

67-7

FIRST QUARTER
STOCK CATALOGUE

1967

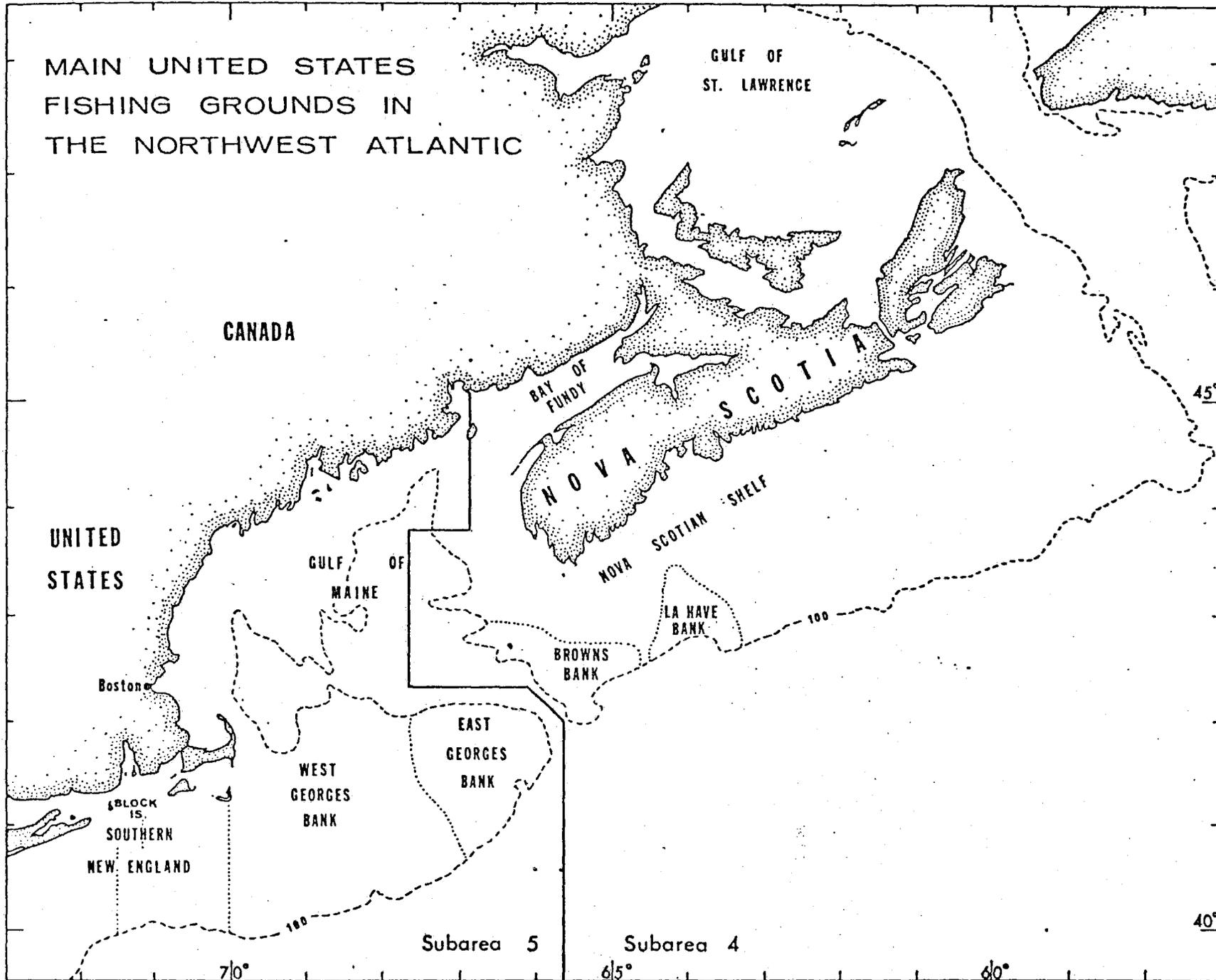
GROUND FISH AND SEA SCALLOPS FISHED BY NEW ENGLAND FLEET

BY

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MAIN UNITED STATES
FISHING GROUNDS IN
THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC



HADDOCK

Abundance indices for Georges Bank haddock (Table 1) show a substantial increase in the first quarter compared to the first quarter of 1966. Total U. S. landings decreased, however. Scrod landings per day increased while that for large decreased (Figure 1-2). The increased scrod abundance is likely due to the spawning concentrations of the abundant 1963 year class.

Age compositions for Georges Bank haddock (Figure 3) show a decrease of three year olds in the first quarter of 1967. Four and five year olds, however, have maintained higher than average numbers in the catch. The near absence of three year olds (1964 year class) should influence the fishing fleet greatly in 1967 and probably cause increased fishing pressure on four and five year olds. An unexplained anomaly is the apparent increase in numbers of the 1962 year class (five year olds) this quarter compared to four year olds (1962 year class) in the first quarter of 1966.

The average weight of large haddock (Figure 4) decreased in the first quarter of 1967, which is due to the recruitment of the strong 1962 and 1963 year classes into the large category. It is expected that average weight of large haddock will drop even further in the next several months as recruitment reaches a peak.

Browns Bank landings and landings per day were up for the first quarter of 1967 (Table 1 and Fig. 5) and may be an early indication of recruitment of the 1962 and 1963 year classes into the fishery in that area.

Table 1

Haddock First Quarter Statistics

(landings in thousands of pounds)

Areas		First Quarter			
		Landings		Landings/Day	
		1967	1966	1967	1966
Georges Bank	Scrod	14,500	19,075	6,683	4,250
	Large	6,133	8,482	2,691	3,037
	Total	20,633	27,557	9,374	7,287
Browns Bank	Scrod	485	106	9,616	5,031
	Large	195	83	3,592	5,224
	Total	680	189	13,208	10,255
Gulf of Maine	Scrod	522	377	-	-
	Large	409	440	-	-
	Total	931	817	-	-
Bay of Fundy	Scrod	253	-	-	-
	Large	73	-	-	-
	Total	326	-	-	-
Total	Scrod	15,760	19,558	-	-
	Large	6,810	9,005	-	-
	Total	22,570	28,563	-	-

Figure 1. U.S. annual and quarterly landings per day of scrod haddock from Georges Bank.

