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**Biomass and Abundance of Demersal Fish Stocks off West and East Greenland estimated  
from the Greenland Institute of Natural resources (GINR) Shrimp and Fish Survey (SFW), 1990-2017.**

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**Abstract**

Since 1988, the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources has annually conducted a bottom trawl survey off West Greenland (NAFO SA1). The survey was initially designed with the focus to evaluate the biomass and abundance of the Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*), but fish catches have systematically been recorded since 1992. The gear was changed prior to the 2005 survey from a shrimp trawl with steel bobbins to a slightly larger shrimp trawl with rock-hoppers. In 2008, the survey was expanded to include The East Greenland shelf area using the same gear and depth range. This paper contain biomass and abundance indices, length distributions and maps of survey densities for Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*), Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*), redfish (*Sebastes norvegicus* and *Sebastes Mentella*), Atlantic wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*), Spotted wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*), American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) and Thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*). The appendix contains total biomass and abundance estimates for Teleosts, Elasmobranchs and Cephalopods. In 2017, the survey was completed in West Greenland, but in East Greenland the survey was limited to shallow water 0-400m and with few stations due to technical difficulties.

In West Greenland, the Greenland halibut biomass has been in a decreasing trend since the gear change in 2005, but the biomass has been increasing since 2013. The Greenland halibut abundance index is mainly driven by ages 1 and 2 and was among the highest observed indicating a good 2017 YC. The 2016 survey indicated a major decline in the offshore cod stock in West Greenland (NAFO 1A-1E) with 80% in abundance and 86% in biomass compared to 2015 and this was further confirmed in 2017. The biomass of golden redfish and deep-sea redfish in West Greenland have increased in the past few years, but the 2017 biomass index for both species was among the lower observed since the gear change. The abundance of redfish, mainly juvenile mixture one or both specie, has decreased about a factor 20 since the beginning of the time series, indicating continued failing redfish recruitment in the area. Both the East Greenland and West Greenland shelf (1AB) are known nursery grounds for redfish but new YC have virtually been absent in the past since 2011 in both West Greenland and in East Greenland. In West Greenland abundance and biomass indices of spotted wolffish, Atlantic wolffish, American plaice and thorny skate have been in an increasing trend both before and after the gear change.



## Materials and Methods

### The Greenland Shrimp and Fish survey in West Greenland (SFW survey)

The survey has throughout the time series been conducted with the 722 GRT stern trawler M/Tr 'Pâmiut'. The survey design, the area coverage and the trawl and its rigging has been unchanged since 2005. The survey period is June –July in West Greenland and August in East Greenland.

**The Survey Gear and trawl:** The survey initially used a Skjervoy 3000/20 trawl with steel bobbin gear and double bag. In 2005, the skjervoy trawl was replaced by a Cosmos trawl (Wieland and Bergström, 2005). Until 2003, *Greenland Perfect* trawldoors were used ( $9.25 \text{ m}^2$ , 2.4 tons), but they were replaced in 2004 by Injector International trawl doors ( $7.5 \text{ m}^2$ , 2.8 tons) to facilitate the trawl change in 2005. Calibration experiments were conducted in the main shrimp areas in 2004 and 2005 and a formal analysis of conversion factors were established for shrimp (Rosing and Wieland, 2005). Preliminary conversion factors for a few commercial fish species were derived as described by Rosing and Wieland (2005) and are given in table 3. However, the calibration factors were never finally evaluated and in some cases (particularly cod) the calibration factors relied on few data. Indeed, without calibration the two separate time series seems well connected for most species.

**Survey area and stratification:** The trawl survey initially covered the traditional offshore shrimp area, between  $60^\circ$  -  $72^\circ$  north, depth 150-600m. In 1991, the area was extended to include Disko Bay. The area is delimited by a line 3nm off the base line and the 600 m depth curve. Areas shallower than 150 m was initially rather unsystematically covered, but from 2004 two extra depth zones have been formally included (50-100m, and 100-150m).

The stratification is based on designated 'Shrimp Areas' that is divided into depth zones of: 151-200, 201-300, 301-400 and 401-600 m, as based on depth contour lines (figure. 1). The depth zones 0-100 m and 100-150m are delimited by the NAFO Subdivision boundaries. The "shrimp Areas" and their sizes are provided in table 1. The number of valid hauls by year and strata are listed in table 2. Fish species was prior to 2007 analysed using a re-stratification that followed the NAFO divisions. Re-stratification implies a potential bias and the survey information from 2005 and onwards has therefore been reanalysed in accordance with the shrimp strata actually used in the survey. If strata had no stations in a given year, the neighbouring strata with stations in that year is geographically enhanced to include of the non-visited strata. This way the total area surveyed is maintained (since 2005). Tow duration was over the years gradually reduced from 60 min. (prior to 1997) to 30 and has been fixed to 15 min since 2005 (Wieland and Storr-Paulsen 2006). Towing speed has been about 2.5 knots throughout the years. Survey abundance and biomass is expressed per swept area: Wingspread\*towed distance, where wingspread is inferred from Scanmar recordings and the towed distance is measured by GPS.

**Allocation of stations per strata.** Trawl stations are allocated to strata with the objective to minimise the variances of the shrimp biomass. The allocation algorithm utilises the historically observed shrimp variances where highest weight is placed on the most recent information. Stations were initially selected at random, but since 1999 station positions were chosen to secure a minimum distance between stations. Since 1998 about half the haul positions were randomly selected from the previous year hauls and the rest of the hauls being selected at random.

### The Greenland Shrimp and Fish survey in East Greenland (SFE survey)

The survey is carried out with the same gear and survey protocols as used in West Greenland after 2005. Stratification is based on the "Q-areas" used for the East Greenland survey for Greenland halibut. The areas are further depth stratified into 0-200 m, 200-400m and 400-600 m zones, the areas are shown in figure 1 and the area sizes are given in table 1. In East Greenland, bottom conditions severely restrict the areas that can be trawled and in some strata, stations are randomly selected from historical known trawl-able sites.

## Results

### **Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*).**

Greenland halibut is widely distributed along NAFO 1A-F, but highest concentrations are found in the important nursery areas in division 1A, 1B-north and Disko Bay (table 4 and 5). The abundance indices is mainly driven by year to year variability in the number of one- and two-year old recruits, which by number typically constitute 80-90% in numbers of the Greenland halibut caught during the survey.

The biomass and abundance indices increased gradually until the gear change in 2005. Since 2005, the general trend in the abundance indices has been decreasing until 2014, with the exception of record high numbers of one-year old recruits observed in 2011, 2013. Since then, the abundance increased until 2017 (Figure 2). In West Greenland clear modes can be found in the length distribution at 12-15 and 23 cm every year corresponding to year-classes 1 and 2 (figure 14). In East-Greenland, recruits are rarely seen and both abundance and biomass indices are much lower on the shallow parts of the East Greenlandic shelf areas (fig 21).

### **Greenland halibut recruitment.**

A recruitment index was estimated for the entire survey area. By means of the Petersen-method ages 1, 2 and 3+ were separated in the survey catches. To allow comparison of abundance throughout the time series, data from 1988 to 2004 were converted by a conversion factors to adjust the old Skjervoy to the new Cosmos trawl catches trawl catches. For Greenland halibut the calibration was length dependent (Table 3).

The number of one-year-old fish in the total survey area including Disko Bay (NAFO Divisions 1A-F) increased gradually from 1996 to a peak in 2003 (835 millions indiv.) (Fig. 9). Since then, the abundance decreased until 2014, with the exception of two exceptionally recruitment events of more than 1000 millions of indiv. in 2011 and 2013. The recruitment increased from 2014 (376 million indiv.) to 2017 (850 millions indiv.). Almost all the one year old fish were found in Div. 1AS and Div. BN (Fig. 10).

The recruitment offshore fluctuated since the good 2011 and 2013 year-classes. In 2011, it peaked in North Division 1A and Inshore, and in 2013, in South 1A and 1B. In 2014, the recruitment decreased in all divisions, and since then it increased (Fig. 11). More than 90 % of the one year old fish was found in the off shore areas (Fig. 12).

Generally there is a steep decline between abundance at age 1 and age 2 and 3+ which also was observed in the 2017 survey (Fig. 13).

### **Cod (*Gadus morhua*)**

The Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) stock complex in Greenland is considered to be composed of primarily three different stock components; inshore cod, West Greenland Cod and East Greenland/Iceland offshore cod. **Inshore cod** are believed to be relatively stationary, as tagging experiments showed that most (82-86 %) of the cod recaptured were found in the same area as tagged (Hovgård and Christensen 1990). **West Greenland offshore** cod that historically has been spawning along the banks of the West Greenland's coast (Wieland and Hovgaard 2002, Therkildsen et al. 2013). **East Greenland/Icelandic offshore cod** presently spawning on several banks of the East Greenland's coast. Occasionally larvae drift from East Greenlandic and Icelandic spawning grounds with the Irminger current and settle in South and West Greenland waters, thereby contributing to the offshore as well as to local fjord populations in Greenland. Based on genetics and tagging results it was decided to split the advice for the offshore stock in two units in 2015: West Greenland offshore stock in the area NAFO 1A-1E and East Greenland offshore stock in the area NAFO 1F and ICES 14b. The 2016 survey indicated a major decline in the offshore cod stock in West Greenland (NAFO 1A-1E) with 80% in abundance and 86% in biomass compared to 2015. This is further confirmed with a low 2017 biomass and abundance index. For more information on cod see the ICES Report of the North-Western Working Group (Anon., 2018)

### **Demersal Redfish (*Sebastes sp.*) combined.**

Two species of redfish are common in the area, golden redfish, *Sebastes norvegicus* and deep-sea redfish *Sebastes mentella*. Both the East Greenland and West Greenland shelf (1AB) are known nursery grounds for redfish. However, the distinction between the two species and the normal dominance of recruits in the survey has had the effect that in some years redfish were classified as *Sebastes sp.* (prior to 2007). After 2007 redfish smaller than approximately ~18 cm has been classified as juvenile redfish *Sebastes sp.* and larger redfish are classified on a species level. A separation of redfish by species has been attempted since 2007 (table 10-15, figure 4b-d and 16). In East Greenland the index was not evaluated in 2017 due to the low number of stations and lag of stations in the deeper strata.

The biomass of golden redfish and deep-sea redfish in West Greenland have increased in the past few years, but the 2017 biomass index for both species was among the lower observed since the gear change (fig 4a). The indices for redfish is often somewhat uncertain with a single or few hauls provide the majority of the annual biomass estimate. The increasing biomass observed in West Greenland during a period of decreasing or failing recruitment could be related to either connection with the stocks in East Greenland or perhaps increased survival of redfish since the implementation of sorting grids in the shrimp-fishery in 2002. Indeed, tow densities by haul reveal an almost continuous distribution of both species from East to West around Cape Farewell (fig 23-26).

For further information on redfish in East Greenland see the ICES Report of the North-Western Working Group (Anon., 2018)

### **Redfish recruitment.**

The high numbers of redfish in the survey in the 1990's were mainly recruits concentrated in division 1AS and 1B. The combined abundance index for both redfish species can be viewed as a continuous decrease in the number of recruits since the 1990's (fig 4a). The decreasing numbers of recruits has continued in both East Greenland and West Greenland since 2008 with a almost complete lack of recruits since 2011 (fig 4b and 16). Annual growth increments of 4 cm are indicated by repeatedly pronounced peaks in length compositions at 7-8 cm and around 12 cm probably corresponding to age 1 and 2 (Nedreaas, 1990).

### **Deep-sea redfish *S. mentella***

In East Greenland, the deep-sea redfish abundance decreased substantially from 2008 to 2016, but a gradual shift in the length distribution from around 18-30 to 30-45 cm maintained the biomass at a higher level (fig 4c). In West Greenland, the abundance and biomass of deep-sea redfish increased from 2011 to 2016 (fig 4c), but the 2017 index is among the lower in the time series and at the 2008-2011 level.

### **Golden Redfish *S. Norvegicus***

In East Greenland, the biomass index for Golden redfish increased from the 2008-2010 period and remained higher until 2016 (fig 4d). In West Greenland, golden redfish biomass was stable from 2006-2010 but increased gradually until 2016 (table 15 and fig 4d). The 2017 biomass index is however at the 2006-2011 level. The increasing biomass observed from 2011-2016 occurred division 1E and 1F and was often caused by one or 2 hauls containing larger individuals (figure 26) contributing more than half the total West Greenland biomass. In 2016, a single haul in division 1E consisted of large golden redfish between 45-70 cm and provided 80% of the total biomass estimate.

### **American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*).**

In West Greenland, American plaice is common in all divisions (table 16, 17 and figure 27). The biomass and abundance indices have fluctuated substantially in recent years, but the general trend has been increasing both prior to and after the gear change (table 16, 17 and figure 5). Clear modes can be found at 5 and 15 cm indicating new incoming year-classes and individuals larger than 45 cm are rarely seen in Greenland (figure. 17). The

highest concentrations are mainly found in West Greenland (figure 27). In East-Greenland, both abundance and biomass indices are much lower on the shallow parts of the East Greenlandic shelf areas.

### **Atlantic wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*)**

Atlantic wolffish is common in all divisions, in both East and West Greenland (figure 28). Previously Atlantic wolffish had its main distribution south of 68°N, but it has shifted further north since the beginning of the time series (table 18, 19 and figure 6). Although the abundance and biomass indices tends to have extreme values in some years, the underlying trends has been increasing since the beginning of the time series and the non-calibrated indices seems well connected. The length distribution reveals the dominance of smaller fish (figure. 18).

### **Spotted wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*)**

Spotted wolffish are common in all divisions in both East and West Greenland, inshore and offshore. Abundance and biomass indices have increased throughout the time series and the non-calibrated indices seems well connected (Table 20, 21 and figure 7). The length distribution ranges from 10-120 cm and modes at 13 and 100 cm likely represents one-year old recruits and individuals at  $L_{max}$  (figure 19). Recruits and juvenile individuals are mainly found in North-west Greenland (1A) (figure 19 and 29).

### **Thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*)**

In West Greenland, thorny skate is common in all divisions, but the majority of both the biomass and abundance is located in West Greenland (fig 8 and 30). Abundance and biomass indices have increased throughout the time series and the non-calibrated indices seems well connected (table 22, 23 and figure 8). Although  $L_{max}$  for thorny skates is reported to be more than 100 cm, it has been suggested that North American thorny skate grows to larger body size than East Atlantic individuals. Since individuals larger than 55 cm are rarely seen in Greenland waters and all individuals about 50 cm are fully mature, it seems likely that thorny skates in Greenland resemble East Atlantic stocks. During the most recent years thorny skate length distributions have revealed clear modes at 10-15 cm and 35-50 cm probably corresponding to recruits and overlapping year-classes of adult individual (figure. 20).

### **Other species**

The Appendix contains biomass and abundance estimates for elasmobranchs, teleosts, cephalopods and crustaceans excl. Shrimp for the West-Greenland part of the GINR shrimp fish survey including the West-Greenlandic Shelf part of NAFO div 0A.

