Not to be cited without permission of the authors ${ }^{1}$

Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee

CAFSAC Research Document 87/57

Ne pas citer sans autorisation des auteurs ${ }^{1}$

Comité scientifique consultatif des pêches canadiennes dans l'Atlantique

CSCPCA Document de recherche $87 / 57$

Analysis of the Snow Crab (Chionoecetes opilio) Fishery in Newfoundland for 1986
by
D. M. Taylor and P. G. 0'Keefe Science Branch
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
P. O. Box 5667

St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1

1 This series documents the scientific basis for fisheries management advice in Atlantic Canada. As such, it addresses the issues of the day in the time frames required and the Research Documents it contains are not intended as definitive statements on the subjects addressed but rather as progress reports on ongoing investigations.

Research Documents are produced in the official language in which they are provided to the Secretariat by the author.

1 Cette série documente les bases scientifiques des conseils de gestion des pêches sur la côte atlantique du Canada. Comme telle, elle couvre les problèmes actuels selon les échéanciers voulus et les Documents de recherche qu'elle contient ne doivent pas être considérés comme des énoncés finals sur les sujets traités mais plutôt comme des rapports d'étape sur les études en cours.

Les Documents de recherche sont publiés dans la langue officielle utilisée par les auteurs dans le manuscrit envoyé au secrētariat.

## Abstract

Population size estimates for snow crab (Chionoecetes opilio) off the east coast of Newfoundland are presented for the 1986 fishing season. Within given crab management areas estimates of population size ranged from 640 t to 2133 t and exploitation rates from 56 to $59 \%$. Comparison of size frequency/shell conditions for 1985-86 in three management areas is also presented.

## Rēsumé

Les estimations des tailles de populations de crabes des neiges (Chionoecetes opilio) au large de la côte est de Terre-Neuve sont prēsentēes pour la saison de pềche de 1986. Selon les diverses zones de gestion du crabe, les estimations de la taille des populations variaient de 640 t à 2133 t , et les taux d'exploitation, de 56 à $59 \%$. La comparaison de la frëquence des tailles et de l'ētat des carapaces dans trois zones de gestion est aussi prēsentēe pour 1985 et 1986.

## Introduction

The Newfoundland snow crab (Chionoecetes opilio) fishery began in 1968 at Hant's Harbour, Trinity Bay. Development of this fishery proceeded at a moderate pace until the late 1970's when increased demand, processing capacity and harvesting capacity caused landings to increase yearly at a rapid pace until 1982. Since then the fishery in the Southern Zone has been in a state of collapse due to a combination of overexploitation, indicated by declining catch rates (Tables 1 and 2), and a failure of recruitment mechanisms within the snow crab population.

While the snow crab fishery began to decline in the Southern Zone, the fishery in the Northern Zone began to expand. Although this expansion was rapid in 1982, it proved to be brief and ended in 1985. At present, the Newfoundland snow crab fishery is in a state of crisis. While stocks were declining or collapsed, a total of 97 supplementary licenses were issued in the Northern Zone in 1985. The new licensees were not issued logbooks and therefore effort data on where and how many traps were hauled in each management area were not available for analysis. A further blow to the stability of the fishery occurred during the latter part of the 1985 season when enforcement of the regulation prohibiting the sale of soft-shelled crabs was relaxed. In 1986 this regulation was dropped altogether.

While it was hoped that conditions in 1986 would improve, the reverse has happened particularly in the Northern Zone. An additional 49 supplementary licenses were issued in this zone and to complicate assessment of the resource most fishermen, including those with full-time status, did not receive logbooks until the fishery had closed.

As a result of all these factors, we feel that with several exceptions, producing reliable biomass estimates for the various snow crab management areas is impossible. The best that can be accomplished is a consideration of the catch/effort trends and available size-frequency data as a means of assessing the general "health" of the stocks in various management areas.

In 1986 Resource Management Branch imposed quotas on all management zones. These quotas were loosely based on 1985 landings, but in areas where exploitation rates were excessive, quotas were set below 1985 landing levels (Table 6). While the quotas were overfished in several areas, this management initiative must be viewed as a positive step. It should also be noted that mid-season quota increases in Trinity Bay (Area 22) and for 3 L excluding Bonavista, Trinity, and Conception bays were only permitted after available catch/effort data had been reviewed.

