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Outline of Japanese Capelin Fishery in Subareas 2 and 3, 1975-78

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Japanese capelin fishery in the ICNAF area commenced to operations in 1975 when two stern trawlers of 2500 GRT operated. In 1976 and on, 9 to 13 trawlers have engaged annually in the fishery.

In 1975, 2800 tons of capelin were caught during June-July in Div. 3NO. In 1976, most of the Japanese trawlers operations were made in Div. 3NO and some on experimental base in Div. 2J+3K and 3Ps during May-July. The total catch amounted to 5100 tons. In 1977, 4000 tons of capelin were caught during June-July from 3LNO and 800 tons during September-October from 2J+3K. In 1978, however, Japanese catch decreased sharply to 800 tons in Div. 3LNO and to almost negligible amounts in Div. 2J+3K. Because of the poor fishing, Japanese fleet left the capelin fishing grounds and moved to subarea 4 for *Illex* fishing (Table 1 and Fig. 1-4).

Values of catch per unit effort for four fishing seasons indicate that CPUE was highest in 1975 amounting to 50 tons per day. Fairly high values have been maintained up to 1977 but CPUE decreased sharply in 1978. It is also noted that catchable concentrations of capelin in Div. 30 have decreased from the 1977 fishing season.

Table 1. Japanese fishing effort directed to capelin and capelin catch in tons from 1975 to 1978.

Year	Div.	May		June		July		Annual		
		Effort Days	Catch Hours	Effort Days	Catch Hours	Effort Days	Catch Hours	Effort Days	Catch Hours	
1975	3L	-	-	-	-	2	11	2	11	85
	3N	-	-	32	1622	12	90	44	424	2248
	3O	-	-	11	486	-	-	11	151	486
	3LNO	-	-	43	2108	14	101	57	585	2819
1976*	2J	-	-	-	-	1	13	1	13	19
	3K	-	-	-	-	2	14	2	14	32
	2J+3K	-	-	-	-	3	27	3	27	51
	3L	3	23	-	-	-	-	3	23	27
	3N	2	11	174	1701	107	1294	283	3730	3032
	3O	32	359	123	1563	4	28	159	2017	1973
	3P	3	6	-	-	-	-	3	6	29
	3LNOP	40	398	297	3264	111	1321	448	5762	5060
	Total	40	398	297	3264	114	1348	451	5801	5111

Table 1. Continued.

Year	Div.	June		July		Sept.		Oct.		Annual					
		Effort Days	Effort Hours	Catch	Effort Days	Effort Hours	Catch	Effort Days	Effort Hours	Catch	Effort Days	Effort Hours	Catch		
1977*	2J	-	-	-	-	-	13	136	191	24	264	374	37	400	565
	3K	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	273	306	23	273	306
	2J+3K	-	-	-	-	-	13	136	191	47	537	680	60	673	871
	3L	5	38	80	10	88	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	126	212
	3N	157	2300	3362	17	215	-	-	-	-	-	-	174	2516	3704
	3O	18	183	36	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	185	41
	3LNO	180	2521	3478	28	306	479	-	-	-	-	-	208	2827	3957
	Total	180	2521	3478	28	306	479	13	136	191	47	537	268	3500	4828
1978**	3L	67	653	124	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	653	124
	3N	197	2351	659	13	122	3	-	-	-	-	-	210	2473	662
	3O	34	162	2	16	129	2	-	-	-	-	-	50	291	3
	3LNO	298	3166	784	29	251	5	-	-	-	-	-	327	3417	789

* not including the greater part of male discarded.

** effort and catch in May are included into June.

Table 2. Japanese CPUE of capelin in tonnage class 2000-3000 GRT in Div.3LNO.

Month	Year	Effort		Catch in tons	CPUE in tons	
		Days	Hours		/Day	/Hour
June	1975	43	484	2103	49.0	4.4
	1976*	203	2599	2387	11.7	0.9
	1977*	135	1876	2543	18.8	1.4
	1978	141	1478	304	2.2	0.2
July	1975	14	101	711	50.8	7.0
	1976*	78	883	1086	13.9	1.2
	1977*	20	252	467	23.4	1.9
	1978	16	122	4	0.3	0.0
Total	1975	57	585	2819	49.5	4.8
	1976*	281	3482	3473	12.4	1.0
	1977*	155	2128	3010	19.4	1.4
	1978	157	1600	307	2.0	0.2

* not including the greater part of male discarded.

