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Japanese Research Report for 1993

by

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The total nominal catch by Japanese trawlers from the NAFO waters decreased (30%) to 6,300 tons in 1993 from 9,200 tons in 1992 (Tables 1). This was mainly due to an decrease (30%) in Greenland halibut which was down to 4,600 tons in 1993 from 6,300 tons in 1992. The catch of redfish decreased (30%) to 1,200 tons from 1,600 tons in 1992. There were no catches of capelin and *Illex* in 1993.

The number of Japanese trawlers operated in the NAFO waters was decreased to four in 1993 from five in 1992. They were one 3,000, one 500 and two 300 GRT class stern trawlers. Total fishing effort decreased (30%) to 9,200 hours fished from 13,000 hours in 1991. This was mainly due to an decrease at NAFO regulatory area.

The fishing grounds of Japanese trawlers were located on the continental slopes off Baffin Island(0B), West Greenland (1ABCD), Labrador (2GH), Newfoundland (3LO) and Flemish Cap (3M). Japanese trawlers moved among these fishing grounds, as done in the previous years.

I. Subarea 0

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted at depths around 1000m in Div. 0B during August-October. The catch of Greenland halibut was 250 tons. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 135mm.

II. Subarea 1

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted at depths around 1000m in Div. 1CD during August-November. The catch of Greenland halibut was increased to 1400 tons in 1993 from 600 tons in 1992. All the by-catch of this fishery was roundnose grenadier and the its ratio was 5%. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 140mm and 160mm.

B. Special Research Studies

A. Japan and Greenland Joint Research on Groundfish off Greenland

Under an agreement between the Japan Marine Fishery Resource Research Center (JAMARC) and the Greenland Trawling Company of the Greenland Home Rule (GTC), two types of trawl surveys (scientific survey and exploratory surveys) have been conducted in off Greenland since 1987 by using R/V *Shinkai Maru*.

In 1992, one stratified random bottom trawl surveys were conducted in Div. 1BCD during 4 August-8 September. The results are reported in a research document of this meeting.

III. Subarea 2

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted at depths of 900-1,200m in Div. 2G during July-September and November. The catch of Greenland halibut decreased to 400 tons in 1993 from 600 tons in 1992. Mesh size of the cod-end used was 135mm.

IV. Subarea 3

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted mainly in Div. 3LM at depths of 400-1100m during winter and spring. The Greenland halibut catch decreased to 2,500 tons from 3,800 tons in 1992. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 130-142mm. The redfish-directed fishery was conducted between 400-750 m in Div. 3LMO during winter and spring. The redfish catch decreased to 1,200 tons from 1,600 tons in 1992. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 130-142mm. There was no capelin-directed fishery in 1993.

Table 1. Fishing efforts and catches (tons) by species of Japanese trawl fishery in each NAFO Division in 1992 and 1993.

Year	1993																Total							
	OB	1A	1B	1C	1D	1E	1F	2G	2H	2J	3K	3L	3M	3N	3O	4Vn		4Vs	4W	4X	5Ze	5Zw	6A	6B
Hours fished	812	188	5	2,254	104	-	-	1,059	8	-	-	894	3,672	-	214	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,210
Total catch	271	40	119	1,385	55	-	-	575	4	-	-	1,254	2,441	-	167	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,311
Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redfish	-	0	8	15	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	967	-	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,183
Silver hake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenland halibut	252	36	102	1,246	48	-	-	406	2	-	-	1,168	1,341	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,803
Capelin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Squid-//ler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	18	4	10	125	8	-	-	169	2	-	-	51	133	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	525

Year	1992																Total							
	OB	1A	1B	1C	1D	1E	1F	2G	2H	2J	3K	3L	3M	3N	3O	4Vn		4Vs	4W	4X	5Ze	5Zw	6A	6B
Hours fished	632	126	5	1,706	301	-	-	1,281	7	-	-	3,668	4,620	75	179	-	-	353	34	-	-	-	-	12,987
Total catch	264	6	1	1,547	187	-	-	708	5	-	-	1,883	3,674	21	137	-	-	683	79	-	-	-	-	9,194
Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	3
Redfish	0	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138	1,353	1	128	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	1,621
Silver hake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	460	83	-	-	-	-	523
Greenland halibut	235	3	1	1,455	170	-	-	611	4	-	-	1,642	2,184	18	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,324
Capelin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Squid-//ler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	1	-	-	-	-	68
Others	29	2	0	82	17	-	-	97	1	-	-	103	134	2	10	-	-	158	14	-	-	-	-	656