## Materials and Methods

Catch/effort data from fishermen's logbooks were analyzed and data for each management area compared to processors' sales slips in order to check their veracity. From these data biweekly catch/effort tables were constructed in order to determine whether Leslie analyses were feasible. These tables are summarized for each management area and catch per unit effort (CPUE) plotted against cumulative catch and presented in Figures 2-18.

In addition to an examination of catch/effort data, several research cruises were conducted using standard crab traps fished at randomly selected locations on the commercial fishing grounds in the Southern Zone. Catches were analyzed and size frequency/shell condition histograms for various management areas (Fig. 1) were drawn. These histograms have been compared to those based on 1984 data and presented in Figures 19 (Area 16), 20 (Area 18), and 21 (Area 25). A comparative summary of the performance of the crab fleet by zone is given in Table 4.

## Results and Discussion

As previously mentioned the fishery in the Southern Zone has virtually collapsed. In all offshore areas except Areas 10 and 12, CPUE has become so low that it is uneconomical for fishermen to prosecute the fishery (Table 1). Extremely low effort levels, the restriction of this effort to near shore areas and landing of soft-shelled crabs made Leslie analysis impractical for all areas except southwest Avalon.

In Bonavista and Conception bays, the dropping of soft-shell regulations resulted in artificially high CPUEs during the latter half of the season, and made standard Leslie analysis impossible.

Effort levels in Conception Bay (Area 16) were extremely low, although slightly higher than in 1985. Although processors accepted soft-shelled crabs for most of the fishing season, landings were so sporadic and small that a plant sample could not be obtained in order to determine the percentage of soft-shelled landings. Therefore catch/effort data for Conception Bay are not suitable for Leslie analysis.

Only three other areas in the Southern Zone experienced significant effort and landings; Areas 8,10 , and 12. While Area 8 showed a significant decrease in landings, effort and X CPUE, Areas 10 and 12 showed an increase. This apparent increase in abundance is probably due to a large pulse of late-season recruitment. Spring port sampling of crabs from Area 10 showed a large percentage of newly hardened animals in the landings.

## Recruitment

The abundance of soft-shelled animals on the fishing grounds in many areas of the Southern Zone (Areas 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 22, and 25) indicate that yearly recruitment continues to occur. It is apparent however, that current recruitment levels are not sufficient to sustain viable catch rates. It is now patently obvious that effort in Areas $8,16,22$, and 25 should be reduced in an attempt to stabilize the fishery. It has been demonstrated in previous assessments where Leslie analyses have been possible that exploitation rates have been excessive for several years and in the
short term at least, this overexploitation has rendered the fishery non-viable in many areas.

## Water Temperature

Water temperatures on the commercial crab fishing grounds of Area 18 warmed considerably in 1986. A research cruise conducted during June of 1986 discovered large numbers of soft-shelled and newly hardened crabs, indicating that growth and recruitment had taken place during the winter and spring of that year (Fig. 20). However, the low catch rates that persisted in this area during 1986 indicate that this recruitment pulse was not sufficient to allow a significant recovery of the fishery.

Size-frequency/Shell Condition Distributions
Comparative size frequency/shell condition histograms for 1985 and 1986 indicate that while Conception Bay remains unchanged from 1985 (Fig. 19), Area 18 (Fig. 20) demonstrates a slight increase in animals just recruited into the fishery. However, in Bonavista Bay (Area 25, Fig. 21) there is a significant decrease in both the proportion of soft-shelled animals available and in the proportion of animals $\geq 95 \mathrm{~mm}$ carapace width (CW). The 1985 cruise was conducted after the fishing season had closed so comparison with plant samples is not possible. However, the scarcity of soft-shelled animals is quite probably due to the fact that since the regulation prohibiting the retention of soft-shelled crabs had been dropped, any newly molted crabs were simply retained by fishermen and sold to less than discriminating buyers.

## Reproductive Capacity

Research cruises were again conducted in three areas (16, 18 and 25) during 1986. Samples of females were collected using small meshed traps and examined macroscopically both internally and externally in order to determine reproductive status. Results of those examinations are summarized and presented in Table 5.

While the percentage of berried females has remained at the $100 \%$ level, one curious development raises concern about the reproductive health of the stock. For the first time berried females have been found to have no spermatophores in their spermathecae (examined macroscopically only). Without exception these females are primiparous. Whether these females have produced nonviable eggs because of a failure to mate successfully or have used all the spermataphores available to fertilize the egg clutch is unclear. However, one primiparous female with no observable spermataphores in the spermathecae was carrying eyed eggs. Additional field work on this phenomenon is planned for 1987. In addition, a number of egg-bearing primiparous females collected in Conception Bay during the November cruise are being held in the laboratory and development of their egg clutches is being monitored.

