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**1999 Summer Groundfish Survey update for  
selected Scotia-Fundy groundfish stocks.**

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<sup>1</sup> La présente série documente les bases scientifiques des évaluations des ressources halieutiques du Canada. Elle traite des problèmes courants selon les échéanciers dictés. Les documents qu'elle contient ne doivent pas être considérés comme des énoncés définitifs sur les sujets traités, mais plutôt comme des rapports d'étape sur les études en cours.

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### **Abstract**

A synopsis of the results of the 1999 summer bottom trawl survey on the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy is provided. Survey trends for each stock from 1970 to present are shown as a series of histograms and expanding symbol maps. This information is used in assessment meetings as a key source of information on trends for selected groundfish stocks.

### **Résumé**

Un résumé des résultats du relevé au chalut de fond qui a été effectué pendant l'été de 1999 dans les eaux du plateau néo-écossais et de la baie de Fundy est présenté. Les tendances pour chaque stock dans les relevés de 1970 jusqu'à aujourd'hui sont présentées sous forme d'une série d'histogrammes et de cartes de distribution. Ces résultats sont utilisés lors de réunions d'évaluation comme principale source d'information sur les tendances des stocks de poisson de fond sélectionnés.



## Introduction

The annual groundfish bottom trawl survey was conducted on the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy as planned from 5 July to 31 July 1999. The results of this survey were compiled for selected stocks to provide clients with a preliminary view of biomass, abundance, size composition, and distribution as determined by the survey. The groundfish stocks covered by the report and the lead scientific investigator are listed in Table 1. The distribution of sampling effort compared with the past three years is shown in Figures 1 to 4. Resource trends for each stock are shown in Figures 5 to 112.

More comprehensive interpretations of stock status are contained in stock assessment documents prepared annually for the stocks described here. Such reports contain information on commercial fishery catch rates and other survey results when available. Therefore, the abundance trends reported here, based on the survey information only, are not directly comparable to those provided in recent assessments.

## Survey Description

The 30th annual Scotian Shelf groundfish survey was conducted from the research vessel *CSS Alfred Needler* out of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, N.S., on two trips N925 (5-17 July 1999) and N929 (19 July - 31 July 1999). Two hundred and two fishing stations, from the Upper Bay of Fundy to the northern tip of Cape Breton and offshore to the 400 fathom contour, were completed.

Samples were obtained with a Western IIA bottom trawl towed for 30 minutes at a speed of 3.5 knots. The trawl has a 106 foot roller-rigged footrope and 2000 pound Portuguese doors. The codend is lined with 3/4 inch mesh to retain small fish. All finfish caught were sampled for length and weight and some species were sampled additionally for otoliths to determine age, for evidence of sexual maturity and for stomach contents. Vertical profiles of temperature, salinity, nutrients and oxygen were observed at all fishing stations.

Table 1. Name of the stock, figure list, as well as name, telephone number and email address of the lead investigator for each groundfish stock observed on 1999 summer bottom trawl survey.

| Stock               | Figures | Investigator | Telephone     | E-mail                         |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 4Vn Cod             | 5 - 8   | Mohn         | (902)426-4592 | MohnB@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca        |
| 4VsW Cod            | 9 - 12  | Fanning      | (902)426-3190 | FanningP@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca     |
| 4X Cod              | 13 - 16 | Clark        | (506)529-8854 | ClarkD@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VW Haddock         | 17 - 20 | Frank        | (902)426-3498 | FrankK@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4X Haddock          | 21 - 24 | Hurley       | (902)426-3520 | HurleyP@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4VWX Pollock        | 25 - 28 | Neilson      | (506)529-8854 | NeilsonJ@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca     |
| Unit 3 Redfish      | 29 - 32 | Branton      | (902)426-3537 | BrantonB@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca     |
| 4VW Plaice          | 33 - 36 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VW Yellowtail      | 37 - 40 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VW Witch           | 41 - 44 | McRuer       | (902)426-3585 | McRuer@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VW Winter Flounder | 45 - 48 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4X Plaice           | 49 - 52 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4X Yellowtail       | 53 - 58 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4X Witch            | 57 - 60 | McRuer       | (902)426-3585 | McruerJ@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4X Winter Flounder  | 61 - 64 | Stobo        | (902)426-3316 | StoboW@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VWX Halibut        | 65 - 68 | Zwanenburg   | (902)426-3310 | ZwanenburgK@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca  |
| 4VWX Silver Hake    | 69 - 72 | Showell      | (902)426-3501 | ShowellM@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca     |
| 4VsW Winter Skate   | 73 - 76 | Simon        | (902)426-4136 | SimonJ@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VWX Monkfish       | 77 - 80 | Beanlands    | (902)426-3515 | BeanlandsD@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca   |
| 4VW White Hake      | 81 - 84 | Fowler       | (902)426-3529 | FowlerM@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4X White Hake       | 85 - 88 | Fowler       | (902)426-3529 | FowlerM@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4VWX Wolffish       | 89-92   | Zwanenburg   | (902)426-3310 | ZwanenburgK@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca  |
| 4VWX Cusk           | 93-96   | Comeau       | (902)426-4136 | ComeauP@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4VW Lumpfish        | 97-100  | Wilson       | (902)426-3318 | WilsonS@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4X Lumpfish         | 101-104 | Wilson       | (902)426-3318 | WilsonS@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca      |
| 4VW Turbot          | 105-108 | Frank        | (902)426-3498 | FrankK@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca       |
| 4VWX Spiny Dogfish  | 109-112 | Hurlbut      | (506)851-6216 | HurlbutT@mar.dfo.dfo-mpo.gc.ca |

