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Scientific publications by ICNAF and NAFO have been in existence since ICNAF began in 1949 with the *ICNAF Special Publication Series* dealing with Proceedings of scientific symposia. The *ICNAF Research Bulletin* was started in 1964 to provide a means of publishing results of scientific research relevant to the Commission. The *ICNAF Research Bulletin* was terminated in September 1979 after the issue of Number 14.

The first volume of the NAFO Journal was published in December 1980, after NAFO came into force in 1979. This volume contains a series of miscellaneous papers concerning Northwest Atlantic fisheries, fishery research and management.

The Northwest Atlantic fisheries have a rich history, and a great deal of research has been sponsored and encouraged by NAFO, and its predecessor ICNAF, and indeed has been a leader in international organizations in the application of science to fishery management and in the regulation of fisheries. In accordance with its mandate to disseminate information on fisheries research to the scientific community, the Scientific Council of NAFO publishes the *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science*, which contains peer-reviewed primary papers and notes on original research, and *NAFO Scientific Council Studies*, which contains review papers of topical interest.

Editorial Policy

The Journal provides an international forum for the primary publication of original research papers on fisheries science in the Northwest Atlantic, with emphasis on environmental, biological, ecological and fishery aspects of the living marine resources and ecosystems. While the Journal is intended to be regional in scope, papers of general applicability, and methodological and review papers, irrespective of region, are considered. Space is available for notes and letters to the editor to facilitate scientific discussion of published papers. All papers are peer-reviewed to determine their suitability for primary publication. Associate Editors arrange for the peer-reviews and ensure that the papers accepted for publication meet the high standards required for the Journal. Manuscripts approved for publication are accepted with the understanding that they are not copyrighted, published or submitted elsewhere except in abstract form. There are no page charges.

April 1996

T. Amaratunga
Assistant Executive Secretary

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