## **Discussion**

Catch-ability is set at 1 for all species. However, since swept area is calculated for the trawl excluding doors and bridles, catchability may be higher than 1 for some species and below 1 for other species, implying that both biomass and abundance should be regarded as index values only, not absolute values.

Index changes from the end of the 1990's to 2001 for species related to shallow water and banks (50-150m) could reflect better coverage of these depths during the past decade. Changes from 2003 to 2004 could be influenced with the trawl door update from Greenland perfect to injector and may be species dependent, as no calibration experiments were made on this account. Index changes from 2004 to 2005 could be related to species specific data quality in the calibration experiments. If ignoring the calibration factors, the indices seems well connected for most species, indicating that there is little reason to calibrate in order to compare the time series. Indeed, even for Greenland halibut the length-dependent calibration factor has a 1:1 value around 12 cm which constitutes 80-90% of the individuals caught every year. Therefore, for the Greenland halibut abundance indices it matters little if calibrating or not.

Since the main purpose of the survey is to evaluate the biomass of northern shrimp and the effort is concentrated in areas and depths where the commercial shrimp trawling is taking place, especially on the northern slopes of the bank Store Hellefiskebanke (67°50'N 55°00'W) and in the inshore area Disko Bay. As

Store Hellefiskebanke and Disko Bay are important nursery areas for Greenland halibut and redfish, as well as other important species (Smidt, 1969; Tåning, 1949) it is likely, that the abundance estimates of the survey reflects the juvenile stock situation of these species.

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**Table 1.** The survey area (km<sup>2</sup>) in the Greenland Shrimp and Fish Survey.

West Greenland							
Area	Depthstrata						Total
	<100	100-150	150-200	200-300	300-400	400-600	
1A	3039	5220					8259
1B	11346	4966					16312
1C	4183	8169					12351
1D	4136	1538					5673
1E	494	2721					3215
1F	1497	5248					6745
C0			903	2179	1154		4236
I1		407	1963	2441	1499		6310
I2		419	815	1085	1338		3658
U1		2486	4633	4785	5129		17033
U2			6710	8481	7994		23185
U3		2012	3017	1675	2710		9413
W1		2873	6099	7520	816		17307
W2		1674	2612	1741	915		6941
W3		2122	4725	2085	2994		11926
W4		4119	1818	821	1961		8719
W5		3001	3648	1950	3021		11620
W6		1206	2006	1585	1234		6031
W7		2442	891	265	317		3915
W8		424	567	405	718		2114
W9		1711	938	516	430		3595
All strata	24695	27861	24895	41344	37534	32230	188559

East Greenland				
Area	Depthstrata			Total
	0001-0200	0201-0400	0401-0600	
Q1	217	35445	6975	42637
Q2	93	7657	1246	8996
Q3	3363	22547	9830	35740
Q4	1337	7770	2054	11161
Q5	469	2785	1819	5073
Q6	6307	6130	2063	14500
All strata				118107

**Table 2.** Numbers of valid hauls in West Greenland, since 1988. 1AX=Disko Bay. 0A= The West-Greenlandic shelf part in Canadian waters. (- area included in neighboring strata).

Year	West Greenland											Total
	0A	1AN	1AS	1AX	1BN	1BS	1C	1D	1E	1F		
1990		29	63	*	68	17	35	16	*	*		228
1991		18	39	41	44	18	11	16	*	*		187
1992		20	33	39	36	8	18	18	11	15		198
1993		16	22	31	39	10	21	15	12	13		179
1994		16	33	27	49	9	23	8	9	9		183
1995		17	33	33	48	13	29	13	14	11		211
1996		18	20	33	46	11	29	12	9	11		189
1997		17	33	34	47	9	32	12	12	19		215
1998		10	34	33	66	14	27	19	14	14		231
1999		10	40	34	63	18	33	16	14	17		245
2000		8	25	23	45	17	37	23	14	29		221
2001		9	28	23	59	16	36	24	15	26		236
2002		2	26	22	68	12	32	18	20	27		227
2003		11	21	19	51	12	30	18	15	22		199
2004		15	25	14	41	14	24	22	20	34		209
New survey gear introduced												
2005	6	20	30	16	45	10	26	19	23	23		212
2006	5	26	40	21	49	9	27	20	21	31		244
2007	8	18	38	18	47	9	27	27	31	39		254
2008	6	16	38	16	53	7	28	23	25	46		252
2009	8	21	31	24	60	13	28	22	24	48		271
2010	10	26	44	25	65	11	30	23	24	40		289
2011	-	17	31	26	54	9	24	18	12	25		216
2012	-	18	34	21	52	12	21	18	18	26		220
2013	4	19	37	17	44	8	20	13	21	28		211
2014	-	21	36	21	47	10	19	17	23	32		226
2015	-	24	29	17	42	7	24	22	20	36		221
2016	-	18	29	12	32	6	27	14	19	36		193
2017	3	27	42	30	43	9	25	18	25	35		257

Note.

- 2005. Strata 1A 50-100 no stations – area included in 1A 100-150.
- 2006. Strata 1C 50-100 no stations – area included in 1C 100-150.
- 2007. Strata 1C 50-100 no stations – area included in 1C 100-150.
- 2008. All strata surveyed.
- 2009. Strata 1A:50-100 no stations – area included in 1A 100-150.
- 2010. Strata 1A:50-100, 1A:100-150 no stations – area included in U1 150-200.
- 2011. Strata W1:400-600, C0:200-300, C0:300-400, C0:400-600 no stations - included in W1 300-400.
- 2012. Strata C0:200-300, C0:300-400, C0:400-600 no stations – area included in W1 300-400.
- 2013. Strata C0:400-600 no stations - included in C0 300-400. Strata W9:400-600 no stations – area included in W9 300-400.
- 2014. Strata C0:200-300, C0:300-400, C0:400-600 no stations – area included in W3 equivalent depth strata.
- 2015. Strata C0:200-300, C0:300-400, C0:400-600 no stations – area included in W3 equivalent depth strata. W1:400-600 included in W1 300-400. Northern area restricted to Eastern shelf due to sea ice.
- 2016. Strata C0:200-300, C0:300-400, C0:400-600 no stations – area included in W3 equivalent depth strata.
- 2017. Strata C0:400-600 no stations - included in C0 300-400. Strata W1:400-600 no stations – area included in W1 300-400.

**Table 2** - continued. Numbers of valid hauls in East Greenland since 2007.

East Greenland							
Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Total
2007							35
2008	8	6	12	7	7	12	52
2009	21	12	26	19	6	13	97
2010	19	14	24	9	6	10	82
2011	20	11	21	12	7	14	85
2012	19	16	28	13	7	15	98
2013	25	12	22	14	5	14	92
2014	22	14	12	9	8	16	81
2015	26	11	24	12	8	14	95
2016	29	10	26	13	7	16	101
2017	2	4	7	6	6	11	36

## Note:

- 2007 Survey startup year. Only 35 hauls. No results presented.  
 2008. Strata Q1,Q2,Q4:0-200 no stations - included Strata Q1,Q2,Q3:200-400.  
 2009. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400.  
 2010. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400.  
 2011. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400.  
 2012. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400.  
 2013. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400. Strata Q5:0-200 m no stations – included in Q4:0-200.  
 2014. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400. Strata Q3:0-200 included in Q4:0-200 (COD Q3:200-400.)  
 2015. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400. Stations in Icelandic EEZ included under strata in Grl.  
 2016. Strata Q1:0-200 m no stations – area included in Q1:200-400.  
 2017. Insufficient survey coverage for most species.

**Table 3.** Preliminary calibration factors to adjust the Cosmos trawl catches to the former Skjervoy trawl standard. For Greenland halibut and American plaice the conversion were length dependent and for those species x in the equations represents the individual fish length.

Fishspecies	Greenland halibut	Redfish	American plaice	Atlantic wolffish	Spotted wolffish	Cod	Thorny skate
Conversion factor	0.0404x+0.6527	2.4	-0.0825x + 5.3307	2.3	2.3	1.78	5.1
Trawl size factor	1/1.1516	1/1.1516	1/1.1516	1/1.1516	1/1.1516	1/1.1516	1/1.1516
Final factor	0.035x+0.567	2.0	-0.072x + 4.629	2.0	2.0	1.5	4.4





**Table 8.** Redfish species combined, all sizes (*Sebastodes sp.*) abundance indices (millions).

Year	0A	1AN	1AS	1AX	1BN	1BS	1C	1D	1E	1F	W-Grl	CI	E-Grl
1992		1	146	9	1006	187	69	34	6	4	1462	32	
1993		4	210	17	361	22	157	182	97	520	1568	69	
1994		12	187	12	1573	225	273	85	10	84	2461	26	
1995		1	67	11	559	33	183	93	5	5	957	23	
1996		1	8	8	1688	59	124	63	11	54	2017	29	
1997		5	43	7	348	58	156	57	23	22	719	24	
1998		1	24	20	236	15	115	71	10	32	522	24	
1999		2	69	9	287	11	11	61	4	23	574	21	
2000		0	27	6	27	32	28	10	18	159	165	23	
2001		2	77	3	25	15	20	12	1	180	183	60	
2002		1	23	1	50	84	43	44	2	10	257	27	
2003		2	45	2	210	32	79	25	2	26	423	23	
2004		2	11	1	52	39	47	30	2	69	253	37	
New survey gear introduced												cv	cv
2005	184	1	19	1	73	79	77	25	12	80	551	-	
2006	27	7	25	1	110	52	83	16	3	11	334	-	
2007	97	2	37	0	128	34	49	5	3	17	371	-	-
2008	99	2	40	0	121	33	24	3	2	11	334	-	1847
2009	37	2	29	0	115	26	12	1	2	9	234	-	1988
2010	27	6	27	0	69	42	23	8	3	8	213	-	1566
2011	-	10	23	1	121	18	31	13	1	9	225	-	2517
2012	-	7	10	0	42	13	20	10	2	16	120	-	1018
2013	12	2	10	0	29	4	30	6	44	7	145	-	1075
2014	-	1	3	0	23	5	3	39	20	3	96	-	559
2015	-	1	2	0	13	1	11	39	8	7	82	-	762
2016	-	1	1	0	4	4	15	199	34	6	265	-	429
2017	1	0	1	0	5	2	11	10	5	5	39	-	-

**Table 9.** Redfish species combined, all sizes *Sebastodes sp.* biomass indices (tons).

Year	0A	1AN	1AS	1AX	1BN	1BS	1C	1D	1E	1F	W-Grl.	CI	E-Grl.
1992		69	18117	437	13423	2832	1576	1124	169	147	37894	43	
1993		195	4994	710	6420	300	1549	3835	1923	2138	22065	38	
1994		590	5076	538	16064	1986	3886	995	179	1272	30586	24	
1995		52	1585	775	5029	869	2963	1952	358	123	13705	22	
1996		18	117	782	12178	1694	2552	1980	304	1788	21413	28	
1997		599	1481	337	4913	1597	6766	1901	1099	1229	19922	31	
1998		39	1467	1423	6193	2130	3274	1953	606	1198	18283	22	
1999		164	4021	742	5596	999	2742	2976	207	1124	18671	25	
2000		0	1790	793	1045	2185	2337	463	2411	1214	12237	36	
2001		192	5380	536	1746	1460	2637	1069	60	2256	15337	50	
2002		55	1917	397	2536	2386	1676	2654	272	998	12891	28	
2003		279	2886	702	6357	2319	6185	1918	187	2476	23308	32	
2004		369	462	368	2210	2274	2996	1679	101	1026	11486	41	
New survey gear introduced												cv	cv
2005	3491	134	1378	665	3370	6974	6212	2751	1388	2771	29132		
2006	591	1129	2196	759	4427	2717	6213	959	557	2350	21897		
2007	3367	248	2172	153	6886	1499	5166	358	282	1778	21908	-	-
2008	2845	433	2221	210	7411	4007	2542	224	286	2585	22761	-	290666
2009	1696	356	2472	193	5496	3688	1951	293	335	1339	17819	-	318517
2010	1348	761	3363	910	4765	4193	3073	1043	369	1069	20895	-	336840
2011	-	1917	1536	1486	8362	3538	5377	4026	226	2397	28865	-	511700
2012	-	1382	1224	998	4380	2438	3560	1942	239	10341	26505	-	234650
2013	965	429	1684	553	6063	1077	7327	1269	23081	3178	45626	-	454592
2014	-	370	394	150	5241	1074	1092	11621	11017	2009	32969	-	206406
2015	-	276	548	1000	3458	427	2833	12477	4590	4771	30381	-	288118
2016	-	502	317	420	964	1514	4894	61617	41426	3373	115028	-	486768
2017	61	282	291	134	2489	291	4255	3308	3399	1822	16332	-	-







