inside the EEZ of Canada are monitored by national observers and the data made available to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, St. John's. These data are not included in this report.

b) The commercial longline fishery for cod on Flemish Cap (3M) was resumed in 1991. A description of this fishery was given in SCR Documents 90/43 and 91/25, and here it shall only be noted that the vessels perform 2 trips each years. Catch and effort data for this fishery has been calculated based on information from logbooks from 3 longliners; the results are given in Tables 2-4 and Figures 1-2. These 3 longliners have more or less all participated in the fishery since 1973 (Table 5), and combined catch and effort data for all 3 vessels given in this table represent the Faroese longline catch series depicted in Figure 3.

The catch rates in 1991 (expressed as catch in kg per 1000 hooks and catch in tonnes per day, respectively) were very low with exception of the first period of the first trip (Figures 1-2).

The combined catch rate series 1973-1991 (Figure 3), calculated as the arithmetical mean of data for all 3 vessels, shows a sharp decline in 1991 compared with 1990.

Unsubstantiated information from people engaged in this fishery indicates very poor catch rates for the first months of 1992. Explanation for this must be, that the stock is in a very bad condition.

Table 1. Faroese nominal catches (tonnes) by species in the NAFO area in 1990 and 1991. Preliminary catch figures.				
Species	1990		1991	
	tonnes		tonnes	
Atlantic cod	2238		2046	
Greenland halibut	3000		3433	
Groundfishes n.e.i	42		96	
Porbeagle	502		901	
Shrimp	233		174	
Total all species	6015		6650	

Table 2. Catch and effort data for m/s Sigurfari on Flemish Cap 1991 based on logbook statistics

Month	Month	Fishing days	Effort	Nom. catch	CPUE	CPDAY
	No	No.	Hooks*1000	Tonnes	Kg/1000 hooks	Tonnes/day
Jan	1	3	94.4	19.74	209	6.6
Feb	2	25	697.6	136.4	196	5.5
Mar	3	30	809.6	115.8	143	3.9
Apr	4	24	726.4	65.8	91	2.7
May	5	31	1030.4	56.1	54	1.8
Jun	6	4	136	5.1	38	1.3
Jul	7	8	272	38.4	141	4.8
Aug	8	22	776	91.1	117	4.1
Sep	9	24	852.8	67.8	79	2.8
Oct	10	31	1035.2	107.4	104	3.5
Nov	11	13	436.8	39.8	91	3.1
Dec	12	0	0	0	0	0
Year		215	6867.2	743.24	108	3.5

Table 3. Catch and effort data for m/s Hans Erik on Flemish Cap 1991 based on logbook statistics

Month	Month	Fishing days	Effort	Nom. catch	CPUE	CPDAY
	No	No	Hooks*1000	Tonnes	Kg/1000 hooks	Tonnes/day
Jan	1	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	2	23	538.5	74.1	138	3.2
Mar	3	30	733.5	104	142	3.5
Apr	4	28	770.4	47.9	62	1.7
May	5	20	620.8	56.4	91	2.8
Jun	6	0	0	0	0	0
Jul	7	14	480.1	67.6	141	4.8
Aug	8	29	948.6	85	90	2.9
Sep	9	30	1025.3	71.3	70	2.4
Oct	10	26	803.2	44.8	56	1.7
Nov	11	14	420.8	25.9	62	1.9
Dec	12	0	0	0	0	0
Year		214	6341.2	577	91	2.7

Table 4. Catch and effort data for m/s Borðyarnes on Flemish Cap 1991 based on logbook statistics

Month	Month	Fishing days	Effort	Nom. catch	CPUE	CPDAY
	No	No	Hooks*1000	Tonnes	Kg/1000 hooks	Tonnes/day
Jan	1	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	2	18	323	49.9	154	2.8
Mar	3	30	546	158.2	290	5.3
Apr	4	23	430	77.2	180	3.4
May	5	31	620	107.4	173	3.5
Jun	6	17	330	58.1	176	3.4
Jul	7	0	0	0	0	0
Aug	8	14	424	49.2	116	3.5
Sep	9	30	939	80.9	86	2.7
Oct	10	16	496	35.4	71	2.2
Nov	11	23	704	47.7	68	2.1
Dec	12	0	0	0	0	0
Year		202	4812	664	138	3.3

