

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

Serial No. 3025  
(G.a.)

ICNAF Res.Doc. 73/73

## ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1973

Nominal catch of squid in Canadian Atlantic waters  
(Subareas 2-4) 1920 to 1968

by

M. C. Mercer  
Fisheries Research Board of Canada  
Biological Station, St. John's, Nfld.

Introduction

The migratory ommastrephid squid Illex illecebrosus (LeSueur) has historically supported small summer and fall inshore fisheries at the northern end of its western Atlantic range, particularly at Newfoundland where recent annual landings have ranged from nil to 10,500 metric tons. The inshore fisheries are passive in that they are based on availability of squid to jigging devices (and to a much lesser extent, traps) in waters of less than about 20 m depth. However, in the past few years, large trawl fisheries for squid have developed in the ICNAF convention area. The 1971 ICNAF statistics for Subarea 3 show only 1 ton landed offshore (by Japan) with the remaining 1606 tons being Nfld. inshore landings. The situation is reversed in Subarea 4 where 7283 tons were landed offshore, mostly by the USSR, whereas inshore landings accounted for only 16 tons. In Subareas 3 and 4 Illex illecebrosus comprised the total catch as Loligo pealei does not range this far north (see Mercer, 1971). The landings of 11,368 and 10,842 tons in Subareas 5 and 6 respectively were mixed catches, nearly all trawled offshore and comprising mostly Loligo pealei taken in its wintering area; however an indeterminate part of this catch was Illex illecebrosus.

The following collation of Canadian catch statistics was abstracted completely from the monthly and annual "Fisheries Statistics of Canada" published by Statistics Canada (formerly Dominion Bureau of Statistics). Blank data fields in the area breakdowns indicate that no listings are given for squid in the "Fisheries Statistics". In such cases small squid landings are sometimes included under such headings as "Other Shellfish"; the total catches then obtained by adding across the columns are less than the listed total landings. Landings prior to 1938 are given in barrels; approximate conversion to pounds can be obtained by applying a factor of 200 lb/barrel.

Newfoundland

A monthly breakdown is given for the period 1956-72 (Table 1) and an area breakdown for the period 1955-68 (Table 2). Detailed statistics are unavailable for earlier years but Squires (1957) gives an account of relative annual abundance.

Nova Scotia

A breakdown by area for the period 1920-68 is given (Table 3).

New Brunswick

Squid catch was listed as 0 in 1952. In 1955 landings of 1000 lb were given for Grand Manan Island (Bay of Fundy). In 1921-26 the only catches were listed as coming from Gloucester County (Districts 64-68), these being 20, 10, 5, 6, 5, 25 barrels respectively. For all other years 1920-72 no separate listings for squid were given.

Prince Edward Island

The only listing for squid in 1920-72 was 500 lb taken in district 88 in 1946.

Quebec

A breakdown by area for the period 1920-68 is given (Table 4).

ICNAF Area

As no area breakdowns are available for Newfoundland prior to 1955 summaries are not given for 3K, 3L, 3P and 4R in the breakdown by years prior to this date (Table 5). Discrepancies between the total landings for the Canadian Atlantic and those obtained by adding division totals are caused by occasional lumping of squid under such headings as "Other Molluscs" in the area totals used to compile the table. The relation of the Statistical Districts to the ICNAF Divisions is indicated in Appendix I.

References

- Mercer, M. C. 1970. Sur la limite septentrionale du calmar Loligo pealei LeSueur. Naturaliste Can. 97: 823-824.
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A breakdown by area for the period 1920-68 is given (Table 4).

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Table 1. Monthly breakdown of squid landings at Newfoundland 1956-72 ('000 lb). Where reported yearly totals do not agree with totals obtained by summing the reported monthly landings the latter totals are indicated in parentheses.