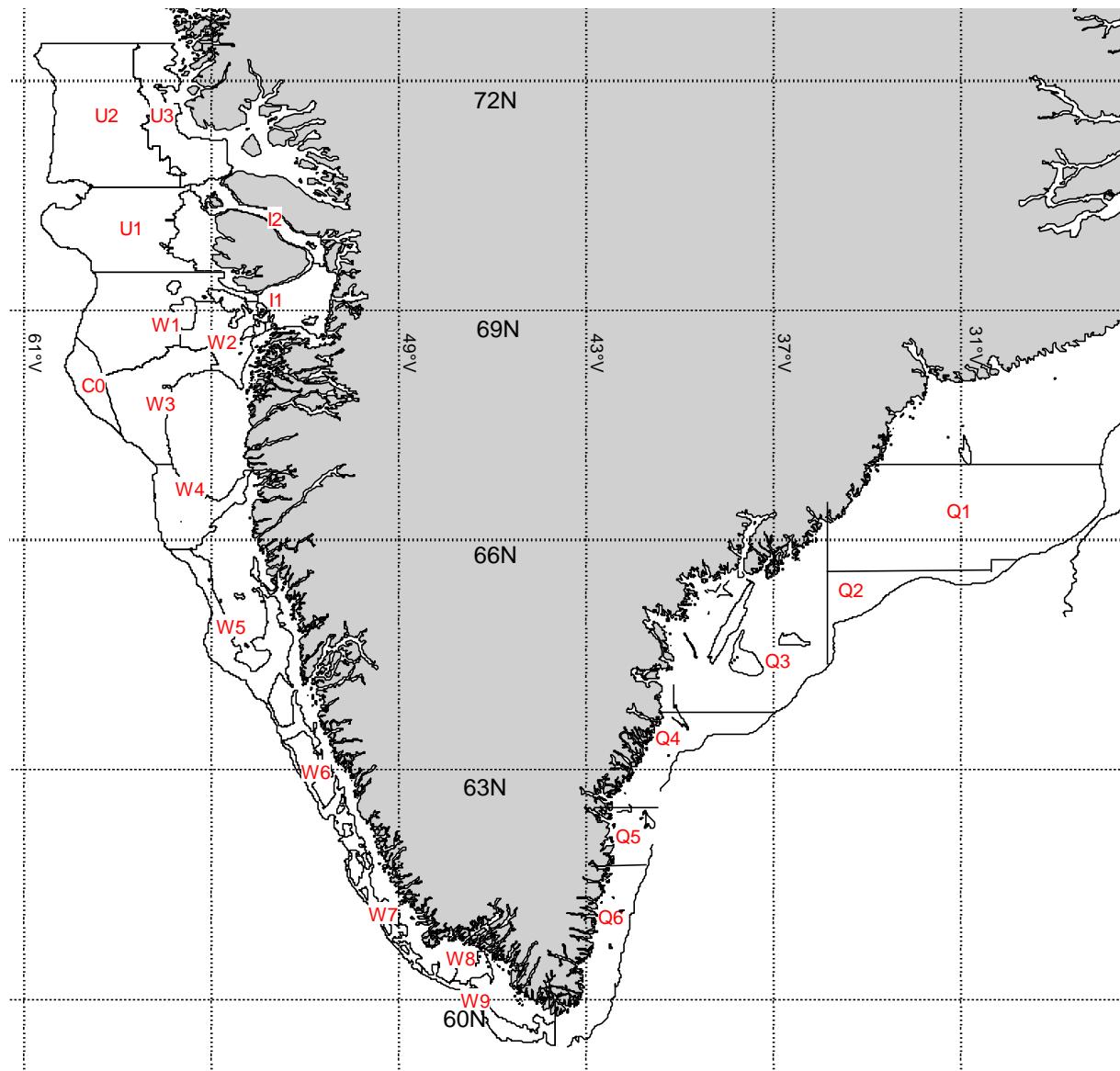




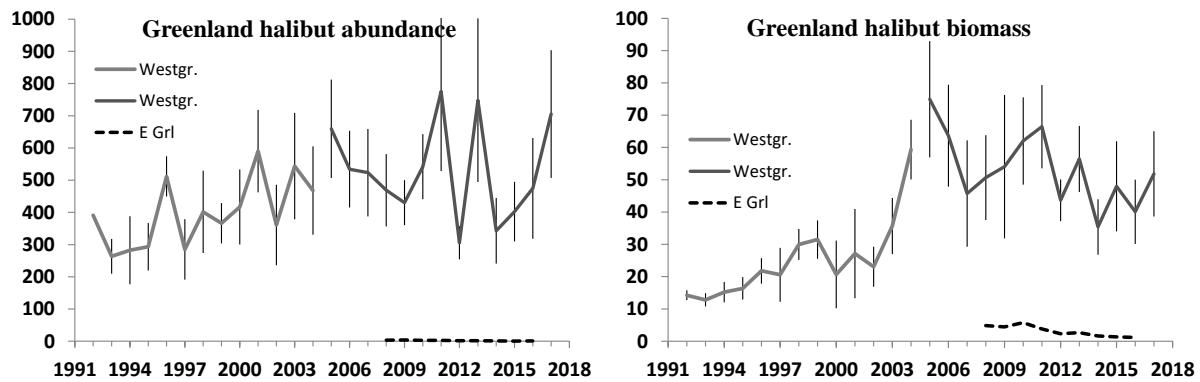


**Table 23.** Thorny skate *Amblyraja radiata* biomass indices (tons).

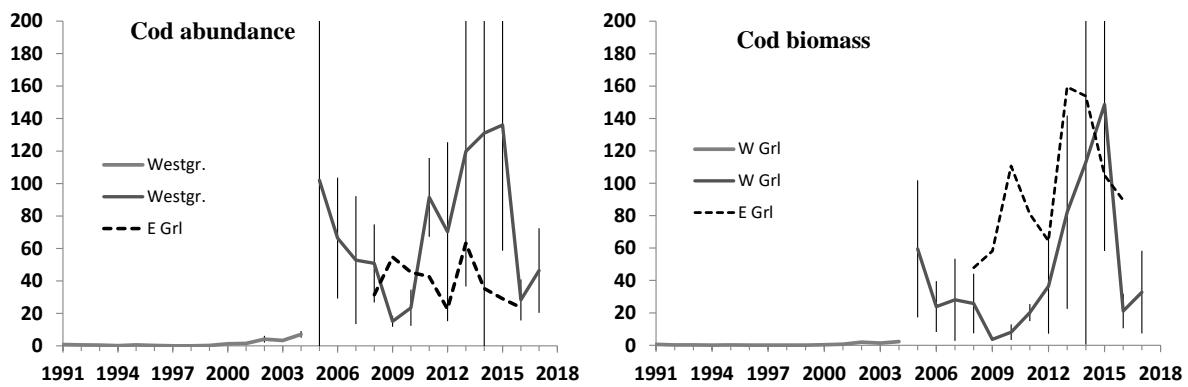
Year	1AN	1AS	1AX	1BN	1BS	1C	1D	1E	1F	W-Grl	CI	E-Grl
1992	370	268	162	226	37	57	113	32	5	1271	20	
1993	60	65	199	171	87	116	128	40	22	887	24	
1994	494	283	182	465	275	311	55	61	3	2129	23	
1995	253	227	301	451	327	121	300	78	24	2083	21	
1996	631	554	623	509	61	105	65	0	207	2755	23	
1997	830	411	322	566	56	156	187	25	7	2559	26	
1998	392	839	535	427	78	38	114	81	76	2580	26	
1999	278	931	253	247	45	94	96	25	49	2019	34	
2000	323	1178	345	428	122	84	120	3	197	2799	23	
2001	325	215	222	248	52	52	89	10	60	1272	28	
2002	13	246	320	280	101	86	687	63	177	1973	29	
2003	1005	902	567	1481	11	107	174	24	206	4478	25	
2004	598	520	791	197	47	33	333	98	78	2694	23	
New survey gear introduced										cv	cv	
2005	26	776	953	676	558	219	145	249	125	96	3822	15
2006	66	836	364	662	361	91	477	807	224	303	4193	14
2007	55	897	319	566	709	50	258	152	164	87	3258	15
2008	98	1411	315	400	353	20	45	222	25	47	2937	21
2009	7	2267	411	904	374	90	81	97	78	55	4365	11
2010	20	1092	1036	1062	623	293	434	368	16	19	4962	11
2011	-	970	556	1129	1152	84	477	1172	80	42	5661	11
2012	-	738	635	722	910	107	192	145	31	16	3496	12
2013	117	1222	756	1671	1453	219	408	255	57	40	6198	18
2014	-	742	896	713	410	249	200	73	24	3	3311	17
2015	-	1467	1473	1830	1814	1582	273	791	90	145	9465	13
2016	-	987	638	1011	937	290	406	395	53	67	4784	13
2017	0	528	1072	1614	417	876	319	235	0	14	5076	10



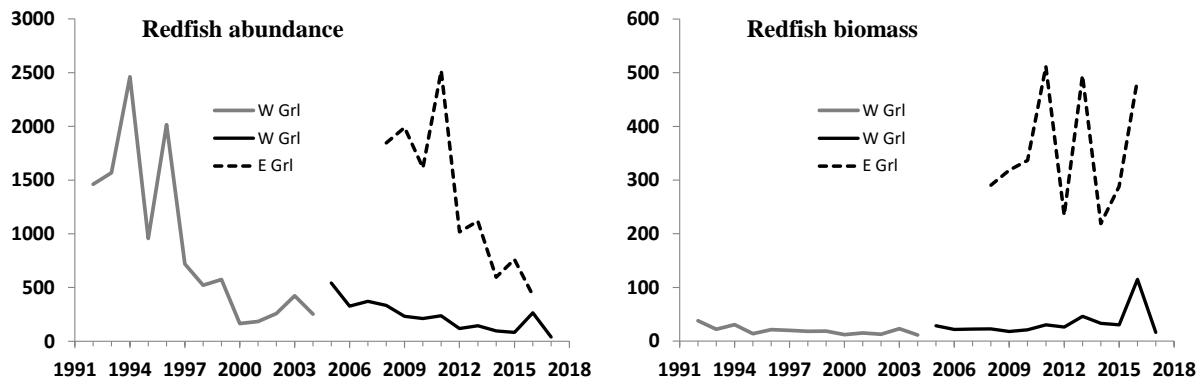
**Fig 1.** The Stratification areas used in the Greenland Shrimp and Fish survey. In West Greenland each strata is divided in depth strata of 150-200m, 200-300m, 300-400m and 400-600m. "Shallow" water strata of 0-100m and 100-150m delimited by the 3 nm line and the NAFO Div. Borders of the shallow water stratas are not shown. In East Greenland each strata is divided in depth strata of 200-400m and 400-600m. "Shallow" water strata of 0-200m is delimited by the 3 nm line.



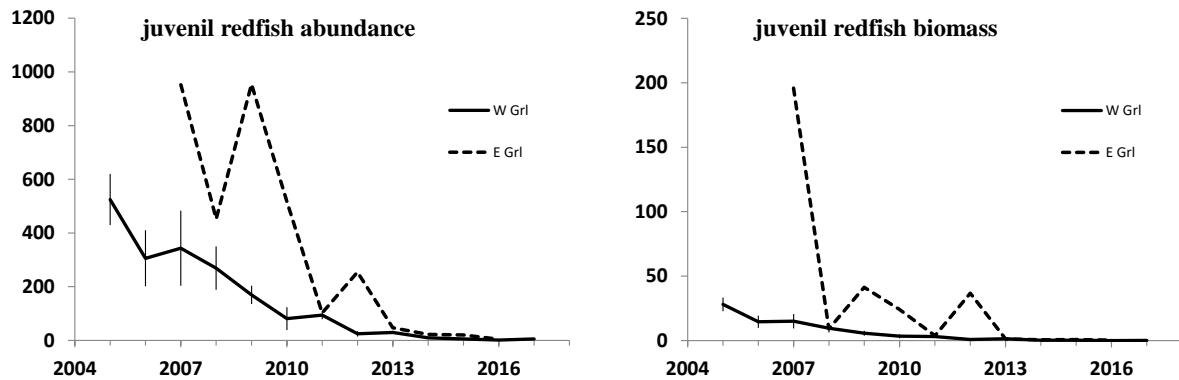
**Fig 2.** Greenland halibut abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



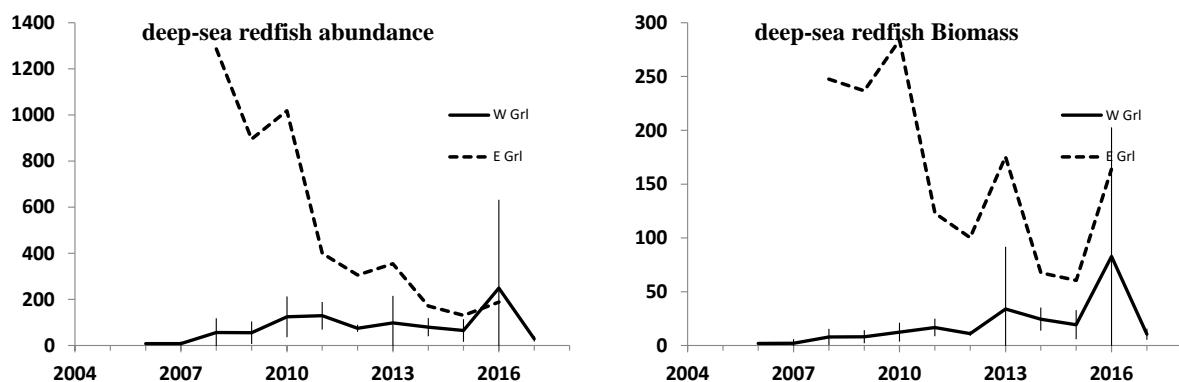
**Fig 3.** Atlantic cod abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



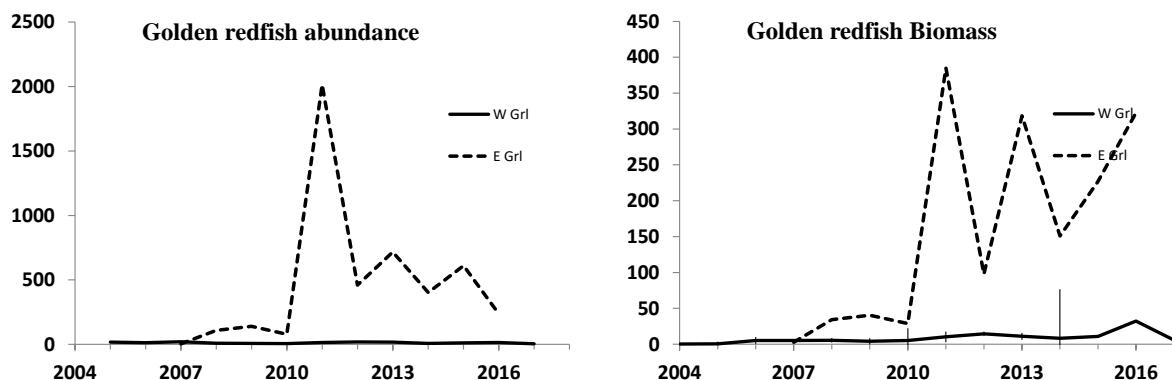
**Fig 4a.** Redfish species (*S. mentella* and *S. norvegicus* combined) abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



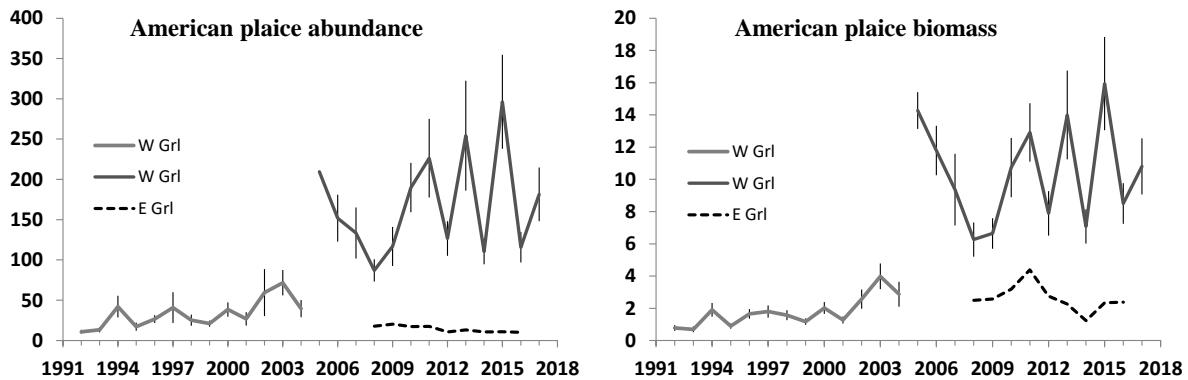
**Fig 4b.** Juvenile redfish >20 cm (*S. mentella* and *S. norvegicus* combined) abundance (million) and biomass (Kt).



