

*W.H.L.*

Wise?

Destruction of Undersized Haddock  
on Nova Scotian Banks by  
United States Vessels in 1952  
and  
Summary of 1953 Sea Sampling Trips

Woods Hole Laboratory  
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TABLE 1.--Dates and areas fished on the commercial sea sampling trips to the Nova Scotian Banks observed during 1952.

Trip number	Date	No. sets	Areas fished on Nova Scotian Banks
52-1	January 30 - February 7	36	Western Brown's
52-2	February 23 - March 2	40	Horseshoe
52-3	March 24 - 31	38	Eastern Brown's
52-4	March 28 - April 7	69	Sable Island
52-5	April 18 - 28	62	Sable Island
52-6	April 18 - 28	77	Sable Island
52-7	May 5 - 14	53	Sable Island
52-24	December 4 - 14	72	Horseshoe
		<u>447</u>	

121/12/2/53

TABLE 2.--Destruction of haddock (in thousands) on Nova Scotian Banks by the Boston fishing fleet, 1947-1952, as estimated by skippers.

Year	Month	Pounds			Numbers		
		Total catch	Discard	Percent discarded	Total catch	Discard	Percent discarded
1947	Jan.	1,343	81	6.0	537	81	15.1
	Feb.	15,647	92	0.6	6,259	92	1.5
	Mar.	6,833	161	2.4	2,733	161	5.9
	Apr.	4,614	118	2.6	1,846	118	6.4
	May	3,161	39	1.2	1,264	39	3.1
	June	2,859	80	2.8	1,144	80	7.0
	July	3,499	148	4.2	1,400	148	10.6
	Aug.	1,492	43	2.9	597	43	7.2
	Sept.	915	26	2.8	366	26	7.1
	Oct.	194	72	37.1	78	72	92.3
	Nov.	942	11	1.2	377	11	2.9
	Dec.	1,960	52	2.6	784	52	6.6
All months		29,461	923	3.1	17,385	923	5.3
1948	Jan.	3,118	32	1.0	1,247	32	2.6
	Feb.	5,019	47	0.9	2,008	47	2.3
	Mar.	8,344	69	0.8	3,338	69	2.1
	Apr.	4,066	24	0.6	1,626	24	1.5
	May	5,184	103	2.0	2,074	103	5.0
	June	4,470	118	2.6	1,788	118	6.6
	July	3,178	92	2.9	1,271	92	7.2
	Aug.	753	1	0.1	301	1	0.3
	Sept.	454	0	0.0	182	0	0.0
	Oct.	353	22	6.2	141	22	15.6
	Nov.	3,466	379	10.9	1,386	379	27.3
	Dec.	1,945	61	3.1	778	61	7.8
All months		38,350	948	2.5	16,140	948	5.9
1949	Jan.	1,615	38	2.4	646	38	5.9
	Feb.	1,146	1	0.1	458	1	0.2
	Mar.	2,525	52	2.1	1,010	52	5.1
	Apr.	8,037	335	4.2	3,215	335	10.4
	May	4,838	142	2.9	1,935	142	7.3
	June	1,287	39	3.0	515	39	7.6
	July	254	64	25.2	102	64	62.7
	Aug.	338	100	29.6	135	100	74.1
	Sept.	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
	Oct.	725	72	9.9	290	72	24.8
	Nov.	3,808	1,220	32.0	1,523	1,220	80.1
	Dec.	2,246	113	5.0	898	113	12.6
All months		26,820	2,175	8.1	10,728	2,175	20.3