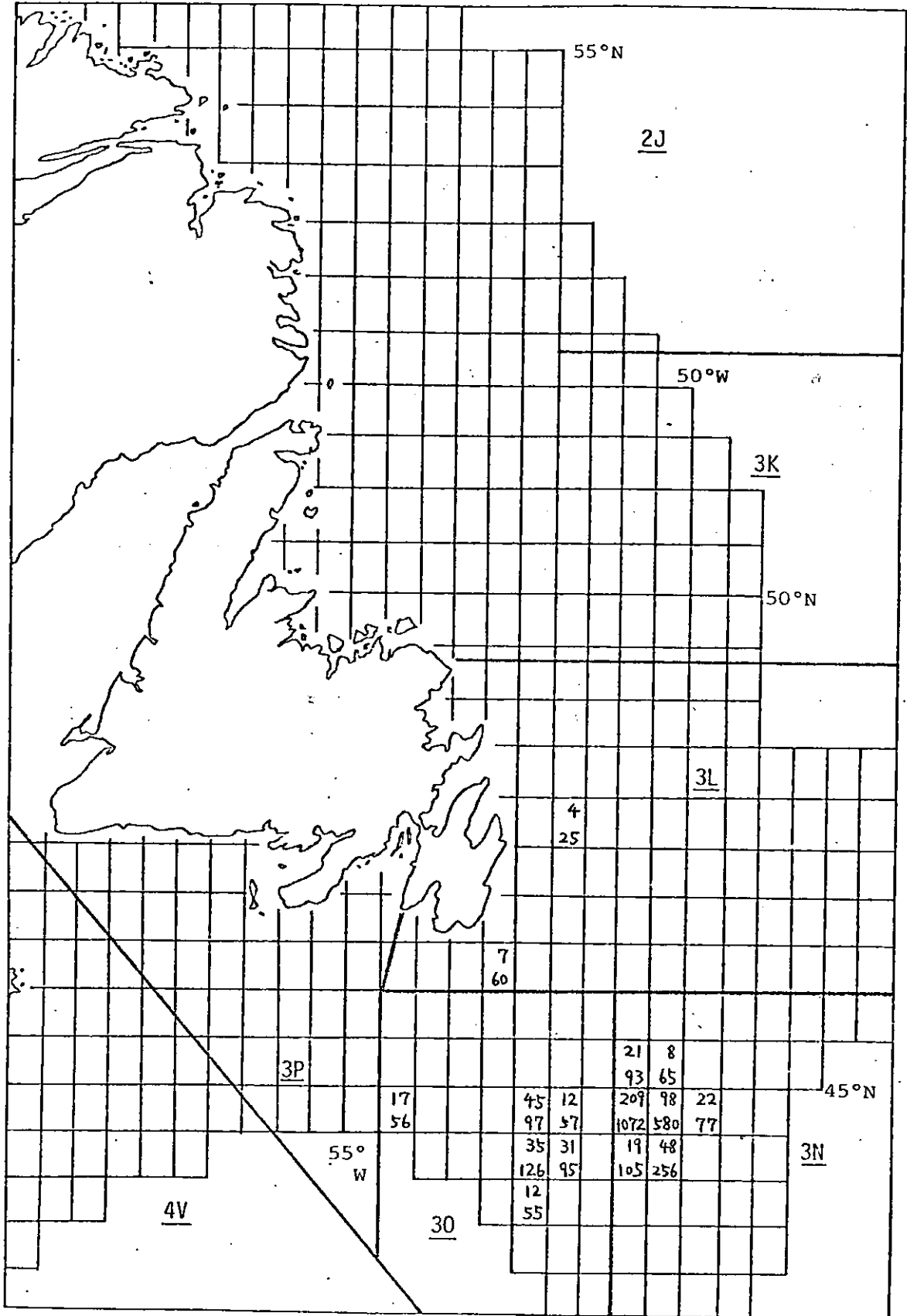


Fig. 1. Japanese fishing effort in hours hauled (upper) and capelin catch in tons (lower) by statistical block in 1975.