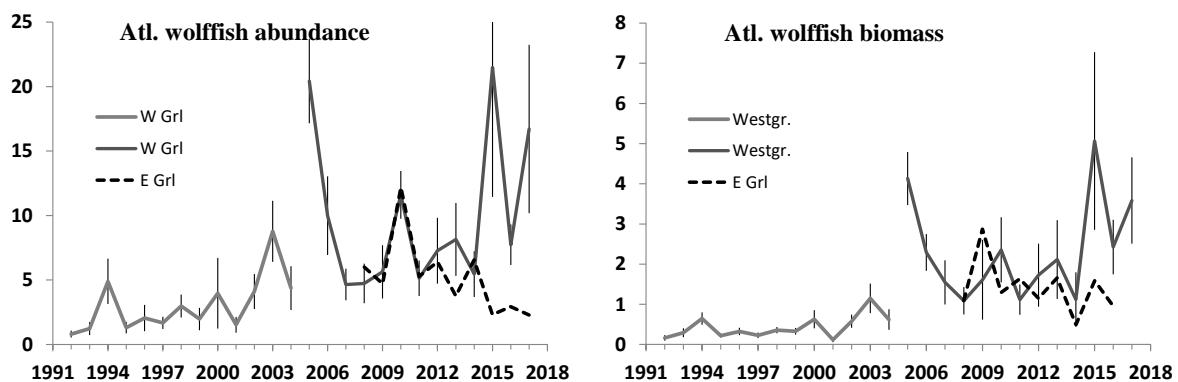
**Fig 4c.** Deep-sea redfish *S. mentella* abundance (million) and biomass (Kt).



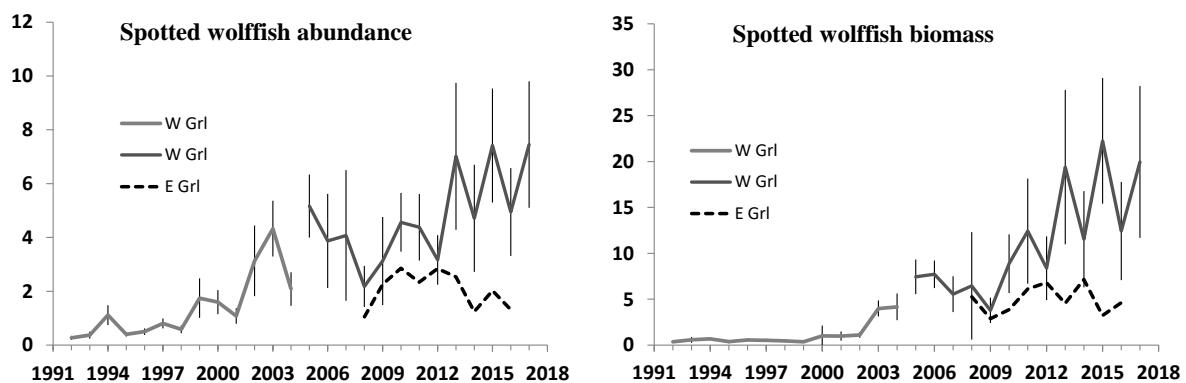
**Fig 4d.** Golden redfish *S. norvegicus* abundance (million) and biomass (Kt).



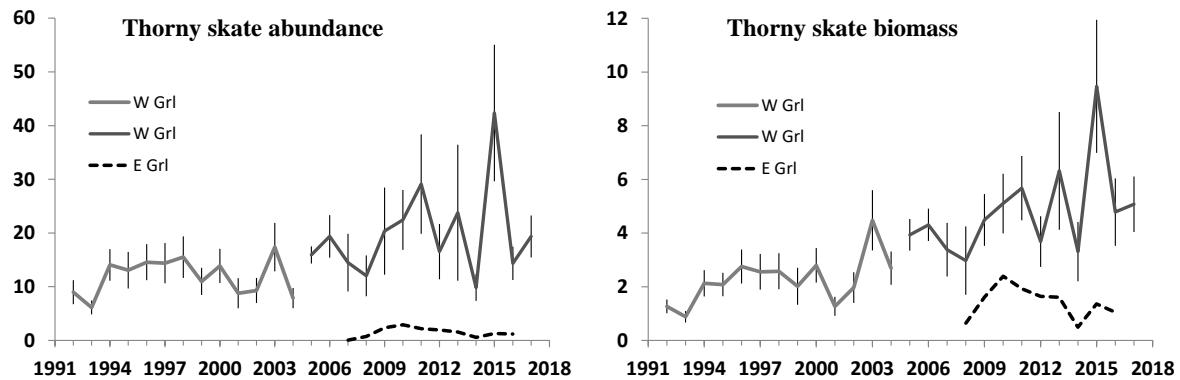
**Fig 5.** American plaice abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



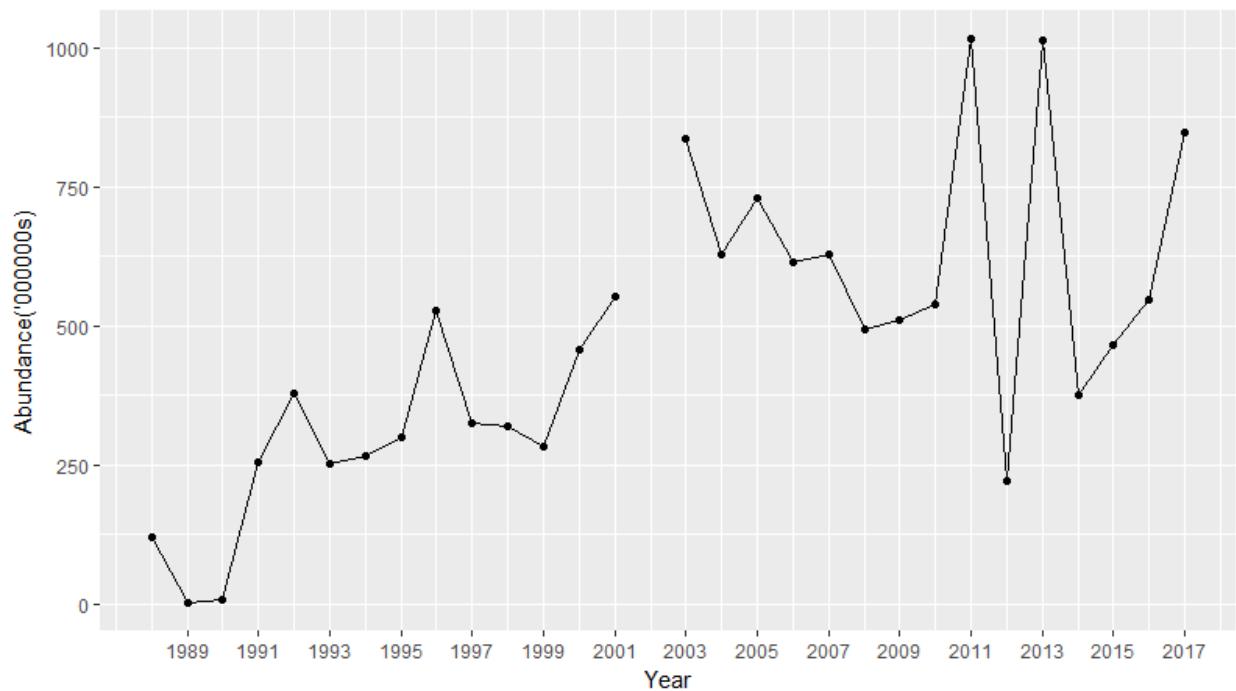
**Fig 6.** Atlantic wolffish abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



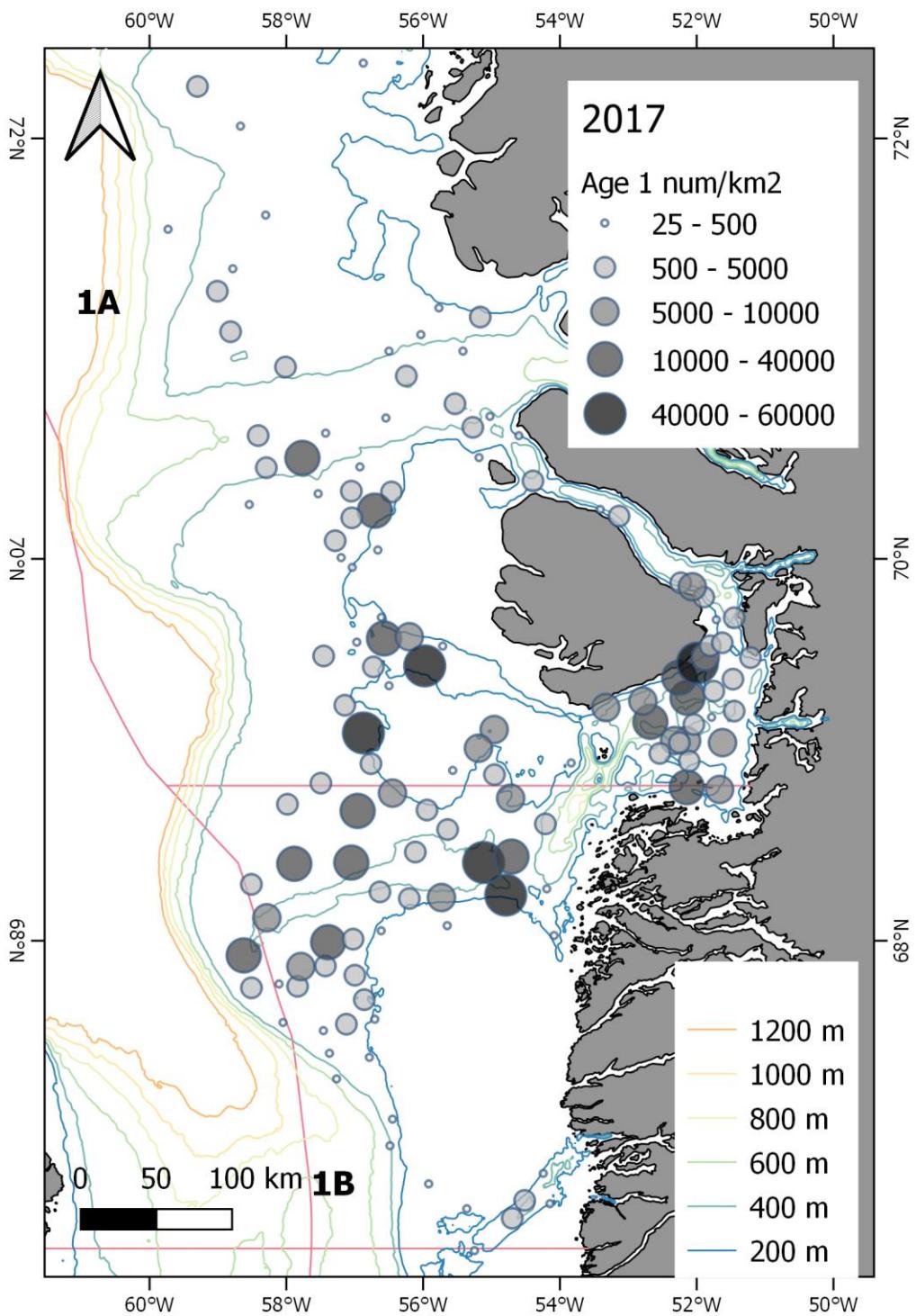
**Fig 7.** Spotted wolffish abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



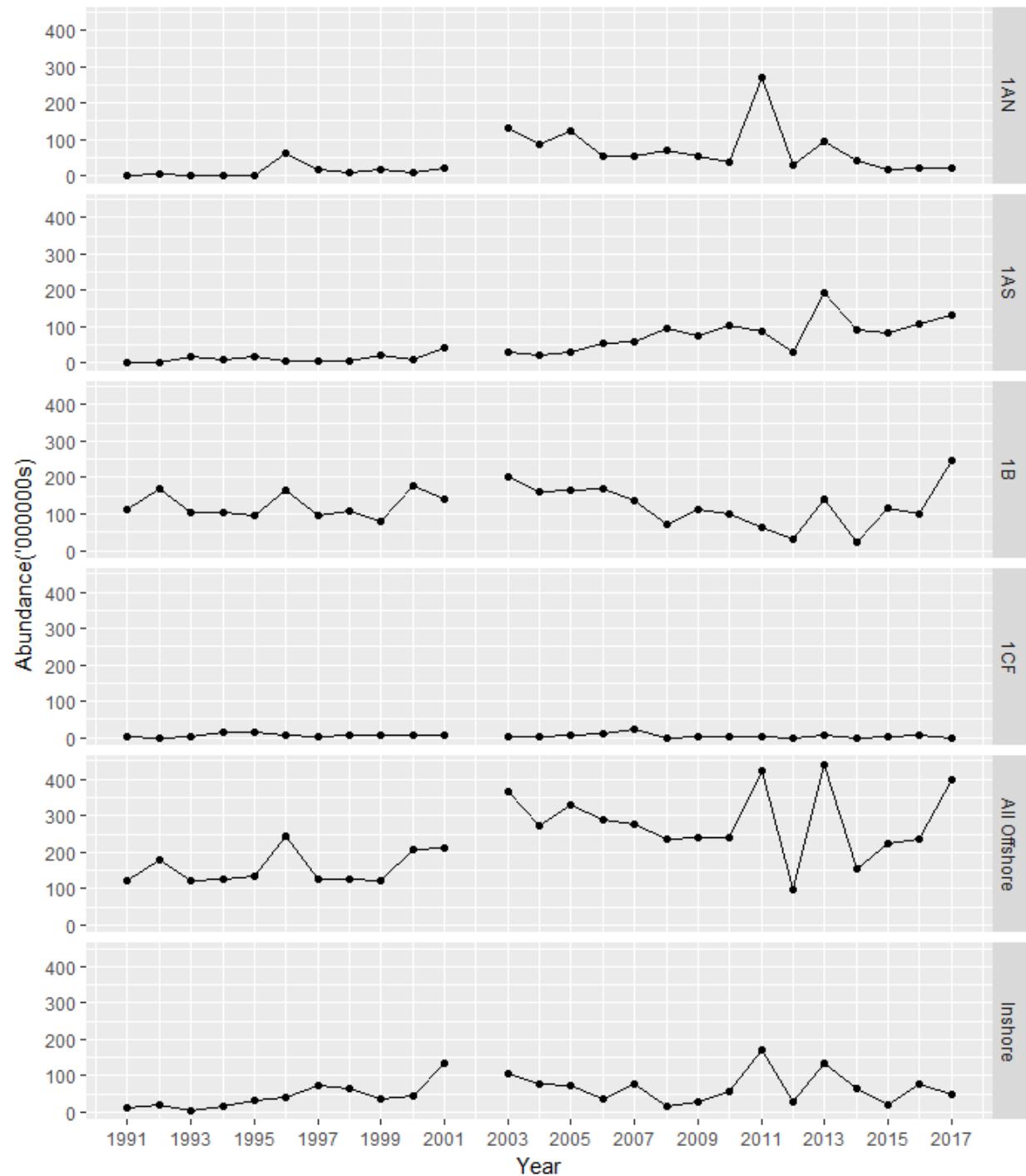
**Fig 8.** Thorny skate abundance (million) and biomass (Kt) for West Greenland.



