



Serial No. 721

Meeting Document 60/5

Reports by Countries on Basic Statistical Unit Areas

by

ICNAF Secretariat

Forrest Building,  
Carleton Street,  
Halifax, N.S.

31 December, 1959.

Dear Sir:

At the 1959 Annual Meeting an ad hoc Subcommittee on Statistical Areas discussed at some length the whole problem concerned with the delineation of statistical areas and (vide Red Book, 1959, Appendix XI, p.79) "agreed that the collection of statistics should be made in as small unit areas as possible. The combining of such data can then be made in various ways. In this connection reference was made to the small unit area of ICES, of the US system in Subarea 5, and to the system used by Canada off Newfoundland.

"The following recommendation was made:

1. That the Secretariat canvass member countries to ascertain what small unit they are now using in the collection of statistics."

Following this recommendation, I beg you to inform this Secretariat as to which area units you are using in collecting statistics from the Convention Area, especially in case that you use other units than the subdivisions agreed to by ICNAF. The information so given will be compiled in the Secretariat and referred to the Committee on Research and Statistics for the 1960 Annual Meeting.

Yours truly,

*Erik M. Poulsen*

Erik M. Poulsen  
Executive Secretary

EMP/jm

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			Eckles
			Graham

Serial No. 721  
(F. a.)

Document No. 5  
Appendices

Basic Statistical Unit Areas

SPAIN

Appendix I

In answer to your circular of 31-12-1959 I beg to inform that for the collection of statistical data on the fisheries by the Spanish vessels in the Northwest Atlantic are used exclusively the subdivisions established by ICNAF.

Manuel Sunico  
Director-General of Fisheries.  
Madrid, 5. Febr. 1960, (translation).



Appendix II

USA

Dr. Graham has asked me to answer your letter of 31 December.

Our basic statistical division is the "unit area," a block of 10 minutes of latitude by 10 minutes of longitude. These are combined in areas of one degree of latitude by one degree of longitude, each containing of course 36 unit areas. Each degree block is identified by the coordinates of its southeast corner, and within it the unit areas are designated A to F from west to east and 1 to 6 from north to south. As illustration, Sable Island, in ICNAF Subarea 4, lies in our 44-59, B6, C6; 43-59, A1, B1; and 43-60, F1.

Insofar as possible all of our statistics are collected in these small unit areas. Naturally the frequency, accuracy and reliability diminish with distance from Subarea 5. However, these statistics are not routinely tabulated in such small areas, with the exception of sea scallop data.

Our units for tabulation (see attached map) are those described by Rounsefell, 1948, in his Special Scientific Report No. 47, "Development of Fishery Statistics in the North Atlantic," and republished frequently in our annual "Fishery Statistics of the United States" series. These areas are nearly perfectly congruent with the ICNAF Subareas.

John P. Wise, Chief  
Cod and Haddock Investigations

United States Department of the Interior,  
Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Biological Laboratory,  
WOODS HOLE, Mass.

January 11, 1960.

PORTUGAL

Appendix III

Referring to your letter of the 31st December 1959, I beg to inform you that Portugal is using the subdivisions agreed to by

.... /2

the ICNAF.

Captain Tavares de Almeida, P.N.

Serviço de Assistência No Mar à Frota Bacalhoeira.

Lisbon, 15th January 1960.

Appendix IV

CANADA

Following correspondence with Mr. Fleming of St. John's I am now prepared to answer your letter of 31 December 1959 re statistical unit areas.

The early development of unit areas used for Canadian fishery statistics is summarized in "Development of Fishery Statistics in the North Atlantic" by George A. Rounsefell, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Spec. Sci. Rept. 47, Feb. 1948.

In 1947 the unit area division of Canadian fishing grounds was extended to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This action was taken at the St. Andrews Station following consultation with other fishery biologist interested in this area.

Map 1 shows the resultant unit areas established for Nova Scotia Banks and the Gulf of St. Lawrence prior to area agreements by ICNAF. The names assigned to southern areas are listed by Rounsefell, and for Gulf areas a list is attached. ICNAF subdivision lines have been superimposed on the unit area map in order to show the general conformities and minor discrepancies of the two systems.

Map 2 shows the statistical unit areas used by the St. John's Station, and the manner in which these line up with ICNAF subdivisions. They are a degree of longitude by a half degree of latitude in size. The selection of units of this size was taken to be most practical and suitable for use in considering distribution of species in the Newfoundland area.

Although we find the smaller statistical unit areas useful for research purposes, it is doubtful that further subdivision of ICNAF subdivisions would be practical for submission and publication of Commission statistics.

It will be useful to have your compilation of unit area information as background for discussion of the subject at Bergen.