## Northern Zone

CPUE declined in all areas of the Northern Zone except Area 40 (Table 2). Fishermen's logbooks indicated that all areas experienced large catches of soft shelled animals during the summer months. While it appears that recruitment mechanisms are
operating normally, it is becoming evident that yearly growth and recruitment are not sufficient to maintain catch rates in the face of such heavy fishing pressure.

Biomass estimates based on Leslie analyses of catch effort data extracted from all available logbooks indicate that fishable biomass in Areas 28, 30 and 32 (Fig. 11, 12, and 13 , respectively) has declined dramatically and current exploitation rates are excessive.

Port sampling conducted in July and October indicates that the reduced availability may be tempting fishermen to land sub-legal animals. In October every fisherman sampled had in excess of $5 \%$ undersized in his catch while one fisherman landed a box of crab that was $95 \%$ undersized.

Area 40 is the one bright spot in 3 K . The grounds are fairly extensive and highly productive. Without the contribution from this area the situation in the Northern Zone would be much bleaker.

Supplementary Fishery
During 1986 an additional 49 vessels participated in the Northern Zone crab fishery bringing the total number of licenses to 146 . Of the overall $4,000 \mathrm{t}$ quota for the Northern Zone, supplementary vessels were allotted 1,000 t. Supplementary fishermen requested and were granted a split season with roughly half the quota allocated to a May fishery while the other half was set aside for the month of September.

In 3Ps the number of supplementary vessels was slightly reduced from 64 in 1985 to 62 in 1986. In this area, catches were similar to 1985, exceeding the quota by $51 . t$ (Table 3). Here too, the quota of 600 t was split into a spring/fall fishery.

There was no supplementary crab fishery in inshore Labrador during 1986. This was probably due in part to an excellent 1986 cod fishery and the fact that fishermen were disappointed with inshore crab catches in 1985.

Labrador
A total of 6 vessels, 5 from the Southern Zone and one from Labrador, began to prosecute this fishery in July of 1986. However, low catch rates supposedly caused by "dirty water" forced them to abandon the fishery until early August.

While catch rates throughout the renewed fishing season remained good (Table 2, Fig. 18) bad weather shortened the fishing season significantly. As a result the quota allocated by Resource Management Branch was not caught.

Port sampling conducted during September indicated that there were significant numbers of recently hardened animals, suggesting that recruitment mechanisms are in good health.

Summary
With the exception of the southwestern portion of the Avalon Peninsula in the Southern Zone, the crab fishery remains in a depressed state. However, the presence of many recently molted pre-recruits points to a potential revival of the crab fishery.

In the Northern Zone, with the exception of Area 40 and Labrador, the fishery is in a state of near collapse. Management should give serious consideration to reducing quotas in this zone in an attempt to stabilize the fishery.

References
Taylor, D. M., and P. G. 0'Keefe. 1986. Analysis of the snow crab (Chionoecetes opilio), fishery in Newfoundland for 1985. CAFSAC Res. Doc. 86/57.

Table 1. Summary of statistics for the Newfoundland Snow Crab fishery, 1979-86.