Year	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
1956	1,565	6,088	5,882	3,197	104	0	17,150 (16,836)
1957	836	2,893	853	1,062	153	9	5,808 (5,806)
1958	128	725	420	246	66	0	1,584 (1,585)
1959	3	714	2,264	3,199	109	0	6,289
1960	9	2,820	3,453	4,358	630	0	11,170 (11,270)
1961	900	6,681	5,399	5,557	1,240	0	19,777
1962	10	257	548	229	18	0	1,062
1963	0	941	1,609	1,568	854	0	4,972
1964	847	11,446	5,300	4,565	768	75	22,926
1965	731	5,421	4,623	5,656	768	0.3	17,199
1966	110	2,722	4,054	4,075	106	1	11,068
1967	543	4,164	1,877	6,113	2,526	0	15,222
1968	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
1969	0	9	37	2	0	0	48
1970	0	5	92	56	13	0	166
1971	357	1,635	3,057	439	51	0	5,539
1972	0	12	32	1	0	0	45

Table 2. Breakdown of squid landings at Newfoundland 1955-68 ('000 lb) by statistical areas as delineated in Fig. 1.

Year	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	Total
1955	504	545	1,163	1,889	6,080	2,201	512	648	781	701	0	100	150	201	0	15,475
1956	267	1	2,107	1,956	9,141	2,957	0	667	5	49	0	0	0	0	0	17,150
1957	153	689	653	1,011	2,012	965	26	211	0	17	0	46	25	0	0	5,808
1958	24	4	297	325	472	144	2	298	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	1,584
1959	365	408	1,181	2,621	506	653	8	246	70	231	0	0	0	0	0	6,289
1960	614	800	2,033	2,406	3,418	1,025	53	550	139	132	0	0	0	0	0	11,170
1961	504	1,259	2,031	2,715	8,147	3,378	129	815	161	631	3	4	1	0	0	19,778
1962	46	74	37	49	51	157	11	569	53	14	1	1	0	0	0	1,063
1963	121	158	517	1,806	842	301	31	700	48	448	0	0	0	0	0	4,972
1964	446	812	4,537	3,293	9,213	2,047	20	1,168	464	928	0	0	0	0	0	22,928
1965	523	842	2,513	2,179	7,965	977	13	1,625	119	443	0	0	0	0	0	17,199
1966	645	1,400	2,031	1,194	3,476	670	137	1,165	63	279	0	0	0	0	0	11,060
1967	573	654	2,509	3,236	6,329	253	108	1,139	24	397	0	0	0	0	0	15,222
1968	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Table 3. Area breakdown of squid landings at Nova Scotia 1920-68 ('000 lb 1938-68 and barrels 1920-37) by statistical areas as defined in Fig. 2. When listed totals do not coincide with landings obtained by totalling the landings by area the latter total is indicated in parentheses.