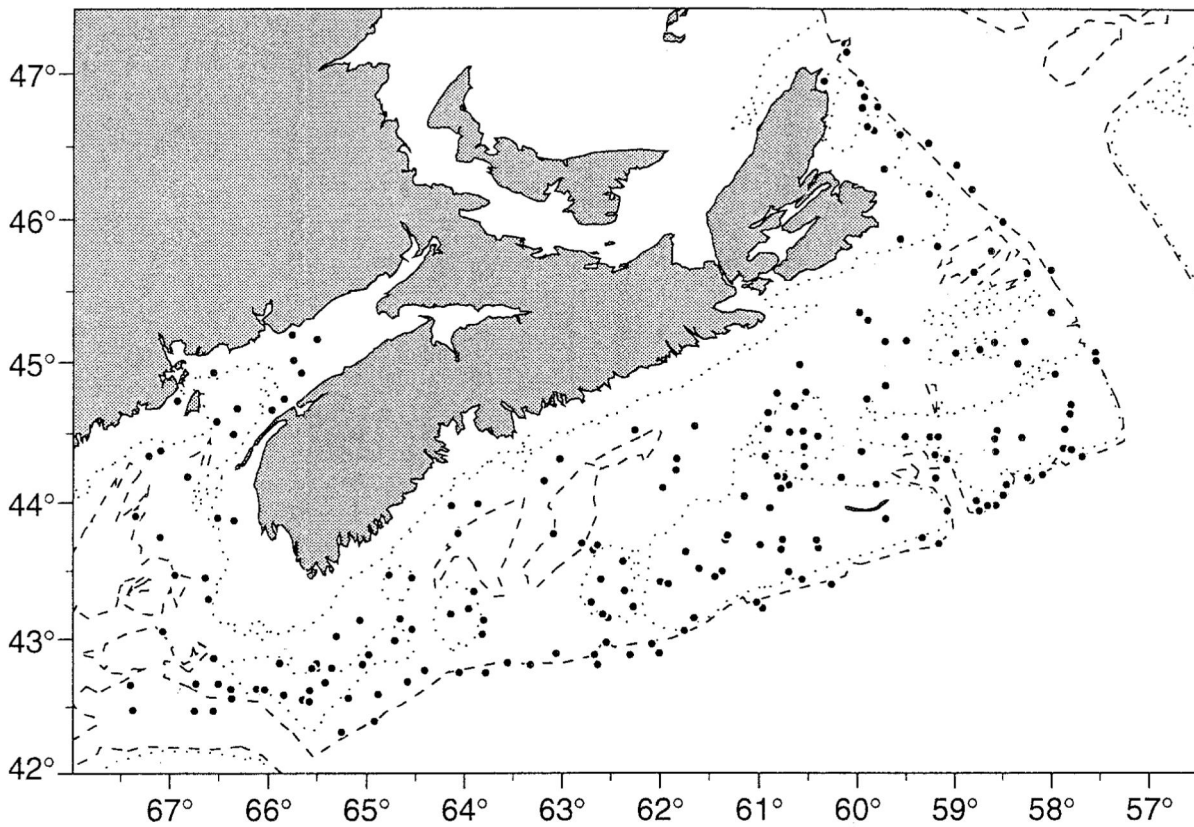


Fig 1. Summer Groundfish Survey Positions 1996

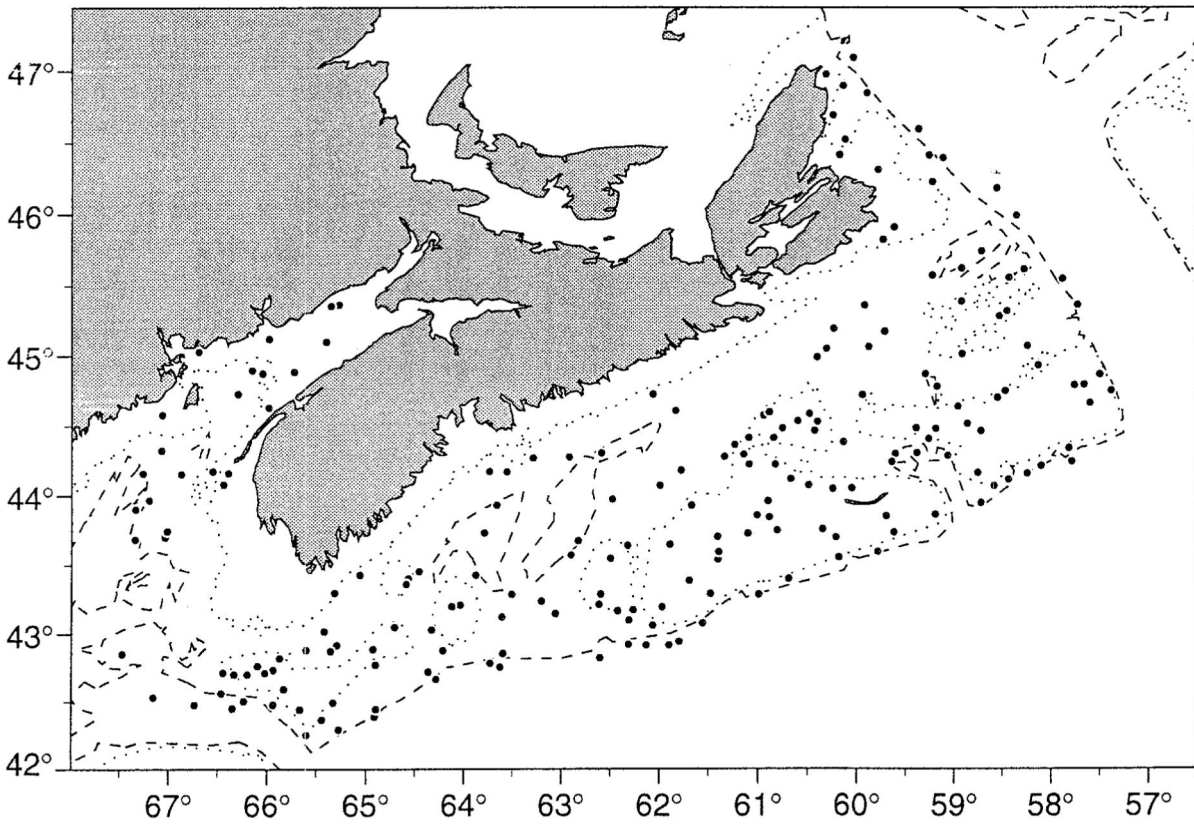


Fig. 2. Summer Groundfish Survey Positions 1997

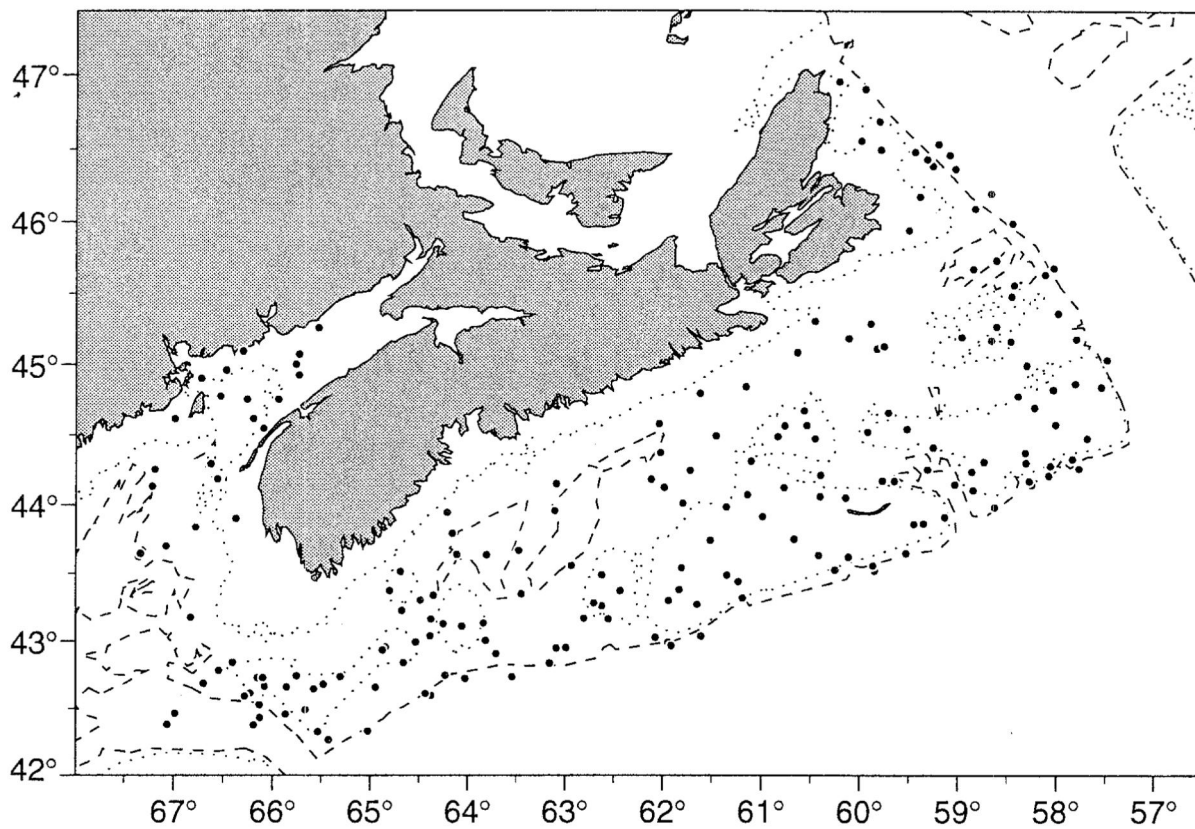


Fig. 3. Summer Groundfish Survey Positions 1998

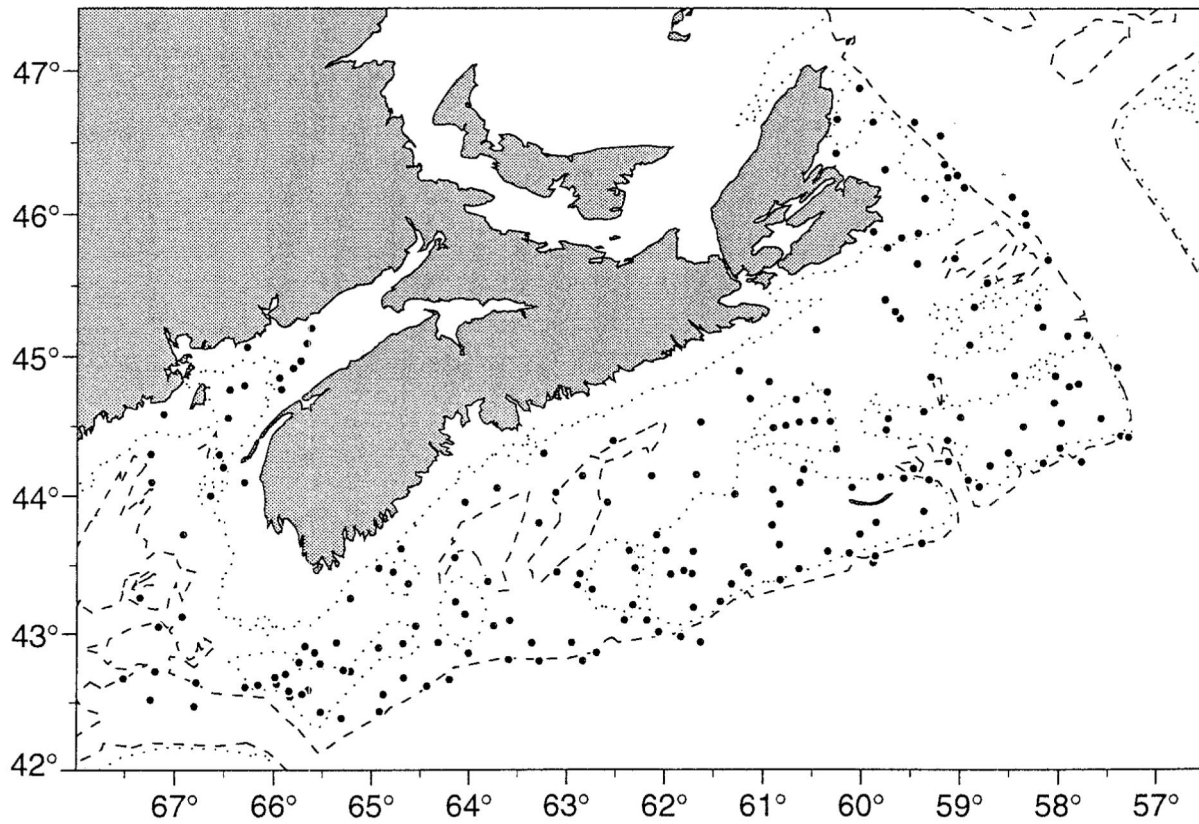


Fig. 4. Summer Groundfish Survey Positions 1999

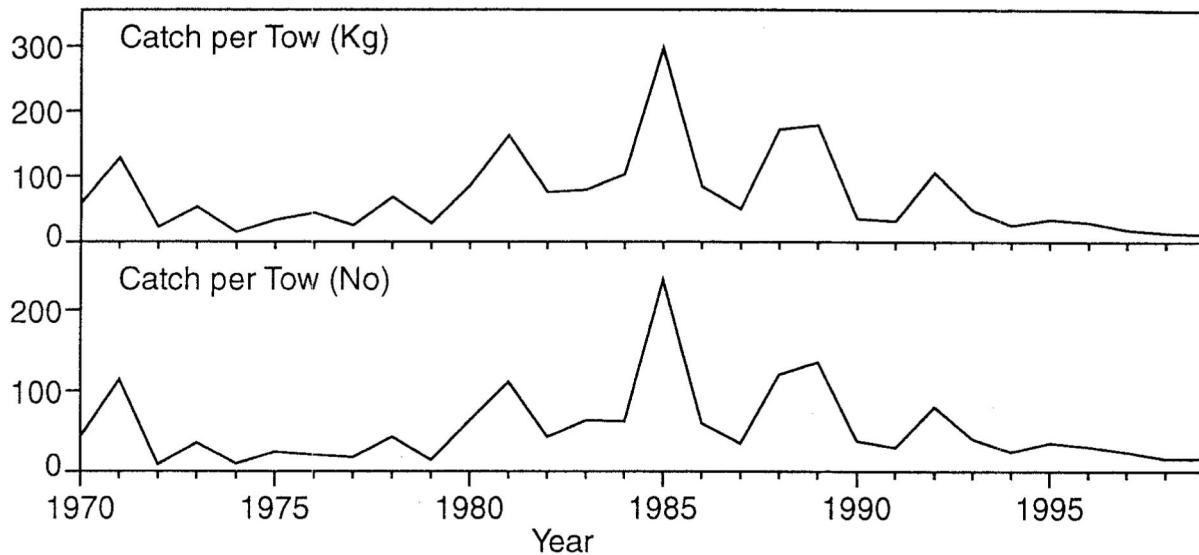


Fig. 5. 4Vn Cod stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

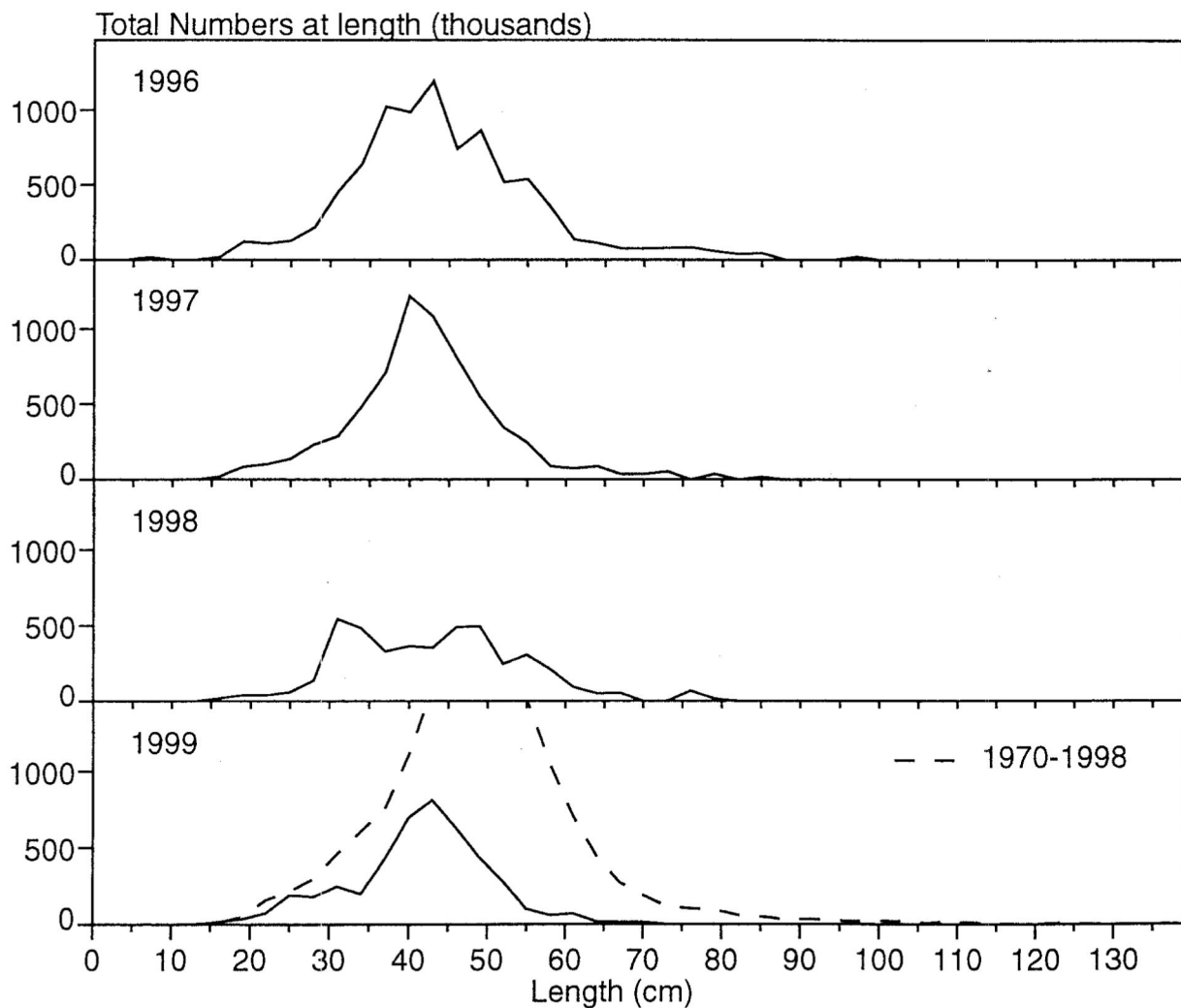


Fig. 6. 4Vn Cod length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

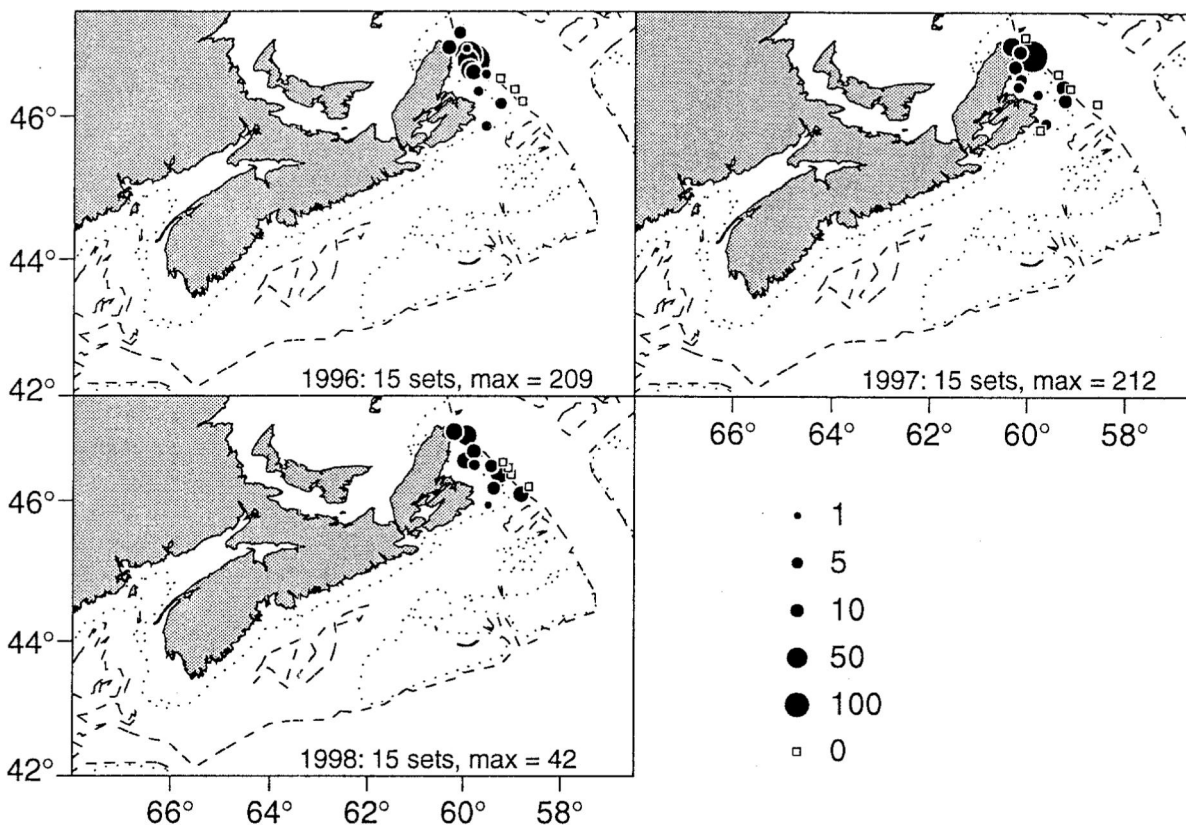


Fig. 7. 4Vn Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

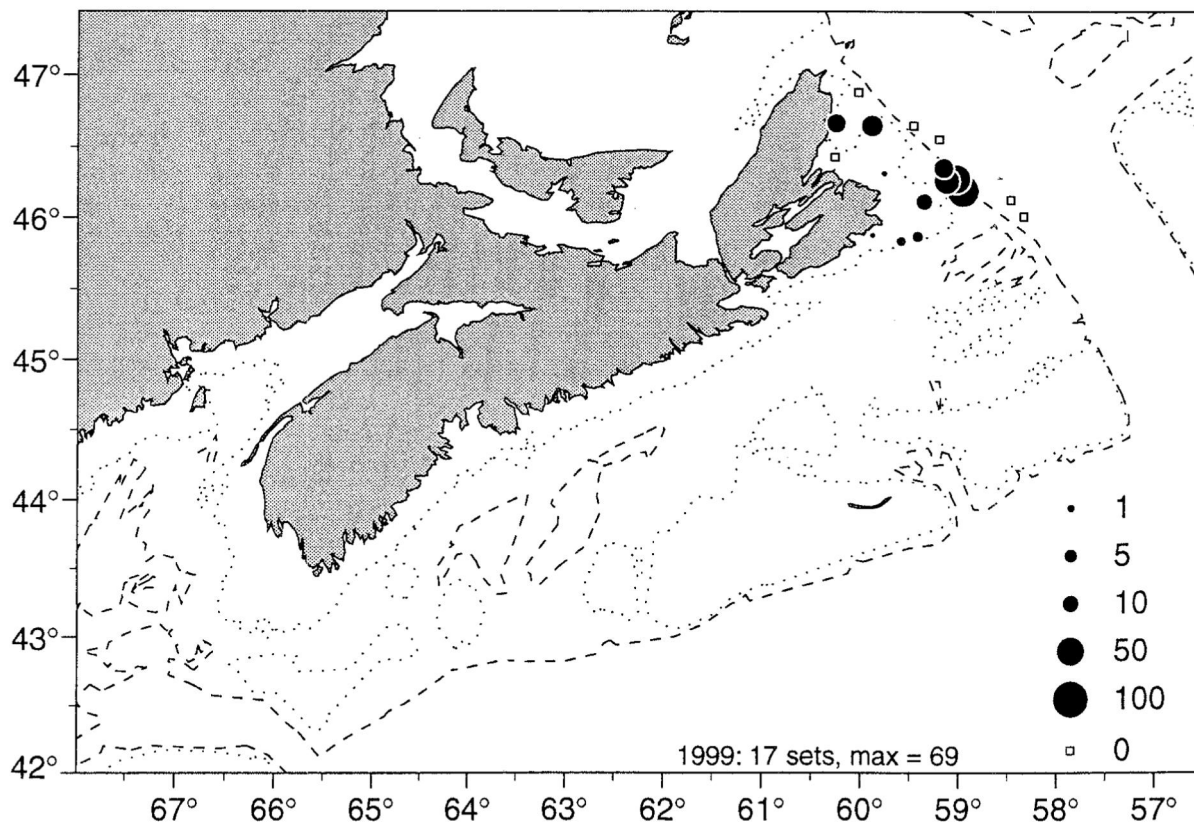


Fig. 8. 4Vn Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

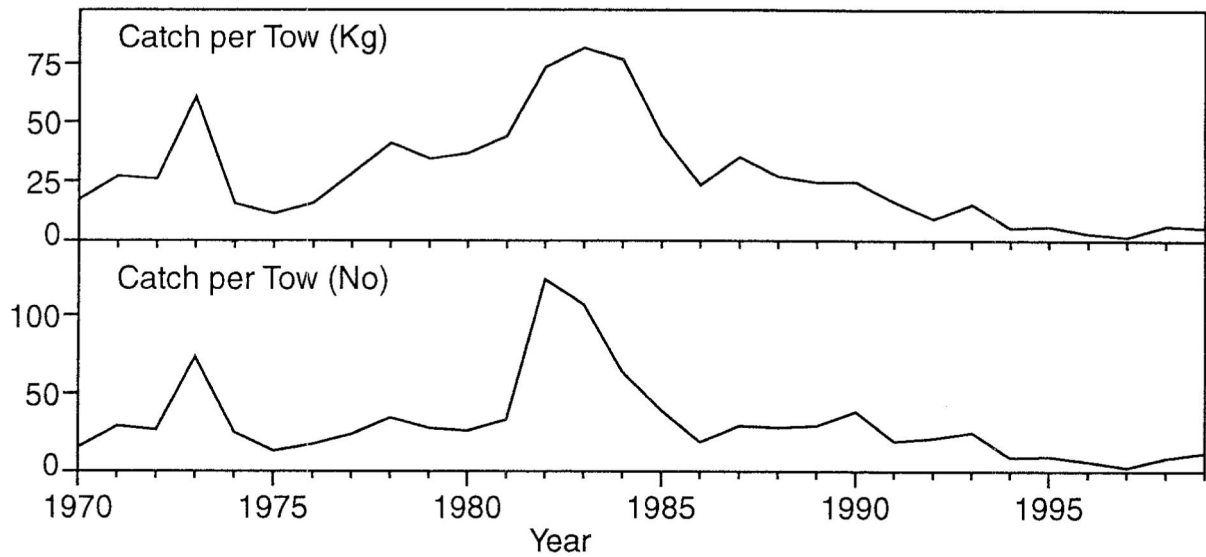


Fig. 9. 4VsW Cod stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

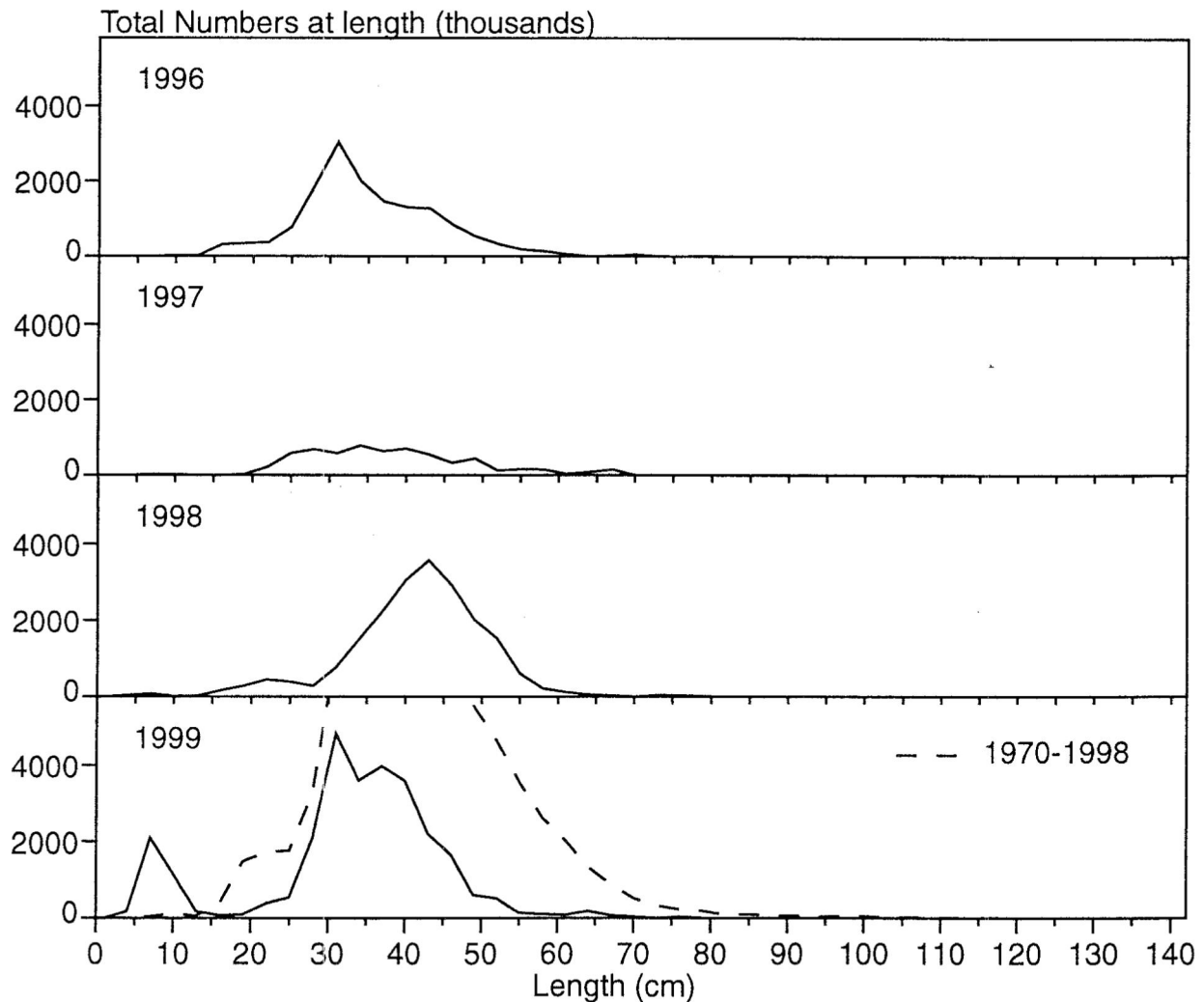


Fig. 10. 4VsW Cod length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.