Notes to Map 1:

- |    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 4R | A Belle Isle           |
|    | B Bonne Bay            |
|    | C Bay of Islands       |
|    | D Bay St. George       |
| 4T | F Magdalens            |
|    | G Cape Breton - P.E.I. |
|    | H Northumberland       |
|    | J P.E.I.               |
|    | K Orphan and Bradelle  |
|    | L Miramichi            |
|    | M Chaleur Bay          |
|    | N South Gaspé          |
|    | O North Gaspé          |
|    | Q Lower Estuary        |

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4S           R   Seven Islands  
              S   Anticosti  
              T   Havre St. Pierre  
              V   Cape Whittle  
              W   Canadian Labrador

W. R. Martin

Biological Station,  
ST. ANDREWS, N.B.

January 19, 1960.

Appendix V

GERMANY

German fisheries statistics in the ICNAF Area are not yet fully developed because of the quite recent increase in fisheries themselves there. In the governmental fisheries statistical scheme the area "Greenland" is subdivided into western-, southern and eastern part - the latter not belonging to the ICNAF Area. Besides the areas "Newfoundland" and "Labrador", corresponding to the ICNAF - subareas 3 (+4) and 2, have been added since the last year. Break down of landings by ICNAF - subdivisions is only done, as far as possible, from personal knowledge of biologists.

J. Lundbeck

Bundesforschungsanstalt für Fischerei  
Institut für Seefischerei,  
HAMBURG

January 15, 1960

Appendix VI

ICELAND

Regarding statistical units we will try to use those agreed to by ICNAF, but cannot at this time promise to use smaller ones.

Jón Jónsson

Atvinnudeild Háskolans Fiskideild.  
REYKJAVIK

February 5, 1960

Appendix VII

UNITED KINGDOM

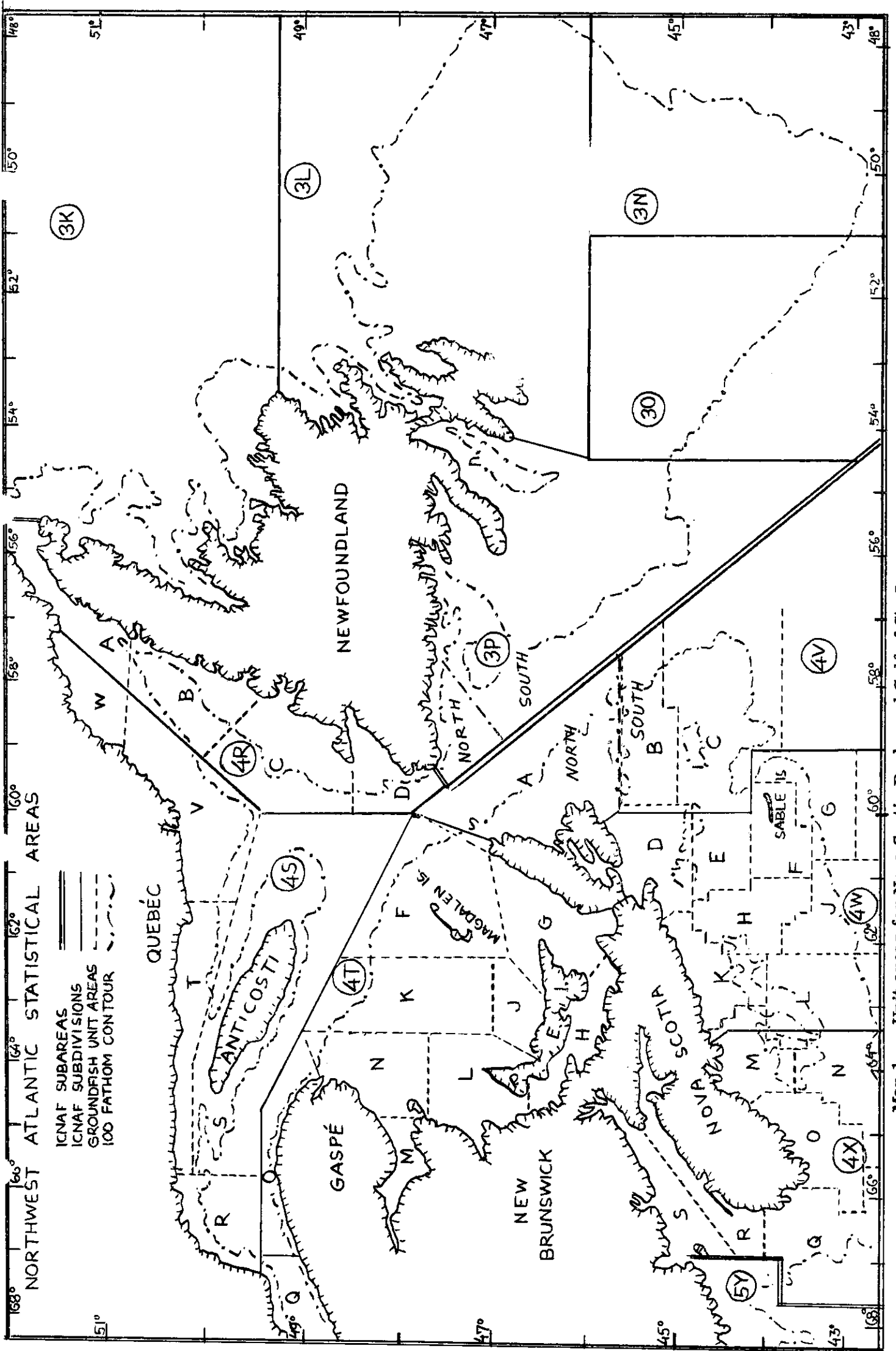
In reply to your letter of 31st December about area units used in the collection of statistics from the Convention area, I write to inform you that in the United Kingdom we use the subdivisions agreed to by ICNAF. We should have no difficulty, however, in allocating catches to any other unit area which the Commission may agree upon.