| Area | Year | Effort (trap hauls) | Landings (mt) | CPUE kg/trap haul) | Estimat (confid | ed biomass (mt) nce limits) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Exploitation } \\ & \text { rate (\%) } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | 1979 | 1,260 | 8 | 6.7 |  | - | - |
|  | 1980 |  | - |  |  | - |  |
|  | 1981 | 11,150 | 168 | 15.0 |  | - |  |
|  | 1982 | 48,350 | 506 | 10.5 | 551 | (500-646) | 92 |
|  | 1983 | 37,780 | 274 | 7.3 | 341 | (306-409) | 80 |
|  | 1984 | 35,400 | 264 | 7.5 |  | (306 | - |
|  | 1985 | 23,300 | 164 | 7.1 |  | - |  |
|  | 1986 | 19,570 | 102 | 4.8 |  | - | - |
| 10 | 1983 | 3,080 | 43 | 13.9 |  | - | - |
|  | 1984 | 18,700 | 175 | 9.4 |  | - |  |
|  | 1985 | 44,890 | 385 | 8.6 |  | - |  |
|  | 1986 | 91,608 | 930 | 10.2 |  | - | - |
| 12 | 1980 | 13,825 | 292 | 21.1 | 377 | (311-728) | 78 |
|  | 1981 | 45,455 | 854 | 18.9 | 1291 | (1114-1639) | 66 |
|  | 1982 | 49,975 | 732 | 14.7 |  | (938-1017) | 75 |
|  | 1983 | 99,280 | 955 | 9.6 | 1045 | (948-1316) | 91 |
|  | 1984 | 135,883 | 1068 | 7.9 |  | - | - |
|  | 1985 | 86,937 | 627 | 7.2 |  | - 1752 2965) |  |
|  | 1986 | 116,919 | 1267 | 10.8 | 2133 | (1752-2965) | 59 |
| 13 | 1982 | 7,295 | 114 | 15.6 |  | - | - |
|  | 1983 | 61,089 | 733 | 12.0 |  | - |  |
|  | 1984 | 41,080 | 397 | 9.7 | 592 | (501-790) | 67 |
|  | 1985 | , | - | - |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | - | - | - |  | - | - |
| 14 | 1979 |  | 762 | 20.1 | 1095 | (891-1681) | 70 |
|  | 1980 | 5,860 | 121 | 20.6 |  | - (506-1043) | 71 |
|  | 1981 | 27,113 | 434 | 16.0 | 614 | (506-1043) | 71 |
|  | 1982 | 32,320 | 465 | 14.4 |  |  |  |
|  | 1983 | 23,165 | 190 93 | 8.2 5.4 | 209 119 | $(181-260)$ $(96-275)$ | 91 79 |
|  | 1985 | 12,710 | 64 | 5.4 5.0 |  | (96-275) | 79 |
|  | 1986 | 4,690 | 47 | 10.0 |  | - | - |
| 15 | 1981 | 18,128 | 404 | 22.3 |  | - 1465 3024) | $5 \overline{-}$ |
|  | 1982 | 66,949 | 1056 | 15.8 | 1861 | (1465-3024) | 56 |
|  | 1983 | 1,320 | 138 | 10.5 |  | 位 | - |
|  | 1984 |  | - | 5 |  | - |  |
|  | 1985 | 1,140 | 6 | 5.7 |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | - | - | - |  | - | - |
| 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 34 |
|  | 1980 | 56,393 | 869 | 15.4 | 1571 | (1214-2890) | 55 |
|  | 1981 | 43,546 | 502 | 11.2 | 689 | (619-747) | 73 |
|  | 1982 | 60,753 | 694 | 11.4 | 1073 | (951-1255) | 65 |
|  | 1983 | 64,175 52,330 | 564 333 | 8.8 |  | (951-1255) | - |
|  | 1985 | 52,330 | 139 | 6.4 5.3 |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | 32,620 | 193 | 5.9 |  | - | - |

Table 1. (Cont'd.)