Table 5. Faroese longline fishery on Flemish Cap 1973-1991  
Combined catch and effort data for 3 longliners

Year	Catch per day (kg round weight)				CPUE (kg round weight per 1000 hooks)			
	Borðoyarnes	Hans Erik	Sigurfari	Mean	Borðoyarnes	Hans Erik	Sigurfari	Mean
1973	6929	5706	7597	6744	258	210	332	267
1974	6951	6252	7341	6848	259	208	297	255
1975	4965	5679	5549	5398	184	229	224	212
1976	6896	8998	5696	7197	276	368	252	299
1977	9332	9057	8791	9060	446	397	367	403
1978	8137	6764	8066	7656	330	333	337	333
1979	8797	6306	8199	7767	334	277	324	312
1980	6641	5092	5829	5854	268	250	236	251
1981	8009	7335	5867	7070	286	305	227	273
1982	3684	6730	3047	4487	110	336	114	187
1983	6017	5814	4245	5359	186	286	124	199
1984	6626		11249	8938	200		419	206
1985	5927	6104	6170	6067	187	223	243	218
1986	4102	3660		3881	106	141		124
1987	2527	2757		2642	103	75		89
1988			3695	3695			118	118
1989				0				0
1990		6905		6905		210		210
1991	3300	2700	3500	3167	138	91	108	112

# Faroese fishery 1991 for cod in 3M

## CPUE per month for three longliners

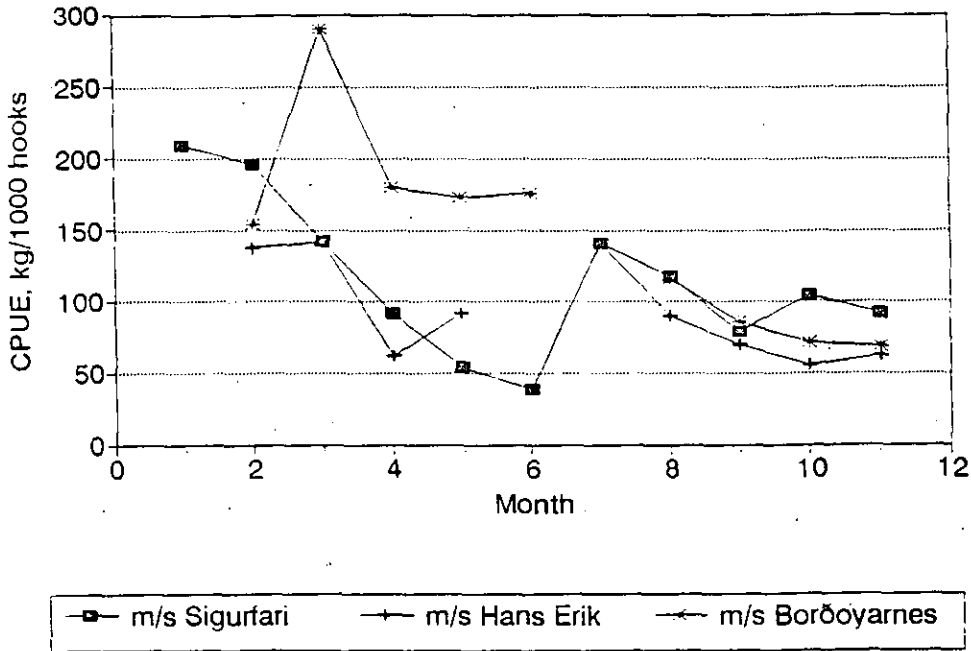


Figure 1.

