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The trawler THORSTEINN THORSKABITUR was chartered for work in the Newfoundland area from 5-25 July. During the period 15-26 June and 1-16 September, it worked in the East Greenland area. From the Newfoundland area, otoliths were collected from 617 redfish and the size and maturity of 2,139 redfish were recorded. From the East Greenland area, 1,043 redfish otoliths were collected and 2,600 analysed for sexual maturity.

From the Newfoundland area, 586 cod otoliths were collected. In the East Greenland area, 1,074 cod otoliths were collected and 202 cod were tagged.

Some hydrographic and plankton work was also carried out in the expeditions mentioned.

A. Status of the Fisheries

In 1964, the total number of hours fished by Icelandic trawlers in the ICNAF area was 4,580 compared to 4,480 in 1963. The fishing effort and the catch of cod and redfish in the various ICNAF Divisions is listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Fishing effort and catch of cod and redfish by Icelandic trawlers in the ICNAF area in 1964.

	<u>Hours fished</u>	<u>Redfish</u>		<u>Cod</u>	
		<u>Catch</u>	<u>(tons/100 hr)</u>	<u>Catch</u>	<u>(tons/100 hr)</u>
<u>Subarea 1</u>					
Div. 1B	109	194	178	7	6
" 1D	1038	1015	98	1563	151
" 1E	747	613	82	1144	153
" 1F	420	134	32	377	90
Total	2314	1954	84	3091	134
<u>Subarea 2</u>					
Div. 2J	111	379	341	114	103
<u>Subarea 3</u>					
Div. 3K	954	1993	209	348	36
" 3L	114	3	3	40	35
" 3M	50	2	4	15	30
" 3P	591	-	-	484	82
Total	1709	1999	117	887	52
<u>Subarea 4</u>					
Div. 4W	337	9	3	171	51
" 4X	109	-	-	11	100
Total	446	9	2	182	41
Total ICNAF Area	4580	4341	95	4274	93

I. Redfish

The total catch of redfish amounted to 4,341 tons compared to 6,633 tons in 1963. The main redfish fishery, as in previous years, was carried out in Div. 3K where there was a slight decline in catch per unit effort as compared to 1963. The second most important division is 1D; here, too, a drop in the catch per unit effort occurred. For the ICNAF area as a whole, there was a drop from 148

tons/100 hr fishing in 1963 to 95 tons/hr in 1964.

The main cod fishery was carried out in Subarea 1 and especially in Div. 1D and 1E. The catch/100 hr in both divisions was rather similar but there was a marked drop in 1E compared to the previous year.

II. Cod

Unfortunately no samples could be secured from West Greenland but 10 samples were taken from the East Greenland area in June and September. The June samples which were from Dohrn Bank and the Angmagssalik area show a clear dominance of the 1956, 1957 and 1958 year-classes which were also abundant in the Icelandic spawning stock the same year. The September samples showed more or less the same year-classes but the 1961 year-class is also found in quantities in some of them. This year-class also seems to be dominant in the Icelandic stock of cod; it has been found in research vessel catches and also in the Danish seine fishery in 1964. Two samples of cod were taken from Div. 3K in July and are mostly composed of 5, 6, 7 and 8 year old fish. Another two samples were taken in Div. 2J in the same month and they show a rather similar picture.