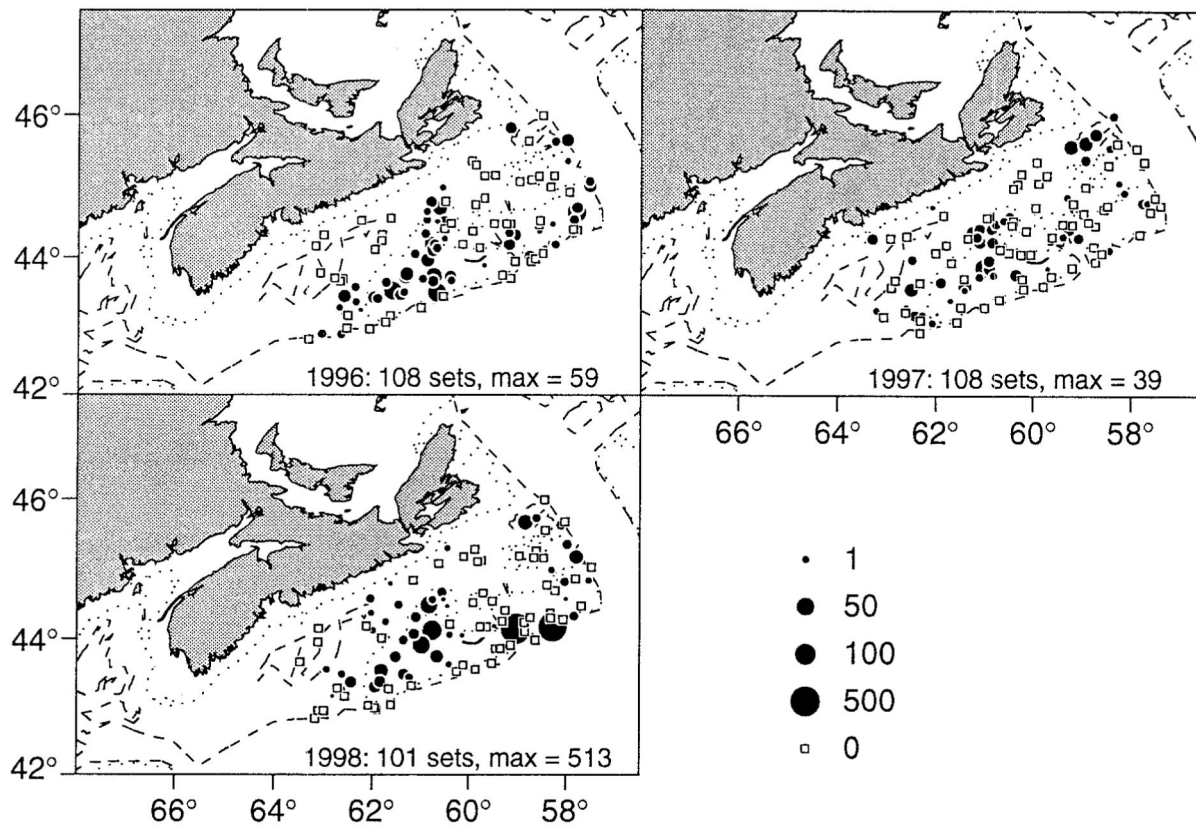


Fig. 11. 4VsW Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

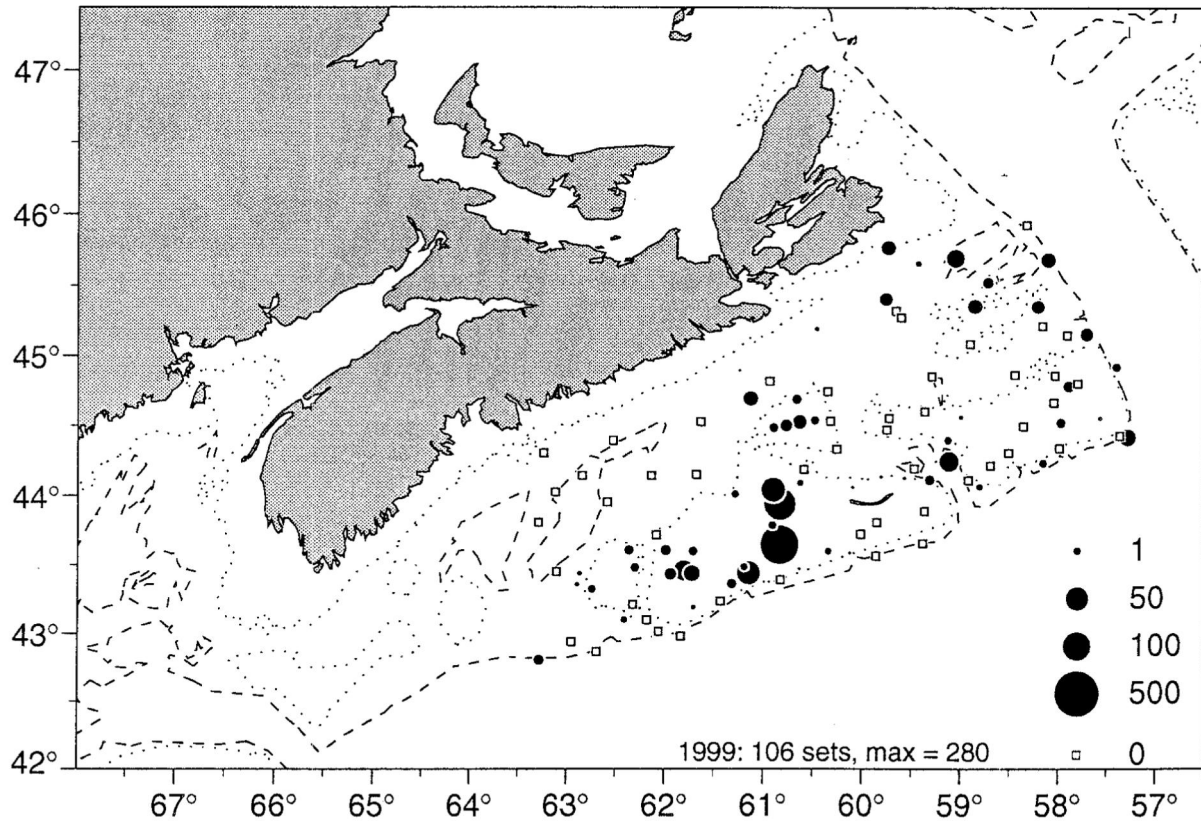


Fig. 12. 4VsW Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.