| Area | $\begin{gathered} \text { Effort } \\ \text { Year (trap hauls) } \end{gathered}$ |  | Landings (mt) | CPUE <br> kg/trap | haul) | Estim (conf | ated biomass (mt) idence limits) | Exploitation rate (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | 1979 | 398,939 | 6870 | 17.2 |  | 14359 | (11,778-19,792) | 44 |
|  | 1980 | 236,417 | 4944 | 20.9 |  | 14166 | (9348-59867) | 46 |
|  | 1981 | 413,815 | 6769 | 16.4 |  | 11289 | (910-17067) | 60 |
|  | 1982 | 153,238 | 1847 | 12.1 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1983 | 71,905 | 473 | 6.7 |  |  | - | 70 |
|  | 1984 | 38,690 | 219 | 5.7 |  | 310 | (265-402) | 70 |
|  | 1985 | 10,580 | 43 | 4.0 |  |  |  | - |
|  | 1986 | 22,086 | 97 | 4.4 |  |  | - | - |
| 19 | 1981 | 65,978 | 1840 | 28.0 |  |  | - ${ }^{-120221}$ |  |
|  | 1982 | 218,356 | 4194 | 19.2 |  | 7744 | (5983-12022) | 54 |
|  | 1983 | 150,432 | 1662 | 11.0 |  | 2016 | (1684-2739) | 82 |
|  | 1984 | 47,845 | 431 | 9.0 |  |  | (504-811) | 73 |
|  | 1985 | 5,955 | 31 | 5.2 |  |  | ( | - |
|  | 1986 | , | - | - |  |  | - | - |
| 20 | 1979 | 4,165 | 67 | 16.0 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1980 | 4,550 | 59 | 12.9 |  |  | - |  |
|  | 1981 | 14,970 | 110 | 7.4 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1982 | 10,535 | 65 | 6.1 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1983 | 12,120 | 72 | 6.0 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1984 | 2,180 | 17 | 6.9 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1985 | 4,980 | 19 | 3.8 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | 3,420 | 18 | 5.1 |  |  | - | - |
| 22 | 1979 | 56,887 | 569 | 9.9 |  | 1467 | (1011-3233) | 39 |
|  | 1980 | 58,160 | 494 | 8.5 |  |  | (788-1103) | 54 |
|  | 1981 | 24,782 | 178 | 7.2 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1982 | 13,755 | 95 | 6.9 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1983 | 20,065 | 107 | 5.3 |  |  |  | 78 |
|  | 1984 | 38,240 | 202 | 5.3 |  |  | (213-366) | 78 |
|  | 1985 | 27,560 | 113 | 4.1 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1986 | 30,725 | 165 | 2.9 |  |  | - | - |
| 25* | 1979 | 173,305 | 1586 | 9.2 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1980 | 191,754 | 1905 | 9.9 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1981 | 171,685 | 1376 | 8.0 |  |  | - | - |
|  | 1982 | 96,330 | 905 | 9.4 |  | 1391 | (1054-2445) | 65 |
|  | 1983 | 205,353 | 11101 | 5.4 5.3 |  | 1834 | (1434-2914) | 61 93 |
|  | 1985 | 251,720 | 728 | 2.9 |  |  | (909-1018) | 76 |
|  | 1986 | 127,648 | 626 | 4.6 |  |  |  | - |

1 In areas indicated by an asterisk ( $*$ ), logbook data are incomplete. Therefore effort figures are incomplete. Mean CPUE is based on catches where effort is given in logbooks.

Table 2, Summary of statistics for the Newfoundland Snow Crab fishery (Northern Zone - all vessels ${ }^{1}$ ), 1979-86.

| Area | Effort <br> Year (trap hauls) | Landings (mt) | CPUE <br> $\mathrm{kg} /$ trap haul) | Estimated biomass (mt) (confidence limits) | Exploitation rate (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| 28* | 1983 | 28,169 | 387 | 13.7 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1984 | 43,583 | 444 | 10.2 | 583 | (498-779) | 76 |
|  | 1985 | 52,615 | 433 | 8.2 |  |  | - |
|  | 1986 | 40,997 | 360 | 4.7 |  | (463-1304) | 56 |
| 30* | 1983 | 163,138 | 1470 | 9.0 |  | (1876 3765 ) | - |
|  | 1984 | 120,628 | 1019 | 8.4 | 2426 | (1876-3765) | 42 |
|  | 1985 | 88,661 | 630 | 7.1 |  | (777-1236) | 5 |
|  | 1986 | 34,666 | 535 | 6.0 | 902 | (747-1236) | 59 |
| 32* | 1979 | 46,183 | 491 | 10.6 | 882 | (76-1077) | 56 |
|  | 1980 | 33,261 | 374 | 9.9 | 787 | (583-1229) | 43 |
|  | 1981 | 54,416 | 650 | 11.9 | 1845 | (1193-6615) | 35 |
|  | 1982 | 130,305 | 1352 | 10.4 | 2213 | (1605-4284) | 42 |
|  | 1983 | 88,288 | 537 | 6.1 | 1097 | (845-1874) | 49 |
|  | 1984 | 76,491 | 502 | 6.6 | 1037 | (821-1526) | 48 |
|  | 1985 | 81,139 | 476 | 5.9 | 808 | (691-1022) | 59 |
|  | 1986 | 77,412 | 938 | 3.8 |  | - | - |
| 34* | 1979 | 11,830 | 141 | 11.9 |  | - | - |
|  | 1980 | 7,330 | 96 | 14.3 | 106 | (74-273) | 91 |
|  | 1981 | 19,250 | 322 | 16.7 | 604 | (502-792) | 53 |
|  | 1982 | 51,347 | 735 | 14.3 |  | (839-7423) | 68 |
|  | 1983 | 105,756 | 1210 | 11.5 | 2023 | (1632-3023) | 60 |
|  | 1984 | 173,038 | 1576 | 9.1 | 3092 | (2354-5457) | 51 |
|  | 1985 | 81,655 | 478 | 5.9 | 757 | (665-908) | 63 |
|  | 1986 | 113,132 | 654 | 3.9 |  | - | - |
| 36* | 1979 |  | 156 | 7.3 |  |  | 41 |
|  | 1980 | 17,864 | 158 | 8.8 |  | (218-412) | 57 |
|  | 1981 | 19,840 | 230 | 11.6 | 504 | (403-710) | 46 |
|  | 1982 | 32,917 | 418 | 12.7 |  | (1099-4692) | 36 |
|  | 1983 | 68,497 | 583 | 8.5 | 1619 | (1099-4692) | 36 |
|  | 1984 | 79,401 | 524 | 6.6 |  | (533-1114) | 56 |
|  | 1985 1986 | 84,153 108,300 | 386 453 | 4.6 3.3 | 685 | (533-1114) | 56 |
| 38* | 1983 | 66,123 | 681 | 10.3 |  | - | - |
|  | 1984 | 102,102 | 948 | 9.3 |  | - | - |
|  | 1985 | 96,796 | 472 | 4.9 |  | (575-1099) | 66 |
|  | 1986 | 49,924 | 246 | 2.7 | 375 | (300-574) | - |
| 40* | 1984 | 11,035 | 67 | 6.1 |  | - | - |
|  | 1985 | 40,420 | 225 | 5.6 |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | 95,408 | 772 | 7.1 |  | - | - |
| 41 | 1985 | 20,419 | 311 | 15.2 |  | - | - |
|  | 1986 | 39,695 | 467 | 11.8 |  | - | - |