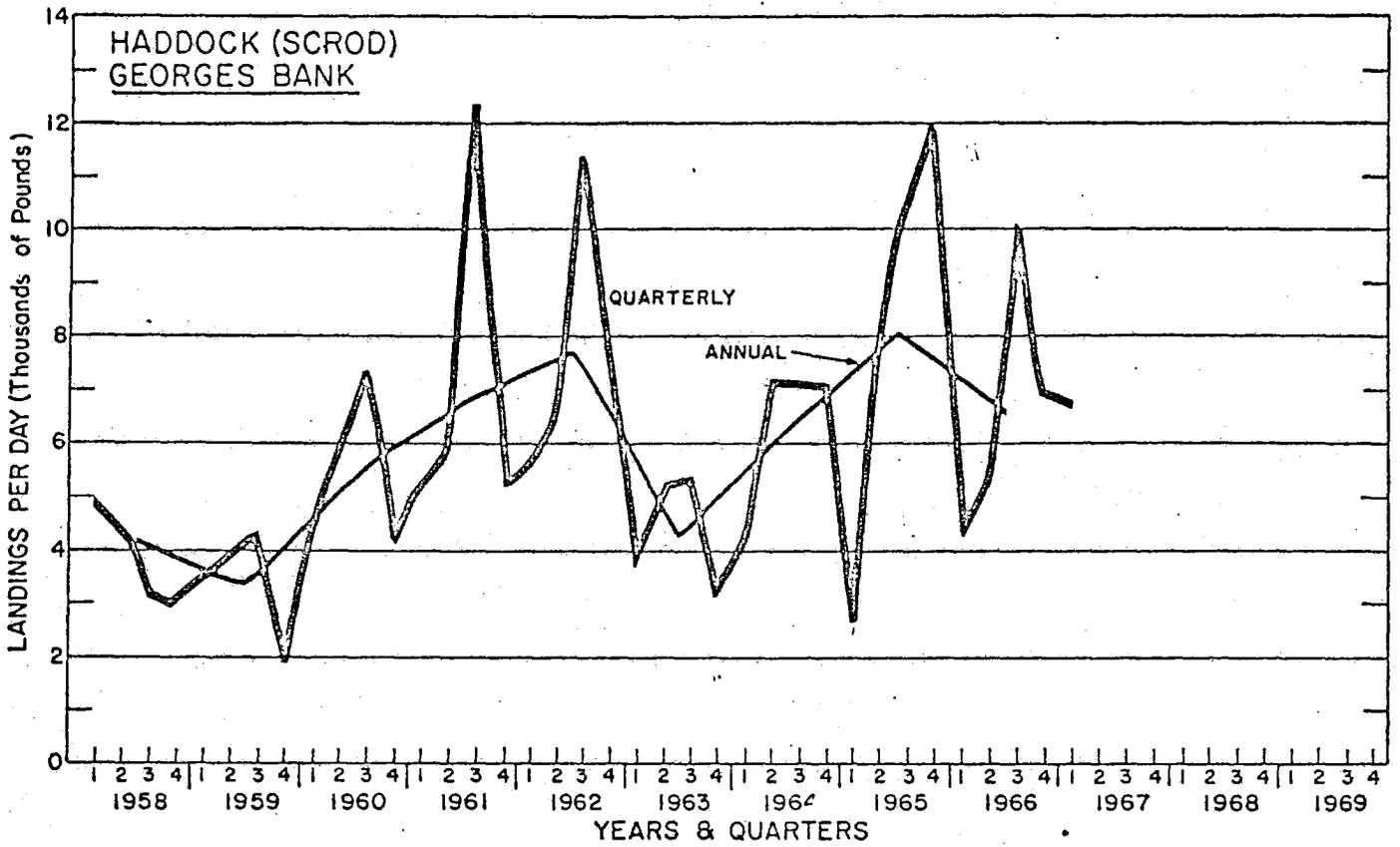
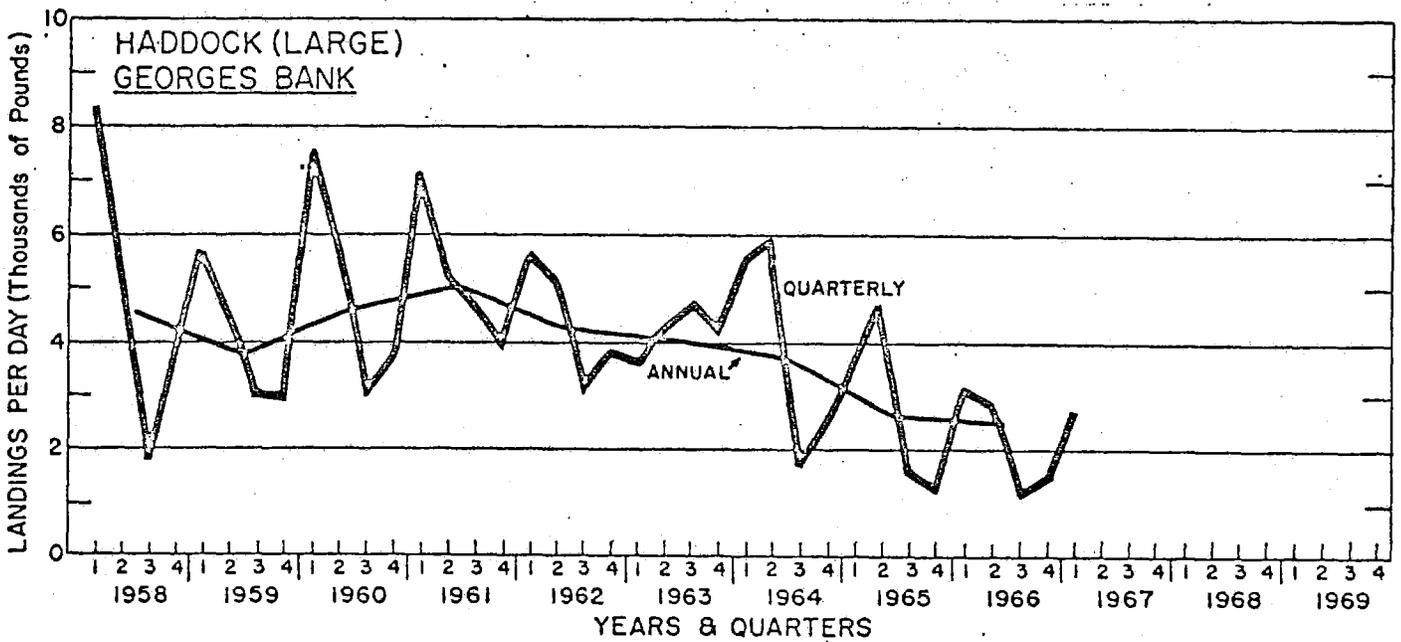


Figure 2. U.S. annual and quarterly landings per day of large haddock from Georges Bank.



