

Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science



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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 ICNAF. The ICNAF Research Bulletin was terminated in September 1979 after the issue of Number 14. The first volume of the NAFO *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science* was published in December 1980, after NAFO came into force replacing ICNAF in 1979.

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. NAFO 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 *NAFO Scientific Council Studies*, which contains unrefereed papers of topical interest and importance to the Scientific Council. Lists of these and other NAFO publications are given on the back of this issue.

Editorial Policy

The Journal provides an international forum for the primary publication of original research papers, with emphasis on environmental, biological, economic and social science aspects of fisheries and their interactions with marine habitats 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. Both practical and theoretical papers are eligible. 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.

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Foreword

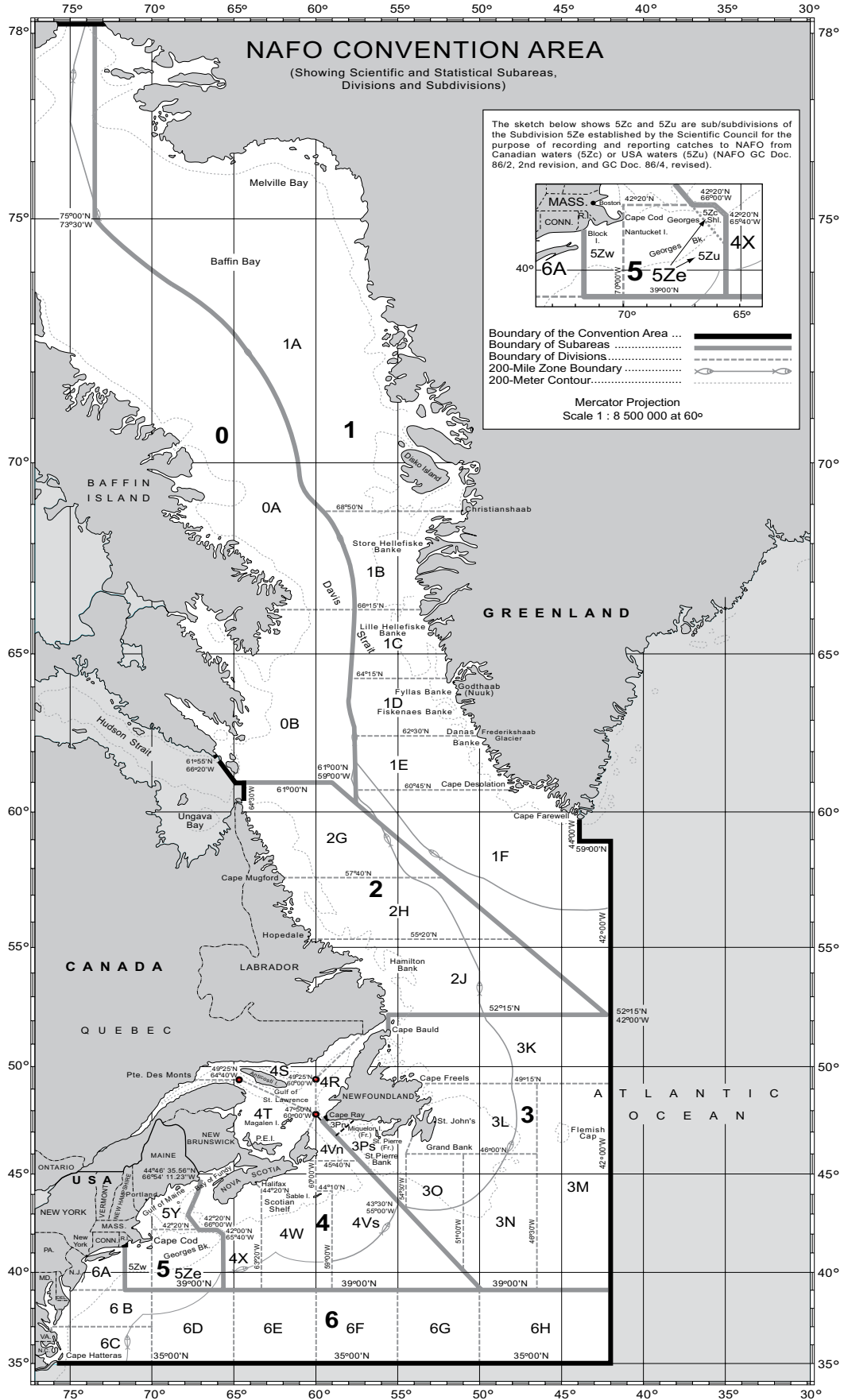
The Scientific Council of NAFO publishes the *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science*, which contains peer-reviewed primary papers on original research. In 2005, Scientific Council took steps necessary to modernize the Journal's publication medium and introduced a more appropriate copyright notice. Articles are now published electronically and all are freely available at <http://journal.nafo.int>. The bound print volumes are treated as a compilation of the web-based articles. Additionally, the journal supports the use of the digital object identifiers (doi) for electronic media and encourages others to support the doi initiative.

This issue contains a diversity of papers covering topics from technical measures in a squid fishery to distribution and movements through mark-recapture experiments to three papers on Greenland halibut. These papers give insight into various studies of interest to fish biologists and fisheries assessment experts alike. Some familiar problems are re-visited, like the aging difficulties with Greenland halibut, and some more extensive datasets have been made openly available and published like the Rockall haddock for all to reference.

I hope you enjoy reading this short but informative issue of *JNAFS*.

December 2009

Anthony Thompson
General Editor,
Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science



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