Year	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	21	22	23
1920	3	148	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	32		1371			0		115a		
1921	0	300	916	9	0	0	180	0	0	0	65		3959			0		32		
1922	0	500	118	0	30	4	12	208	0	0	78		954			0		32		
1923	0	720	1128	0	77	8	8	30	0	0	43		4934			0		106		
1924	0	400	241	20	47	0	30	8	0	0	80		1261			0		360		
1925	4	660	2845	270	128	0	0	159	0	10	160		5376			0		561		
1926	8	425	2977	196	629	22	48	86	0	17	170		2810			22		1194		
1927	12	420	176	0	40	20	10	6	0	20	162		801			20	30	0		0
1928	0	1000	27	0	0	27	8	23	0	0	90	518	274	0	0	0	0	240		0
1929	0	700	112	0	555	0	0	37	0	0	112	600	489	0	0	0	0	52		0
1930	0	830	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110		4900			0	0	0		0
1931	19	310	181	0	401	0	0	3	0	0	10	4	16	0	0	0	0	0		0
1932	0	160	23	32	0	0	0	7	0	0	40		308			0	0	0		0
1933	0	30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40		2922			0	0	0		0
1934	0	70	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30		200			0	0	0		0
1935	0	318	4	0	36	15	8	5	0	0	0		2205			0	0	0		0
1936	0	806	17	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	30	2811	354	0	0	0	0	3		0
1937	0	80	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		462			0	0	4		10
1938	0	70	1	0	2	3	4	0	0	0	10		122.8			0	0	0		0
1939	0	50	0.6	6.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	290.5	29.5	0	0	0	0	0		0
1940	0	80	1.7	0	79.2	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	291.8	45.9	0	0	0	0	0		0
1941	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0	426.1	34.1	0	0	0	0	0		0
1942	0	29	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	2.0	21.2	0.4	0	0	0	0	0		0
1943	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0	11.1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0		0
1944	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	22.5	15.7	0	0	0	0	19.9		0
1945	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38.2	7.2	0	0	0	0	0		0
1946	0	105	0	212.4	13.9	0	0	8.1	0	0	0	240.9	112.8	0	0	0	0	10.4		0
1947	0	60	0	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	305	76			0	0	7		0
1948	0	5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	188	25			0	0	4		0
1949	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	188			0	0	0		0
1950	0	59	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21			0	0	34		0
1951	1	20	0	66	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	2			0	0	18		0
1952	60	0	0	36	1	2	0	10	0	0	0	2	14			0	0	20		0
1953	0	4	2	9	119	20	0	12	0	0	0	2	14			0	0	25		0
1954	0	21	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21			0	0	4		10
1955	6	9	0	52	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	133	109			0	0	4		3
1956	0	16	5.0	175	0	487	0	0	0	0	30	153	201			0	0	2		26
1957	152	0	8	0	30	0	0	2	0	1	30	74	100			0	0	0		0
1958	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	207	322			0	0	0		0
1959	0	9	6	0	18	0	0	4	0	0	0	10	13			0	0	0		1
1960	6	7	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	12			0	0	0		0
1961	1	4	2	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	1	258	68			0	0	0		0
1962	1	2	4	0	30	1	0	26	0	0	47	20	179			0	0	1		23
1963	0	3	0	0	2	1	0	10	0	0	4	311	127			0	0	1		0
1964	16	5	4	0	258	1	0	32	0	0	0	178	145			0	0	3		1
1965	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	30	0	0	0	43	35			0	0	2		1
1966	0	2	0	0	118	2	0	22	0	0	0	204	7			0	0	0		0
1967	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	1	0	0	27	0	6			0	0	0		0
1968	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	1		0

Table 3. Cont'd.

Year	25	26	27	28	30	31	32	33	34	36	37	38	39	40	42	43	44	45	46	Total
1920	13	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,746
1921	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,567
1922	10	0	0	100	(	35	)	0	0	(	20	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,101
1923	10	0	0	6	(	20	)	0	0	(	10	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,112
1924	4	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	(	20	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,496
1925	8	0	0	665	(	210	)	0	0	(	500	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,556
1926	11	(	650	520	(	115	)	0	0	(	6000	)	47	0	0	0	0	800b	0	16,747
1927	25	(	97	120	(	15	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,974
1928	44	42	0	350	141	41	0	0	0	0	25	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,862
1929	5	20	0	215	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,897
1930	15	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,965
1931	0	(	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	954
1932	0	(	150	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	760
1933	0	(	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,073
1934	0	0	0	0	(	2	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	337
1935	0	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,674
1936	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,272
1937	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(	90	)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	638
1938	0	0	0	4.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	221.6
1939	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	381.3
1940	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	504.6
1941	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	463.4
1942	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53.3
1943	0	2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16.7
1944	0	11.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
1945	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55.4
1946	0	80	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	817.7(813.5)
1947	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	562(424)
1948	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109(87)
1949	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52(29)
1950	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364(307)
1951	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	139(117)
1952	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	207
1953	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96
1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	224
1955	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	108(107)
1956	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	943
1957	37	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	652
1958	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180
1959	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	567
1960	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
1961	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102
1962	88	18	1	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	585
1963	23	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	244
1964	61	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	824(819)
1965	7	3	0	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	379
1966	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	227
1967	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	256
1968	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24(17)

a Cole Harbour to Lunenburg County line for listings 1920-26. Equally divided among districts 44, 45, 46 for ICNAF summary.

Table 4. Breakdown for squid landings at Quebec 1920-68 ('000 lb 1938-68 and barrels 1920-37) by statistical areas as delineated in Fig. 3. When listed totals do not coincide with landings obtained by totalling the landings by area the latter total is indicated in parentheses.

