



ANNUAL MEETING, 1965

Review of ICNAF Statistics Form 4a and Form 4b

(Statistics On Discards -- Statistics On Industrial Fish)

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At the Fourteenth Annual Meeting the Committee on Research and Statistics generally agreed that the ICNAF Statistics Form 4 (Discards and Industrial Fish) needed to be simplified and decided that data on discards and industrial fish could be better reported on separate forms.

In order to ensure the collection of total catch statistics, and in anticipation of future trends in the fisheries, it is considered that data on industrial fish, such as fish meal, are required in addition to discard data, by species and division. Such statistics should eventually appear in the Statistical Bulletin to provide a complete record of catches rather than of landings only.

It was, therefore, recommended that the new forms for reporting discards and industrial fish (ICNAF Statistics Forms 4a and 4b) as set out in Appendix VIII - Annex 2, p. 82, in the Redbook 1964, Part 1, be used by all member countries for the year 1964 and that the results be reviewed at the 1965 Annual Meeting. A review of these submissions are outlined below. Generally, the completed forms have been submitted in good order and it would appear that countries have had little difficulty in making their submissions.

I

Statistics On Discards

(Form 4a)

Canada (Maritimes and Quebec)

Discards data were submitted for the 1963 and 1964 groundfish fishery. The change in form, obviating the necessity of having detailed landing statistics available, have allowed Canada to bring their submission up to date. Data were collected mainly by means of log records and observers at sea. Coverage of the various areas, boat sizes, species and gears is patchy and is probably most accurate for ICNAF Division 4T.

The estimates of discards are for species landed only. Species such as skate, silver hake, dogfish, sculpin, sea ravens, eelpouts, lumpfish, anglers and all invertebrates are usually completely discarded. No useful records of amounts of these discards are available.

Methods of estimation of discards (Rec. 24, 1964 Annual Meeting) for Canada (Maritimes and Quebec) have been reported on, in Document # 33 of the 1964 Annual Meeting and in a 1963 paper by Yves Jean, "Discards at Sea by Northern New Brunswick Draggers" (J. Fish. Res. Bd. Canada, 20(2): 497-524).

Discard data were reported for Cod, Haddock, Redfish, Pollock, American plaice, Yellowtail, Witch, Winter Flounder and Hake.

France (St. Pierre & Miquelon)

Discards are not known.

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Federal Republic of Germany

Discard data were obtained from questionnaires distributed amongst masters of the fishing fleet. Discard data were reported for Cod, Redfish and "Not Known". In each case it was stated that the amount of Landings Sampled upon which the Estimated Percentage Discard was based was 100%. The only areas in which discards were shown were: 1B-1F, 2G-2J. Although 100% of landings were sampled in areas: 3K-3M, 4V-4X(+5Z) no discards were shown.

Norway

Form 4a was not completed since there are very incomplete statistics on discards. The amounts, noted in letter form, are small. Of the 6 Norwegian trawlers fishing in the ICNAF Subarea 1 in 1964, 3 reported only 42 tons of discards: cod - 15 tons, redfish - 6 tons, flounder - 21 tons. The other 3 vessels did not report any discards; nor did the 32 long-liners fishing mainly for cod in Subarea 1 report any discards.

Poland

Discard data were obtained from interviews at dockside. The amount of Landings Sampled upon which the Estimated Percentage Discard was based was not indicated. Discard data were reported for Cod, Redfish, Flounders, and "Species Not Known".

Portugal

Discard data were obtained from logbooks and were reported for Cod and "Various Species". The amount of Landings Sampled were for Cod only.

Spain

The total number of otter trawlers in the ICNAF area were reported as 26 of which 6 were noted as "Recording Vessels". Discards were reported for cod on Form 4a. A special report for Cod, Haddock and "Others" were reported as "Total Landings", "Discarded Fish" and "Percentages of Total Catch". A considerable amount of data was reported on the obsolete Form 4.

United States

Discard data were obtained from interviews at dockside and were reported for Haddock in 4X and 5Z and for Yellowtail in 5Z.

U. S. S. R.

Did not complete Form 4a because "the Soviet fishing vessels do not carry on any discards."

SUGGESTION:

These data as reported on Form 4a could very easily be published as a Special Table in the ICNAF Statistical Bulletin by Species, Division, Gear, Country, Quarters and Total for Year.

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II

Statistics On Industrial Fish

(Form 4b)

France (St. P. et M.)

Data were reported for Cod, Haddock, Redfish, Pollock, American plaice, Sole and Rays for Subarea 3; and for Cod, Redfish, Pollock, American plaice, and Rays for Subarea 4. These data were obtained through interview at dockside.

Federal Republic of Germany

Data were reported for Cod, Redfish and "Species Not Known" for Subareas 1, 2 and 3 separately and for Subareas 4 and 5 combined. These data were obtained from questionnaires distributed amongst the masters of the fishing fleet.

Norway

Norwegian vessels primarily engaged in food fish production fished about 500 tons round fresh industrial fish in Subarea 1. Since these amounts were included on Stana Forms 1 and 2, the Form 4b instructed in Note 2, was not completed.

Poland

Data were reported for Cod, Redfish, Flounder, and "Species Not Known" for Divisions 2J, 3K, 3L, 3M, 5Z and NK. These data were obtained through interviews at dockside.

Portugal

Data were reported for 664 metric tons of cod fish meal from the Convention Area which had been processed from 3400 metric tons of Small Round Fresh Cod. This was reported as a "Total for the Year".

U. S. S. R.

Did not complete Form 4b because "the Soviet fishing vessels do not record fish species destined for industrial use."

SUGGESTION:

These data as reported on Form 4b could very easily be published as a Special Table in the ICNAF Statistical Bulletin by Species, Division, Gear, Country, Quarters and Total for Year.