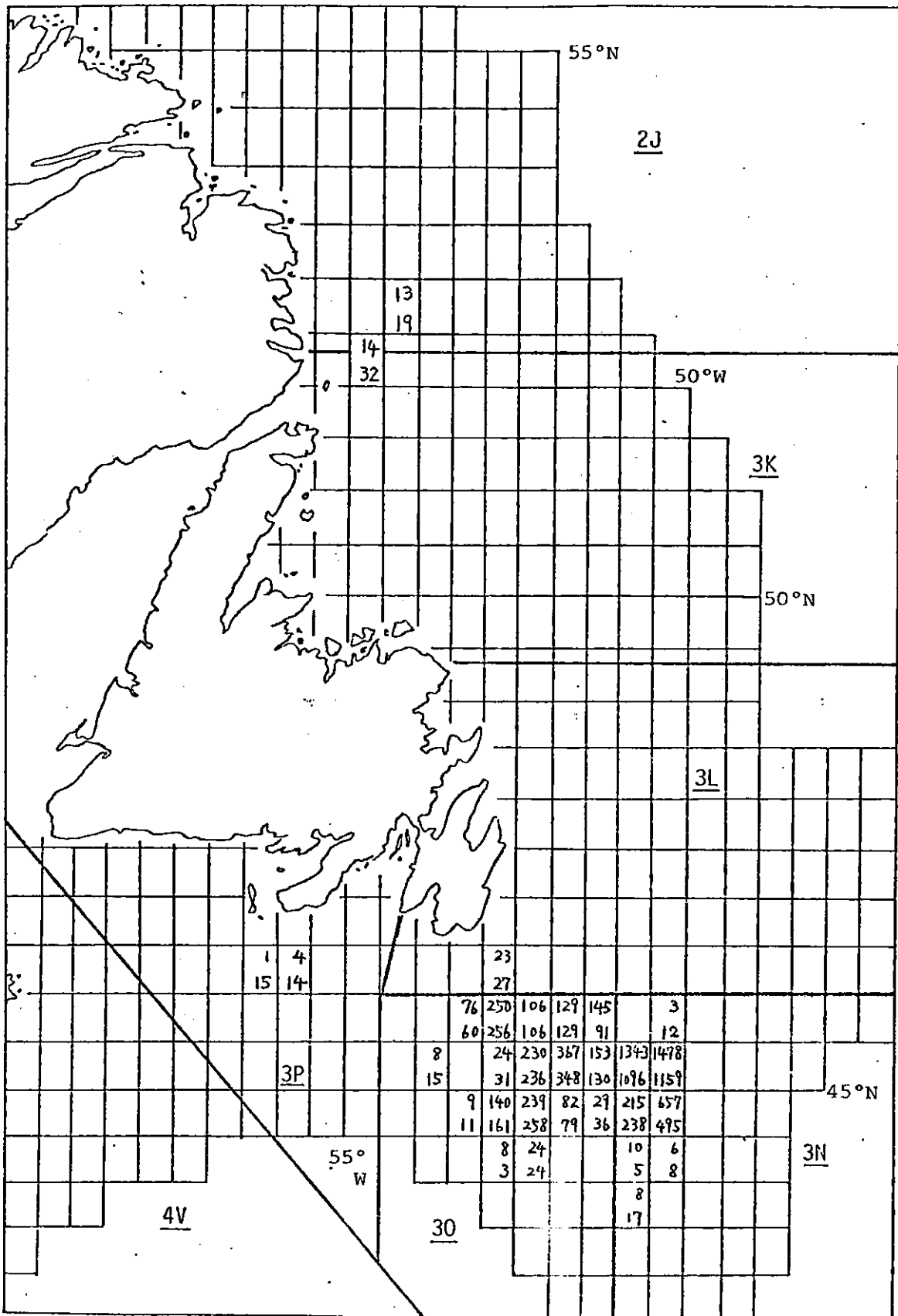


Fig. 2. Japanese fishing effort in hours hauled (upper) and capelin catch in tons (lower) by statistical block in 1976.