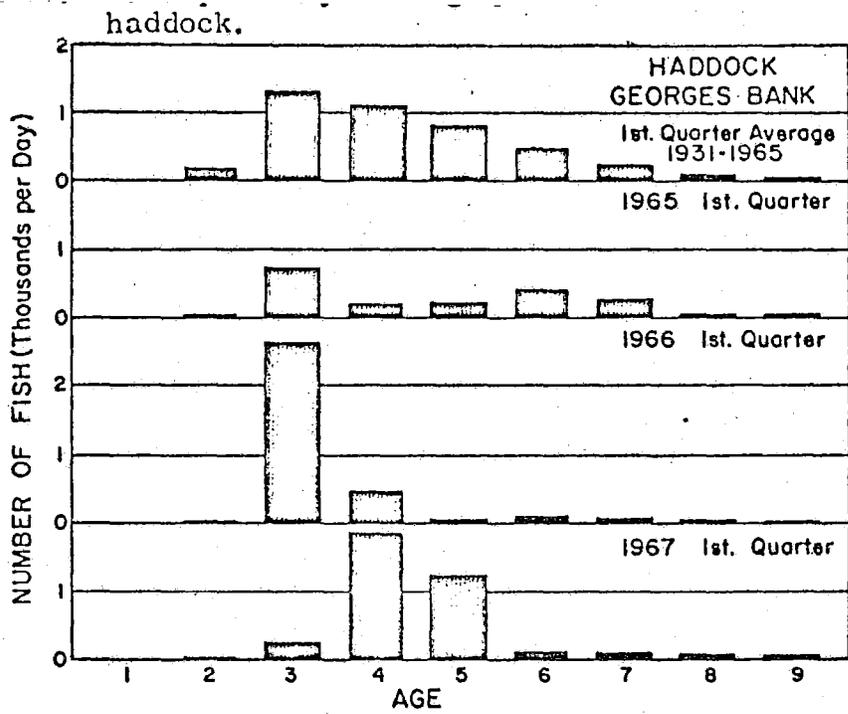


Figure 4. Average haddock weights from U.S. commercial landings.

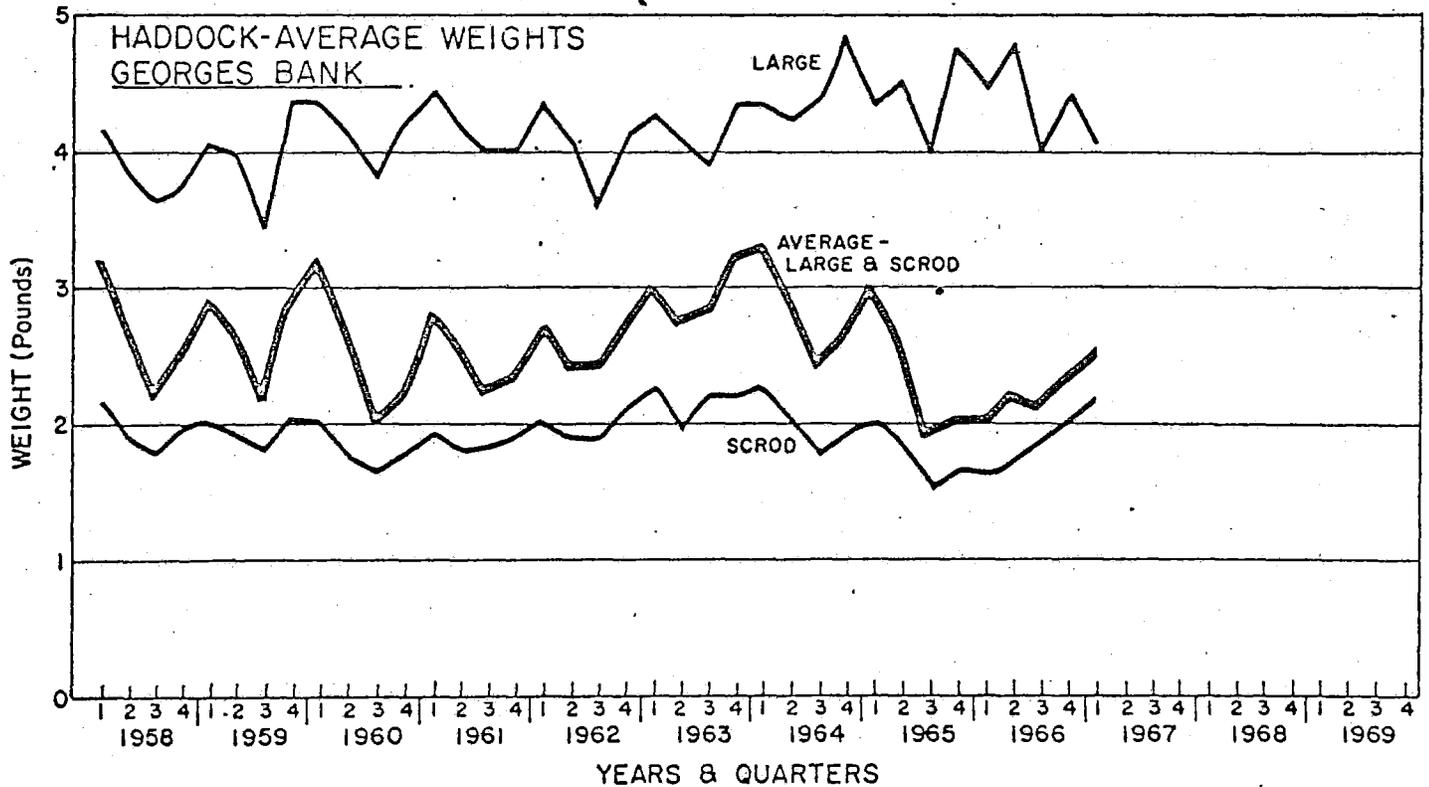
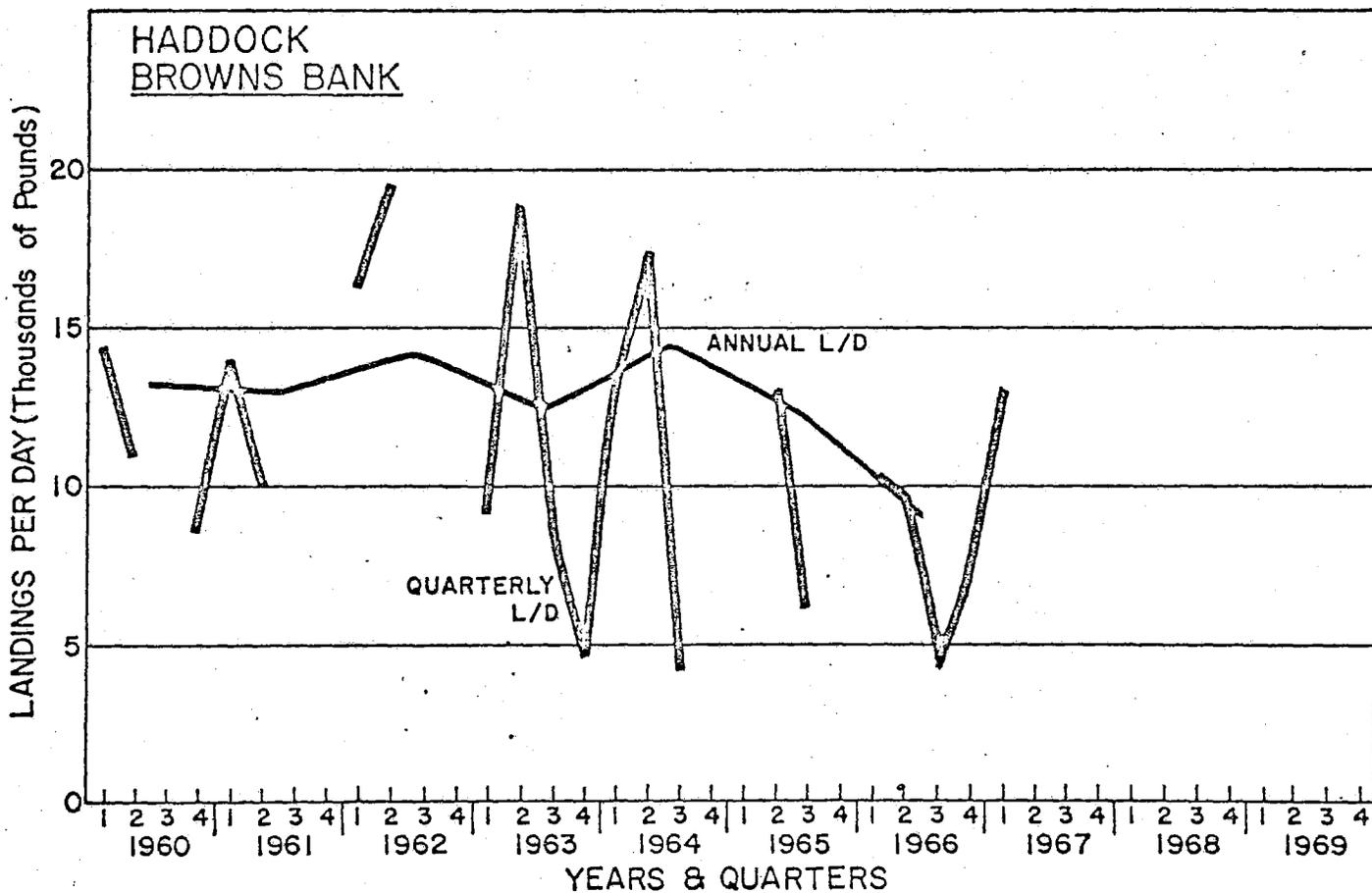