1 In areas indicated by an asterisk (*), logbook data are incomplete. Therefore effort figures are incomplete. Mean CPUE is based on catches where effort is given in logbooks.

Table 3. Landings of snow crab by supplementary crab licensed vessels.

| Area | Vessels | Landings $(t)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3K | 146 | 1411 |
| 3Ps | 62 | 651 |
|  |  | 2062 |
| TOTAL |  |  |

Table 4. Summary of performance of Newfoundland snow crab fishery, 1979-86.

| Year | Southern Zone |  |  | Nor thern Zone |  |  | Total Newfoundl and |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Catch } \\ & (t) \end{aligned}$ | ( '000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Effort } \\ & \text { trap hauls) } \end{aligned}$ | Catch <br> ( t ) | ('000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Effort } \\ & \text { trap hauls) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Catch } \\ & (t) \end{aligned}$ | ('000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Effort } \\ & \text { trap hauls) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 1979 | 9,426 |  | 666 | 788 |  | 79 | 10,214 |  | 745 |
| 1980 | 8,190 |  | 527 | 628 |  | 58 | 8,818 |  | 585 |
| 1981 | 12,636 |  | 808 | 1,202 |  | 94 | 13,838 |  | 902 |
| 1982 | 10,673 |  | 762 | 2,505 |  | 215 | 13,178 |  | 977 |
| 1983 | 9,182 |  | 745 | 4,868 |  | 520 | 14,050 |  | 1,265 |
| 1984 | 4,526 |  | 679 | 5,080 |  | 606 | 9,606 |  | 1,285 |
| 1985 | 2,673 |  | 496 | 4,274 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  | 546 | 6,947 ${ }^{\text {C }}$ |  | 1,042 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ |
| 1986 | 3,406 |  | $449{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 4,425 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  | $560{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 7,831 |  | 1,009 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ |

${ }^{\mathrm{a}}$ Includes Labrador and supplementary landings
$b_{\text {Figures }}$ are minimal as incomplete logbook returns made calculations incomplete.
${ }^{\text {C }}$ Does not include 3Ps supplementary landings

Table 5. Summary of reproductive status of female snow crab, Chionoecetes opilio, in three management areas in Newfoundland, 1984-86.