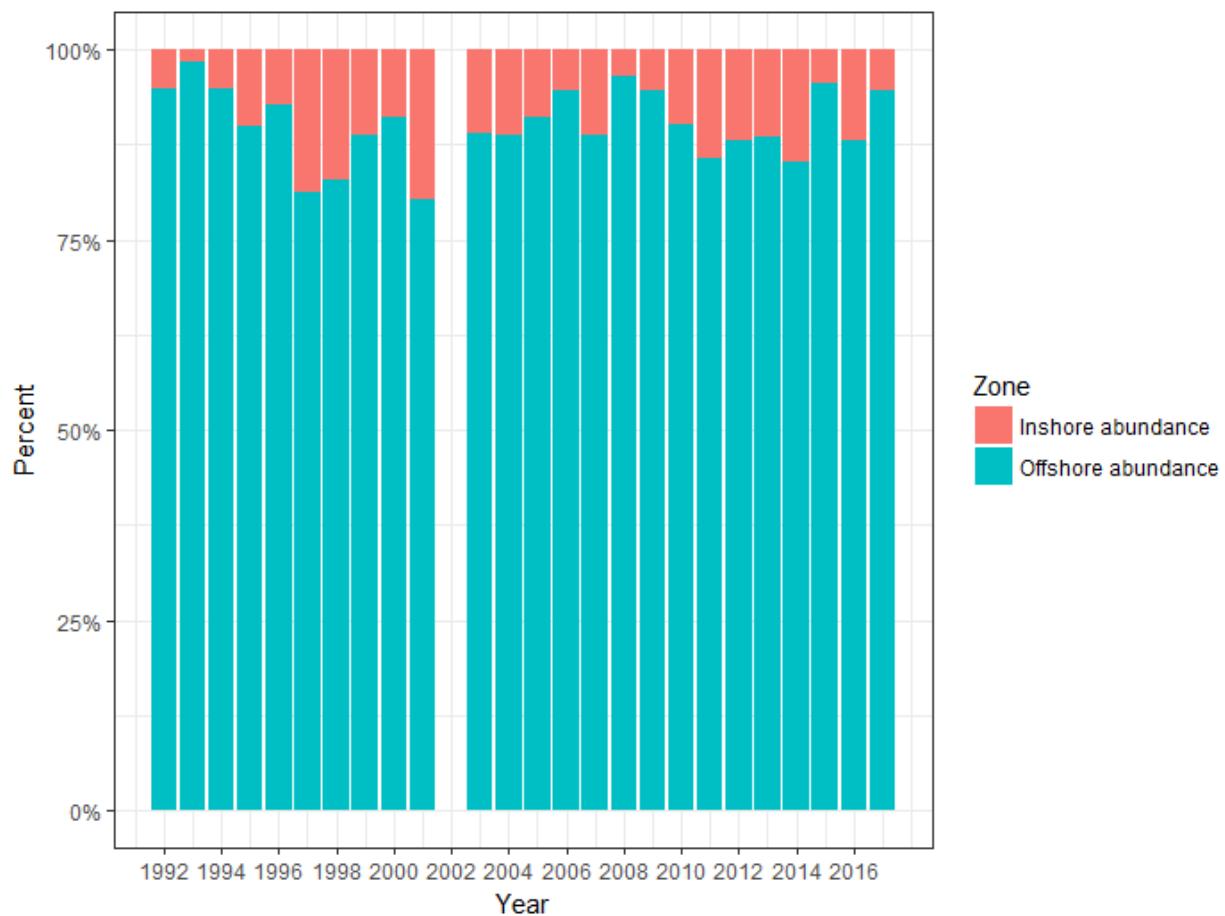
**Fig 9.** Total recruitment of age one offshore SA1 and inshore 1A from 1988 to 201.



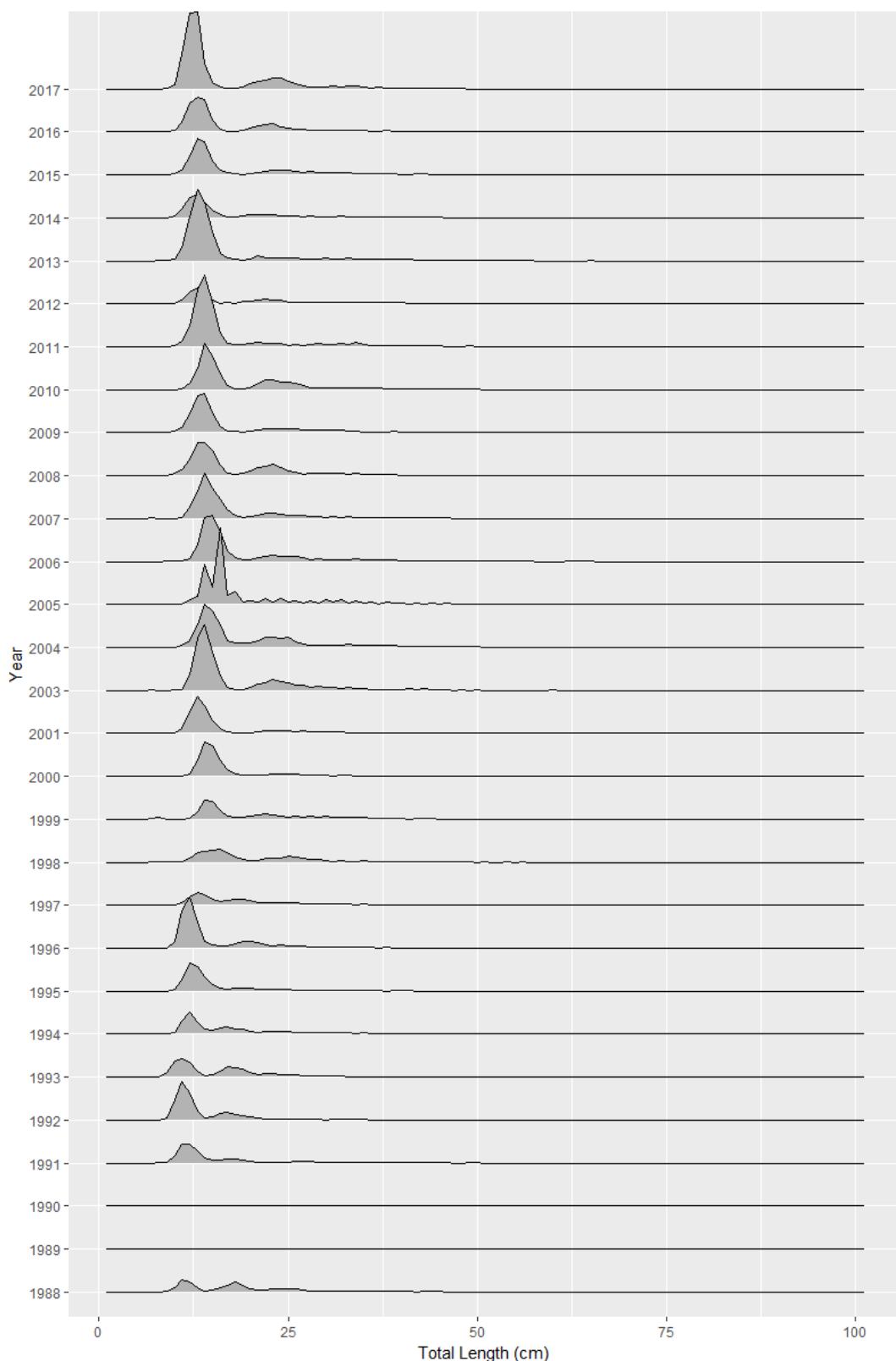
**Fig 10.** Distribution of one year old Greenland halibut in 2017



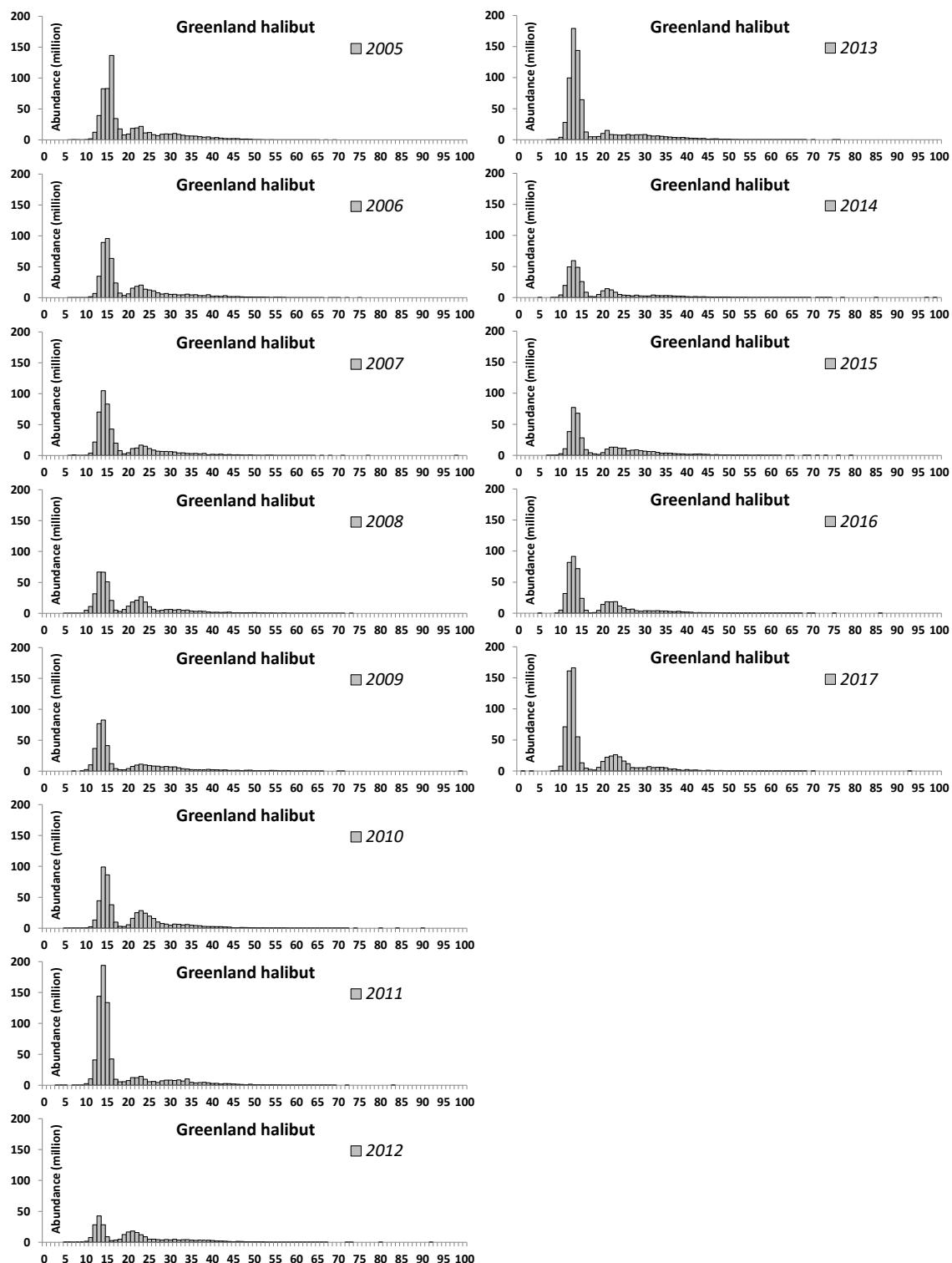
**Fig 11.** Number of one-year of Greenland halibut by division and year from 1991 to 2017. Data from 2002 are not available.



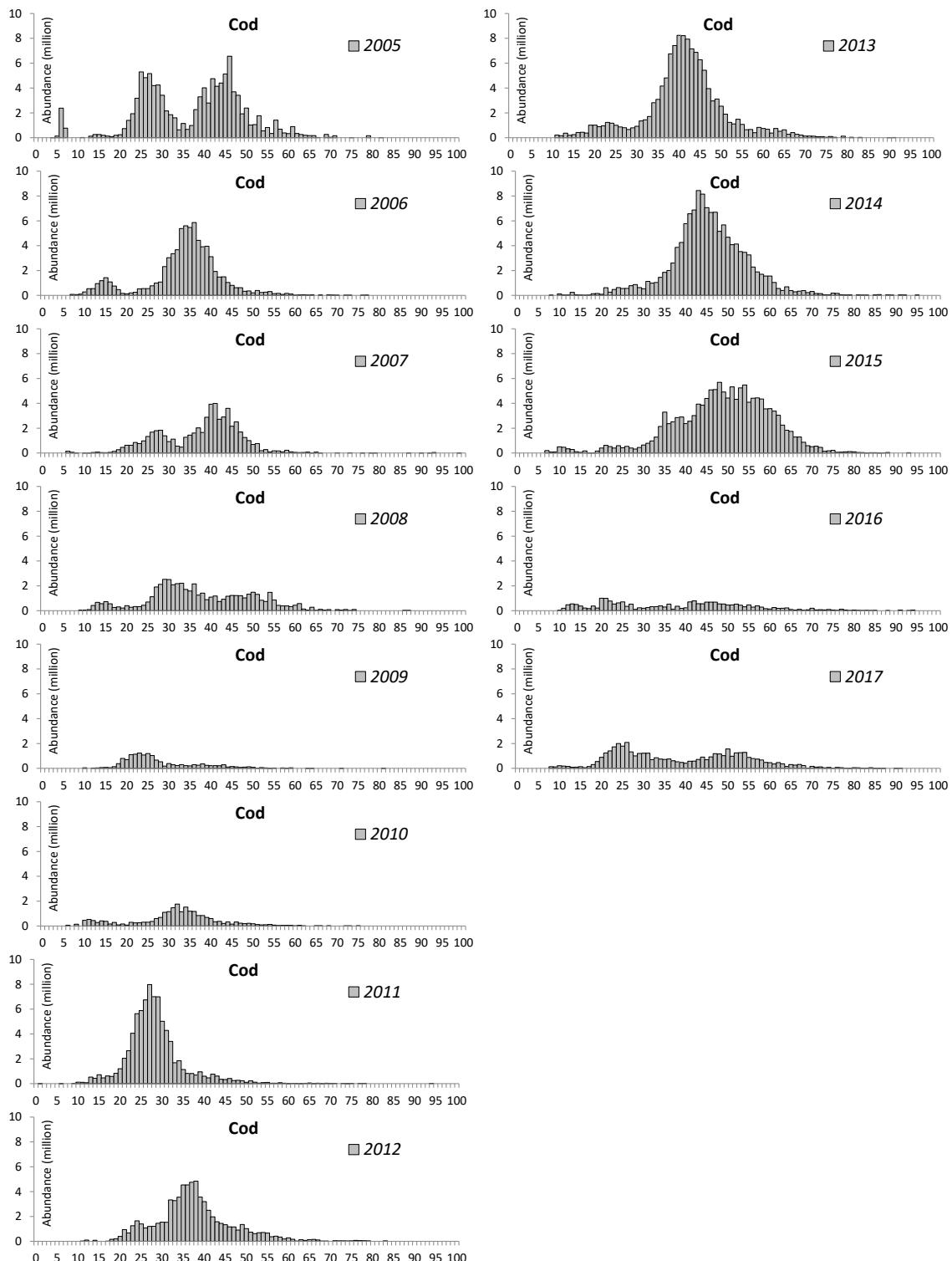
**Fig 12.** Relative distribution of one-year old Greenland halibut between offshore areas and inshore Disko Bay from 1992 to 2017. Data from 2002 are not available.