Figure 5. U.S. annual and quarterly landings per day of haddock from Browns Bank.



YELLOWTAIL

Total landings of yellowtail in the first quarter of 1967 were down about 4.5 million pounds (Table 2) compared to the same period in 1966. Landings per day on southern New England grounds (Figure 6) decreased slightly in the first quarter of 1967 but Georges Bank landings per day increased (Figure 7). The increase in landings per day on Georges Bank in 1967 was sufficient to raise the total landings per day over the first quarter total in 1966.

Age compositions for Georges Bank yellowtail in the first quarter of 1967 show an increase in numbers caught per day of two, three, and four year age groups (Figure 8) compared to first quarter 1966. Age compositions for southern New England yellowtail (Figure 9) for the first quarter 1967 show a slight decrease in total numbers landed per day of all age groups except two year olds. Landings of two year olds seems to indicate a stronger year class entering the fishery this year than in the past two years. It is also possible, however, due to the decrease in total landings, that an increased proportion of the smaller fish are being landed instead of being discarded at sea. This would, of course, artificially increase the index of relative abundance of two year old fish.

Table 2

Yellowtail First Quarter Statistics
(landings in thousands of pounds)

Areas	First Quarter			
	Landings		Landings/Day	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
S. New England	8,349	9,372	5,108	5,806
Georges Bank	2,324	5,713	4,015	3,118
Total*	11,912	16,545	4,685	4,417

* Including CapeCod Bay

Figure 6. Annual and quarterly landings per day of Southern New England yellowtail.

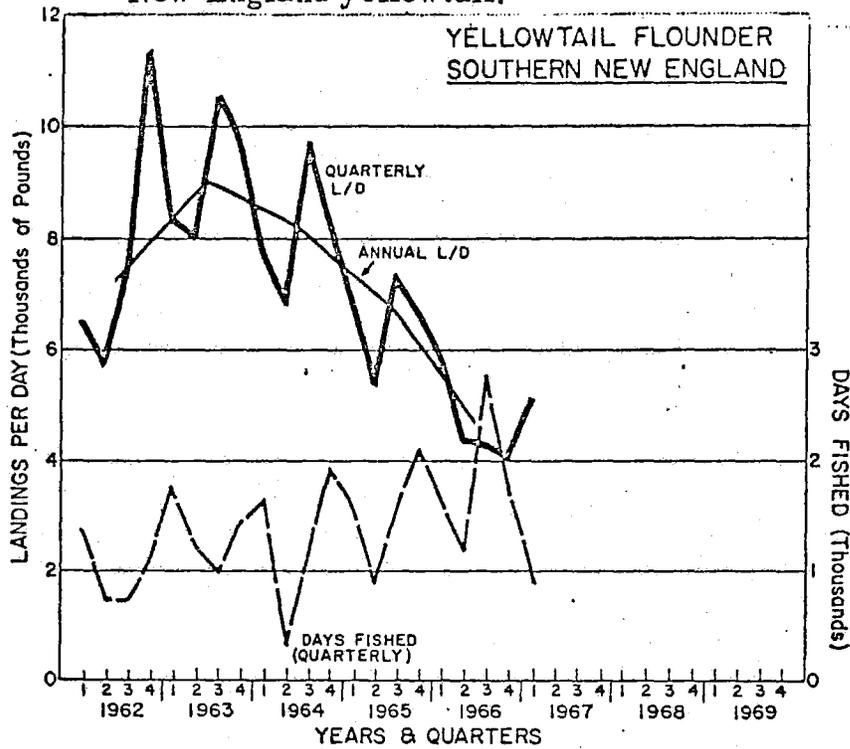


Figure 7. Annual and quarterly landings per day of Georges Bank yellowtail.