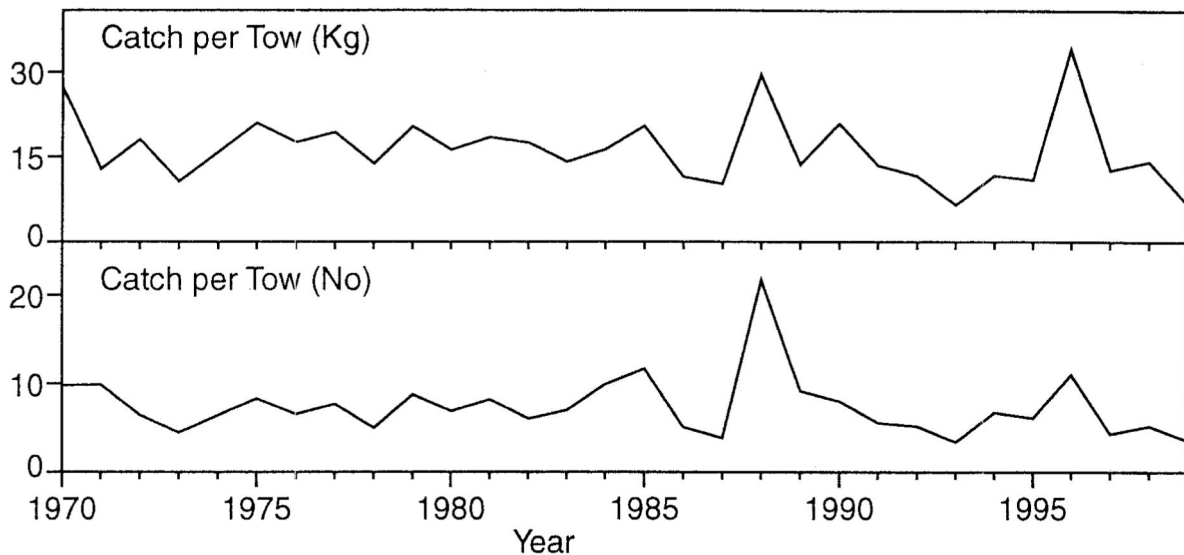


Fig. 13. 4X Cod stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

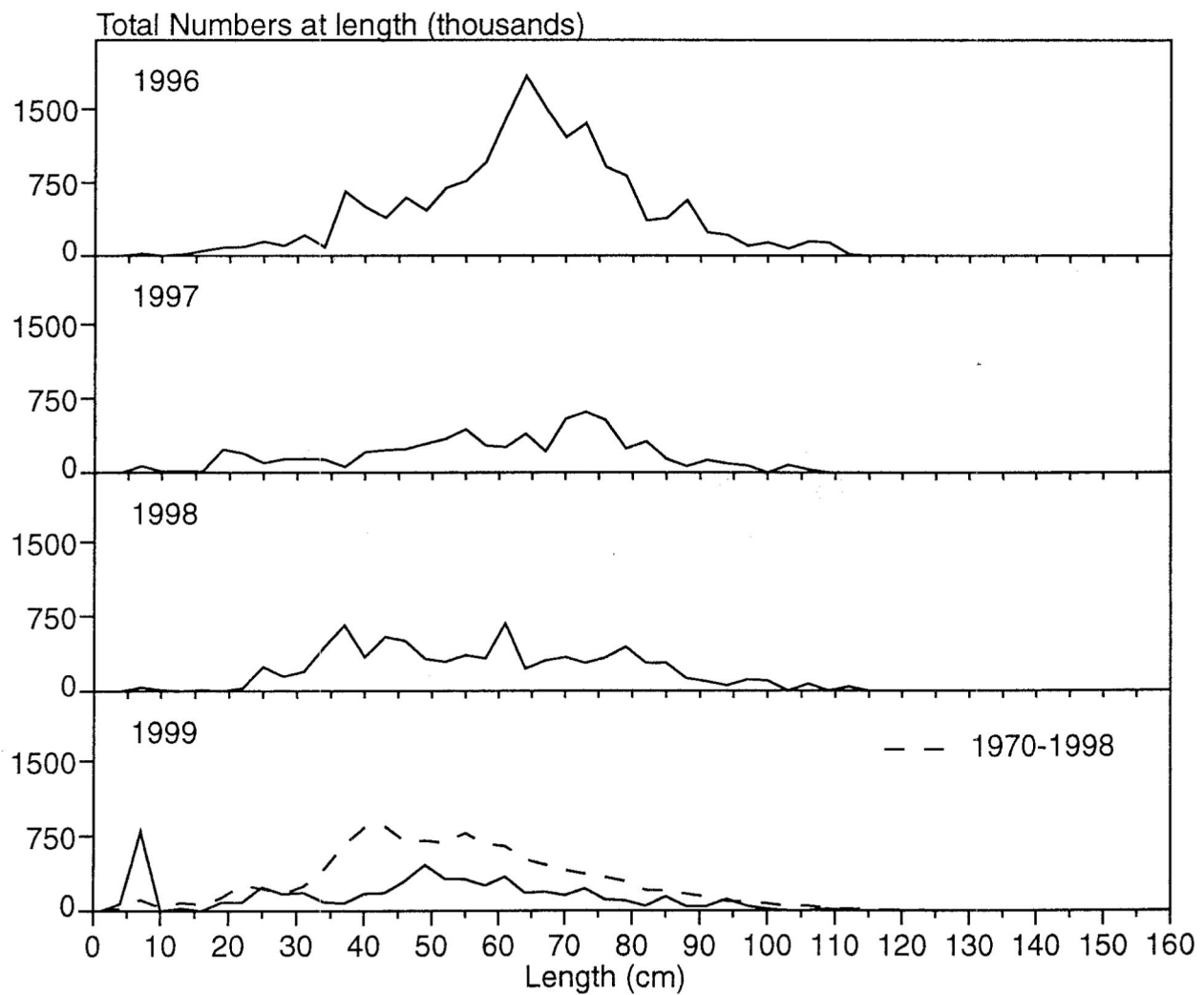


Fig. 14. 4X Cod length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

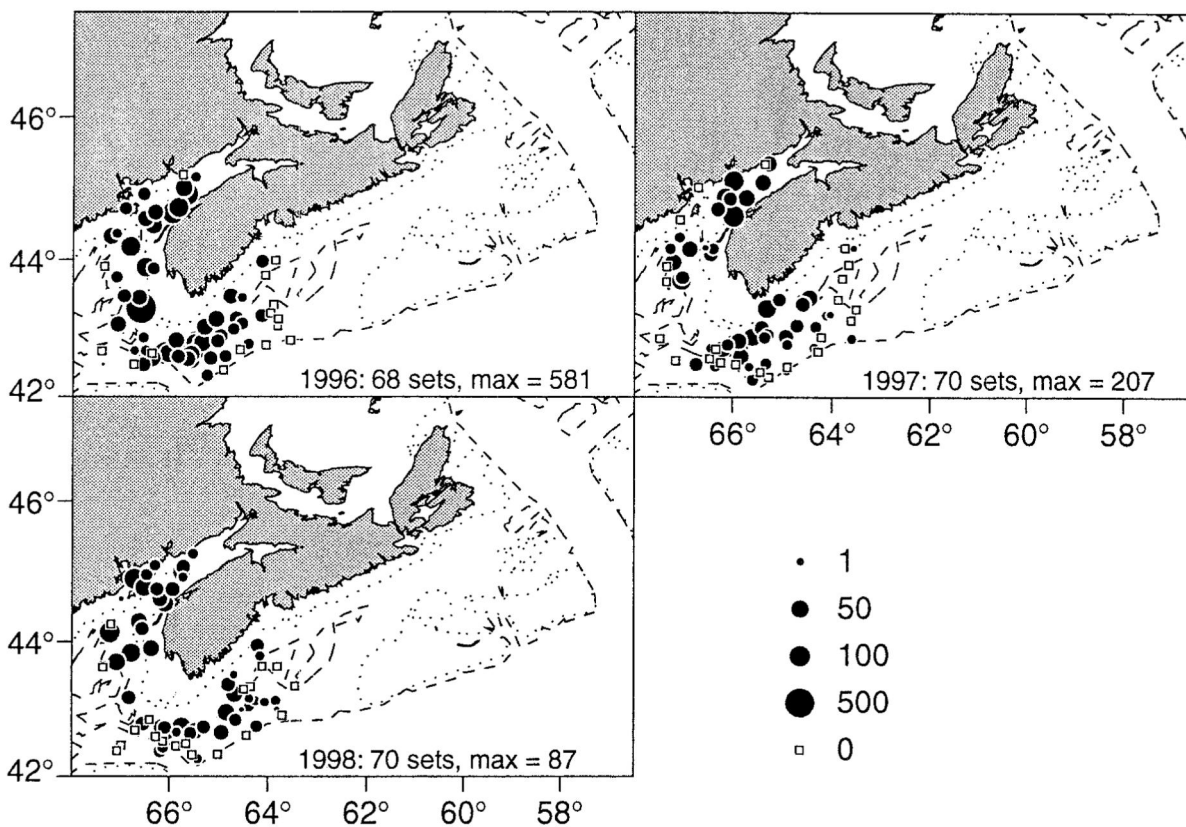


Fig. 15. 4X Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

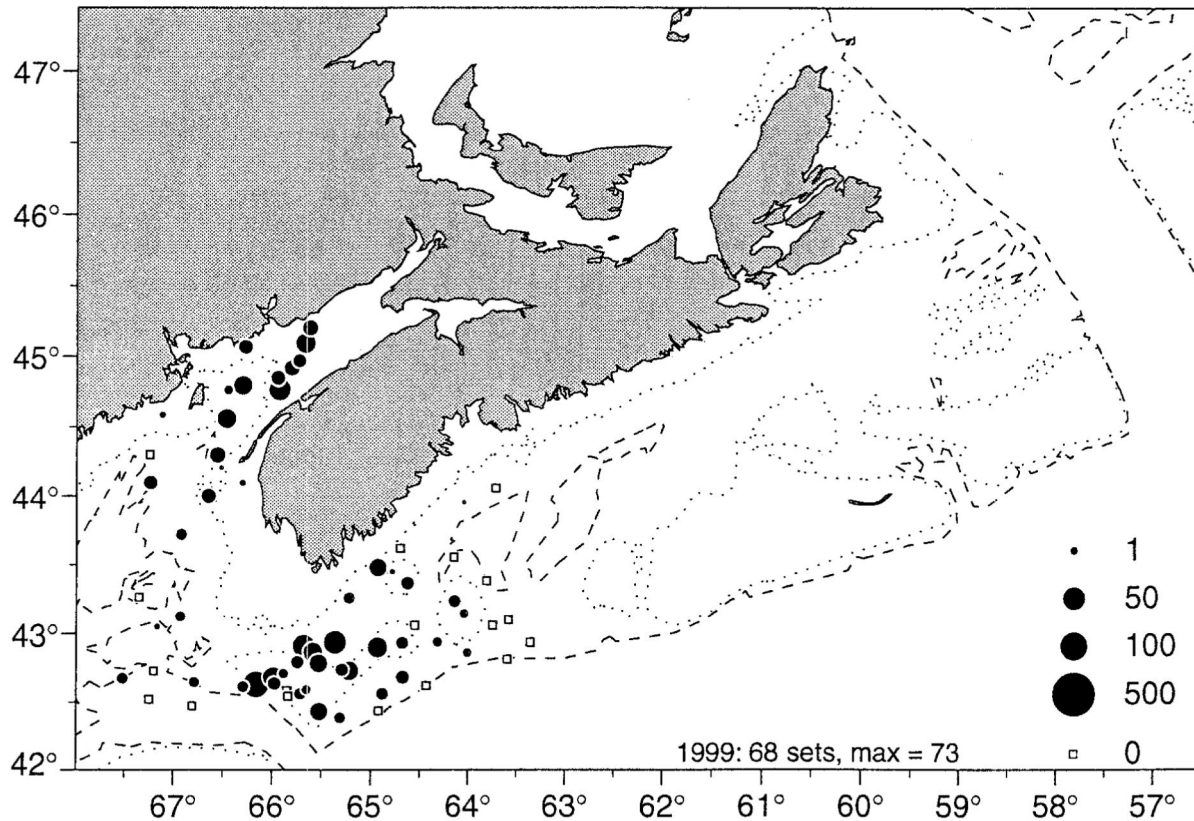


Fig. 16. 4X Cod Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

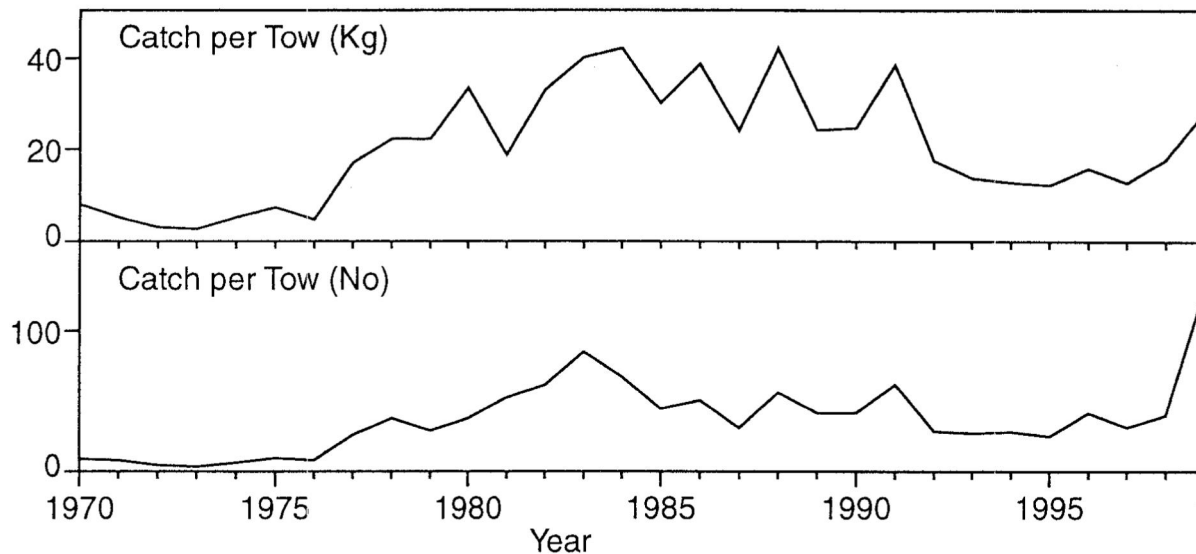


Fig. 17. 4VW Haddock stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

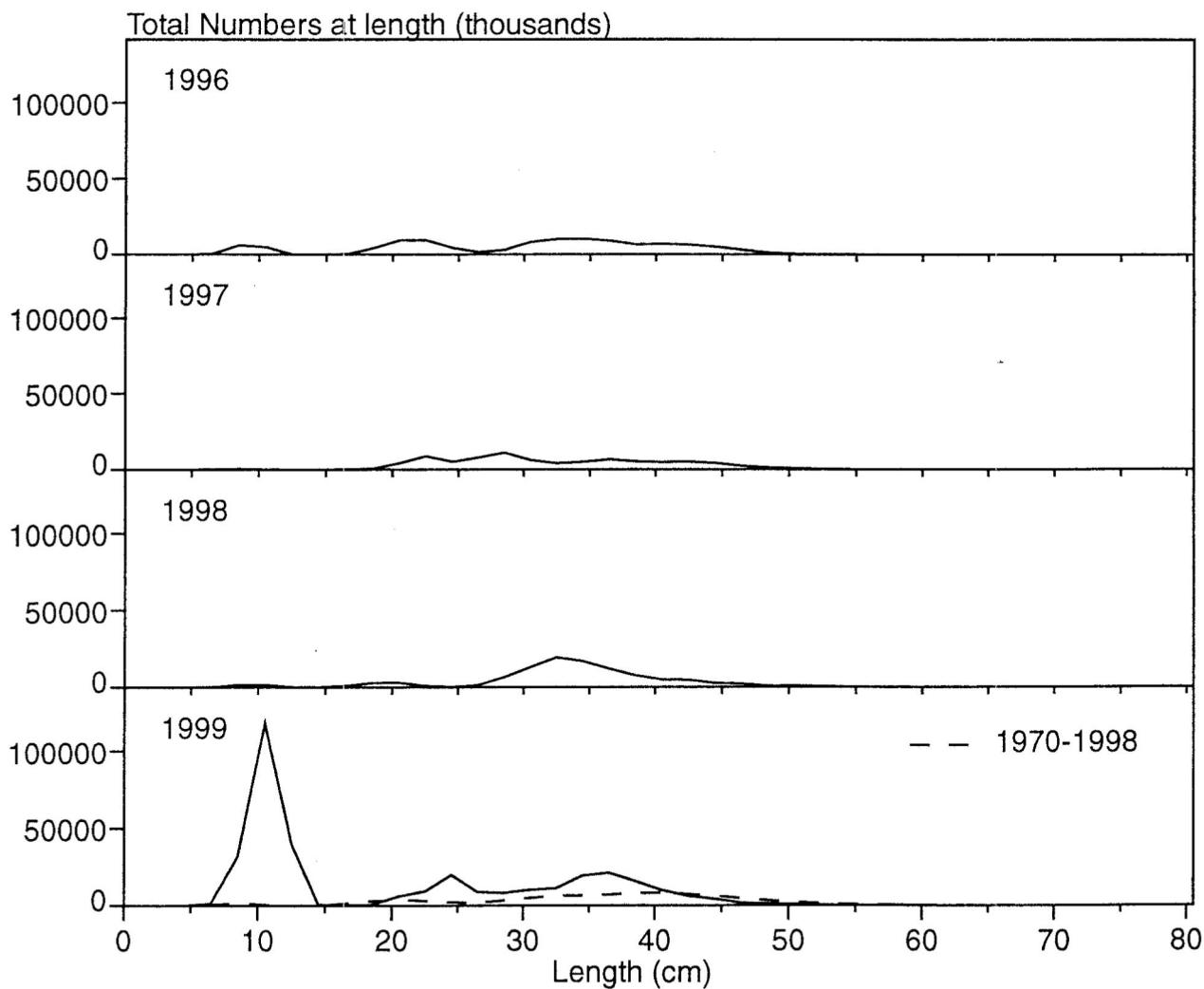


Fig. 18. 4VW Haddock length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

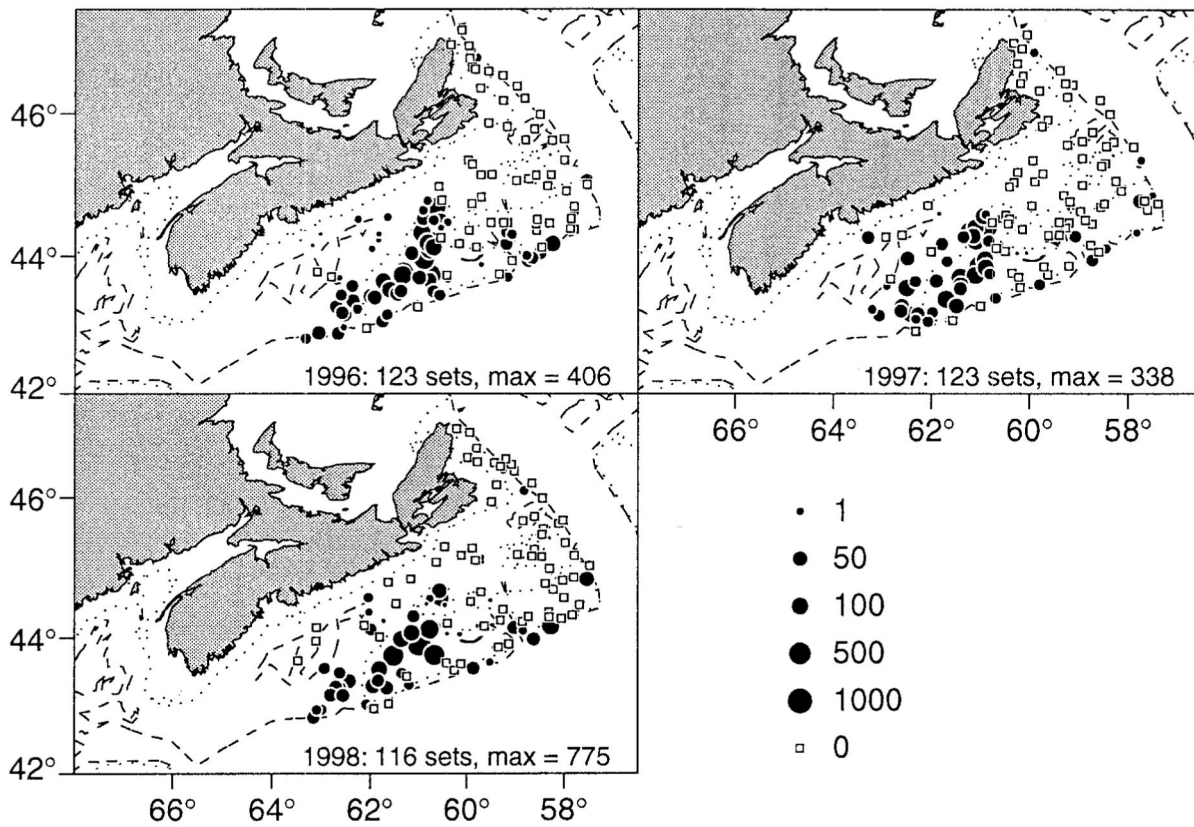


Fig. 19. 4VW Haddock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