Table 2 continued

Year	Month	Pounds			Numbers		
		Total catch	Discard	Percent discarded	Total catch	Discard	Percent discarded
1950	Jan.	2,584	517	20.0	1,034	517	50.0
	Feb.	4,671	64	1.4	1,868	64	3.4
	Mar.	8,166	93	1.1	3,266	93	2.8
	Apr.	7,438	268	3.6	2,975	268	9.0
	May	4,570	914	20.0	1,828	914	50.0
	June	5,717	1,613	28.2	2,287	1,613	70.5
	July	3,383	621	18.4	1,353	621	45.9
	Aug.	3,868	770	19.9	1,547	770	49.8
	Sept.	3,117	394	12.6	1,247	394	31.6
	Oct.	3,061	117	3.8	1,224	117	9.6
	Nov.	2,614	66	2.5	1,046	66	6.3
	Dec.	1,272	42	3.3	509	42	8.2
All months		50,461	5,479	10.8	20,184	5,479	27.1
1951	Jan.	873	5	0.6	349	5	1.4
	Feb.	1,131	2	0.2	452	2	0.4
	Mar.	4,820	7	0.1	1,928	7	0.4
	Apr.	11,625	63	0.5	4,650	63	1.4
	May	5,364	73	1.4	2,146	73	3.4
	June	3,689	96	2.6	1,476	96	6.5
	July	3,105	240	7.7	1,242	240	19.3
	Aug.	863	22	2.5	345	22	6.4
	Sept.	95	0	0.0	38	0	0.0
	Oct.	411	0	0.0	164	0	0.0
	Nov.	477	4	0.8	191	4	2.1
	Dec.	734	0	0.0	294	0	0.0
All months		33,187	512	1.5	13,275	512	3.8
1952	Jan.	2,607	11	0.4	1,043	11	1.0
	Feb.	7,604	16	0.2	3,042	16	0.5
	Mar.	10,946	168	1.5	4,378	168	3.8
	Apr.	12,657	220	1.7	5,063	220	4.3
	May	4,075	238	5.8	1,630	238	14.6
	June	3,386	53	1.6	1,354	53	3.9
	July	1,807	7	0.4	723	7	1.0
	Aug.	1,120	13	1.2	448	13	2.9
	Sept.	1,245	140	11.2	498	140	28.1
	Oct.	560	0	0.0	224	0	0.0
	Nov.	896	15	1.7	358	15	4.2
	Dec.	1,426	40	2.8	570	40	7.0
All months		48,329	921	1.9	19,331	921	4.8

TABLE 3.--Discards on each of the commercial sea sampling trips to the Nova Scotian Banks observed in 1952.

Trip Number	Pounds			Numbers		
	Caught	Discarded	Percent discarded	Caught	Discarded	Percent discarded
52-1	59,271	1,521	2.6	21,250	1,546	7.3
52-2	76,146	306	0.4	23,361	343	1.5
52-3	192,090	1,790	0.9	64,884	1,935	3.0
52-4	107,115	2,115	2.0	41,388	1,837	4.4
52-5	98,467	10,217	10.4	42,438	8,420	19.8
52-6	172,995	8,785	5.1	80,774	8,014	9.9
52-7	75,158	2,408	3.2	34,399	2,283	6.6
52-24	81,380	3,380	4.2	33,579	3,792	11.3
Average trip	107,825	3,815	3.5	42,762	3,523	8.2

TABLE 4.--Average weight (in pounds) of haddock on commercial sea sampling trips to the Nova Scotian Banks observed in 1952.

Trip number	Average weight per fish caught	Average weight per fish discarded	Average weight per fish landed
52-1	2.79	0.98	2.93
52-2	3.26	0.89	3.29
52-3	2.96	0.92	3.02
52-4	2.59	1.15	2.65
52-5	2.32	1.21	2.59
52-6	2.14	1.10	2.26
52-7	2.18	1.05	2.26
52-24	2.42	0.89	2.62
Average trip	2.83	1.08	2.65

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In Charge, North Atlantic Haddock Investigation

February 20, 1952

Predicted haddock catch

I realize that you have been anxious, throughout the year, about how closely the actual landings of haddock were approximating that which we predicted last March.

Throughout the year we have made three-month, six-month preliminary evaluations, but now that the 1951 haddock year is over, it is possible to evaluate the complete year, which is more appropriate.

This evaluation is preliminary as the final figures of 1951 landings will not be available for some time, and thus for the last few months of 1951 (haddock year, not calendar, including January 1952) preliminary estimates of landings for major ports only are used as a basis of evaluation. Such comparisons are made for like quantities of 1950, however, so should be very close to reality.

The records on effort for 1951 show a 9 percent increase in days fished over 1950. With an increased effort of this amount, the prediction was that landings would increase from the 1950 level of 79.8 million pounds to 92.7 million pounds. Our best figures on 1951 landings show that actually 90.2 million pounds were landed, an error of only 2.5 million pounds, or 2.7 percent.

Or we might say the landings came to 97.3 percent of the predicted.

I am greatly pleased with this order of accuracy, of course, and believe that you will be also.

We are busy now trying to get the computations finished for the 1952 prediction. I figure them to come out in Atlantic Fisherman, Commercial Fisheries Review, or similar publications.

The report on the development of the method logically should be a Fishery Bulletin with you as senior author, me as junior, but I can see no possibility of even getting to work on it in the near future. Could you find time to work it over?

As to the authorship of the popular note on the 1952 prediction, do you have any feelings on that? I have a vague feeling that some might consider that protracted use of the method, as opposed to development of the method, should be the business of those who are at present engaged in the area and the work, but I have not talked with anyone about it.

Sorry I haven't given you the results of the prediction sooner, but have been very busy.

Best regards to Mary and the boys.

Howard A. Schuck

Through: Dr. Graham

HAS:vr