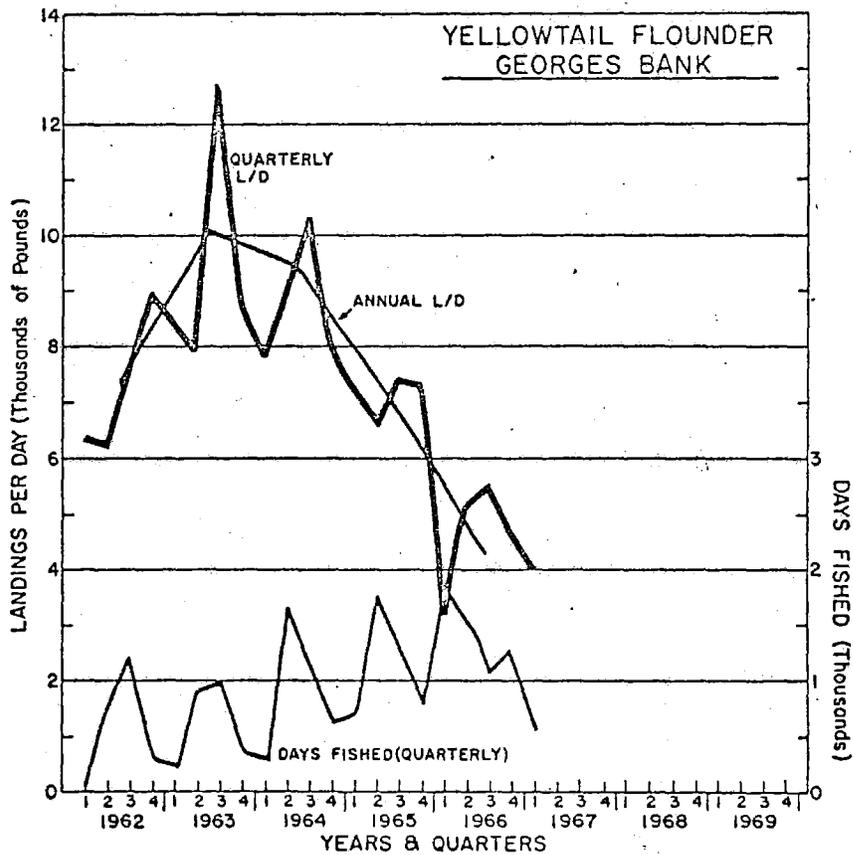


Figure 8. Quarterly landings per day at age of Georges Bank yellowtail.

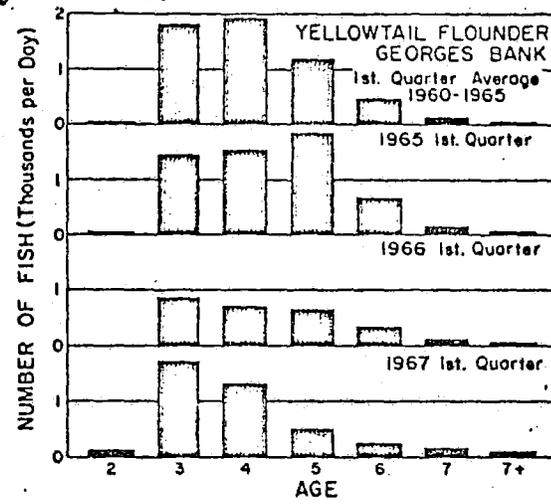
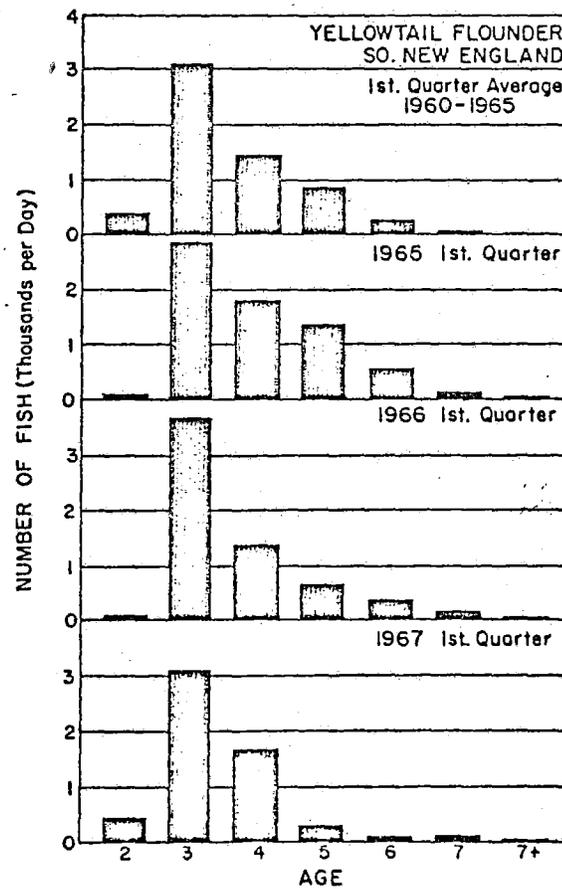


Figure 9. Quarterly landings per day at age of Southern New England yellowtail.