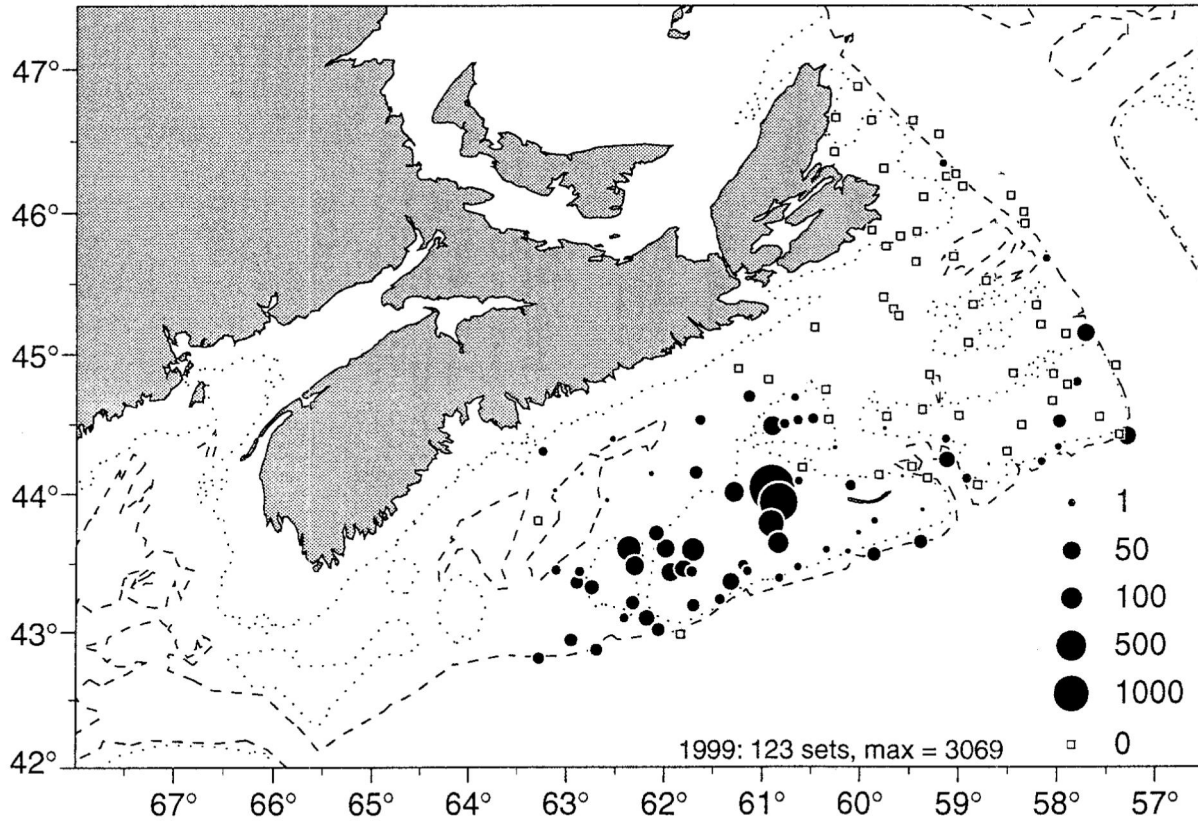


Fig. 20. 4VW Haddock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

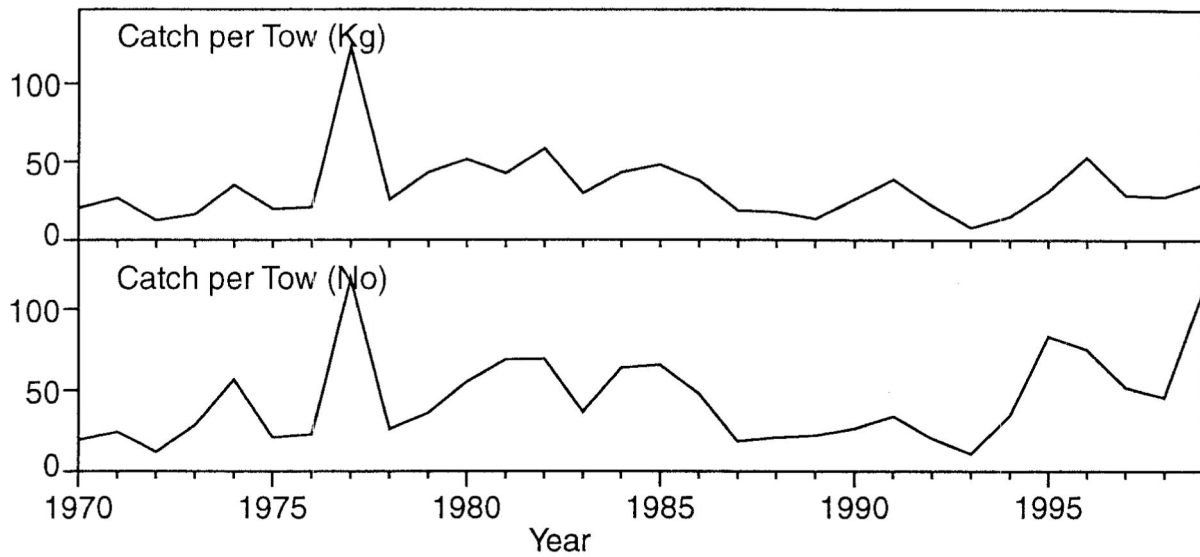


Fig. 21. 4X Haddock stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

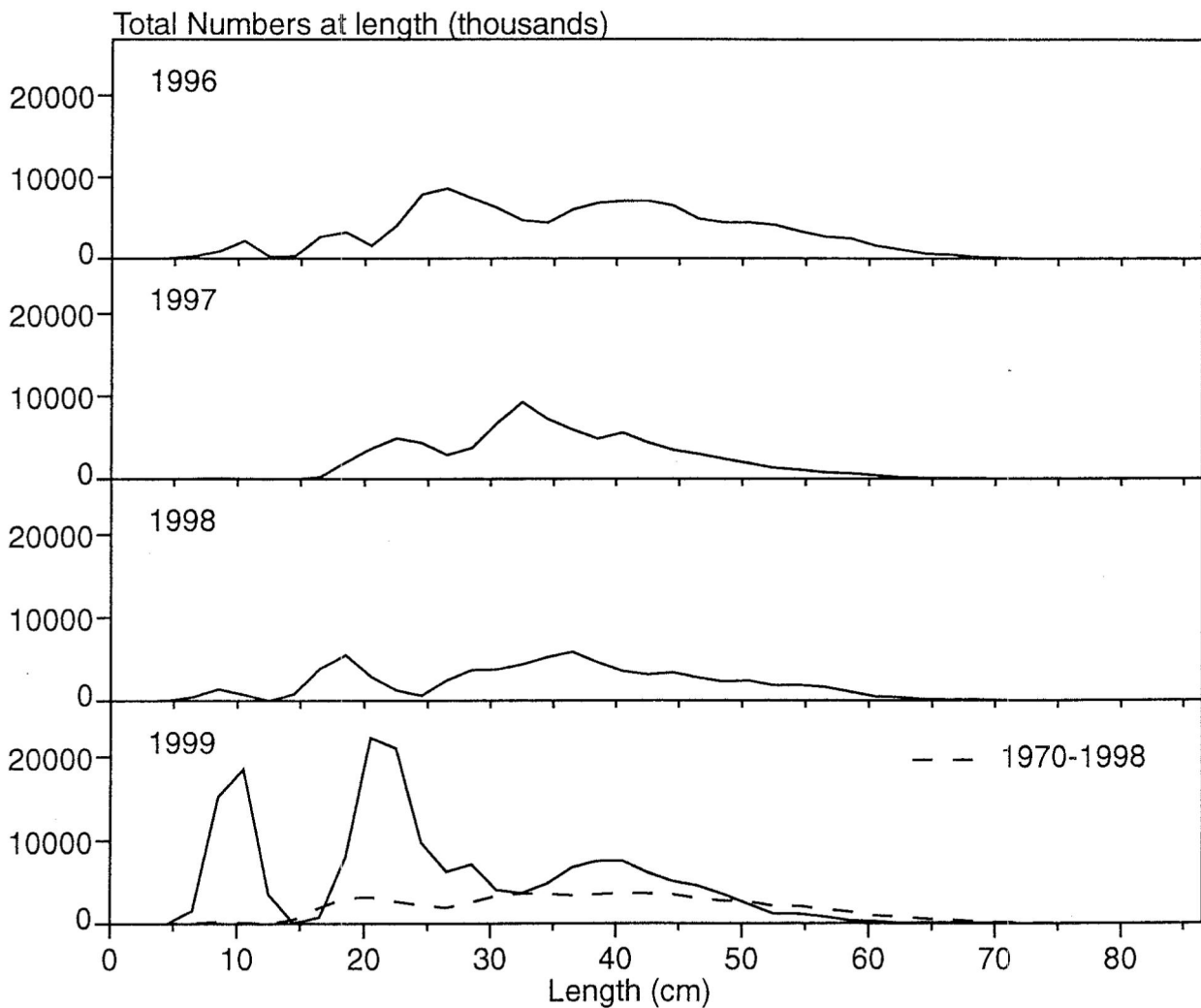


Fig. 22. 4X Haddock length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

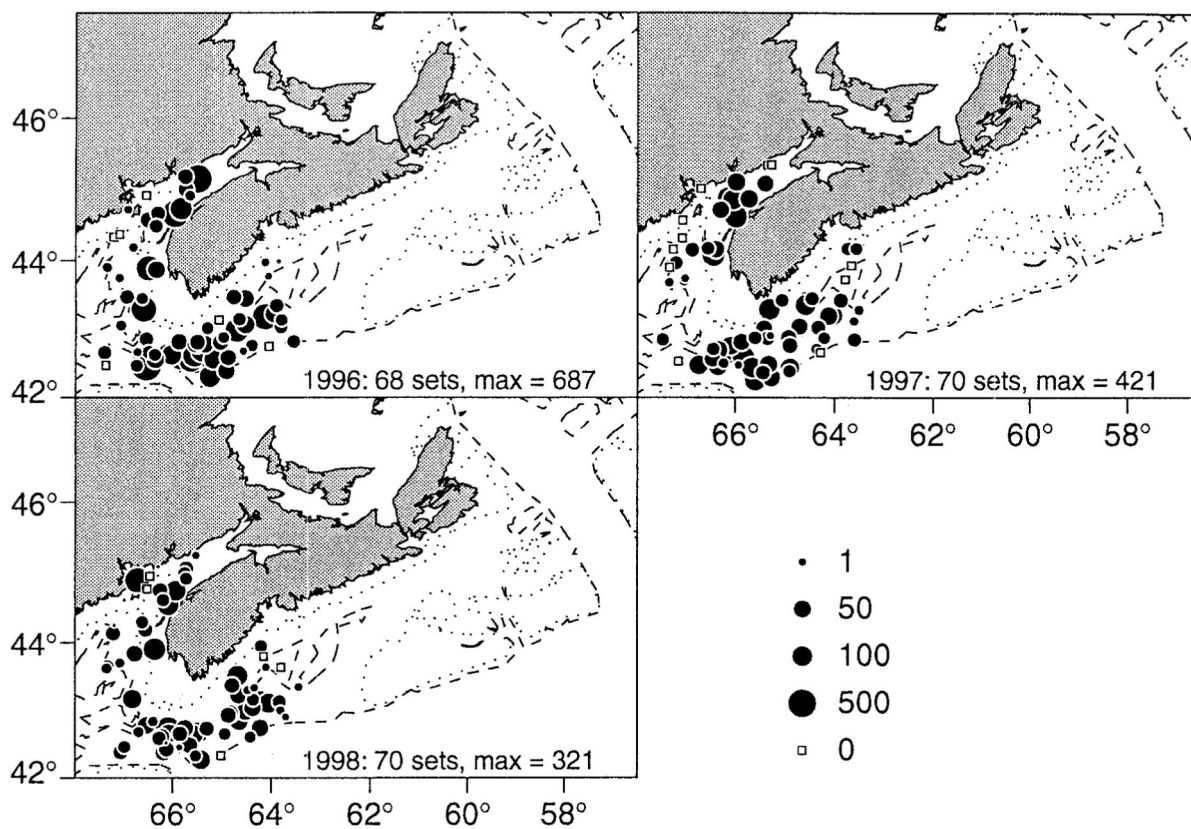


Fig. 23. 4X Haddock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

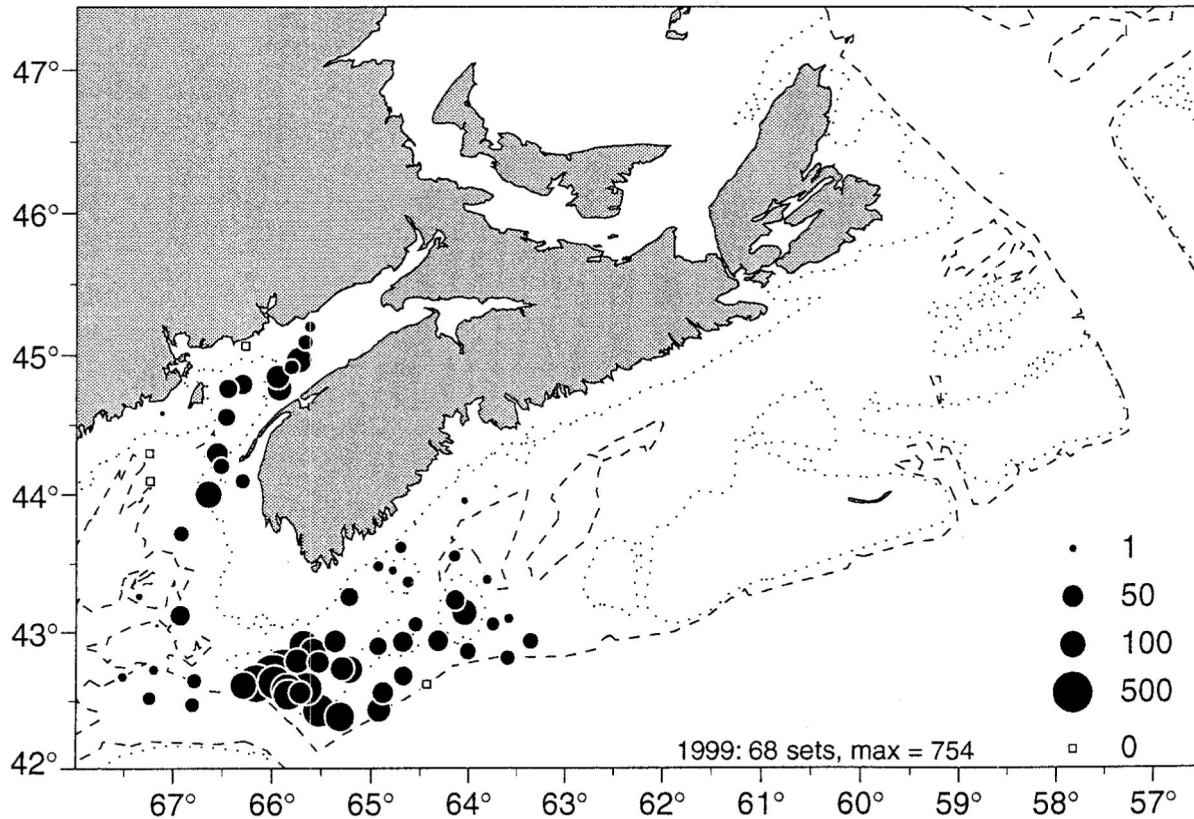


Fig. 24. 4X Haddock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

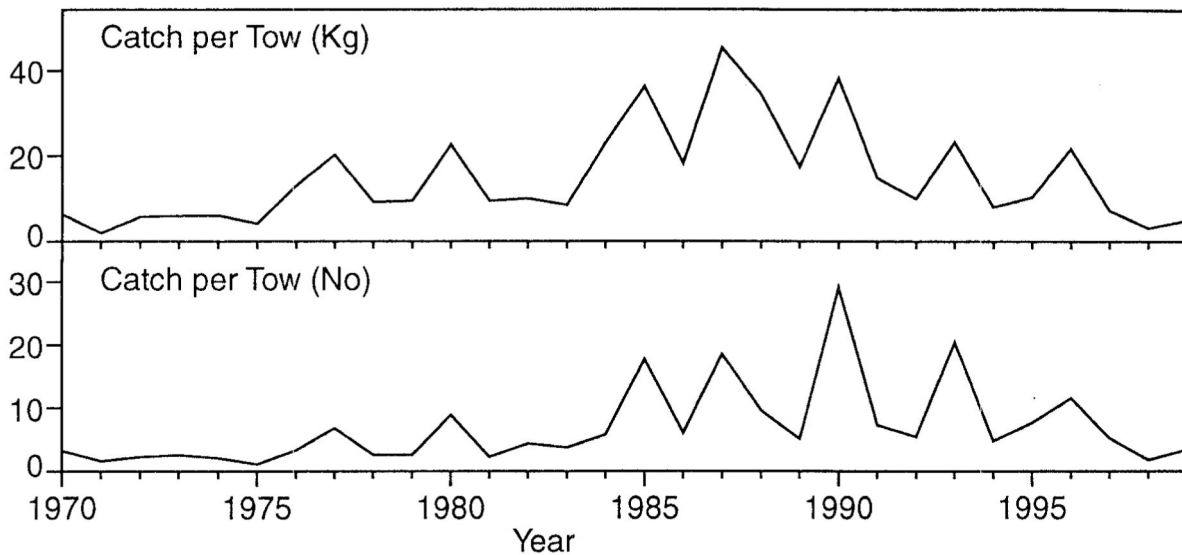


Fig. 25. 4VWX Pollock stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

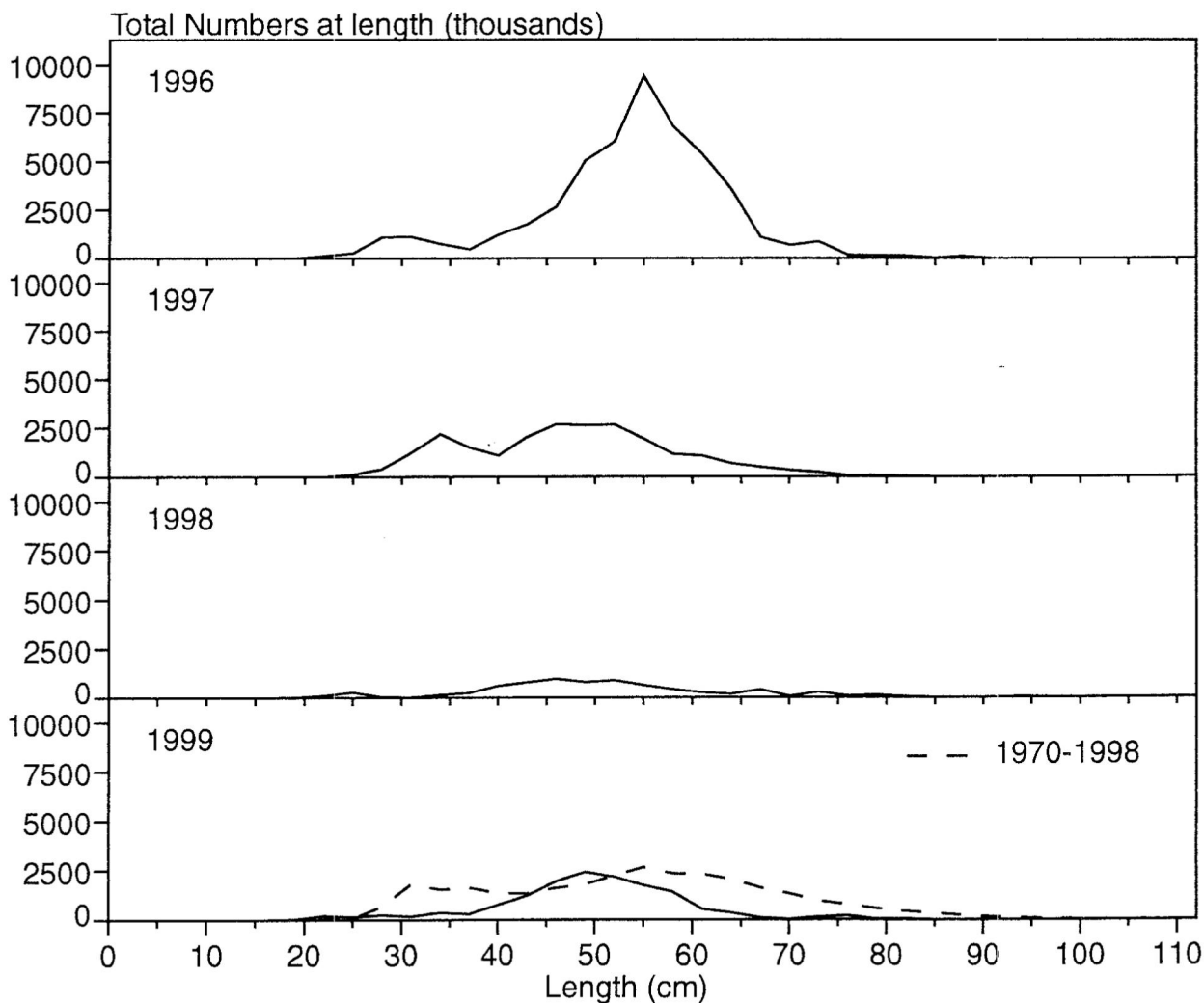


Fig. 26. 4VWX Pollock length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.