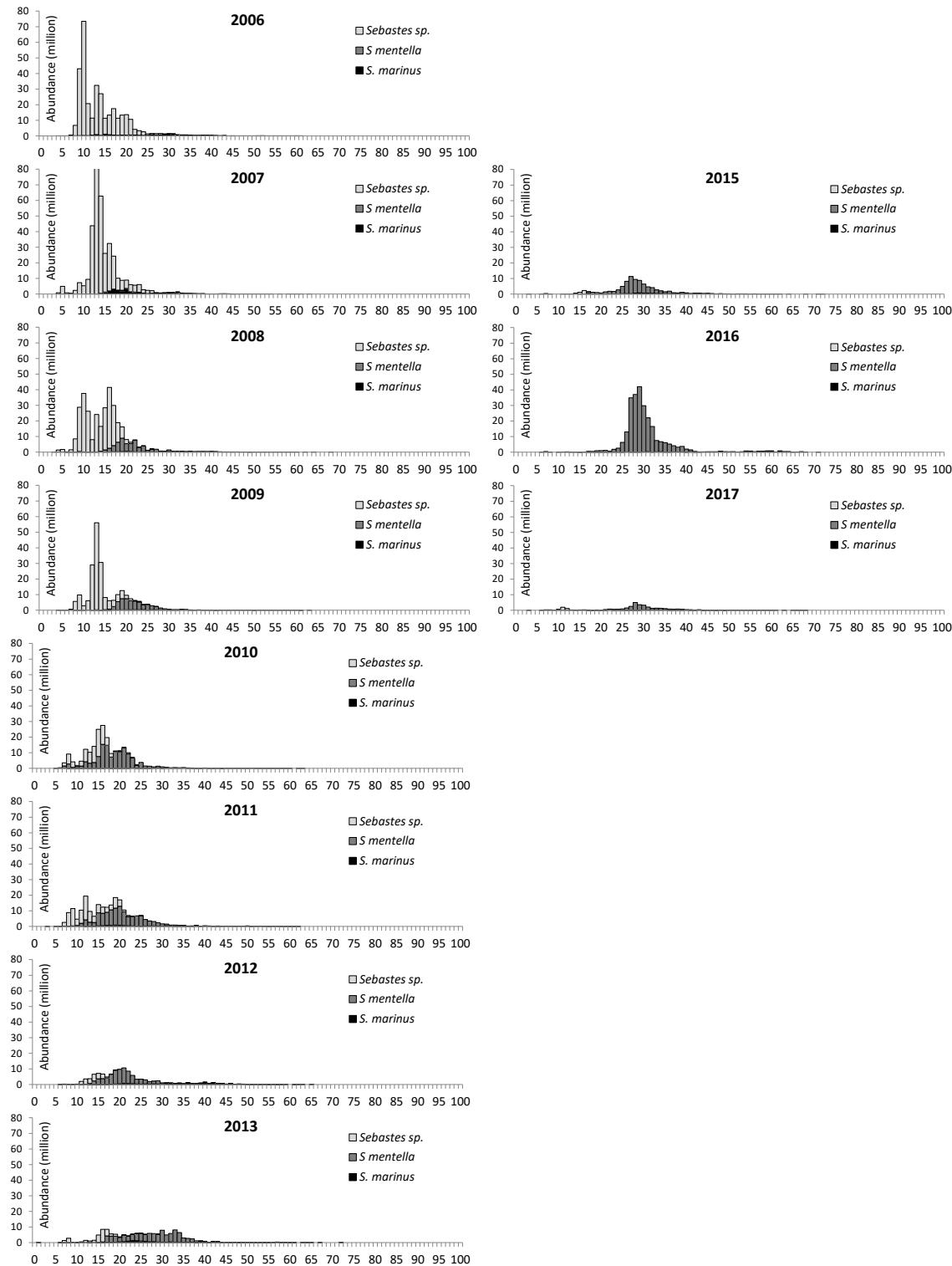
**Fig. 13.** Length frequencies for Greenland halibut offshore for the period 1988-2017. Data from 2002 are not available.



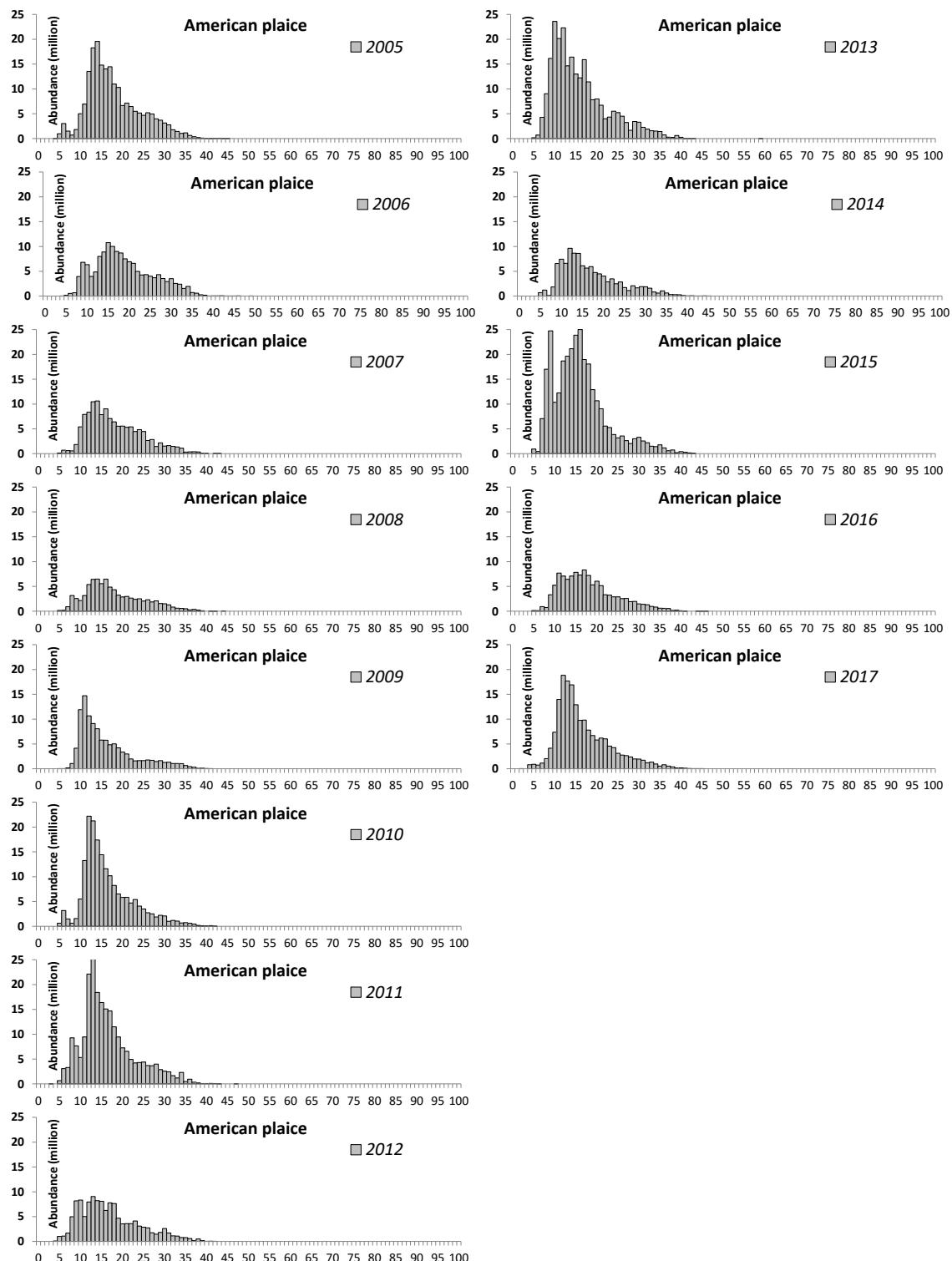
**Fig. 14.** Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*). Length frequencies for West Greenland.



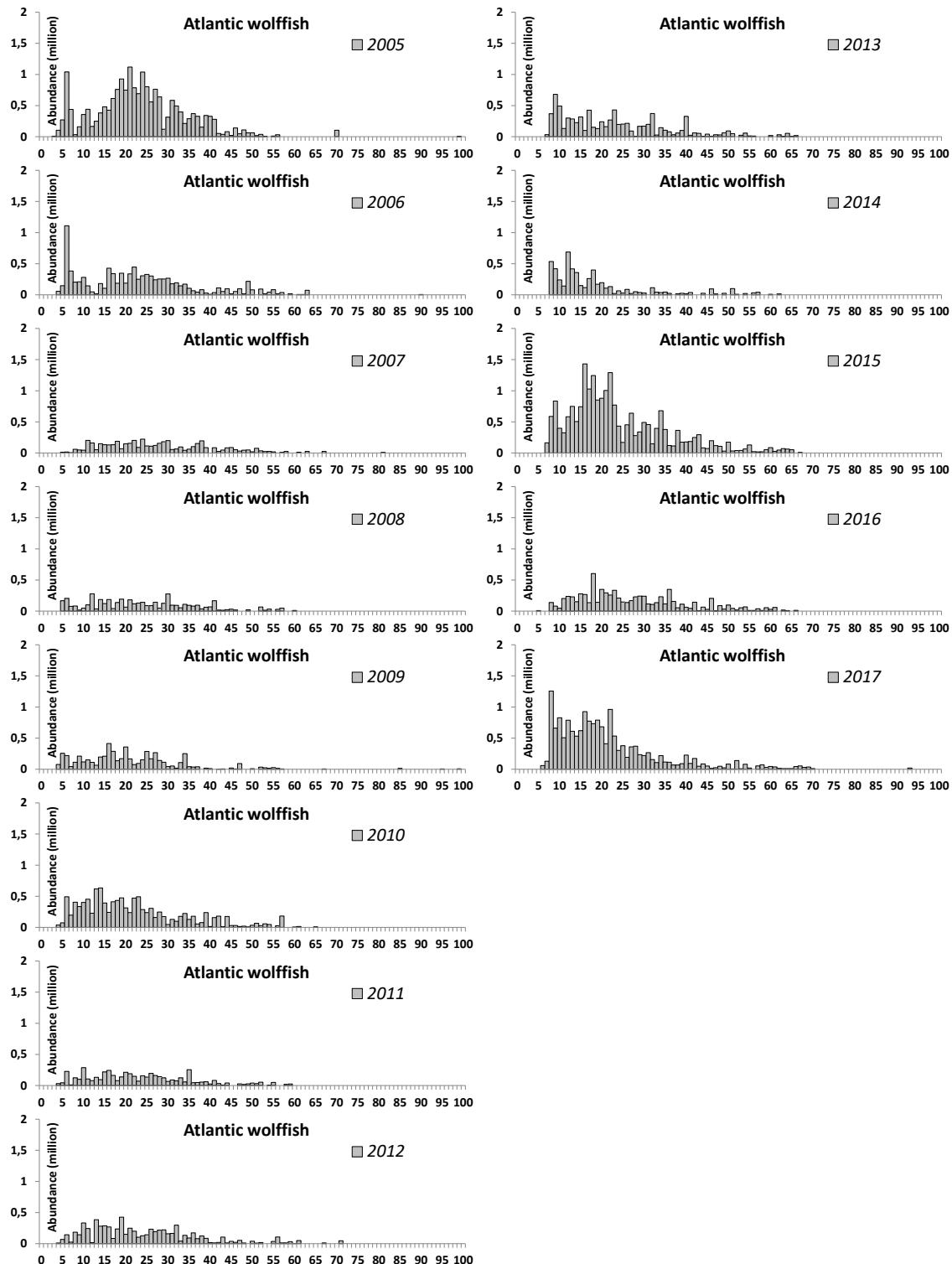
**Fig. 15.** Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*). Length frequencies for West Greenland (left) and length frequencies per division (right).



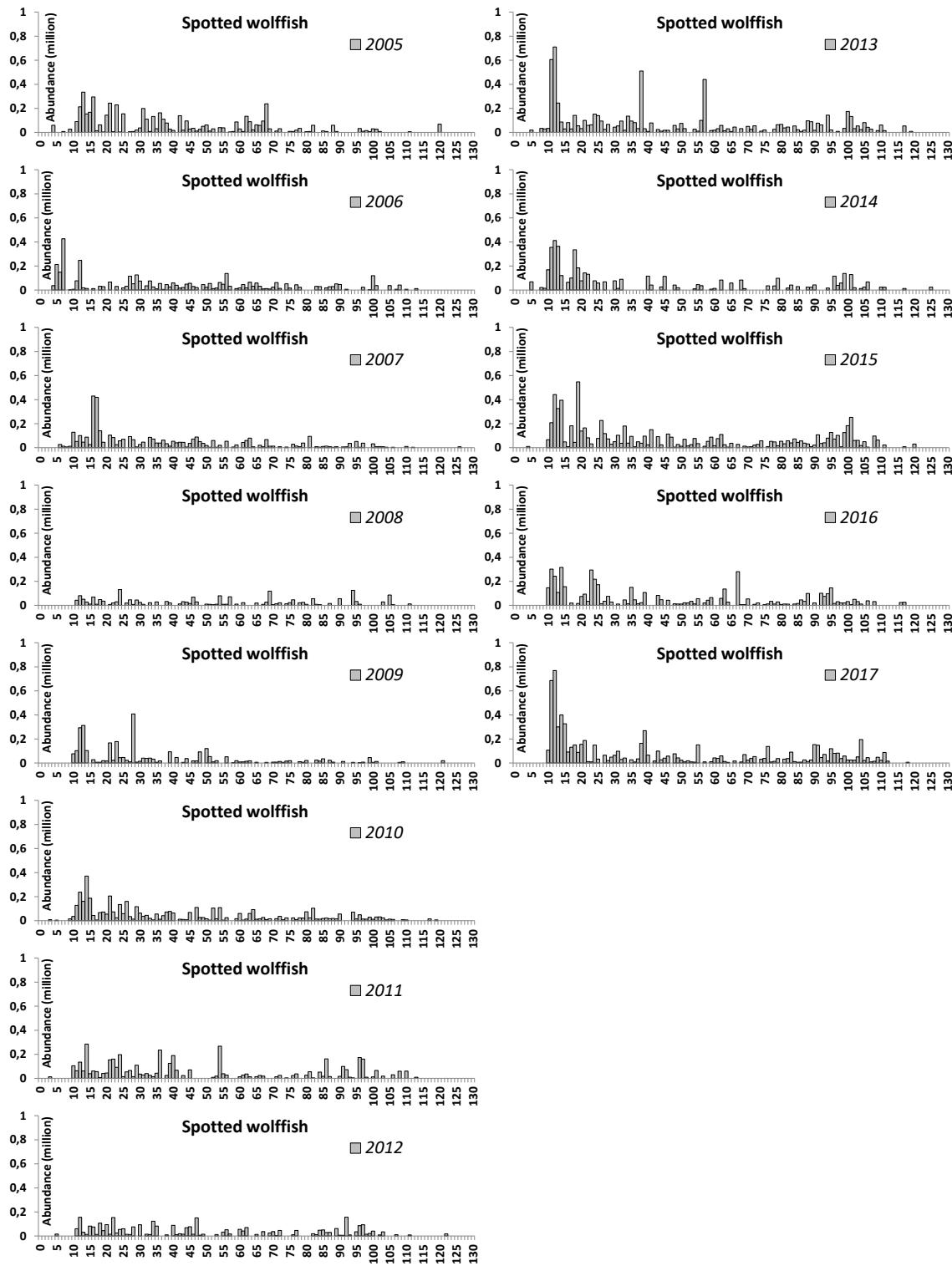
**Fig. 16.** Stacked Length frequencies for golden redfish (*Sebastes Norvegicus*), deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) and juvenile redfish (*Sebastes sp. <18cm*) for West Greenland.