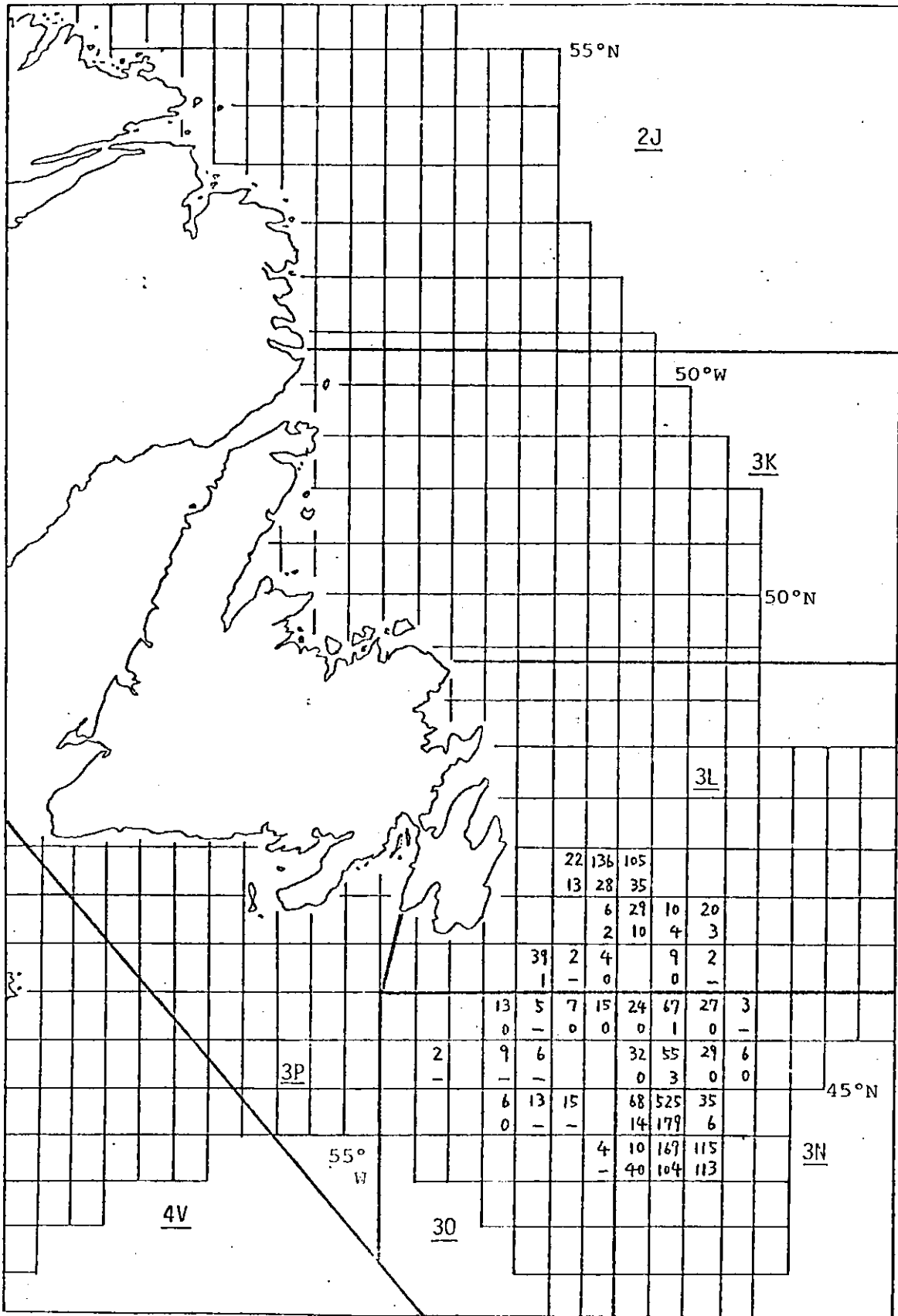


Fig. 4. Japanese fishing effort in hours hauled (upper) and capelin catch in tons (lower) by statistical block in 1978. The values are not census in this year.