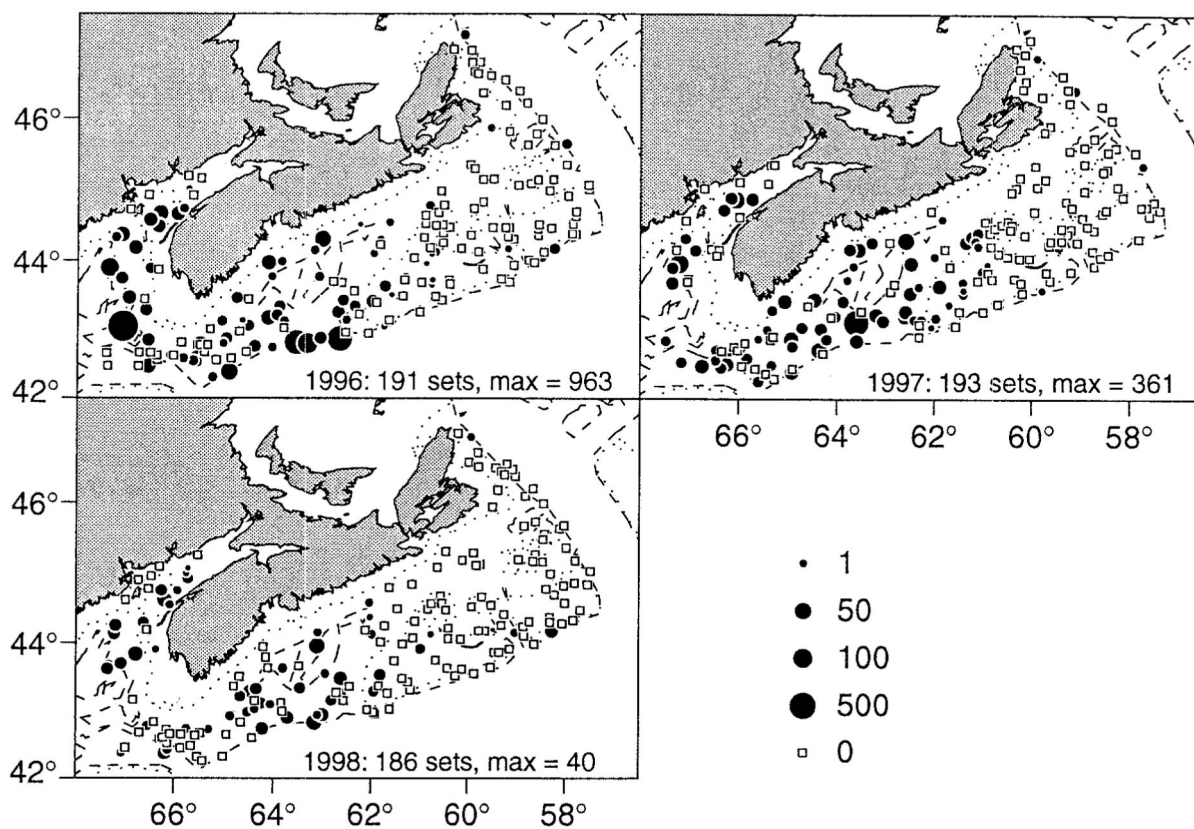


Fig. 27. 4VWX Pollock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

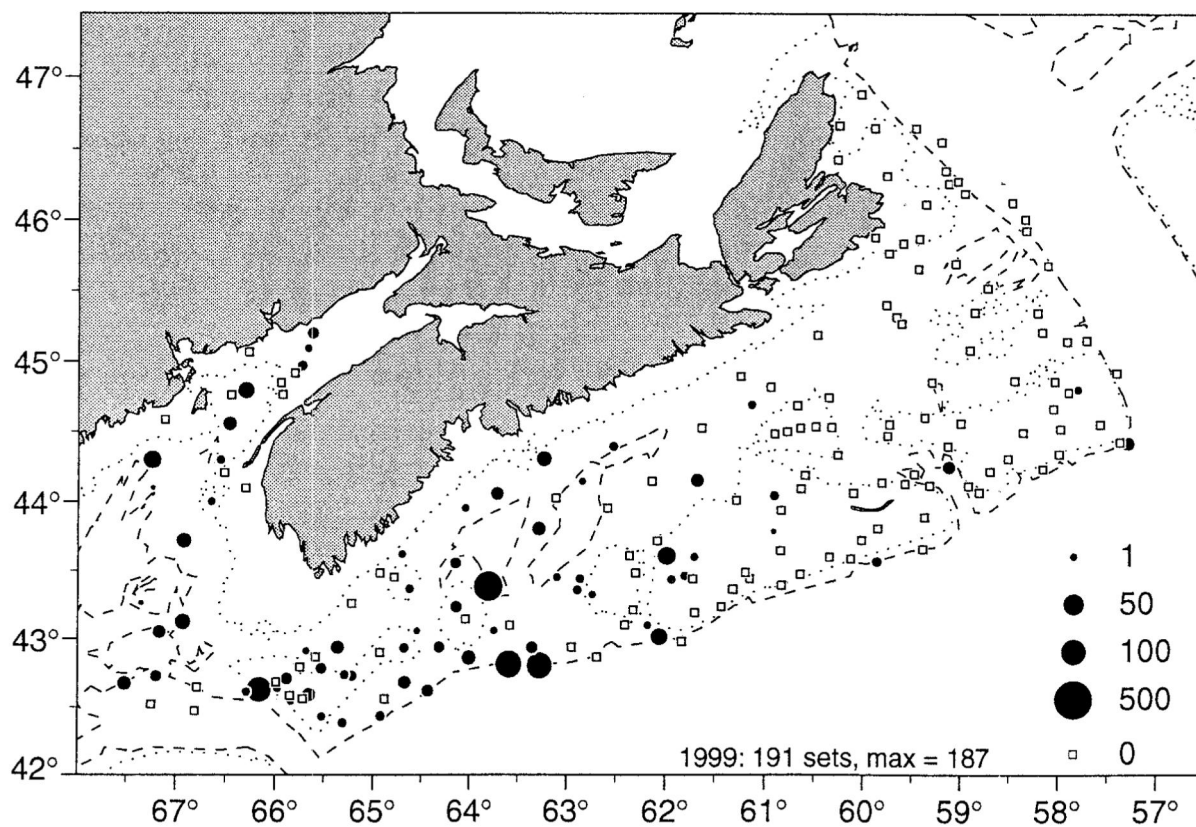


Fig. 28. 4VWX Pollock Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.



