



Serial No. 3821  
(D.c.1)

ICNAF Res. Doc. 76/VI/37  
(corrigendum)

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1976

Preliminary recommendations for standard sections in the Gulf  
of Maine-Georges Bank area

by

R. Schlitz  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Fisheries Center  
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

As a result of discussions held at the Environmental Working Group meeting in April 1976 at Szczecin, Poland, the proposed ICNAF oceanographic sections for the Gulf of Maine-Georges Bank area shown in Table 1 (Res.D c 76/VI/37) were amended. The positions and depths of stations for the new sections are given here as Table 1, amended.

Table 1. Proposed Standard ICNAF Oceanographic Sections

ICNAF Subarea	Section Name	Latitude	Longitude	Depth (fathoms)
4	La Have Baccaro	43°23.0'	65°12.0'	50
		43°15.5'	65°06.0'	80
		43°06.0'	64°59.0'	60
		42°56.5'	64°51.0'	45
		42°47.0'	64°44.0'	55
		42°37.5'	64°36.0'	70
		42°28.5'	64°29.0'	600
		42°19.0'	64°22.0'	1000
		42°10.0'	64°14.0'	1080
		42°00.0'	64°07.0'	1300
4-5	Coast Guard and Cape Sable	43°11.5'	65°39.1'	35
		43°02.8'	65°40.3'	50
		42°55.0'	65°41.4'	75
		42°47.0'	65°42.5'	60
		42°37.0'	65°43.7'	48
		42°27.0'	65°45.1'	50
		42°21.1'	65°50.9'	107
		42°17.1'	65°54.7'	125
		42°12.3'	65°59.5'	122
		42°08.5'	66°02.8'	117

Table 1 continued

ICNAF Subarea	Section Name	Latitude	Longitude	Depth (fathoms)
		42°02.3'	66°09.0'	52
		41°53.7'	66°14.2'	44
		41°45.0'	66°19.4'	44
		41°36.0'	66°25.0'	47
		41°20.0'	66°04.5'	200
		41°10.5'	65°53.5'	1300
	<u>Coast Guard A-5 -</u>	<u>40°50.0'</u>	<u>65°27.0'</u>	<u>2000</u>
4-5	67°West	44°00' N	67°00' W	90
		43°30'	67°00'	114
		43°00'	67°00'	90
		42°30'	67°00'	175
		42°00'	67°00'	31
		41°30'	67°00'	34
		41°00'	67°00'	40
		40°45'	67°00'	60
		40°30'	67°00'	500
		40°15'	67°00'	1000
		40°00'	67°00'	1300
5	69°West	43°30' N	69°00' W	70
		43°00'	69°00'	50
		42°30'	69°00'	120
		42°00'	69°00'	80
		41°30'	69°00'	80
		41°00'	69°00'	42
		40°30'	69°00'	38
		40°15'	69°00'	50
		40°00'	69°00'	100
		39°45'	69°00'	1000
		39°30'	69°00'	1600
5	71°West	41°00'	71°00'	25
		40°30'	71°00'	42
		40°00'	71°00'	200
		39°30'	71°00'	1200



Serial No. 3821  
(D.c.1)

ICNAF Res.Doc. 76/VI/37

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1976

Preliminary recommendations for standard sections in the Gulf of Maine-Georges Bank area

by

R. Schlitz  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Fisheries Center  
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

Introduction

At the ICNAF Annual Meeting in June 1974 Schlitz and Grosslein (1974) presented a plan for coordinated oceanographic monitoring in the ICNAF region to the Environmental Subcommittee. Further discussions were held at the first meeting of the Environmental Working Group with Dr. Trites of Canada agreeing to examine the standard sections suggested at the meeting, and to submit a proposal for standard sections, station positions, and standard sampling depths (Trites, 1975). However, the exact location of all stations was not complete because of the examination of additional data, and decisions on the Gulf of Maine-Georges Bank area were deferred until more detailed examination of the available data could be made. I agreed to examine the data in this area and then suggest the appropriate standard sections from Cape Sable to Southern New England.