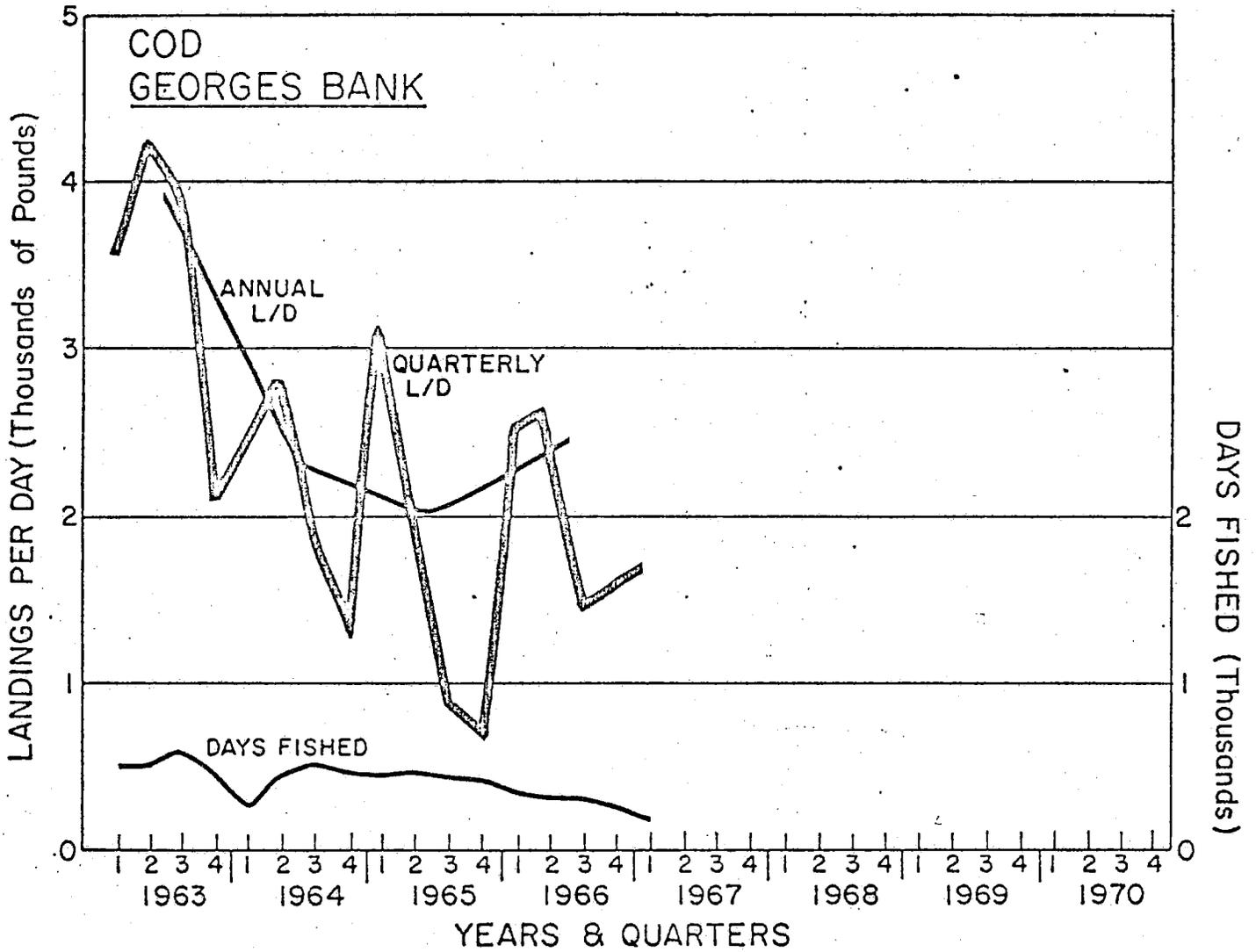
COD

Cod landings for the first quarter of 1967 are up slightly compared to the same period in 1966. Landings per day have decreased slightly (Table 3 and Fig. 10).

Table 3
Cod First Quarter Statistics
(landings in thousands of pounds)

Area	First Quarter			
	Landings		Landings/Day	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
Georges Bank	4,811	4,596	1.8	2.6

Figure 10. U.S. annual and quarterly landings per day of Georges Bank cod.



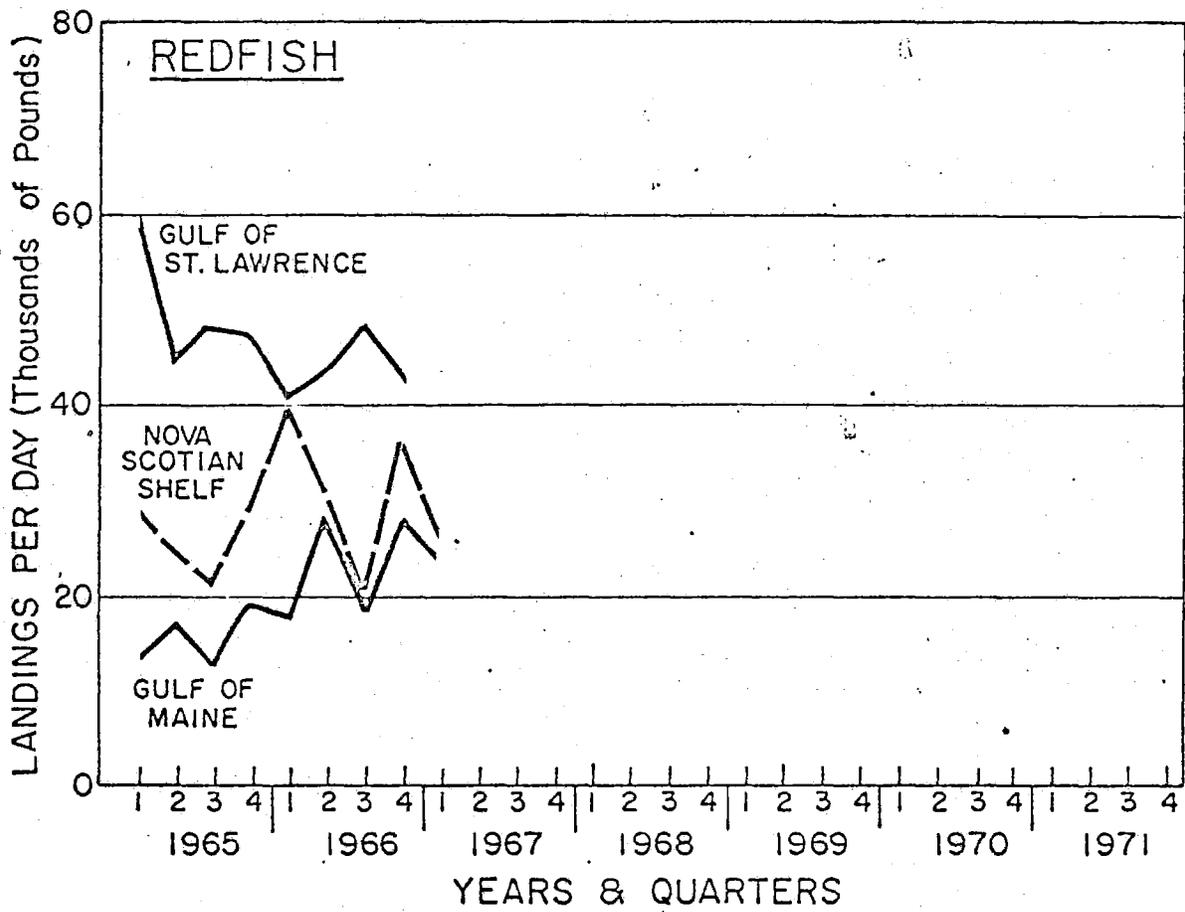
REDFISH

Total U.S. redfish landings (Table 4) in the first quarter showed a slight decrease compared to the same period last year. This decrease came because of lower landings from the Nova Scotian area. Gulf of Maine redfish abundance (Figure 11) showed an increase for the first quarter of 1967. Landings increased for the Gulf of Maine by about a million pounds in comparison to the first quarter of 1966. No reliable landings per day figures are available for the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery.

Table 4
Redfish First Quarter Statistics
(landings in thousands of pounds)

Areas	First Quarter			
	Landings		Landings/Day	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
Gulf of Maine	2,302	1,239	24.8	17.7
Nova Scotia	5,932	11,552	25.8	39.6
Gulf of St. Lawrence	-	32	-	40.1
Total	8,234	12,823	-	-

Figure 11. U.S. quarterly landings per day of redfish from all areas.



SEA SCALLOPS

Sea scallop landings for the first quarter of 1967 (Table 6) show about a fifty per cent drop compared to 1966. This decline came chiefly in the Middle Atlantic landings. Abundance decreased in both areas and especially the middle Atlantic grounds (Figures 12-13).

Table 6
Sea Scallop First Quarter Statistics
(landings in thousands of pounds)

Areas	First Quarter			
	Landings		Landings/Day	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
Georges Bank	318	61	1,378	2,013
Middle Atlantic	1,124	3,024	1,438	1,973
Total	1,442	3,085	-	-

Figure 12. U.S. quarterly landings and landings per day of sea scallops from the middle Atlantic.

