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Provisional Sealing Statistics for the Northwest Atlantic, 1977

by

Assistant Executive Secretary

Reports on sealing catch and effort in the Northwest Atlantic in 1977 have been received from Canada and Norway for the "Front" and "Gulf" areas. Danish seal catches in Subarea 1 are not usually available at this time but are received in time for inclusion in the tables prior to their publication in the Research Bulletin. Table 1 contains all available information on harp and hooded seal catches, as well as the catches of other species of seals, for the calendar year 1977. Table 2 contains the corresponding statistics on seal hunting effort. It should be noted that Norwegian statistics for harp seals do not distinguish between "bedlamer" and "old harp" (Table 1).

Abbreviations and Definitions

Countries

Can(M)	- Canada (Maritime Provinces)
Can(N)	- Canada (Newfoundland)
Can(Q)	- Canada (Quebec)
Den(G)	- Denmark (Greenland)

Common and scientific names

Harp seal	- <i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>
Hooded seal	- <i>Cystophora cristata</i>

Definition of seal age categories

Whitecoat	- less than 2 weeks old with unmoulted white fur (lanugo)
Beater	- more than 2 weeks old
Bedlamer	- 1 year or older with spotted pelt, roughly equivalent to immature animals
Old harp	- animals with conspicuous saddle mark on back and sides, roughly equivalent to mature animals

Explanation of effort terms

Engine HP	- brake horsepower
Landsmen	- shore fishermen, including those using very small vessels
No. of men	- total number in crew if "vessel" and number of hunters if "landsmen"
Days absent	- number of days absent from port including the day the vessel sails but not the day of landing

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Table 1. Harp and hooded seal catches in the Northwest Atlantic - 1977.

Area	Catching category	Country	HARP SEALS					HOODED SEALS			species of seals	GRAND TOTAL
			White-coat	Beater	Bed-lamer	Old harp	Total harps	Young	1 and older	Total hooded		
SA 1		Den(G)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Front ¹	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	16665	4280	5	29	20979	1560	423	1983	-	22962
		Can(N)	18434	6444	737	347	25962	2115	742	2857	-	28819
		Norway	11139	23580	(905)		35624	4292	1757	6049	-	41673
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	55	18703	13395	1866	34019	398	101	499	16	34534
	Landsmen	Can(N)	1406	11795	5055	1550	19806	597	100	697	2460	22963
	TOTAL		47699	64802	(23889)	136390	8962	3123	12085	2476	150951	
Gulf ²	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(Q)	6300	2000	4062	25	12387	-	-	-	-	12387
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	-	212	252	12	476	-	-	-	-	476
	Landsmen	Can(M)	3	513	6	-	522	3	-	3	-	525
		Can(N)	167	974	425	323	1889	5	-	5	15	1909
		Can(Q)	-	100	350	3029	3479	-	-	-	-	3479
	TOTAL		6470	3799	5095	3389	18753	8	-	8	15	18776
ALL AREAS	Den(G)		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Canada		43030	45021	24287	7181	119519	4678	1366	6044	2491	128054
	Norway		11139	23580	(905)		35624	4292	1757	6049	-	41673
	TOTAL		54169	68601	(32373)		155143	8970	3123	12093	2491	169727

Table 2. Statistics of seal hunting effort in the Northwest Atlantic - 1977.

Area	Catching category	Country	No. of vessels	Tonnage		Engine HP	No. of men	Days absent	Seals caught
				Gross	Net				
SA 1		Den(G)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Front ¹	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	3	2993	1388	4600	89	150	22962
		Can(N)	3	2070	1264	3500	83	81	28819
		Norway	5	2273	892	8890	91	221	41673
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	98	2576	1807	12059	378	2089	34534
	Landsmen	Can(N)	1508	-	-	-	3054	-	22963
Gulf ²	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(Q)	1	400	...	...	20	...	12387
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	6	261	180	1704	24	51	476
	Landsmen	Can(M)	...	-	-	-	50	-	525
		Can(N)	269	-	-	-	672	-	1909
		Can(Q)	...	-	-	-	2680	-	3479

¹ Subareas 2 and 3, excluding Div. 3P.

² Subarea 4, including Div. 3P.