Standard sections

The feeling of the Working Group (Redbook, 1975, Appendix V, Annex 1) was "a section south of Cape Sable, one across Northeast Channel and two or more across Georges Bank" would be sufficient for the long term monitoring purposes. The same conclusion was reached after independent examination of the data for this area. Thus the following sections are proposed as standard sections using the criteria that sections were chosen on the basis of the longest available time series when other factors were equal:

(A) Cape Sable Section

This section is along a line running southeast from 12 nm off Cape Sable across the continental shelf and slope to 42° N and 64°31' W with station spacing 15 nm except at the inboard station. The section is a compromise between two sections

see ICNAF Sel. Papers No. 3: 109-11

that have been sampled in the past (Marine Environmental Data Service, 1976) but may be appropriate for monitoring as the second section proposed in this report improves on the western section of the earlier work.

(B) U.S. Coast Guard Standard Section A-5 (Partial)

The U.S. Coast Guard has modified section A-5 to cross Northeast Channel at the inshore end for cooperative sampling with the National Marine Fisheries Service. The time series of data, and the sampling of Northeast Channel make the partial section valuable to the description of long-term trends and is therefore proposed. This section is in the same area as the USSR Standard Section III and the historical data should complement Section A-5.

(C) Section along  $67^{\circ}$  W

The amount of data collected by the ICNAF Larval Herring Surveys in the last five years and previous U.S. Coast Guard and USSR oceanographic sampling provide a solid base for a section along  $67^{\circ}$  W from  $40^{\circ}$  N to  $44^{\circ}$  N.

(D) Section along  $69^{\circ}$  W

For the same reasons as stated in (C) a section along  $69^{\circ}$  W from  $39^{\circ}30'N$  to  $43^{\circ}30'N$  is proposed.

Station positions for all sections are provided in Table 1.

Additional Consideration

Because of the change from mid-latitude to more arctic oceanic conditions that occur at Nantucket Shoals and the important commercial fisheries on the continental shelf south of New England other sections should be considered in this area. At present one is proposed and other areas pointed out for discussion as information is sparse.

(E) Along  $71^{\circ}$  W

Preliminary studies by the Atlantic Environmental Group of the National Marine Fisheries Service have provided many previously unreported sections that provide monitoring capabilities in this area and therefore a section along  $71^{\circ}W$  from  $39^{\circ}30'W$  to  $41^{\circ}$  N is proposed. Station spacing of 15 nm would place the stations at the same positions as those on the ICNAF Larval Herring Cruises.

The two other areas of interest that complement the accepted U.S. Coast Guard sections A-5 and A-6 are the New York Bight area and the area at the north of Delaware Bay, but no firm suggestions are available at this time.

References

- Anon. 1975. ICNAF Redbook. Int. Comm. Northwest Atl. Fish., Dartmouth, 127 pp.
- Marine Environmental Data Service. 1976. Monthly Distributions of oceanographic stations in the ICNAF area, 1950-1959. Int. Comm. Northw. Atl. Fish., Res. Doc. 76/VI/5.
- Schlitz, R. J., and M. D. Grosslein. 1974. Proposal for a coordinated ICNAF environmental research program. Int. Comm. Northw. Atl. Fish., Res. Doc. 74/70.
- Trites, R. W. 1975. Preliminary recommendations for standard sections in the Northwest Atlantic. Int. Comm. Northw. Atl. Fish., Res. Doc. 75/116.

Table 1. Proposed Standard ICNAF Oceanographic Sections

ICNAF Subarea	Section Name	Latitude	Longitude
4	Cape Sable	42°00.0'N	64°31.0'W
		42°12.5'	64°40.0'
		42°25.5'	64°50.0'
		42°38.0'	65°00.0'
		42°51.0'	65°10.0'
		43°03.5'	65°20.0'
		43°13.5'	65°28.5'
4-5	Coast Guard A-5 (Partial)	42°22.5'N	65°52.5'W
		42°18.0'	65°54.0'
		42°12.5'	65°59.0'
		42°09.0'	66°02.5'
		41°36.0'	66°25.0'
		41°20.0'	66°04.5'
		41°10.5'	65°53.5'
40°50.0'	65°27.0'		
4-5	Along 67° W	44°00'N	67°00'W
		43°30'	67°00'
		43°00'	67°00'
		42°30'	67°00'
		42°00'	67°00'
		41°30'	67°00'
		41°00'	67°00'
		40°45'	67°00'
		40°30'	67°00'
		40°15'	67°00'
		40°00'	67°00'
5	Along 69° W	43°30'N	69°00'W
		43°00'	69°00'
		42°30'	69°00'
		42°00'	69°00'
		41°30'	69°00'
		41°00'	69°00'
		40°30'	69°00'
		40°15'	69°00'
		40°00'	69°00'
		39°45'	69°00'
39°30'	69°00'		