H. F. Greenfield

February 8th, 1960

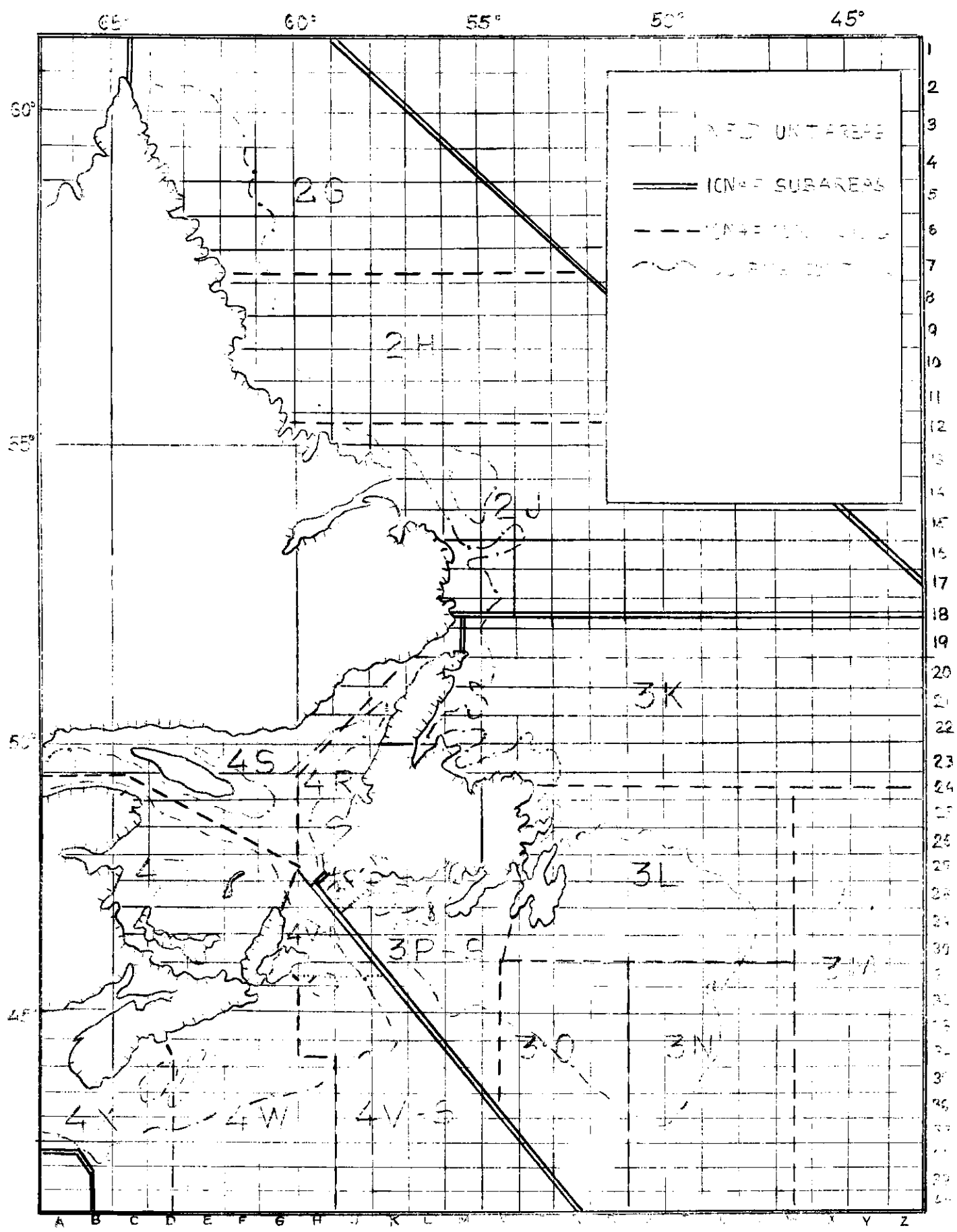
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,  
LONDON