# Faroese fishery 1991 for cod in 3M

## CPDAY per month for three longliners

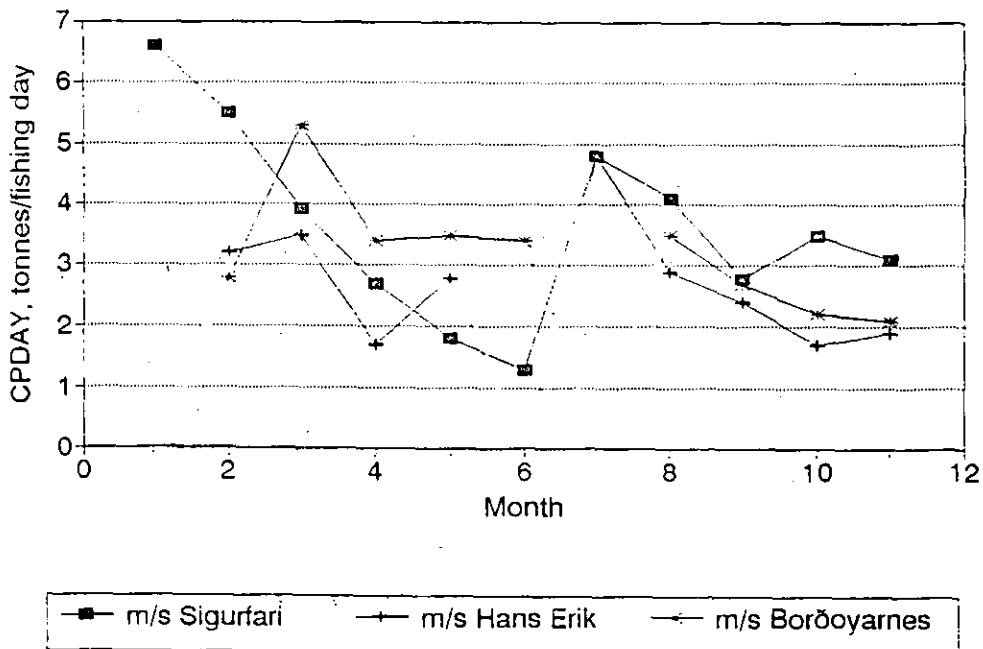


Figure 2.

# Faroese longline fishery for cod in 3M

CPUE 1973-91 (Kg/1000 hooks)

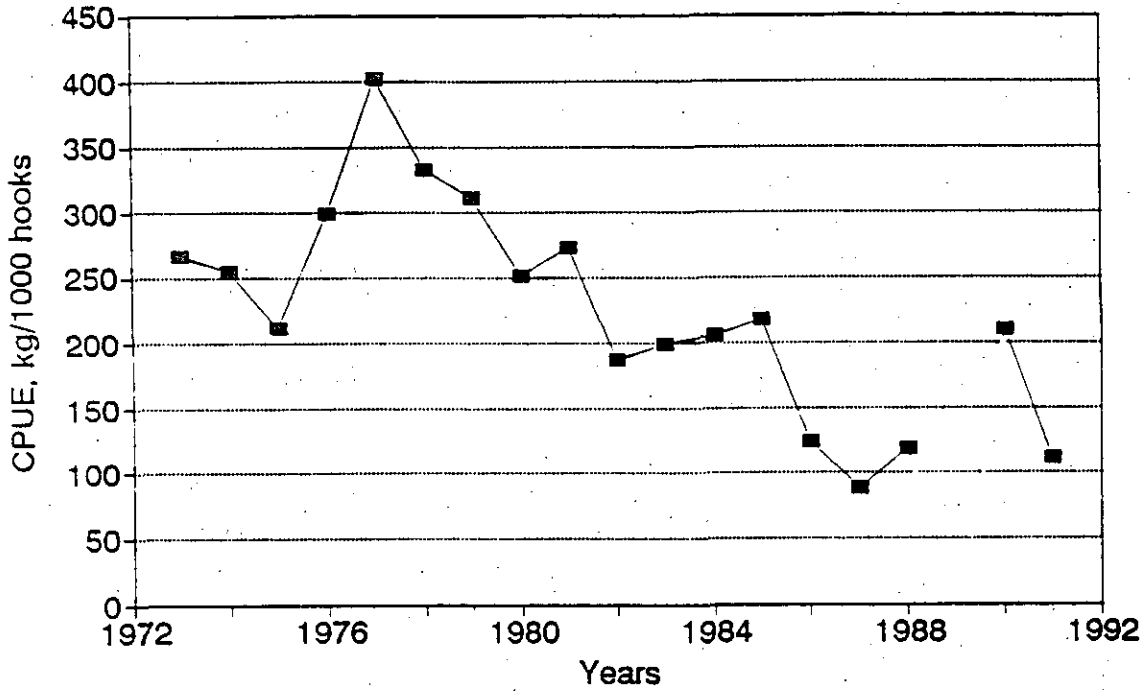


Figure 3.