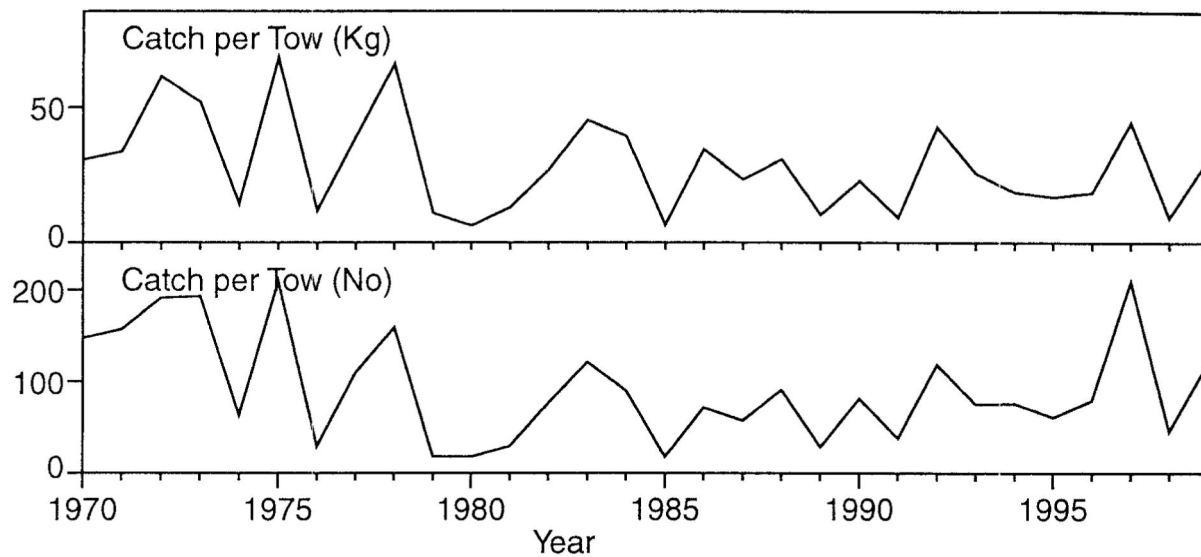


Fig. 29. Unit 3 Redfish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

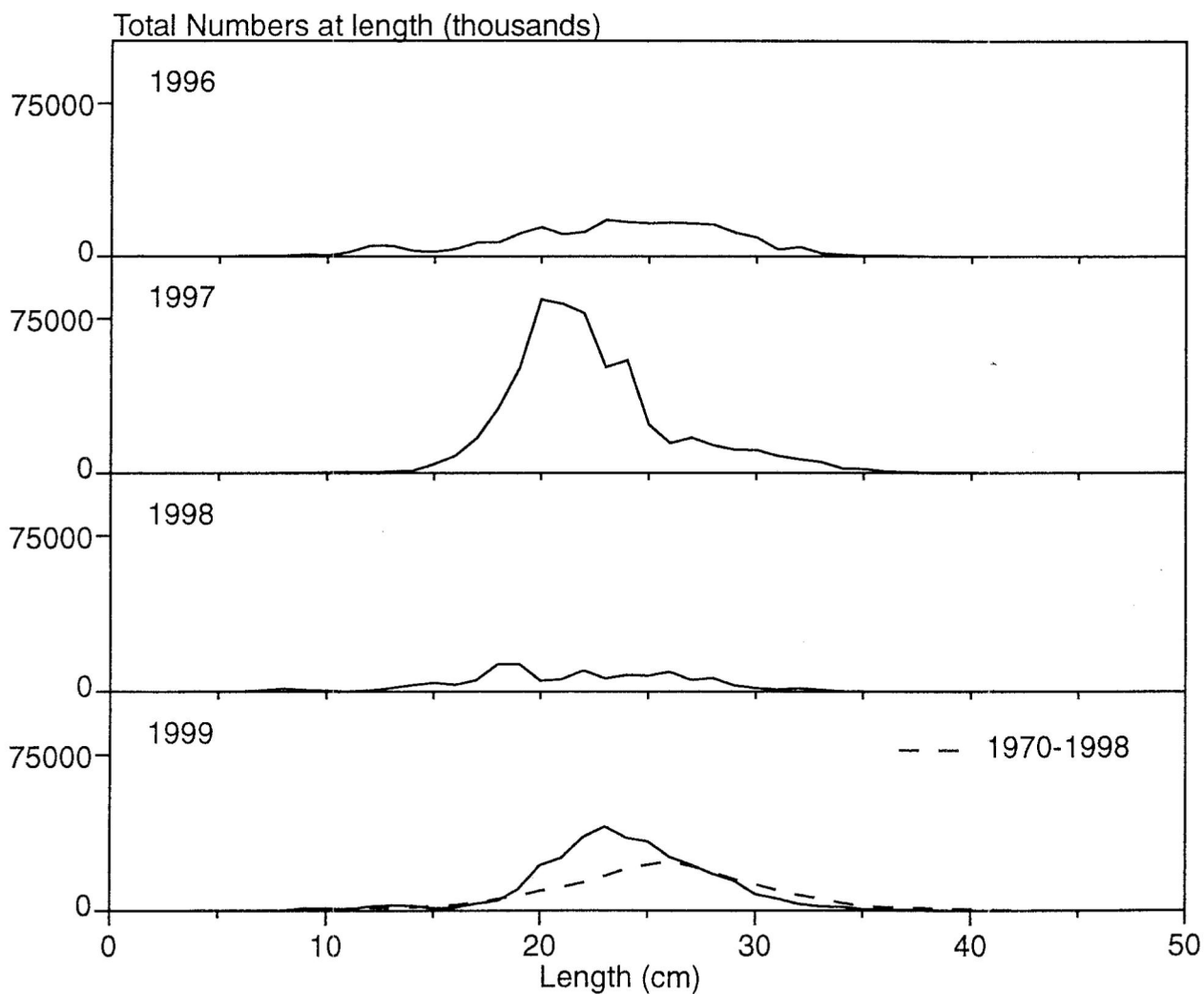


Fig. 30. Unit 3 Redfish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

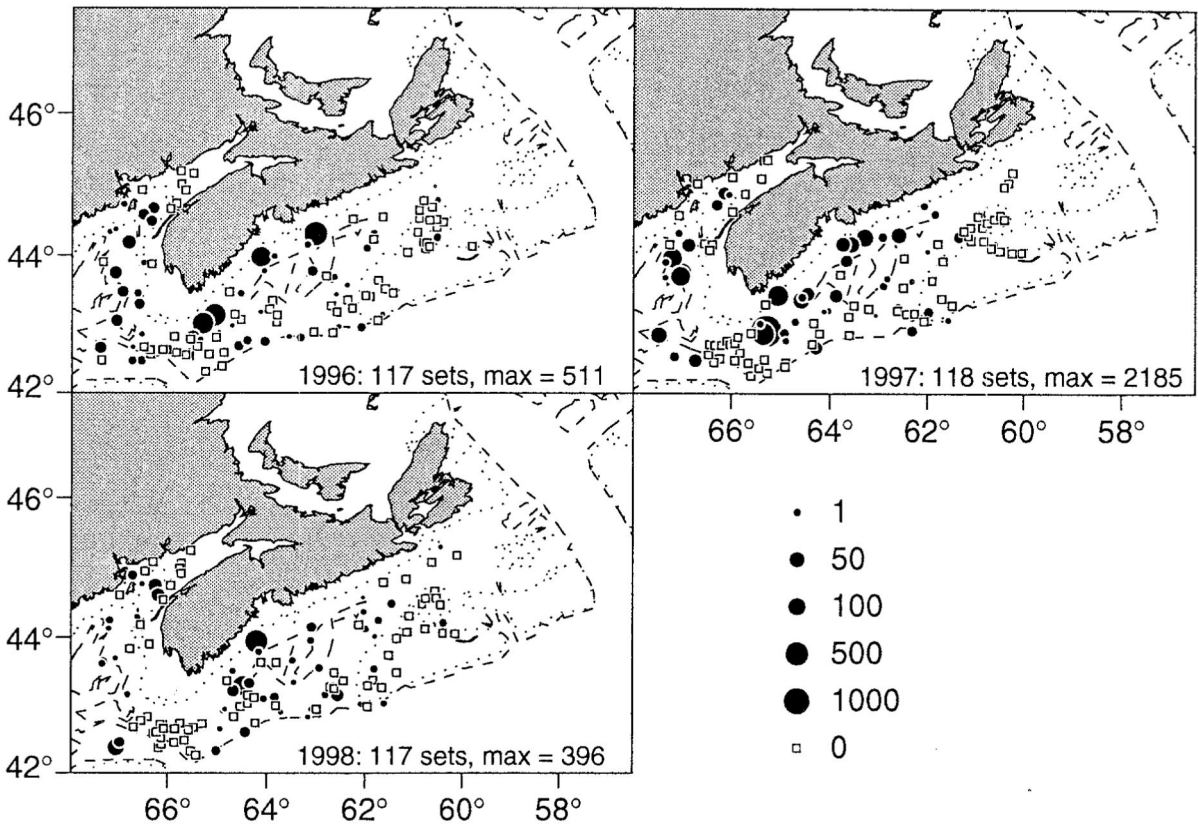


Fig. 31. Unit 3 Redfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

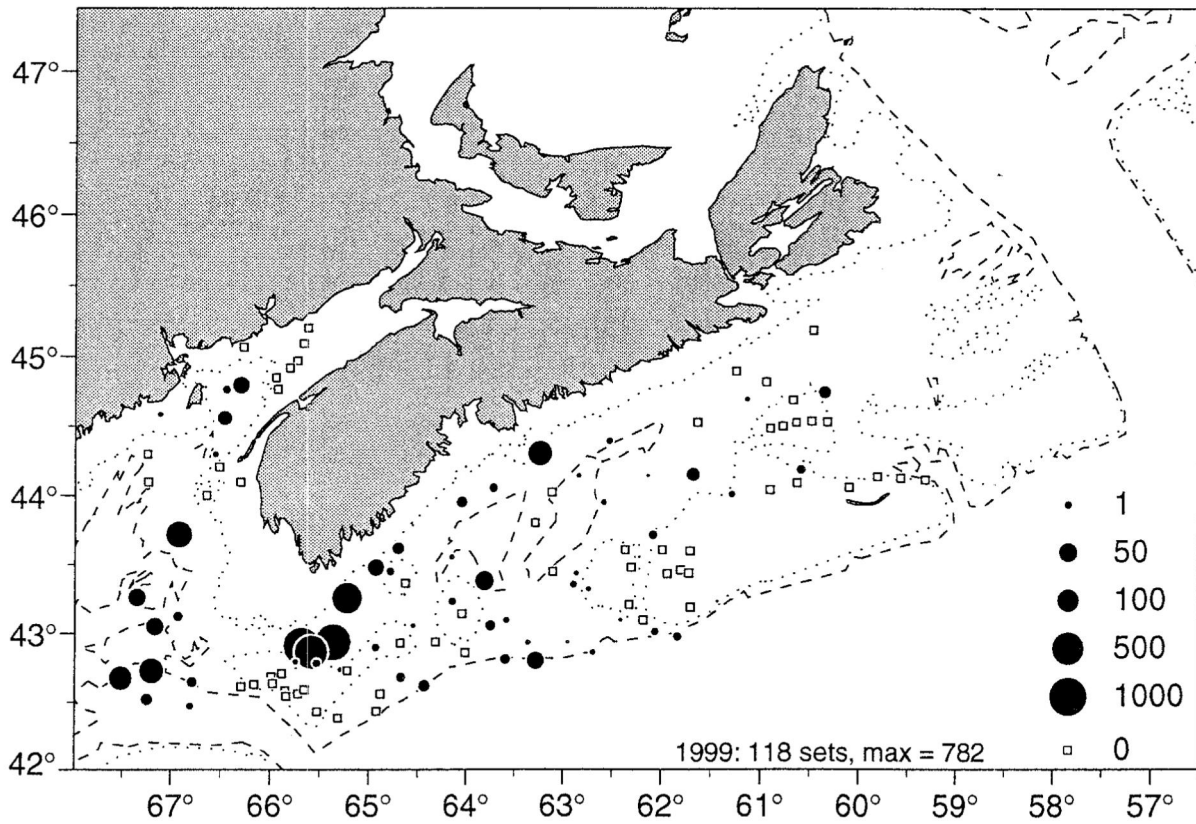


Fig. 32. Unit 3 Redfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

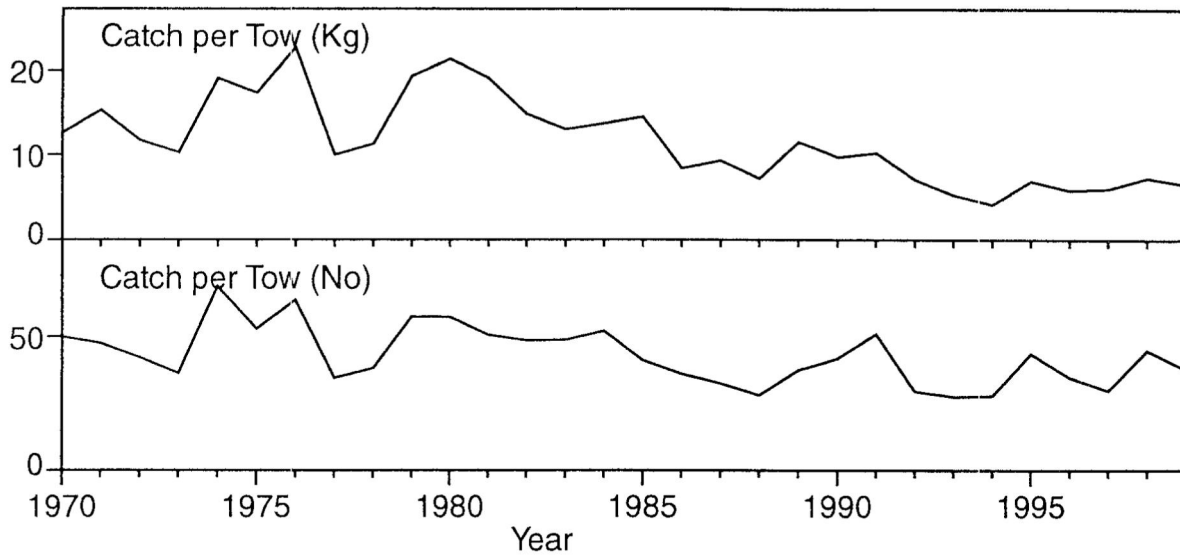


Fig. 33. 4VW Plaice stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

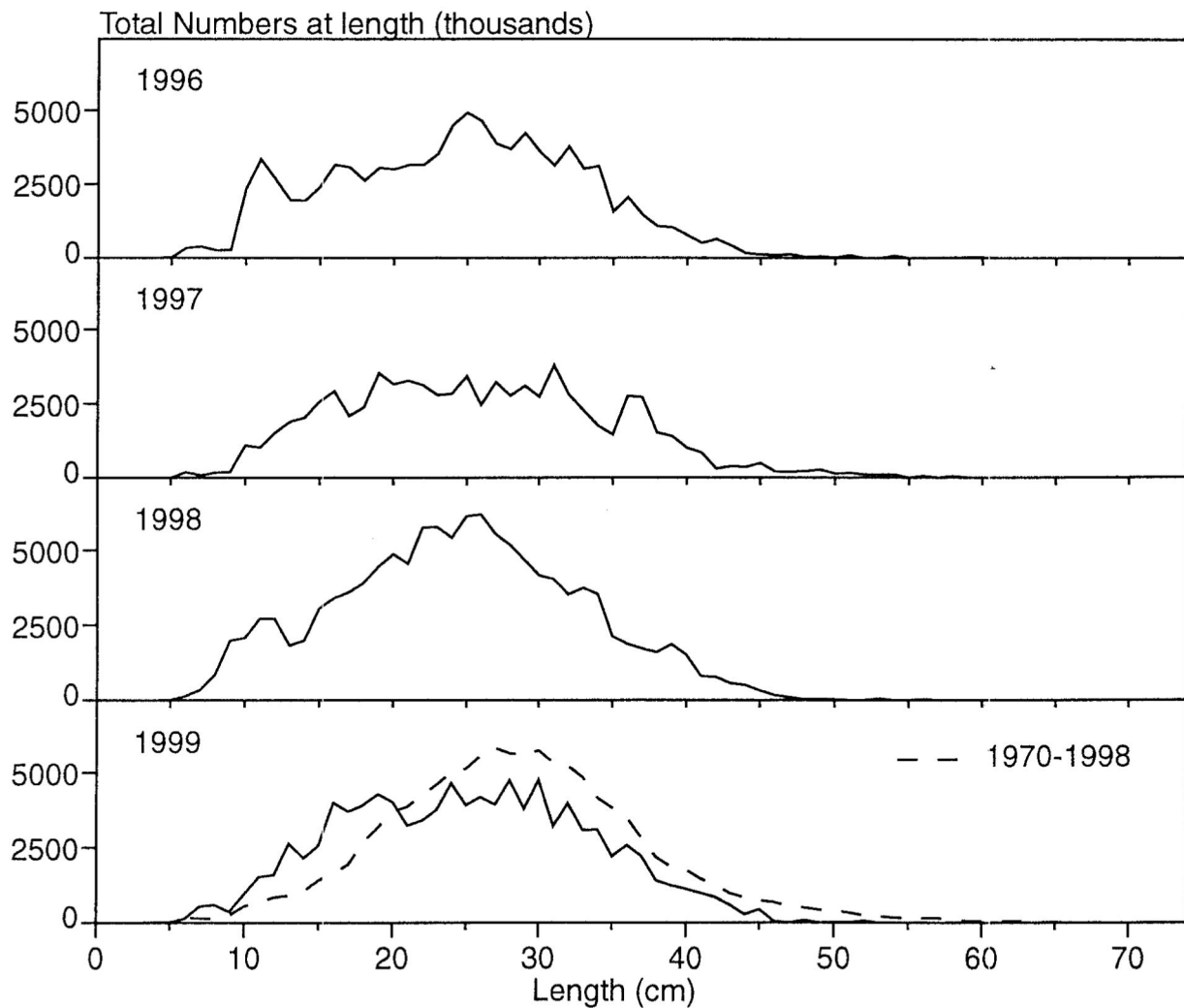


Fig. 34. 4VW Plaice length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

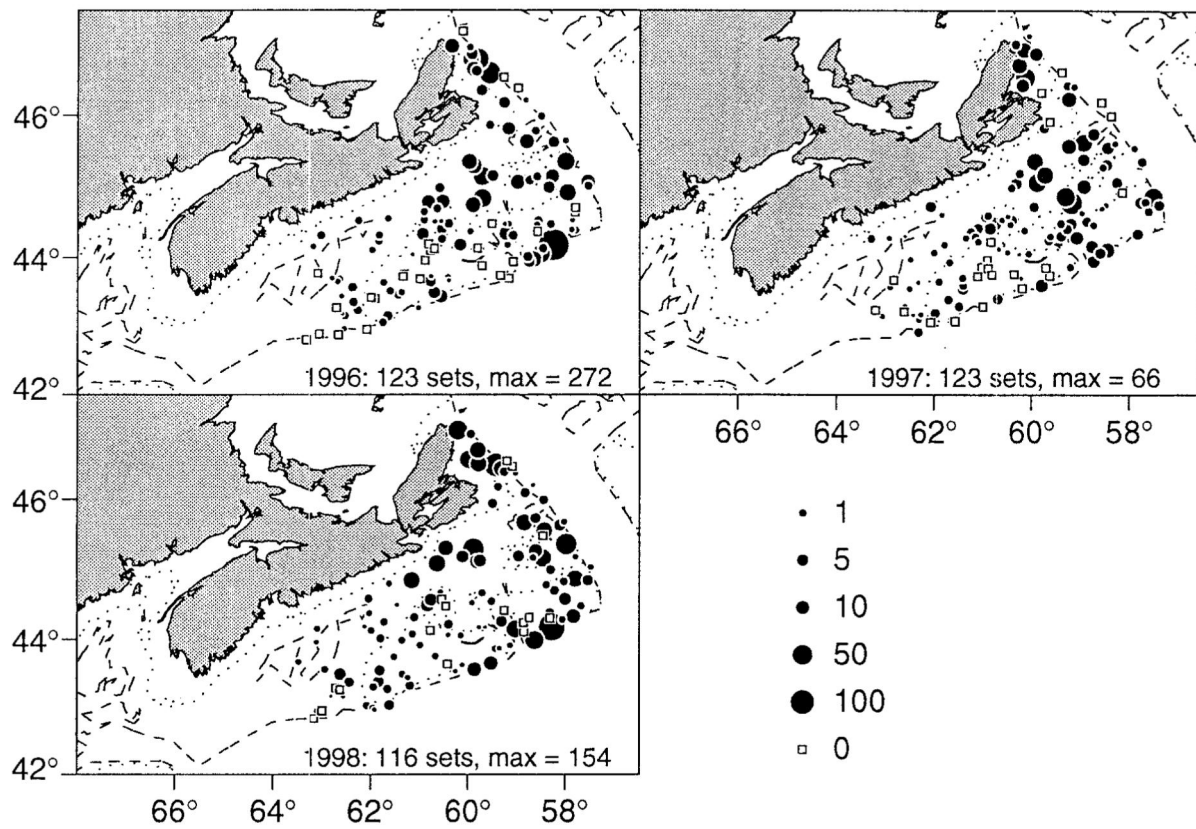


Fig. 35. 4VW Plaice Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

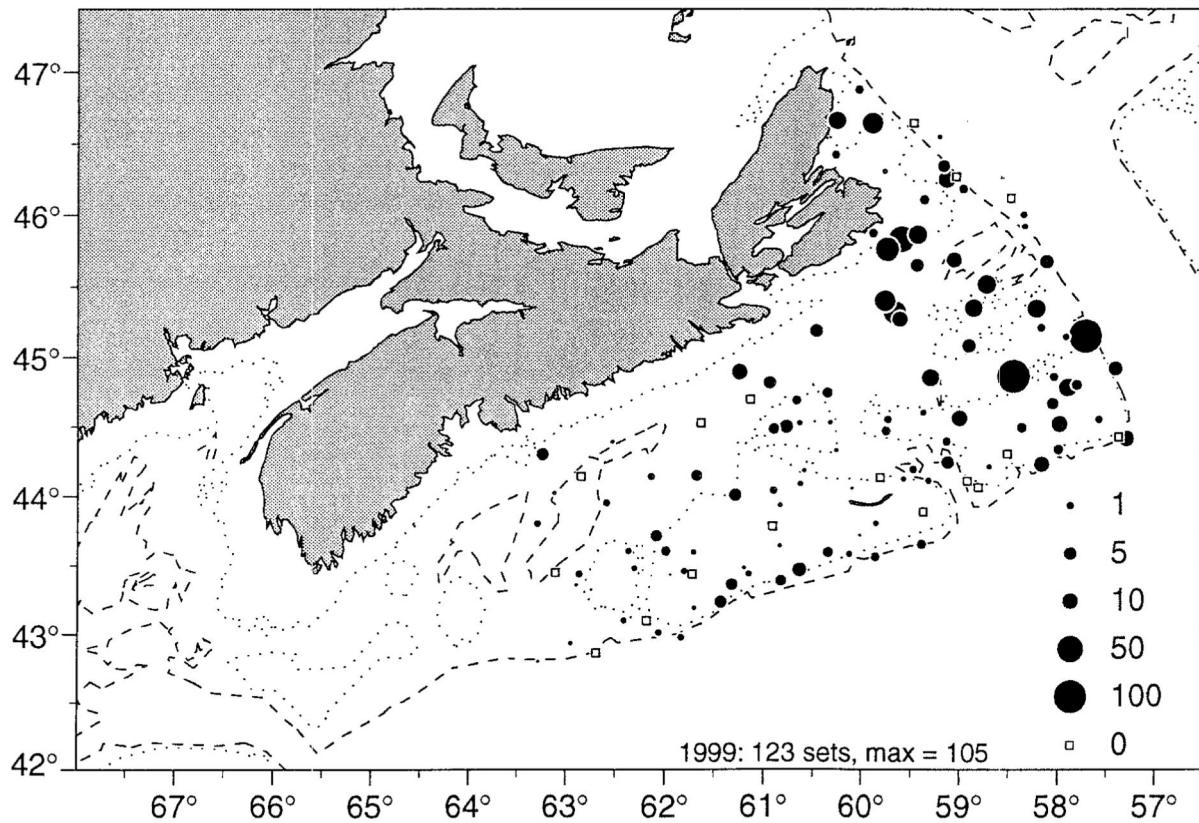