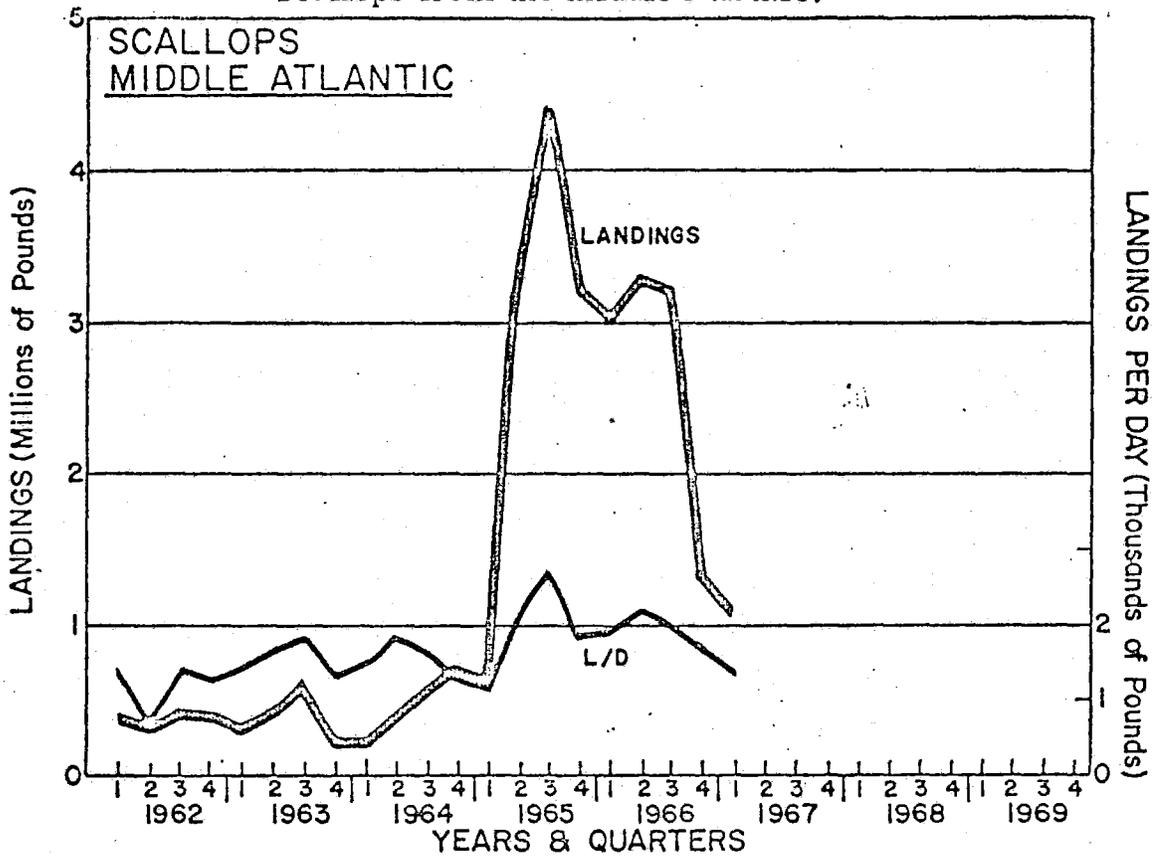
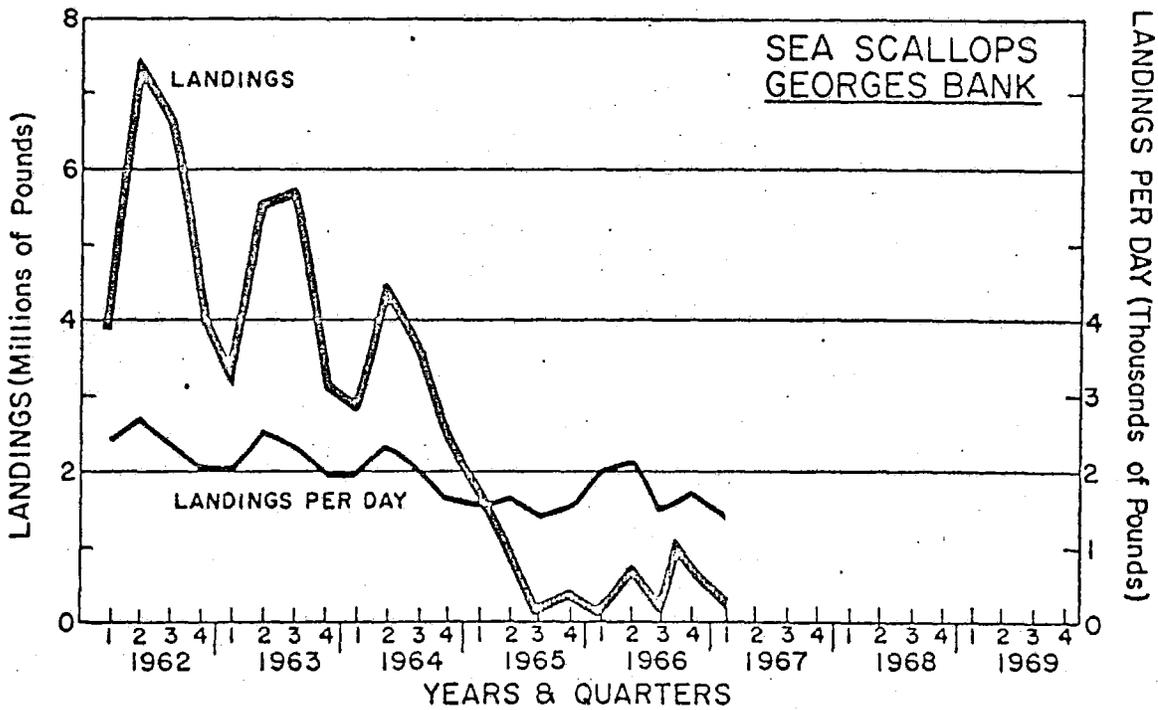


Figure 13. U.S. quarterly landings and landings per day of sea scallops from Georges Bank.



INDUSTRIAL FISHERY

Red and silver hake industrial landings were small, as expected, for the first quarter of 1967 (Table 5). The first quarter is always poor (Figure 14-15) for these two species. As the season progresses an increase in red and silver hake landings in the industrial fishery should occur. The first quarter industrial landings in 1967 were made up of predominantly eel pout. As silver and red hake become less and less abundant eel pout will gain importance to the industrial fishery.

Table 5
Industrial Red and Silver Hake
First Quarter Statistics
(landings in thousands of pounds)

Area - species	Landings		Landings/Day	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
So. New England				
Red hake	151	92	0.5	0.5
Silver hake	130	161	0.4	0.9
Total	281	253	0.9	1.4
Mid-Atlantic				
Red hake	-	82	-	0.2
Silver hake	-	135	-	0.2
Total	-	217	-	0.4
Total red hake	151	174	0.5	0.5
Total silver hake	130	296	0.4	0.9
Total Industrial	21,720	17,406	70.7	54.5

Figure 14. U.S. quarterly landings and catch per day of industrial red hake from Southern New England grounds.

