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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1969

Extracts
from
Report of the 56th Statutory Meeting of ICES
Copenhagen, 30 September-9 October 1968
(Proc. Verb. 1968)

Note: This year, rather than reproduce *in toto* each of the pertinent reports from the 1968 ICES Meeting, the Executive Secretary has extracted the following from the reports, recommendations and resolutions as contained in *ICES Procès-Verbal de la Réunion, 1968*. A copy of the Procès-Verbal will be available in the meeting Secretariat for more complete reference.

Executive Secretary

1. Editorial Committee

(a) Canadian Contributions to "Annales Biologiques"

The Committee discussed the problem in full and recommended that the Editor should try to obtain for future volumes of "Annales Biologiques" from the Canadian side a summary review of such hydrographic conditions in the ICNAF Area which influence or may influence conditions in the Central and Eastern Atlantic (f.i. through the Gulf Stream). The Editor was also asked to seek the advice of the relevant ICNAF Committee in some convenient way, for instance during the next ICNAF meeting.

The Committee found no need at present for including similar reports concerning Plankton and Benthos or Fish Stocks in Canadian waters in the "Annales Biologiques".

2. Gear and Behaviour Committee

(a) ICES/ICNAF Joint Working Group on Selectivity Analysis

1. Following the discussions at meetings both of ICES and ICNAF on the problems of selectivity analysis, it was decided at the 1968 meeting of ICNAF to form a Working Group on Selectivity Analysis and to invite ICES to participate. Mr A.I.Treschev (USSR) was appointed Convener of the Group and Mr M.J.Holden (UK) its Secretary.

2. This invitation was made to the Gear and Behaviour Committee at the 1968 meeting of the Council and was accepted.

3. A preliminary meeting of the Working Group was held on 4 October 1968, at which the following were present:

Belgium.....Mr R. Pottillius
France.....Mr C. Nédélec
Germany.....Prof. A. von Brandt, Dr H.J.Bohl
United Kingdom.....Mr M.J.Holden (Secretary)
USSR.....Mr A.I.Treschev
ICNAF.....Mr L.R.Day, Dr H.W.Graham, Mr Sv. Aa. Horsted

4. The following terms of reference were agreed:

- (i) Comparison of the properties of net materials of trawls used in the North Atlantic and investigation of the effect of trawl construction on selectivity;

- (ii) Analysis of the variability of marine experiments on selectivity and the variability of selectivity data;
 - (iii) Compilation of the selectivity data for cod, haddock and redfish including a tabulation of equivalents for different materials.
5. Further nominations of specialists were requested. Mr Pope and Dr Stepanov have already been nominated.
 6. An invitation from Mr Treschev to hold the first meeting of the Working Group in Moscow was accepted and it was agreed that this be held from 26 to 29 March 1969, both dates inclusive.
 7. Mr Treschev called for preliminary reports by the specialists appointed for each term of reference by 25 February 1969.
 8. The Working Group noted the request to add an agenda item "feasibility of an ICES/ICNAF Joint Summary of Selectivity Data".

(b) Selectivity

Five papers on this subject were presented. Two French papers were concerned with extensive tank experiments with models of trawl nets. These experiments demonstrate that the flow of water through the net is influenced by the shape and type of trawl, the kind of twine, the speed of the trawl through the water, and the fishing conditions. Tests were made with full covers, topside covers, and trouser codends. An important conclusion is that the amount of water passing through the net is a function of the length of the net and, therefore, the longer the net the less possibility for escapement of fish. Another French paper reported on the selection of hakes. The selectivity for hake is affected by the size of the catch.

A German paper (Doc.CM 1968/B.15 by Bohl) compared the results of experiments on cod off the southwest coast of Bear Island. In these experiments the selectivity was not affected by the form of polypropylene twine whether continuous, monofilament or split. This paper points out that the selection factors used for assessment of northeast Arctic cod (i.e. 3.7 for manila and 4.1 for polyamide) may be too high.

(c) Fishing Vessels

The Committee considered the question of assessing the effectiveness of different kinds of fishing vessels. In order to decide on which characteristics are important, the Committee proposes a Working Group be set up to study the problems of evaluating the various characteristics of fishing vessels in terms of their effect on the fishing effort (C. Res. 1968/2:11).

The Working Group shall also consider whether the ICES/OECD/FAO Fleet Register needs amendments to improve its value for fishing effort studies.

Mr J. de Wit (Netherlands) agreed to act as Convenor of such a Working Group. The Committee recommended that all member countries be invited to designate experts to serve on this Working Group, these experts to be in the fields of naval architecture, technology, and biology.

3. Statistical Committee

(a) Fishing Vessel Statistics

The General Secretary presented the supplementary List of Fishing Vessels above 150 GRT. The Committee had last year recommended that the CWP should now consider coordination of the ICNAF and ICES lists, and it was agreed to request advice from the forthcoming CWP meeting before any new steps were taken.

4. Resolutions passed at the 56th Statutory Meeting, 1968

- C. Res.1968/1:7 the Second Report of the ICES/ICNAF Joint Working Party on Atlantic Salmon should be published as an ICES Cooperative Research Report.
- C. Res.1968/2:4 the Council should in the summer of 1970 organize a Symposium on "The Factors influencing Recruitment of Fish Stocks, with special reference to the Stock Recruitment Relationships";
- the Chairman of the Consultative Committee be Chairman of its scientific organizing Committee, and that Dr D.H.Cushing be a member of that Committee;
- FAO and ICNAF be invited to support and to participate in the Symposium and to appoint one member each of the scientific organizing Committee;
- plans for the Symposium be presented to the Bureau in May and detailed plans be presented to the 1969 Statutory Meeting, and
- the ICES Secretariat be responsible for all administrative preparations for and servicing of the Symposium.
- C. Res.1968/2:5 A special meeting be held in conjunction with the Council's Statutory Meeting in 1970, for the purpose of discussing methods for measurement of fishing effort for different fisheries, and application of such methods for fishery statistics, and
- ICNAF should be invited to joint ICES in preparations for and arrangement of the meeting.
- C. Res.1968/2:11 a Working Group be set up, to meet at national expense, to study the problems of evaluating the various characteristics of fishing vessels in terms of their effect on fishing effort measurement, and that the attention of OECD, FAO and ICNAF be drawn to it. Mr J.G.deWit (Netherlands) was appointed Convener for the Group.
- C. Res.1968/2:12 the Iceland Planning Group should promote the program in Annex A to the Report of the Demersal Fish (Northern) Committee, by correspondence during the year, and meet at the next Council Meeting to review progress and to plan a further program to be carried out in 1970, and
- ICNAF be informed of this program, which may include tagging and the analysis of data collected in Greenland waters.
- C. Res.1968/3:3 (a) ICES accept the invitation by ICNAF for representatives of ICES member countries to participate in the Working Group on Selectivity Analysis, which is scheduled to take place in Moscow from 26 to 29 March 1969, under the convenership of Dr A.I.Treschev (USSR).
- (b) ICES member countries make available to the Working Group all appropriate trawl selectivity data, in advance of the meeting.