| Area | Year | Month | \# in sample | \% berried females | Spermataphore type |  |  | \% None |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | \% 01d | \% New | \% Both |  |
| 16 | 1984 | October | 57 | 99 | 14 | - | 86 | 0 |
|  | 1985 | November | 45 | 98 | 7 | 40 | 53 | 0 |
|  | 1986 | November | 72 | 100 | 28 | 26 | 28 | 18 |
| 18 | 1984 | May | 37 | 100 | 97 | - | 3 | 0 |
|  | 1985 | June | 55 | 89 | 42 | 4 | 55 | 0 |
|  | 1986 | June | 60 | 98 | 70 | 7 | 3 | 20 |
| 25 | 1984 | August | 131 | 99 | 22 | 1 | 77 | 0 |
|  | 1985 | August | 106 | 100 | 8 | 22 | 70 | 0 |
|  | 1986 | August | 83 | 100 | 35 | 25 | 8 | 31 |

Table 6. Summary of Canadian Atlantic Quota Report for the Newfoundland Snow ${ }^{1}$ Crab Fishery, December 31, 1986.

| Management zone | Quota allocated ( $t$ ) | Reported landings ( t ) | Amount over/under quota (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labrador | 925 | 515 | under 410 (44) |
| Nor thern Zone (full time) | 3000 | 2702 | under 298 (10) |
| Northern Zone (suppl.) | 1000 | 1447 | over 447 (45) |
| Bonavista Bay | 500 | 588 | over 88 (18) |
| Trinity Bay | 200 | 208 | over 8 (4) |
| Conception Bay | 200 | 198 | under 2 (1) |
| Southern Zone (excluding bays) | 2400 | 2329 | under 71 (3) |
| 3Ps (suppl.) | 600 | 616 | over 16 (3) |

1 Figures presented for Bonavista Bay are those of the authors. Other figures are taken directly from the quota report.


Fig. 1. Newfoundland snow crab management areas.

FIG. 2. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM ST. MARY'S BAY (AREA 8) 1986.


FIG. 3. BIWEEXLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM CAPE RACE (AREA 10) 1986.


FIG. 4. LESLIE GRAPH OF bIWEEKLY Catches of SNOW CRAB from southeastern
AVALON (AREA 12) 1986 .

: FIG. 5. bIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM EASTERN AVALON (area 14) 1986.


FIG. 6. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM CONCEPTION BAY (AREA 16) 1986.


PIG. 7. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM NORTHEASTERN AVALON (AREA 18) 1986.


FIG. 8. BIWEEKIY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM INNER TRINITY BAY (AREA 20) 1986.


FIG. 9. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM OUTER TRINITY BAY (AREA 22) 1986.


FIG. 10. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM BONAVISTA BAY (AREA 25) 1986.

fig. 11. LeSLIE GRAph of biweekly catches of snow crab from fogo (area 28)


FIG. 12. LESLIE GRAPH OF BIWEEKLY CATCHES OF SNOW CRAB FROM TWILLINGATE (AREA 30) 1986.


- EIG. 13. biwerkly catch/effort data from notre dame bay (area 32) 1986.


FIG. 14. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM HORSE ISLANDS (AREA 34) 1986.


FIG. 15. BIWEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM WHITE BAY (AREA 36) 1986.


FIG. 16. LESLIE GRAPH OF bIWEEKly Catches of snow Crab from canada bay


FIG. 17. BHNEEKLY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM GREY ISLANDS (AREA 40) 1986.


FIG. 18. BIWEEKIY CATCH/EFFORT DATA FROM LABRADOR (AREA 41) 1986.


FIG. 19.
SNOW CRAB SIZE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION CONCEPTION BAY SEA SAMPLE NOV 1985-MALES VESSEL-SHAMOOK TRIP=123 GEAR=1


SNOW CRAB SIZE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION
CONCEPTION BAY RESEARCH SAMPLE NOV-8G MALES
VESSEL=SHAMOOK GEAR 10
PERCENTAGE


CARAPACE WIDTH (MM)
SHELL
$\square 1$ $\square$

FIG. 20.


> SNOW CRAB SIZE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION N E AVALON AT SEA SAMPLE JUNE $1986-M A L E S$ VESSEL=SHAMOOK TRIP $=126$ GEAA $=1$

$\square$

FIG. 21. SNOW CRAB SIZE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION
BONAVISTA BAY RESEARCH SAMPLE AUG-85 MALES VESSEL=MARINUS GEAR=1


SNOW CRAB SIZE FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION bONAVISTA BAY at sea sample aug. 1986-males VESSEL=MARINUS TRIP $=89$ GEAR $=1$


CARAPACE WIDTH (MM)
SHELL
$\square 1$ $\square$ a