Year	Dist.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	27	Total	
1920																							3204
1921				2735						350				89a			30b						6735
1922			6325							405				5			0						4560
1923			1890							2600				5			65						1363
1924			331							1000			0				2	30					1278
1925			1076							40				2			0	160					978
1926			294							500				11			3	50	45				5161
1927			496							4000				60			225	280	75				1202
1928			92							700				10			0	310	90				1711
1929			90							1000				6			60	240	135	180			2400
1930			2172						200	0				3			10	5	10				607
1931			600						0	0				4			3	0	0				759
1932			751						0	0				8			0	0	0				541
1933			525						0	0				16			0	0	0				347
1934			340						0	0				7			0	0	0				350
1935			310						0	30				10			0	0	0				1044
1936			985						0	50				9			0	0	0				607
1937			600						0	0				7			0	0	0				16
1938			4						0	0				12			0	0	0				26.8
1939			8.4						0	0				2			3	13.4	0				5
1940			5						0	0				0			0	0	0				31.2
1941			30.0						0	.4				.8			0	0	0				50.1
1942			10.1						0	40				0			0	0	0				8.2
1943			8.2						0	0				0			0	0	0				0.3
1944			.3						0	0				0			0	0	0				2
1945			0						0	2				0			0	0	0				96.8
1946			53.3						0	43.5				0			0	0	0				55.2
1947			54.4						0	0				.8			0	0	0				40
1948			38							0													4
1949			3							0													0
1950			0							0													16
1951			0							0													7
1952			7							0													6
1953			3							0				2									17
1954			14							0				0									54
1955			5							0				0									89
1956			16							0				0									(50)
1957			20							0				0									(16)
1958			32							0				0									(4)
1959			0							0				2									2
1960			0							0				0									41
1961			0							0				0									(4)
1962-63			0							0				0									4
1964			0							0				0									0
1965-68			0							0				0									3

<sup>a</sup>From Saguenay County line to Rivière Pigou. <sup>b</sup>From Rivière Pigou to Baie des Moutons.



Table 5. Breakdown of squid landings by ICNAF Divisions 1920-68 ('000 lb except prior to 1938 when landings are given in barrels). Where reported yearly totals for the Canadian Atlantic do not agree with totals obtained by summing the division totals the latter are indicated in parentheses.

Year	Div.	3K	3L	3P	4R	4S	4T	4Vn	4W	4X	Total
1920						119	3,265	7	1,486	73	
1921						5	8,031	9	4,171	106	
1922						70	5,196	34	1,206	165	
1923						32	3,227	85	5,090	46	
1924						162	1,843	67	1,659	49	
1925						109	4,549	402	6,096	1,383	
1926						640	8,667	855	4,160	7,609	
1927						410	1,570	72	867	257	
1928						621	2,207	27	1,063	655	
1929						28	3,296	555	1,178	240	
1930						7	1,636	0	4,900	29	
1931						8	1,252	420	23	10	
1932						16	748	32	315	190	
1933						7	411	0	2,922	80	
1934						10	472	0	203	2	
1935						9	1,357	51	2,221	80	
1936						7	1,453	40	3,169	210	
1937						12	85	0	462	95	
1938						18	89	5	127	9	
1939						0	60	6	320	0	
1940						0.4	119	79	338	0	
1941						0	53	0	460	0	
1942						0	39	0	22	0	
1943						0	3	0	11	2	
1944						0	12	0	58	12	
1945						0	107	0	45	0	
1946						0.4	161	226	372	110	
1947						-	98	52	312	-	
1948						-	8	6	76	-	
1949						-	0	0	29	-	
1950						-	59	60	188	-	
1951						-	27	42	55	-	
1952						1	5	165	20	22	
1953						1	20	39	46	7	
1954						1	52	148	53	0	
1955		1,049	11,845	2,130	451	2	42	58	26	15	15,673(15,618)
1956		268	16,161	721	0	2	79	662	246	4	18,203(18,143)
1957		847	4,641	228	71	2	53	182	363	68	6,487 (6,455)
1958		28	1,240	316	0	3	4	2	174	2	1,769
1959		773	4,969	547	0	0	17	18	533	1	6,858
1960		1,414	8,935	821	0	4	7	19	23	0	11,260(11,223)
1961		1,763	16,400	1,607	8	0	7	28	64	3	19,884(19,880)
1962		120	305	636	2	0	53	32	353	147	1,648
1963		279	3,497	1,196	0	0	7	3	210	24	5,216
1964		1,258	19,110	2,560	0	0	9	275	473	5	23,755(23,690)
1965		1,365	13,647	2,187	0	0	1	3	355	13	17,578(17,571)
1966		2,045	7,508	1,507	0	0	2	120	100	2	11,287(11,284)
1967		1,227	12,435	1,560	0	0	29	12	212	2	15,478(15,477)
1968		2	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	4	26 (18)