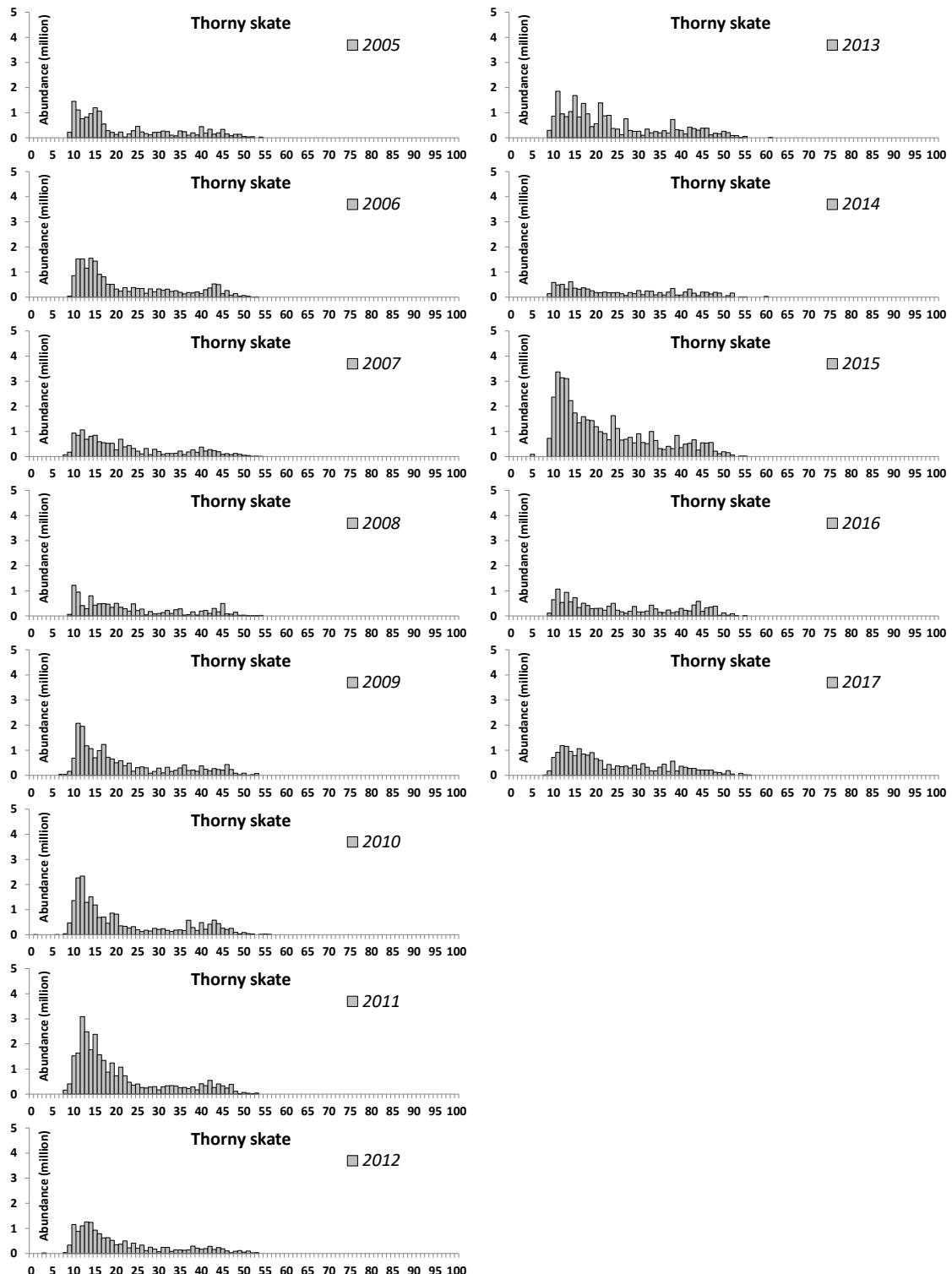
**Fig. 17.** American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*). Length frequencies for West Greenland (left) and length frequencies per division in (right).



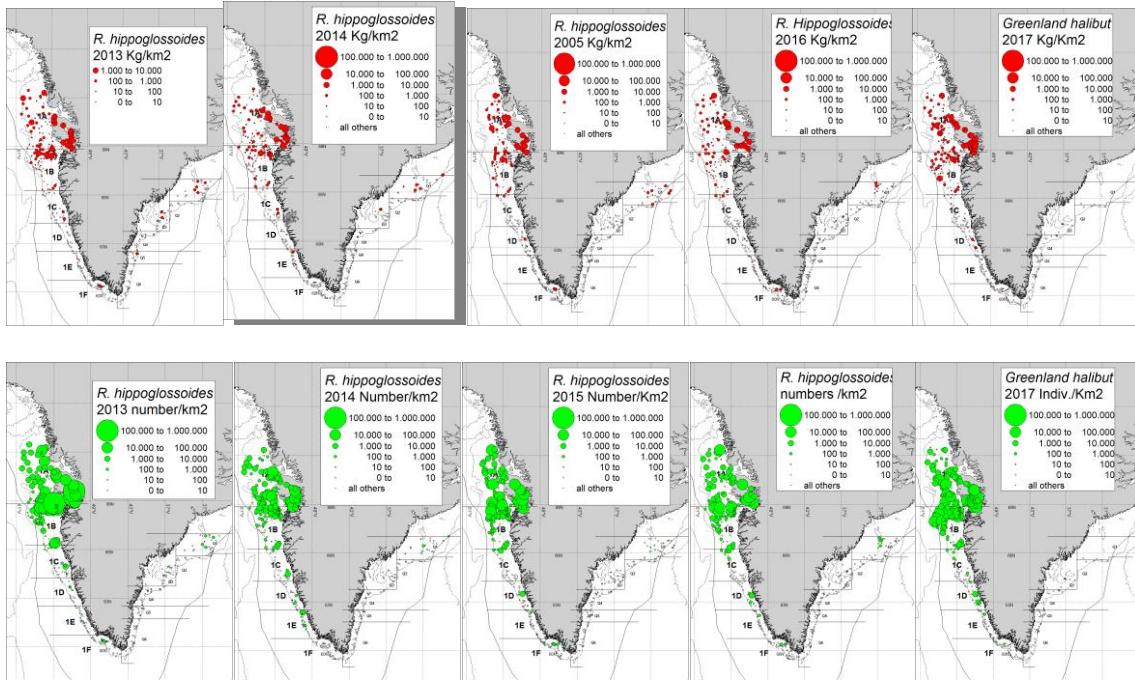
**Fig. 18.** Atlantic wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*). Length frequencies for West Greenland by year (left) and length frequencies per division (right).



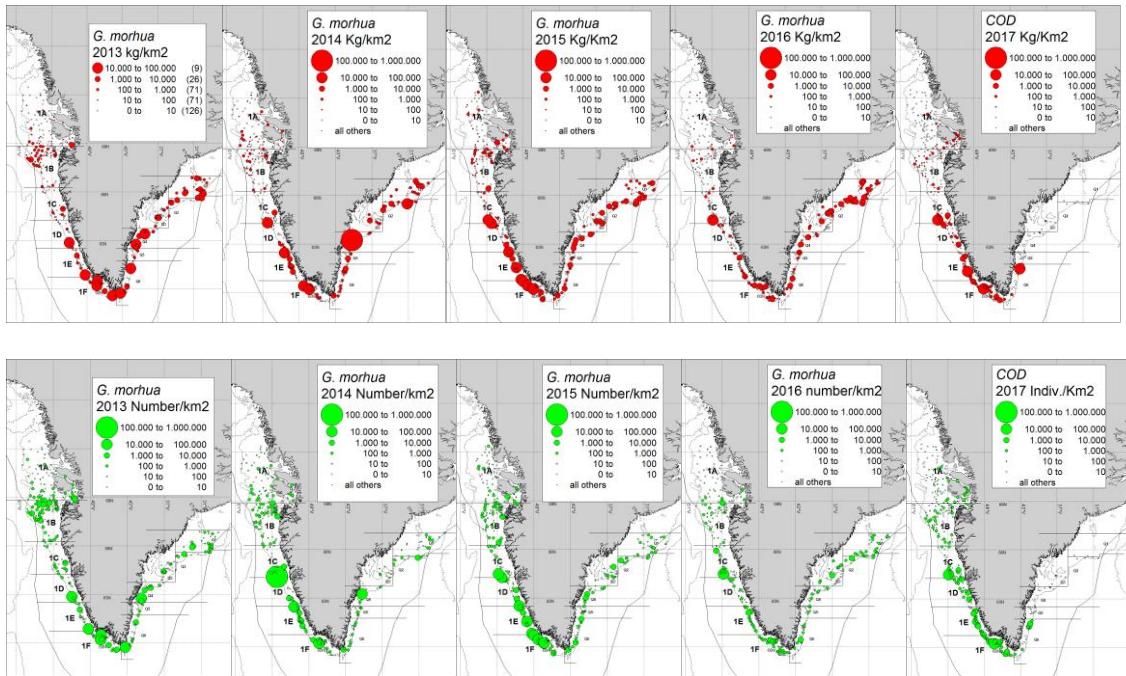
**Fig. 19.** Spotted wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*). Length frequencies for West Greenland (left) and length frequencies per division (right).



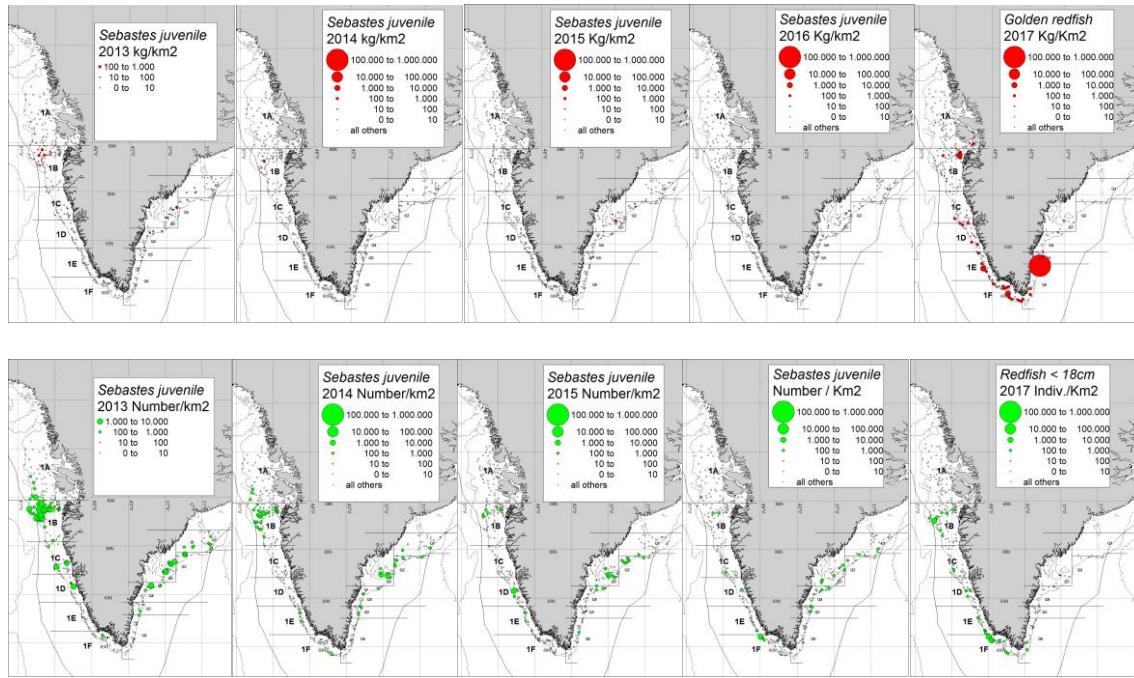
**Fig. 20.** Thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*) length frequencies for West Greenland (left) and length frequencies per division (right).



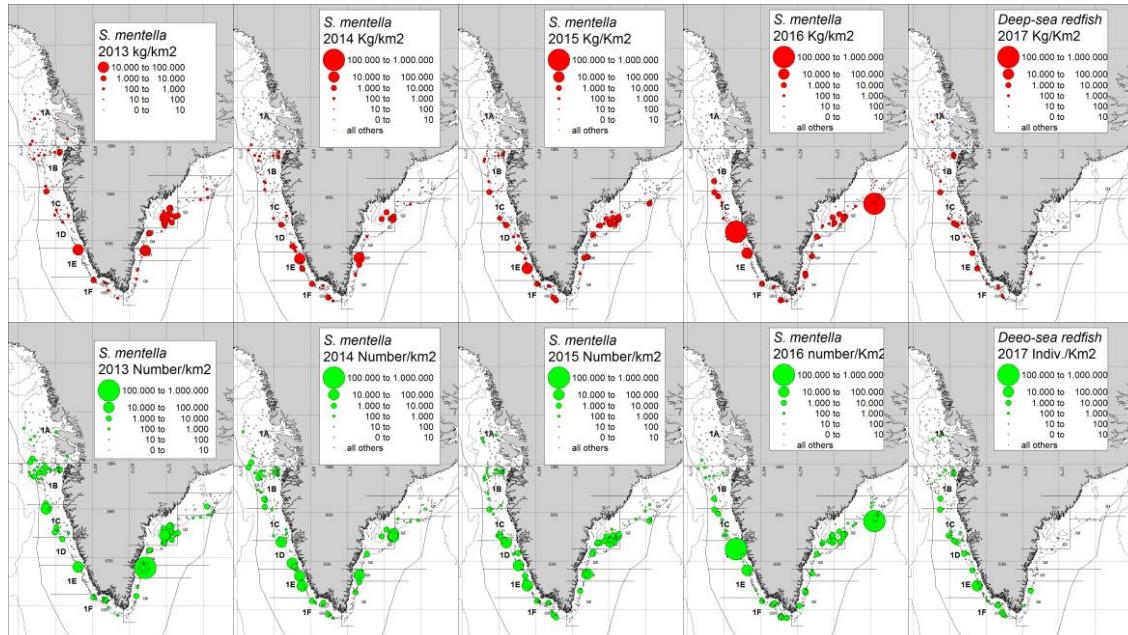
**Fig. 21.** Greenland halibut survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.