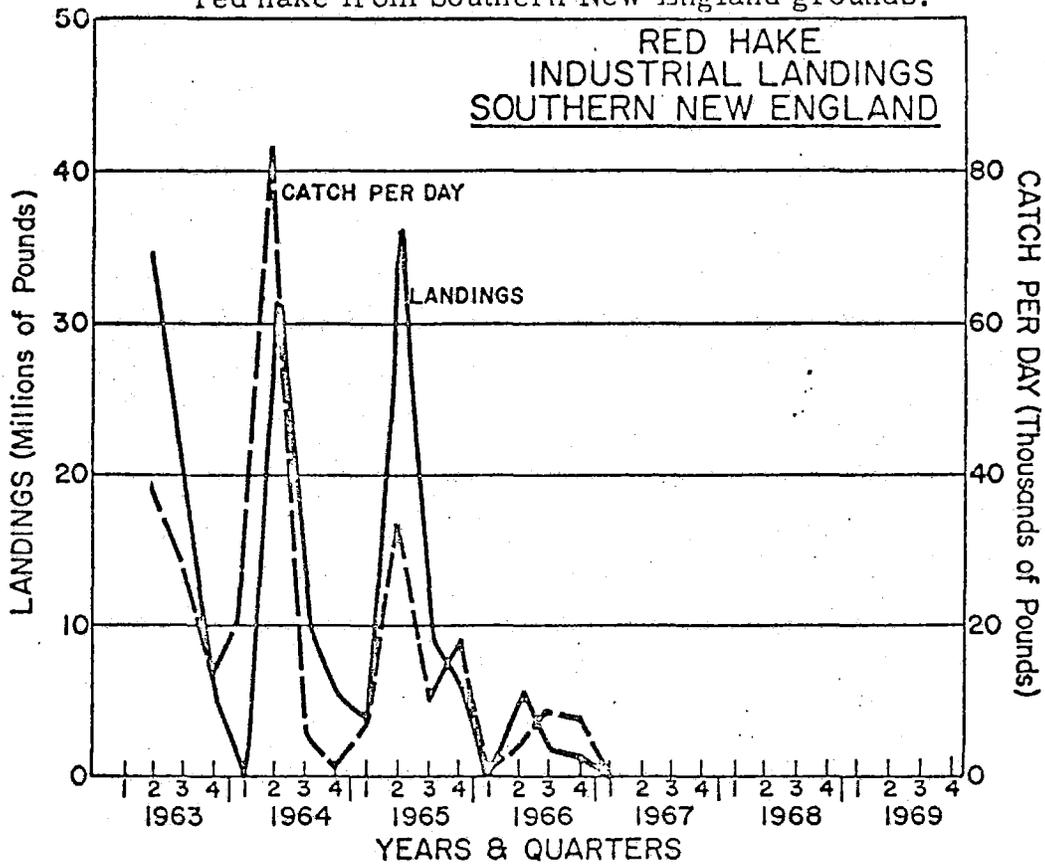
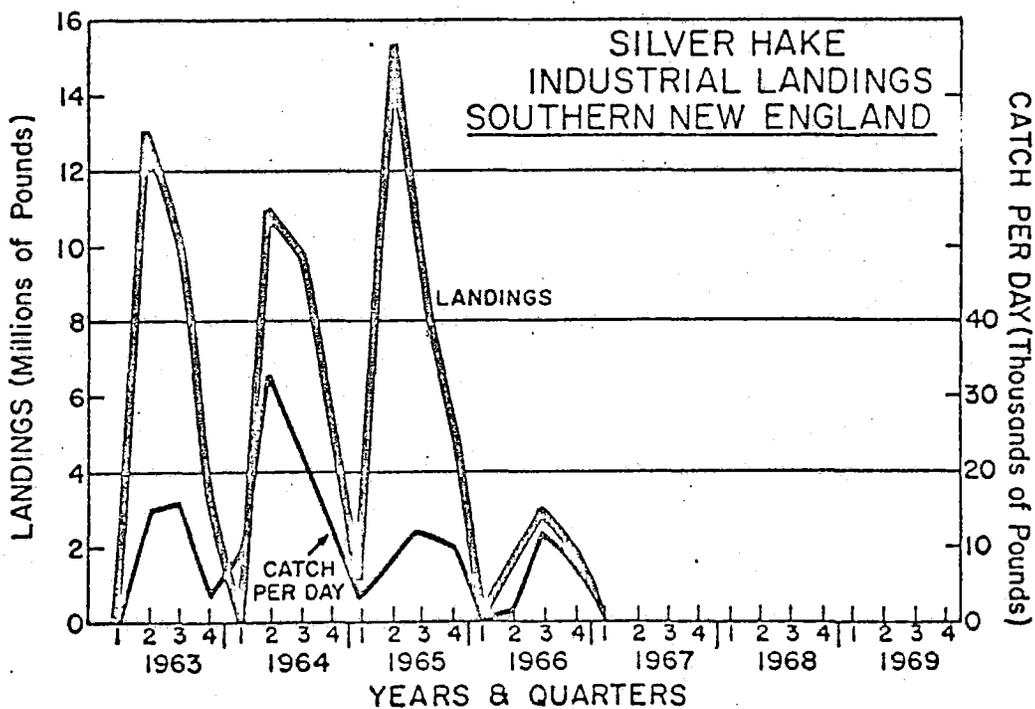


Figure 15. U.S. quarterly landings and catch per day of industrial silver hake from Southern New England grounds.



APPENDIX

Annual landings for all countries are generally not available until the June ICNAF meeting. At this time only preliminary figures are published. Table 6 contains 1966 preliminary landings and 1965 final landings for Subarea 4 (Nova Scotian shelf) and Subarea 5.

TABLE 6

PRELIMINARY FOREIGN AND U.S. LANDINGS FROM ICNAF
SUBAREAS 4 AND 5 (in millions of pounds, Round Weight)

SPECIES	SUB AREA	1966			1965		
		USSR	CANADA	U.S.	USSR	CANADA	U.S.
	4 <u>1/</u>						
Cod		24.2	137.2	2.2	20.7	104.3	2.0
Haddock		45.3	88.0	5.5	100.2	68.0	8.1
Redfish		30.7	22.3	36.8	3.4	5.2	28.1
Sil. Hake		8.5	-----	-----	110.2	-----	.1
Yellowtail		-----	8.0	-----	-----	11.7	-----
Red Hake		4.8	4.2	-----	17.0	4.5	-----
	5						
Cod		36.9	33.4	34.5	31.8	23.7	33.5
Haddock		106.7	42.1	125.6	180.5	33.2	125.7
Redfish		2.1	.9	15.9	2.1	.2	15.4
Sil. Hake		267.6	-----	89.8	620.4	-----	92.2
Yellowtail		-----	.2	68.4	-----	.5	82.0
Red Hake <u>2/</u>		182.7	-----	8.1	129.0	.1	29.7

1/ 4VWX Nova Scotian Shelf

2/ U.S. Industrial and Food