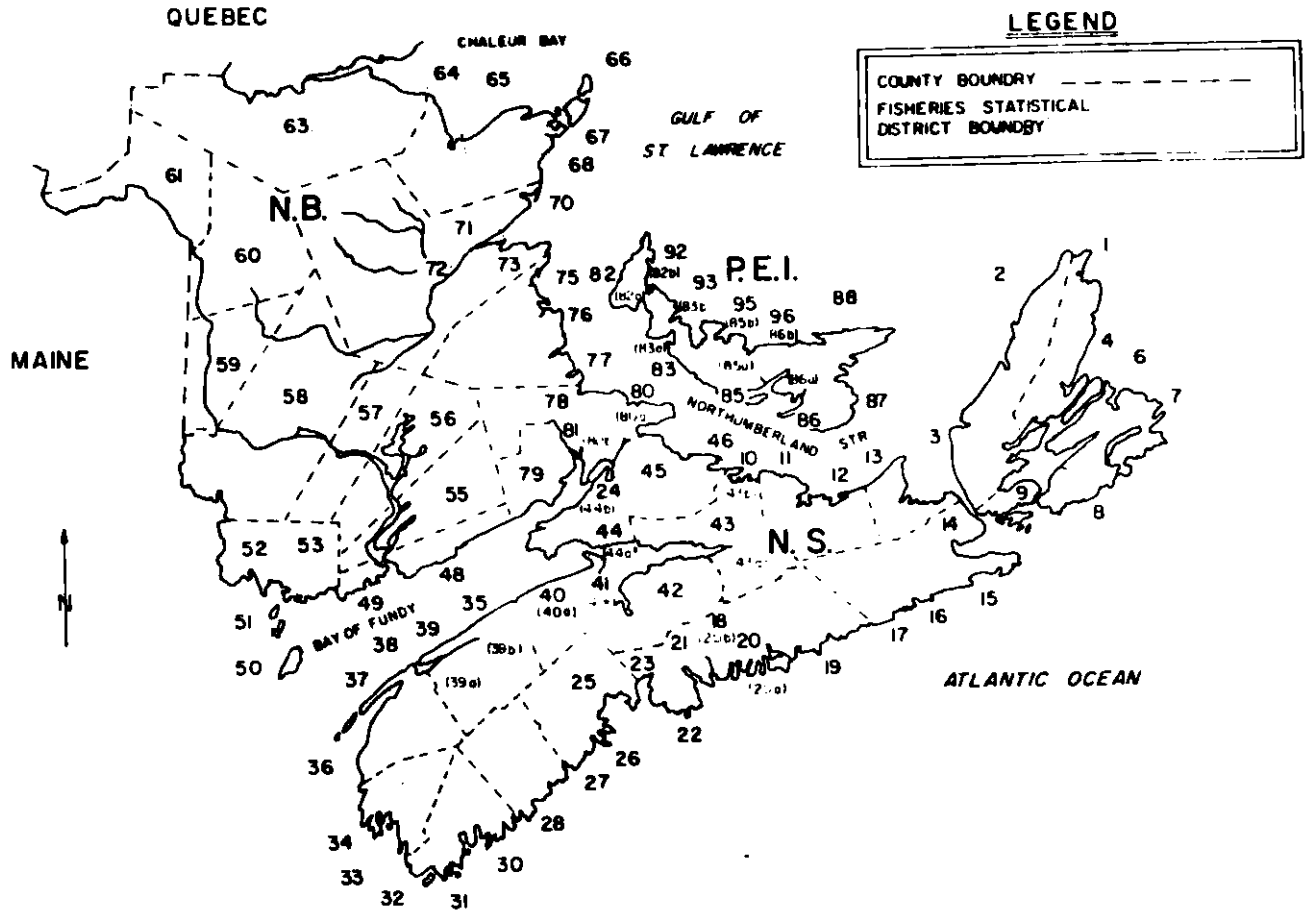


Fig. 2. Maritime sea fisheries districts.

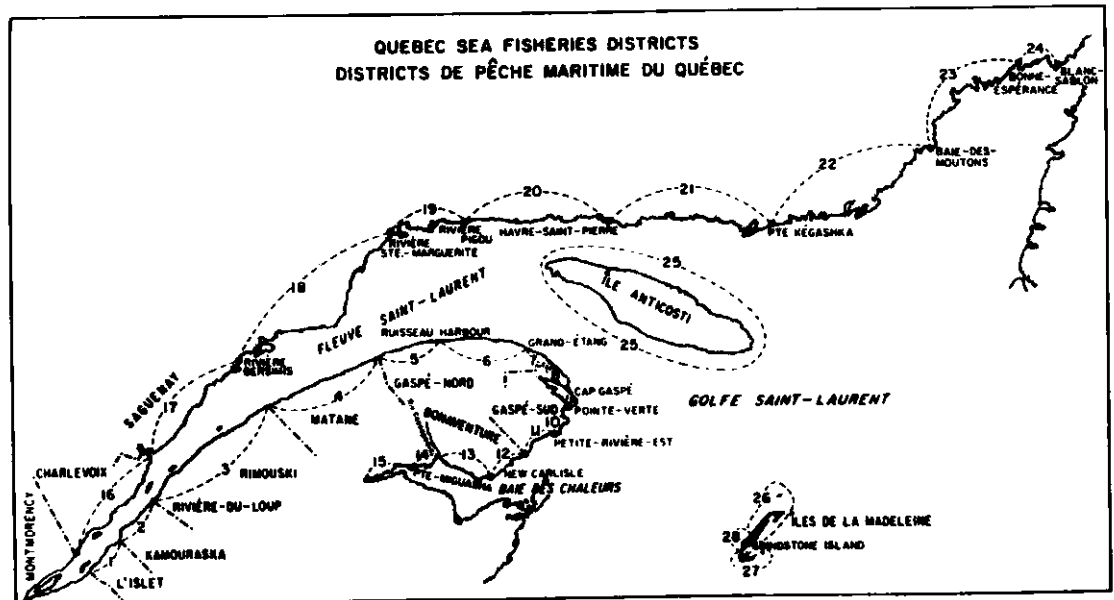


Fig. 3. Quebec sea fisheries districts.

Appendix I

<u>ICNAF Divisions</u>	<u>Statistical Districts</u>
3K	Nfld. Districts A and B (including section 1 of A which actually in 4R. Landings here are approximately nil.)
3L	Nfld. Districts C, D, E, F, G
3P	Nfld. Districts H, I, J (and section 50 of K which actually in 4R)
4R	Nfld. Districts K, L, M, N
4S	Quebec Districts 18* (part), 19-25
4T	Maritimes Districts 2, 3, 11-13, 43b, 45, 46, 63-68, 70, 73, 75-78, 80 (80a), 82, 83, 85-88 Quebec Districts 1-17, 18* (part), 26-28
4Vn	Maritimes Districts 1, 4, 6, 7
4W	Maritimes Districts 8, 9, 14-21
4X	Maritimes Districts 22, 23, 25-28, 30-34, 36-40, 42, 43a, 44, 48-53, 55-61, 79, 80b

\*Quebec statistical area 18 is partly in Division 4S and partly in 4T; landings have been assigned on a 50: 50 basis.