



Serial No. N6486

NAFO SCR Doc. 15/049

Catch Table Update for the West Greenland Shrimp Fishery

by

Nanette Hammeken Arboe

Greenland Institute of Natural Resources
Box 570, 3900 Nuuk, Greenland

Introduction

A catch table was presented to the 2007 meeting of NIPAG, to summarize various recent catch estimates and TAC values for the shrimp fisheries on the West Greenland shelf (SCR Doc 07/66). An updated version is given here.

In earlier years the provisional catch in Canadian SFA 1 had been estimated as the mean of the previous 5 years' catches. However, the fishery has fluctuated in recent years (Table 1.A): Since 2009, instead of using an average of earlier catches, a provisional catch furnished by industry observers for the present year has been used.

Since 2010 a projected catch in Greenland Subarea 1 has been provided by the Greenland Fishery and License Kontrol (GFLK) based on cumulative catches from logbooks for the Greenlandic and EU fleets for the current year compared with past years. However, the effort in the first half year of 2015 has been very low compared to recent years so a provisional catch furnished by GFLK for the present year has been used. Canadian catches in 2015 are reported as close to zero. The provisional catch for 2015 is set at 65.000 tonnes (Table 1.A).

The stock extends into the EEZs of both Greenland and Canada. There is no agreement on sharing the stock. In order to improve its management of its own fishery, Greenland has instituted a procedure for taking account of Canadian interests when setting quotas. After deciding on a TAC for the stock, Greenland reserves a portion of it for Canada before allocating quotas to fleets fishing in Greenland waters. The fraction set aside for Canada is based on a weighting of the Canadian portions of the standard survey area, recent survey estimates of biomass, and recent catches. Quota allocation within Greenland waters has also been changed in 2012 such that an agreed EU quota is deducted before allocating quotas to the Greenland offshore and inshore fleets (Table 1.C).

Quota drawdowns in Greenland have, until 1st of January 2011, been based not on live-caught weight, but on traded weight, less than the logbook recorded catch by an allowance for crushed and broken shrimps (G.H. 2010). This has caused a discrepancy between the quota drawdowns by GFLK (1st row in table 1.A) and the catch from the logbooks (3rd row in table 1.A) amounting from 10% to 14% for the years 2007 to 2010. Since 2011, where quota drawdowns by legislation is required to be based on live-caught weight, this discrepancy has been less than 4%.

A Greenlandic licence holder who fishes out his quota may apply to start fishing the following year's quota from the 15th of November and licence holders with quotas unfished at the end of the year may apply to fish them until the 30th of April in the following year (G.H. 2002 and G.H. 2012). These concessions have in earlier years led to accumulation of unfished quotas and can partly explain how the quota drawdowns by GFLK (1st row in table 1.A) in some years can exceed the enacted TAC for Greenland (6th row in table 1.C). In addition catches of *Pandalus montagui* have often not been distinguished in logbooks from *Pandalus borealis*, especially by vessels fishing bulk shrimps for landing in Greenland, the proportion of *montagui* being estimated by sampling the catch at the point of sale. Quota drawdowns were then restricted to the estimated weight of *borealis* and logbook records could in this way still come to exceed quotas. Since 2011 logbooks are required to record at least estimated catches of *montagui* (G.H. 2010).

Owing to reduced TACs for the Greenlandic fleet in recent years, (both because of a decreasing shrimp stock and the new way of allocating quotas implemented by the Greenlandic Government starting in 2012) and because the quota drawdowns since 2011 have been based on the actual amount of shrimps caught, both the inshore fleet and offshore fleet started fishing on its 2014 quota before the end of 2013 and started fishing on its 2015 quota before the end of 2014. Therefore quota drawdowns by GFLK (1st row in table 1.A) in both 2013 and 2014 exceeds the enacted TAC for Greenland (6th row in table 1.C).

In recent years the capacity of the Greenland offshore fleet has been reduced and part of its quota has been sold to the Greenland inshore fleet.

Acknowledgements

I thank Mads Rossing Lund of the Greenland Fishery and Licence Control (GFLK) for providing the provisional catches for the Greenlandic fleet and Tim Siferd from the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) for providing the information on the catches in 2014 and 2015 for the Canadian fleet.