Map 1 - Unit areas for Nova Scotia Banks and Gulf of St. Lawrence

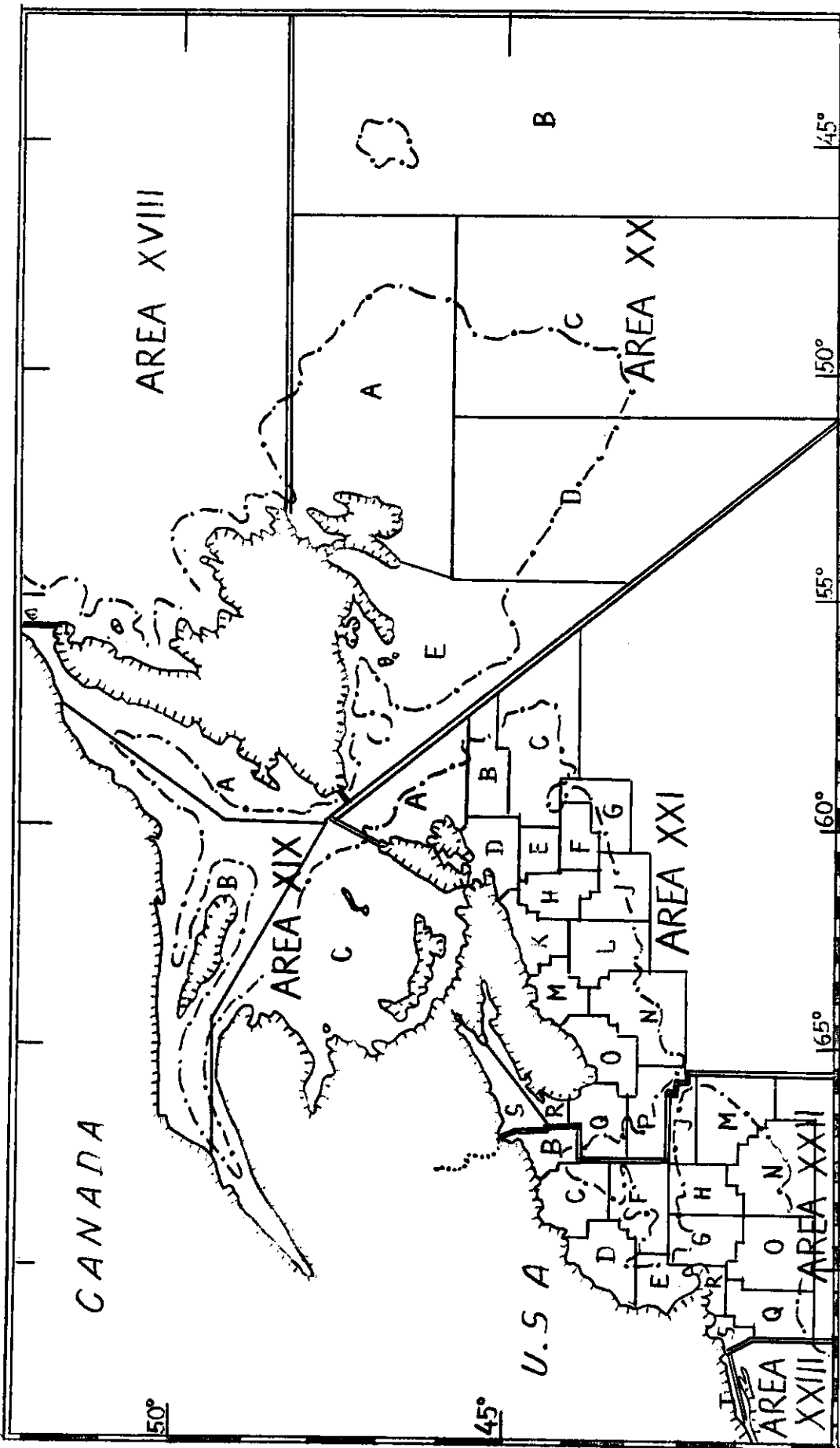




Map 2 - Statistical unit areas used by St. John's station lined up with ICNAF subdivisions.







USA Statistical Areas

