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The United States Report on the Operation of the 10 Percent
Annual Exemption to the Mesh Regulation
1963

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The 10 percent annual exemption to the mesh regulation has been in effect for 6 years. Data for the first 4 years (1958-1961) were reported on the basis of the operating period ending September 1. The years 1962 and 1963 represent data based on a calendar year, i. e., January 1 to December 31.

There was a decrease in the number of vessels holding exemption certificates in effect at the end of the 1963 calendar year (December 31, 1963). Table 1 shows the number of vessels having in effect 10 percent exemption certificates at the end of each year. Table 2 shows the number of vessels in each tonnage class having in effect exemption certificates at the end of each year. Tables 3 and 4 show an analysis of Subarea 5 and all-subarea catch-trip data for 10 percent annual exempted vessels during the years 1958 through 1963.

The number of trips made by exempted vessels has increased each year with a subsequent increase in the landings, the only slight exception to this occurring in the all-subarea total landings for 1962. Analysis of the catch records for exempted vessels in 1963, by percentage and actual pounds landed, indicated haddock landings had increased over the previous year, cod landings remained about the same, redfish landings showed a sharp decrease, while the remaining species caught reflected a substantial increase.

Although the percentage of haddock landed to all species landed by exempted vessels in Subarea 5 and all-subareas during 1963 has increased somewhat, the figures are still substantially below the 10 percent exemption set by the Commission.

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Table 1. Number of vessels having 10 percent annual exemption certificates in effect at year end^{1/}

| Year | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of certificates | 23 | 36 | 43 | 73 | 69 | 46 |

For the period January 1, 1963 - December 31, 1963, there were 14 new certificates issued, 65 suspensions, 53 renewals, 42 reinstatements, 4 expired. Two vessels were sold, 5 vessels sank, and 6 vessels had over 10 percent in violation.

^{1/}--For the years 1958 through 1961, the figures are for the period through September, for the years 1962 and 1963 the figures are for the period January through December.

Table 2. Number of 10 percent annual certificates by tonnage class in effect at end of year^{1/}

| Gross tons | Class | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 |
|------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0-25 | OTS | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 26-50 | OTS | 5 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 9 |
| 51-100 | OTM | 7 | 12 | 21 | 39 | 36 | 26 |
| 101-150 | OTM | 2 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 12 | 5 |
| 151-200 | OTL | 7 | 6 | 7 | 10 | 8 | 6 |
| over 200 | OTL | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 23 | 36 | 43 | 73 | 69 | 46 |

^{1/}--1958 through 1961 period through September, 1962-1963 for period January-December

Table 3. Analysis of landings made under the 10 percent annual exemption, Subarea 5, for the past 6 years^{1/}

| | First year | | Second year | | Third year | | Fourth year | | Fifth year | | Sixth year | |
|---|------------|-------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Fishing trips | 628 | | 1,304 | | 1,324 | | 1,799 | | 2,057 | | 2,168 | |
| All species (000's lbs) | 23,178 | 100.0 | 41,206 | 100.0 | 48,152 | 100.0 | 70,842 | 100.0 | 72,843 | 100.0 | 78,794 | 100.0 |
| Haddock (000's lbs) | 2,453 | 10.6 | 2,404 | 5.8 | 2,711 | 5.6 | 3,936 | 5.6 | 3,802 | 5.2 | 5,865 | 7.4 |
| Cod (000's lbs) | 471 | 2.0 | 670 | 1.6 | 699 | 1.4 | 987 | 1.3 | 1,187 | 1.6 | 1,456 | 1.9 |
| Redfish (000's lbs) | 7,333 | 31.6 | 12,552 | 30.5 | 14,519 | 30.2 | 24,028 | 34.0 | 19,931 | 27.4 | 13,386 | 17.0 |
| Other ^{2/} species (000's lbs) | 12,921 | 55.8 | 25,580 | 62.1 | 30,223 | 62.8 | 41,891 | 59.1 | 47,923 ^{3/} | 65.8 | 58,087 ^{4/} | 73.7 |

^{1/} For years 1958-1961 (First-Fourth year) period through September, for 1962-1963 (Fifth-Sixth years) period January-December

^{2/} Other species includes halibut, white hake, cusk, pollock, flounder, silver hake and menhaden

^{3/} Includes 39,731,604 lbs of whiting

^{4/} Includes 42,545,722 lbs of whiting

Table 4. Analysis of landings made under the 10 percent annual exemption, all subareas, for the past 6 years^{1/}

| | First year | | Second year | | Third year | | Fourth year | | Fifth year | | Sixth year | |
|---|------------|-------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Exempted vessel ^{2/} | 23 | | 32 | | 43 | | 73 | | 68 | | 46 | |
| Fishing trips | 707 | | 1,433 | | 1,481 | | 2,040 | | 2,265 | | 2,404 | |
| All species (000's lbs) | 37,125 | 100.0 | 61,794 | 100.0 | 71,998 | 100.0 | 97,096 | 100.0 | 96,866 | 100.0 | 106,932 | 100.0 |
| Haddock (000's lbs) | 2,827 | 7.6 | 3,568 | 5.8 | 3,025 | 4.2 | 4,212 | 4.3 | 4,088 | 4.2 | 6,394 | 6.0 |
| Cod (000's lbs) | 505 | 1.4 | 850 | 1.4 | 822 | 1.1 | 1,096 | 1.2 | 1,416 | 1.5 | 1,629 | 1.5 |
| Redfish (000's lbs) | 20,686 | 55.7 | 30,912 | 50.0 | 37,184 | 51.6 | 48,834 | 50.3 | 42,606 | 44.0 | 36,166 | 33.8 |
| Other species ^{3/} (000's lbs) | 13,107 | 35.3 | 26,464 | 42.8 | 30,967 | 43.1 | 42,955 | 44.2 | 48,756 ^{4/} | 50.3 | 62,743 ^{5/} | 58.7 |

^{1/} 1958-1961 (First-Fourth year) period September through September, for 1962-1963 (Fifth-Sixth year) period January through December.
^{2/} Operating under 10 percent annual exemption certificates
^{3/} Other species include halibut, white hake, cusk, pollock, flounder, silver hake, menhaden etc.
^{4/} Includes 39,793,404 lbs whiting
^{5/} Includes 42,548,107 lbs whiting