References

KINGSLEY, M.C.S 2007. Catches of Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) off West Greenland, 1999-2006. NAFO SCR Doc. 07/66, Ser. No. 5451. 4 pp.

G.H. 2002 Selvstyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 5 af 31. januar 2002 om licens til fiskeri.
<http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={9EB4425F-D446-45CE-AA0A-691933BDF007}>

G.H. 2010 Selvstyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 20 af 16. december 2010 om kontrol med kystnært fiskeri efter rejer. http://www.lovgivning.gl/gh.gl-love/dk/2010/bkg/bkg_nr_20-2010_dk.htm

G.H. 2010 Selvstyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 18 af 9. december 2010 om kontrol med havgående fiskeri.
http://www.lovgivning.gl/gh.gl-love/dk/2010/bkg/bkg_nr_18-2010_dk.htm

G.H. 2012 Selvstyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 1 af 2. februar 2012 om licens og kvoter til fiskeri.
http://www.lovgivning.gl/gh.gl-love/dk/2012/bkg/bkg_nr_01-2012_dk.htm

Table 1. Annual catch (A), Input of yearly catch figures to Assessment Model (B) and TAC (C), for the fishery for Northern Shrimp on the West Greenland shelf.

A. Catch (tonnes) in year:	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
GFLK [†] year (SA 1) (Quota drawdowns PRA)	123 126	132 213	120 024	114 314	118 148	113 257	92 464	85 233	
STATLANT [#] (SA1) (PRA and PAN)	142 245	148 550	133 561	123 973	122 061	114 958	91 800	88 834	
Logbooks [‡] (SA 1) (PRA)	139 657	153 889	135 029	128 108	122 655	115 963	95 379	88 765	
STATLANT [#] (0A) (PRA and PAN)	1 878	0	429	5 206	1 134	12	2	0	
DFO quota report SFA1 [§] (PRA)	1 945	0	220	5 882	1 296	5	2	0	
DFO, Observer logbooks [¶] (PRA)	2 024	0	167	5 326	1 330	5	0	0	
B. Input to Assessment Model (tonnes) for year:	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Catch for 2015 Assessment	144 190 _s	153 889 _l	135 458 _l	133 990 _l	123 985 _l	115 975 _l	95 380 _l	88 765 _l	65 000 _p
Total Catch for 2014 Assessment	144 190 _s	153 889 _l	135 458 _l	133 990 _l	123 985 _l	115 975 _l	95 380 _l	90 000 _p	
Total Catch for 2013 Assessment	144 190 _s	153 889 _l	135 458 _l	133 990 _l	123 985 _l	115 975 _l	100 000 _p		
C. TACs (tonnes) for year:	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Greenland SA1 offshore	74 100	70 281	59 025	60 525	68 400	55 675	47 802	45 262	39 365
Greenland SA1 inshore	55 900	53 019	51 545	50 045	51 600	42 000	36 061	34 145	29 696
Greenland SA1 EU	4 000	4 000	4 000	4 000	4 000	4 000	3 400	3 400	2 000
Greenland set-aside for Canada						3 325	2 737	2 193	1 939
Total Greenland SA1 & SFA1						105 000	90 000	85 000	73 000
Total Greenland enacted SA1	134 000	127 300	114 570	114 570	124 000	101 675	87 263	82 807	71 061
Canada enacted SFA1	18 417	18 417	18 417	18 417	15 583	12 750	11 333	11 333	8 500
Total enacted TAC, SA1 & SFA1	152 417	145 717	132 987	132 987	142 417	118 596	102 767	94 140	79 561
Advised by SC	130 000	110 000	110 000	110 000	120 000	90 000	80 000	80 000	60 000

† quota drawdowns (Northern Prawn, PRA) recorded in the GFLK data base; # species PRA (Northern Prawn) and PAN (Pandalid shrimps). ‡ since 2011 legally required to be 'live weight' and includes discards; the data fetched in August 2015 was used to update existing files held by Grønlands Naturinstitut; § Canadian Shrimp Fishing Area 1 is NAFO Division 0A east of longitude 60°30'W; ¶ provided for 1999–2005 through David Orr in St John's, for 2006–15 through Tim Siferd in Winnipeg. / logbooks, _s STATLANT + DFO Commercial Statistics, _p provisional.