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Latvian Research Report for 2007

by

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In 2007 the Latvian fleet in the NAFO area operated with 2 vessels, targeting mainly the Pandalid shrimps (shrimp trawl TBS, mesh size 40 mm) in areas 3M and 3L, and the redfish in area SA (bottom trawl, mesh size 130 mm). No other species recorded for 2007. The Latvian landings (t) in NAFO area in 2007 by species, division and quarter are given in Table 1, and the effort of shrimps fishery – in Table 2.

All Latvian length/weight sampling of catches and discards by species in 2007 from TBS trawl catches for Pandalid shrimps in the Div. 3M and Div. 3L was carried out by NAFO/scientific observers. The observers are employed by the Latvian Fish Resources Agency, and they are specially trained to collect also the basic scientific data. Estimates from NAFO observers data on Latvian Pandalid shrimps directed fishery (retained catches and discards) by species, months and division in January-July 2007 are presented in Table 3.

The list of biological sampling data is given in Annex 1. Total number of samples taken – 37 and individuals examined – 2 650 (1 500 of northern prawn, 650 of redfish and 450 of Greenland halibut). The redfish and Greenland halibut length measurements were taken from discards. In 2007 information on 134 fishing days (4 441 hours) was available.

Table 1. Latvian landings in NAFO are by species, divisions and quarters in 2007 (tons)

| Species | Division | Quarter | | | | Total |
|------------------|----------|---------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | | I | II | III | IV | |
| Pandalid shrimps | 3L | 116.9 | 0 | 99.1 | 93.4 | 309.4 |
| | 3M | 332.2 | 264.2 | 789.5 | 554.5 | 1940.4 |
| Redfish | 2+1F+3K | 0 | 0 | 186.0 | 0 | 186.0 |

Table 2. Latvian fishing effort on shrimp fishery in NAFO regulatory area in 2007

| Month | Divisions | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------|--------------|-----|
| | 3L | 3M | 3L | 3M |
| | Landings, tons | | Fishing days | |
| January | 0 | 5.5 | 0 | 2 |
| February | 27.7 | 12.7 | 4 | 6 |
| March | 89.2 | 314.0 | 12 | 14 |
| April | 0 | 71.0 | 0 | 10 |
| May | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| June | 0 | 193.3 | 0 | 12 |
| July | 17.3 | 310.9 | 3 | 24 |
| August | 47.3 | 272.2 | 9 | 17 |
| September | 34.5 | 206.3 | 8 | 15 |
| October | 18.7 | 305.1 | 4 | 18 |
| November | 66.6 | 249.4 | 12 | 12 |
| December | 8.0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 309.4 | 1940.4 | 53 | 130 |

Table 3. Latvian landings and discards by month and division in January-July 2007 in the directed Pandalid shrimps fishery, tons

| Month | Landings | | | Discards | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------|----------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Div. 3L PRA | Div. 3M PRA | Total | Div. 3L | | | Div. 3M | | | Total |
| | | | | GHL | PRA | RED | GHL | PRA | RED | |
| 1 | 0.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | | | | | 0.025 | 0.022 | 0.047 |
| 2 | 27.7 | 124.7 | 152.4 | 0.014 | 0.105 | 0.029 | | 0.51 | 0.297 | 0.955 |
| 3 | 89.2 | 321.8 | 411.0 | 0.13 | 0.44 | 0.005 | | 1.475 | 0.666 | 2.716 |
| 4 | 0.0 | 63.0 | 63.0 | | | | | 0.292 | 0.172 | 0.464 |
| 5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 6 | 0.0 | 193.4 | 193.4 | | | | | 0.92 | 0.604 | 1.524 |
| 7 | 17.2 | 311.1 | 328.3 | 0.065 | 0.095 | 0.015 | | 1.475 | 0.935 | 2.585 |
| Total | 134.1 | 1019.5 | 1153.6 | 0.209 | 0.64 | 0.069 | 0.00 | 4.697 | 2.696 | 8.291 |