**Fig. 22.** Atlantic cod survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.



**Fig. 23.** Juvenile redfish < 20 cm survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.



**Fig. 24.** Deep-sea redfish survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.

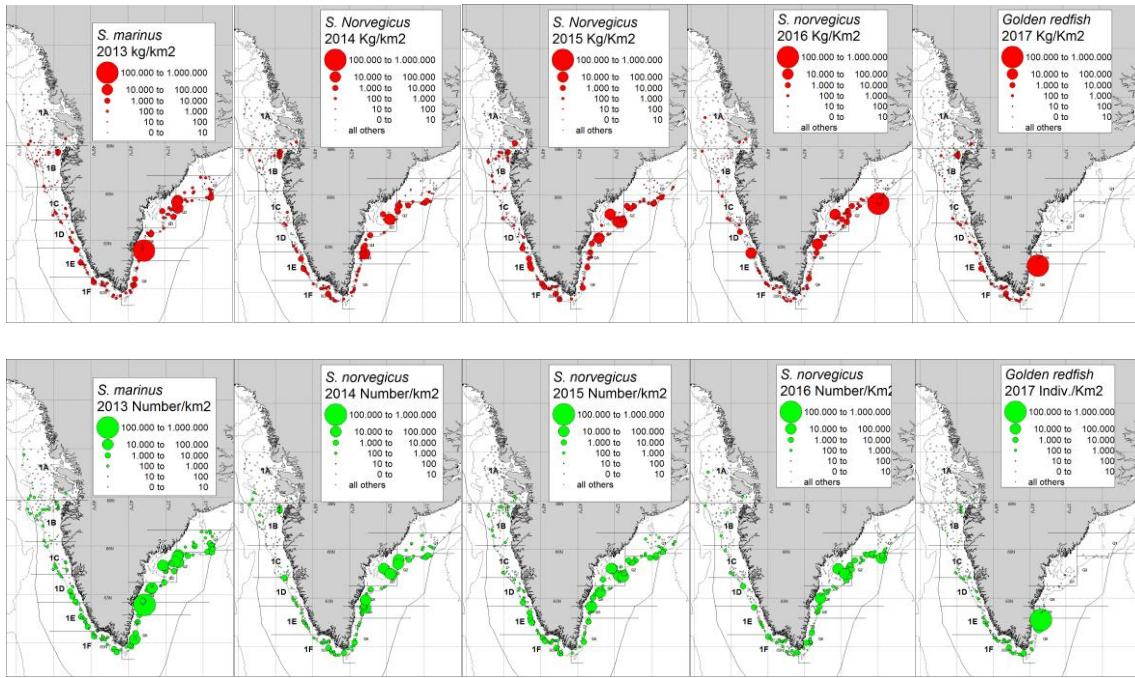


Fig. 25. Golden redfish survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.

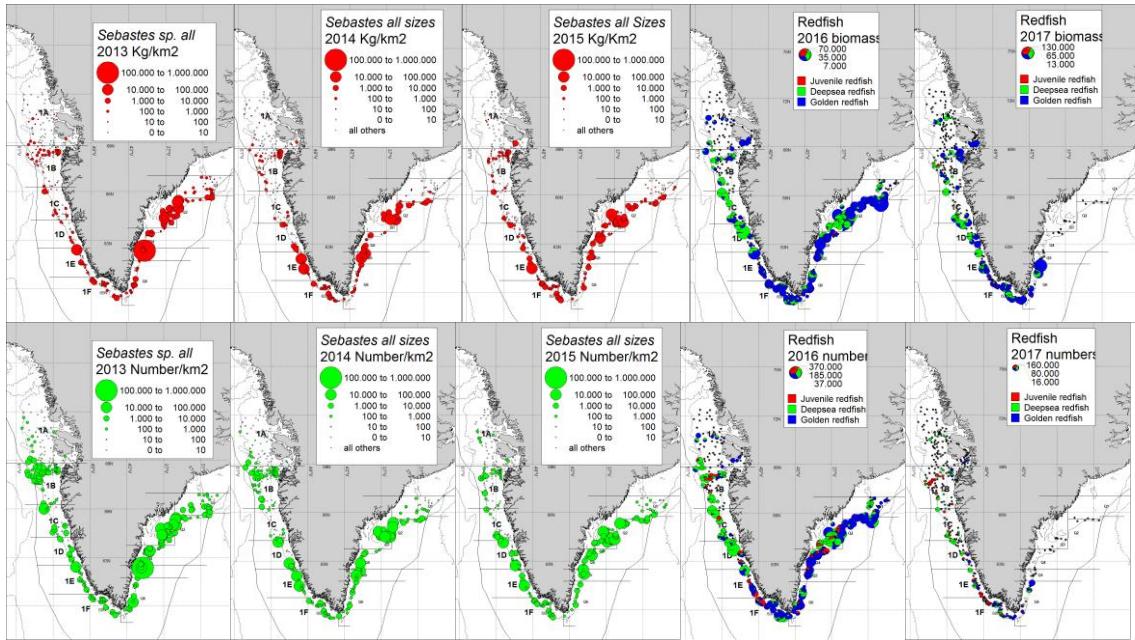
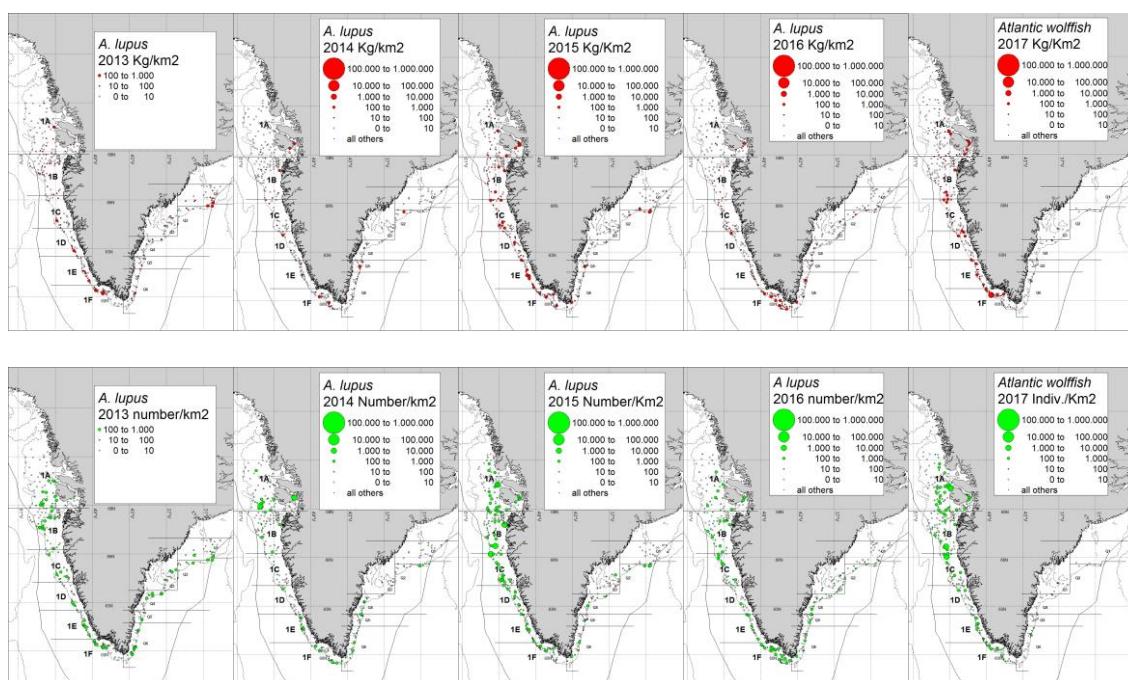
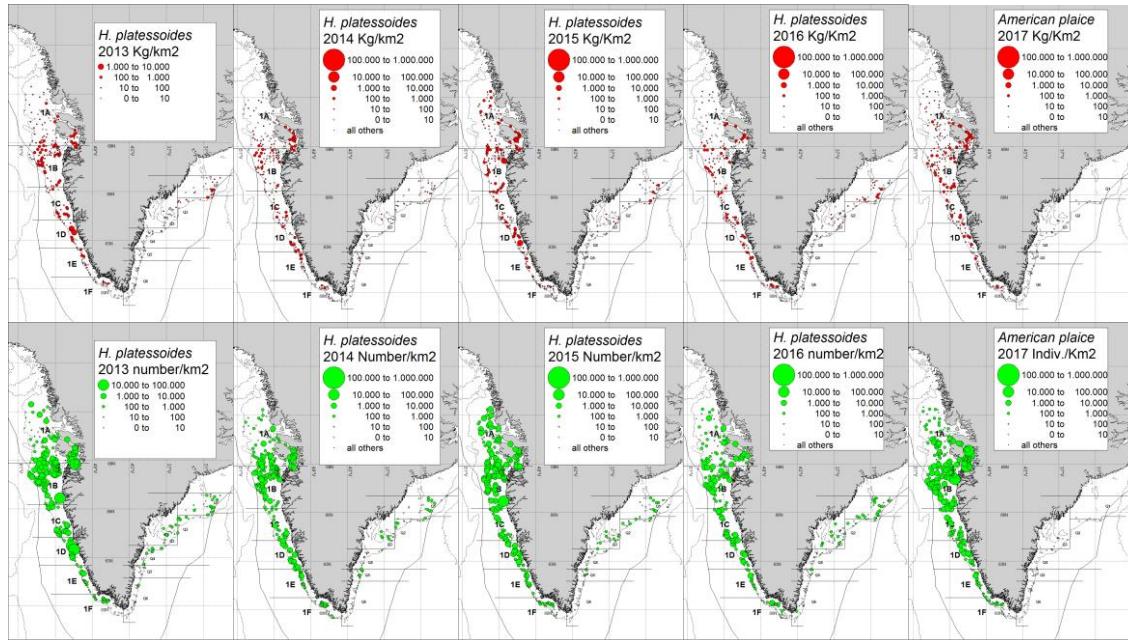
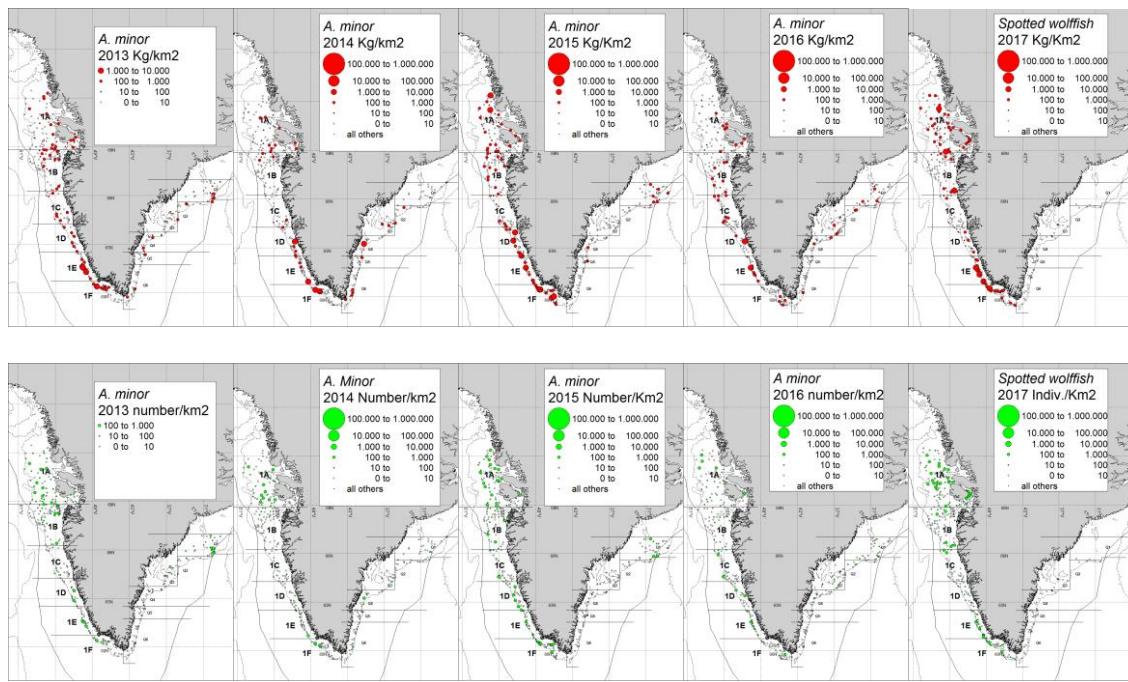
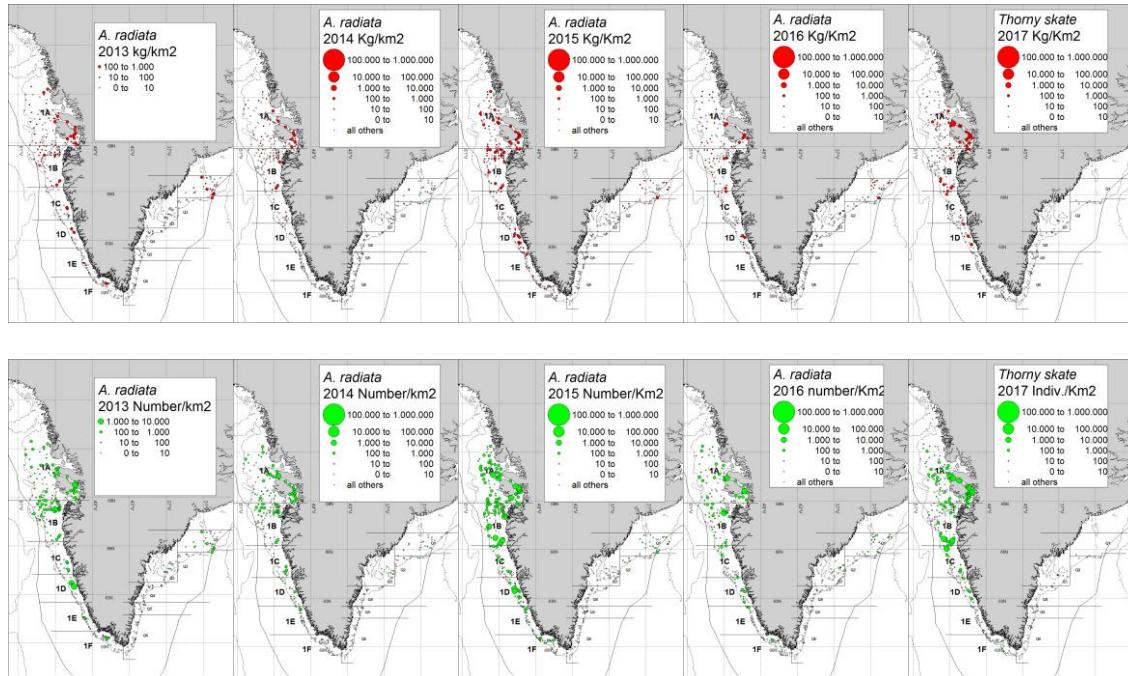


Fig. 26. Golden redfish and deep-sea redfish survey kg/km<sup>2</sup> and numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.





**Fig. 29.** Spotted wolffish survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.



**Fig. 30.** Thorny skate survey biomass in kg/km<sup>2</sup> and abundance in numbers/km<sup>2</sup>.

## Appendix I.

2015 biomass (in Kilotonnes) and abundance (in million individuals) indices for Elasmobranchs. Teleosts. Cephalopods and crustaceans excl. Shrimp species for the West and East-Greenland part of the GINR shrimp fish survey 0-600m including the West-Greenlandic Shelf part of NAFO div 0A (Canada).