Fig. 36. 4VW Plaice Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

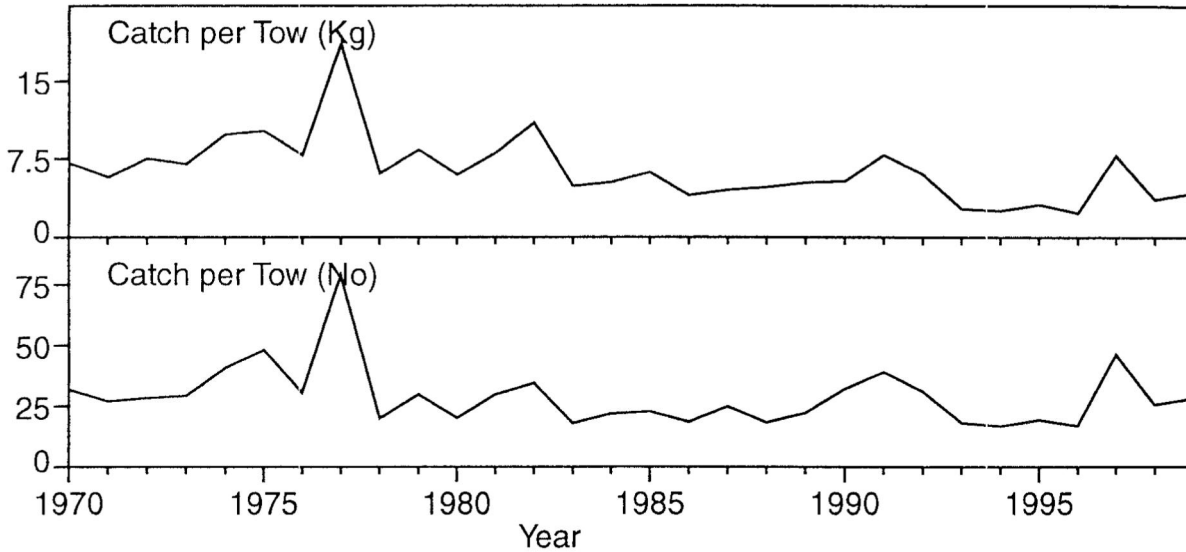


Fig. 37. 4VW Yellowtail Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

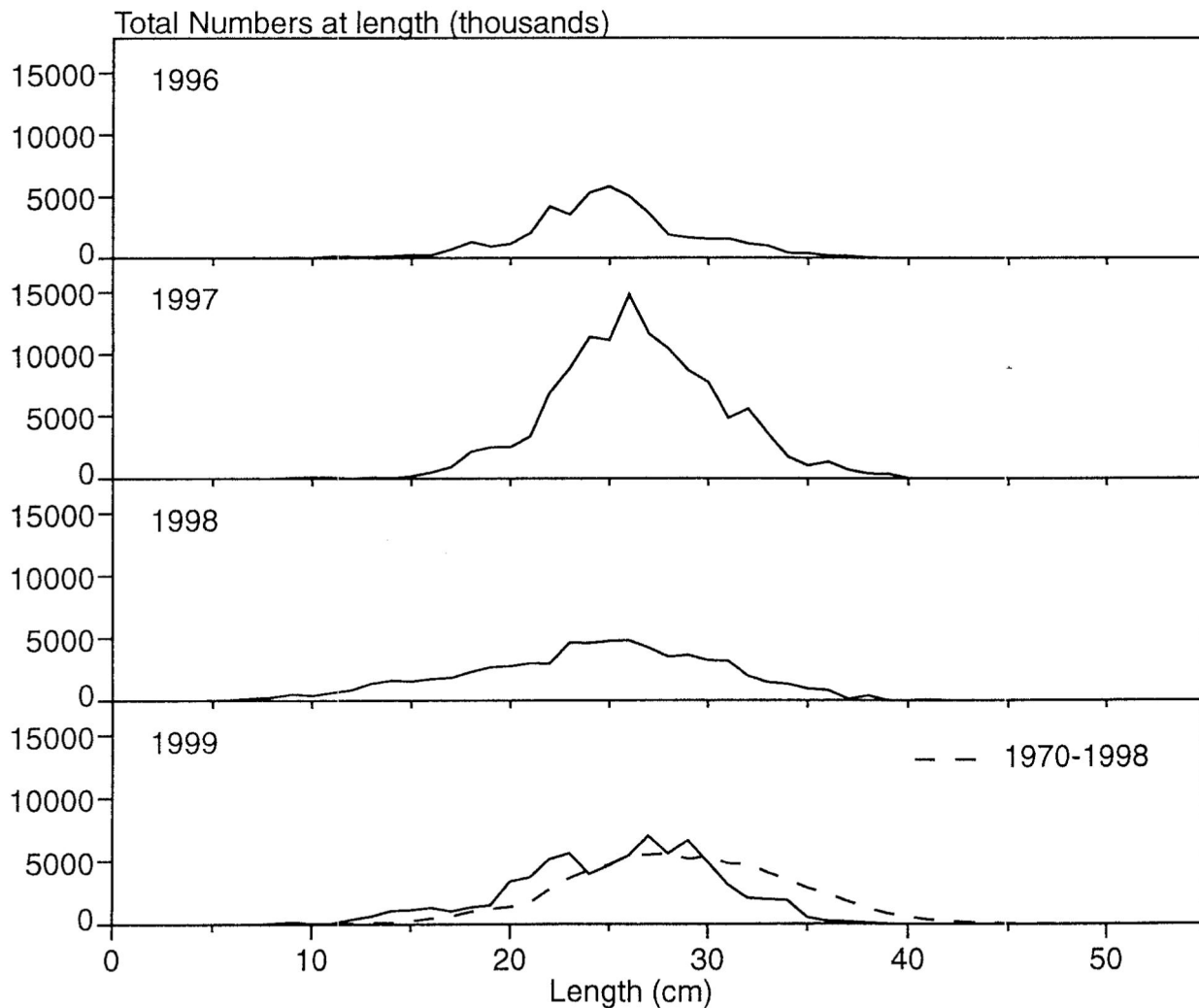


Fig. 38. 4VW Yellowtail Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

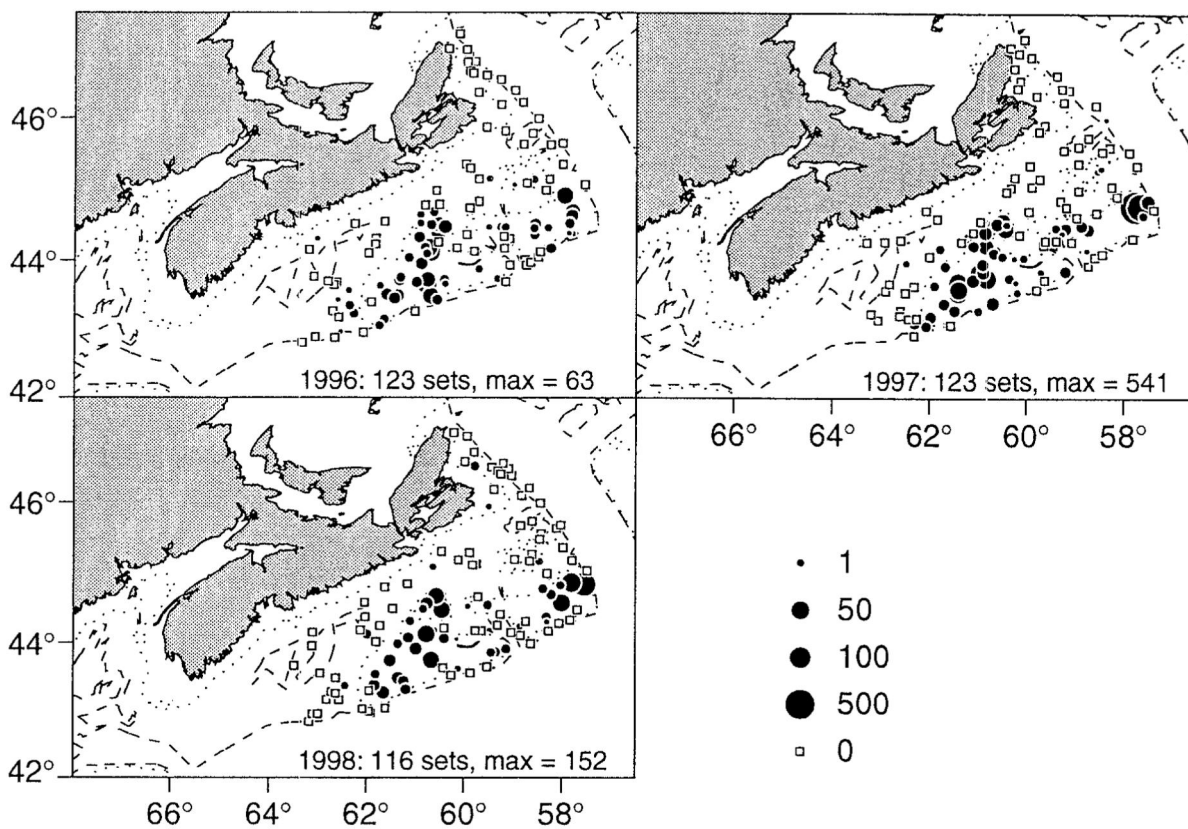


Fig. 39. 4VW Yellowtail Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey

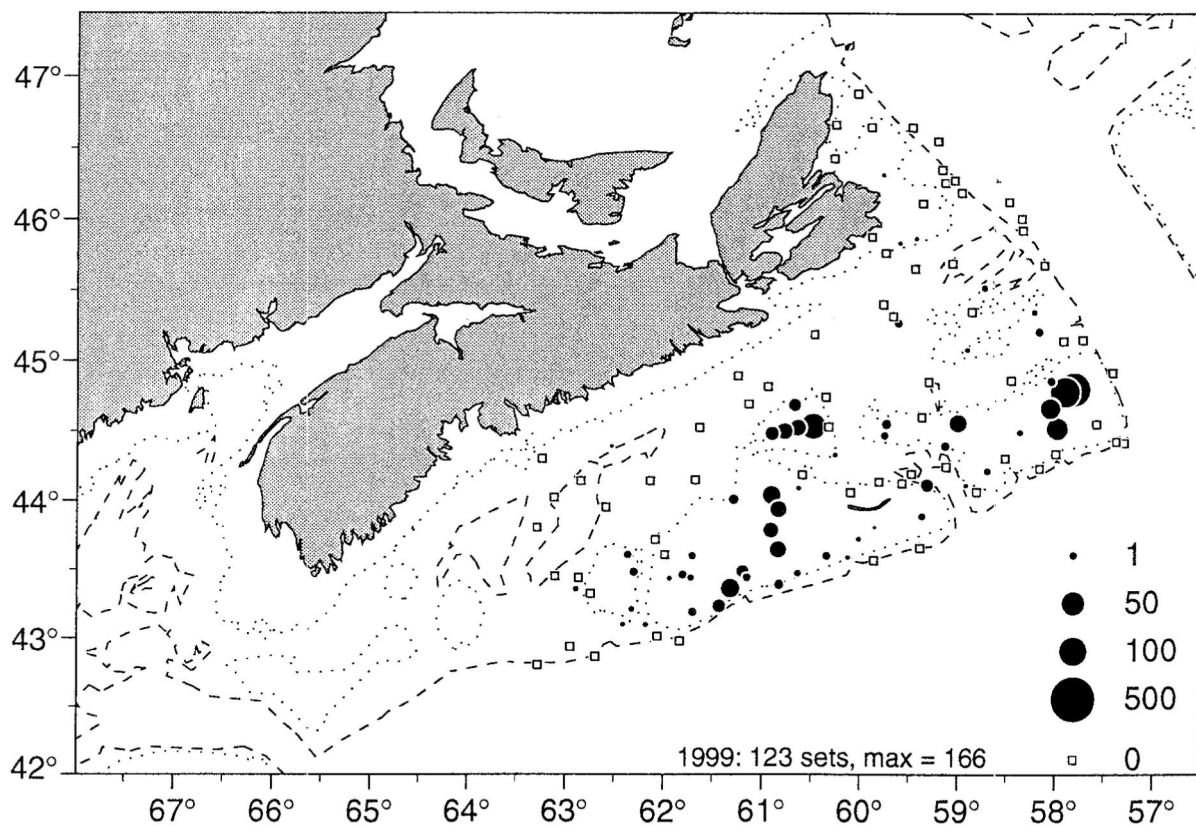


Fig. 40. 4VW Yellowtail Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

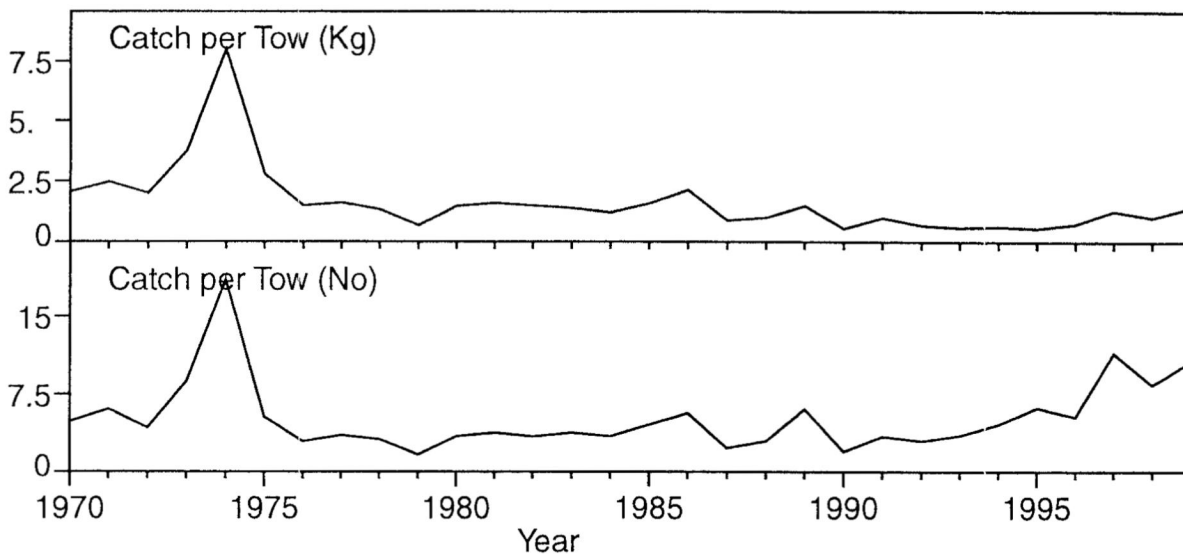


Fig. 41. 4VW Witch Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

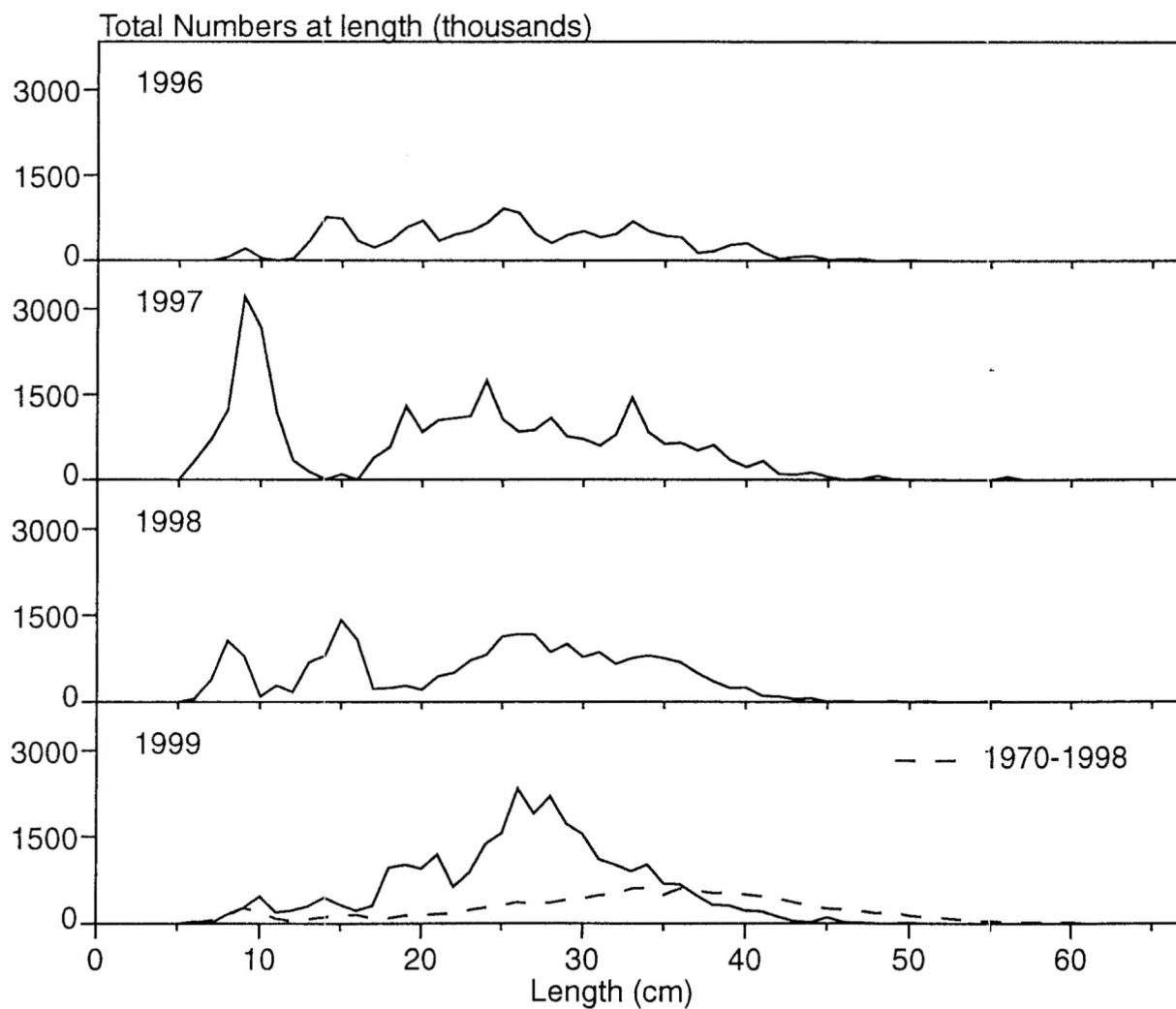


Fig. 42. 4VW Witch Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.



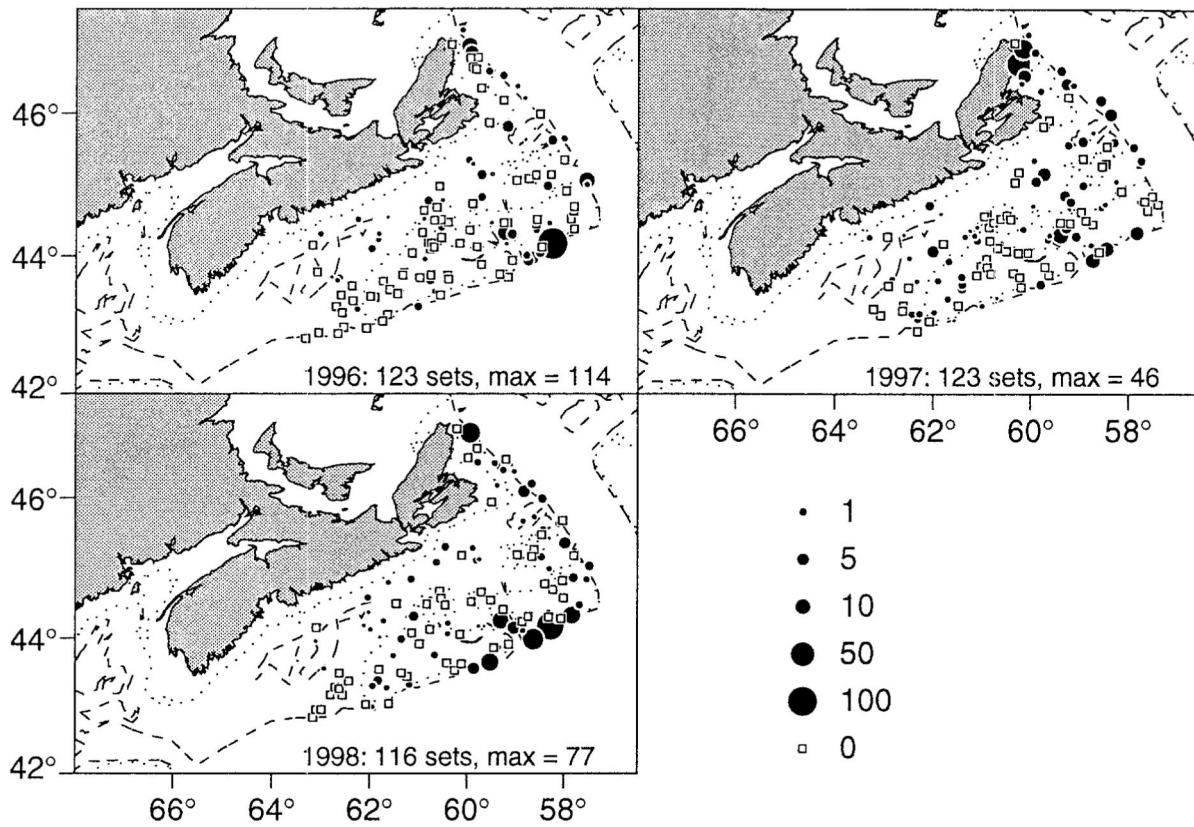


Fig. 43. 4VW Witch Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

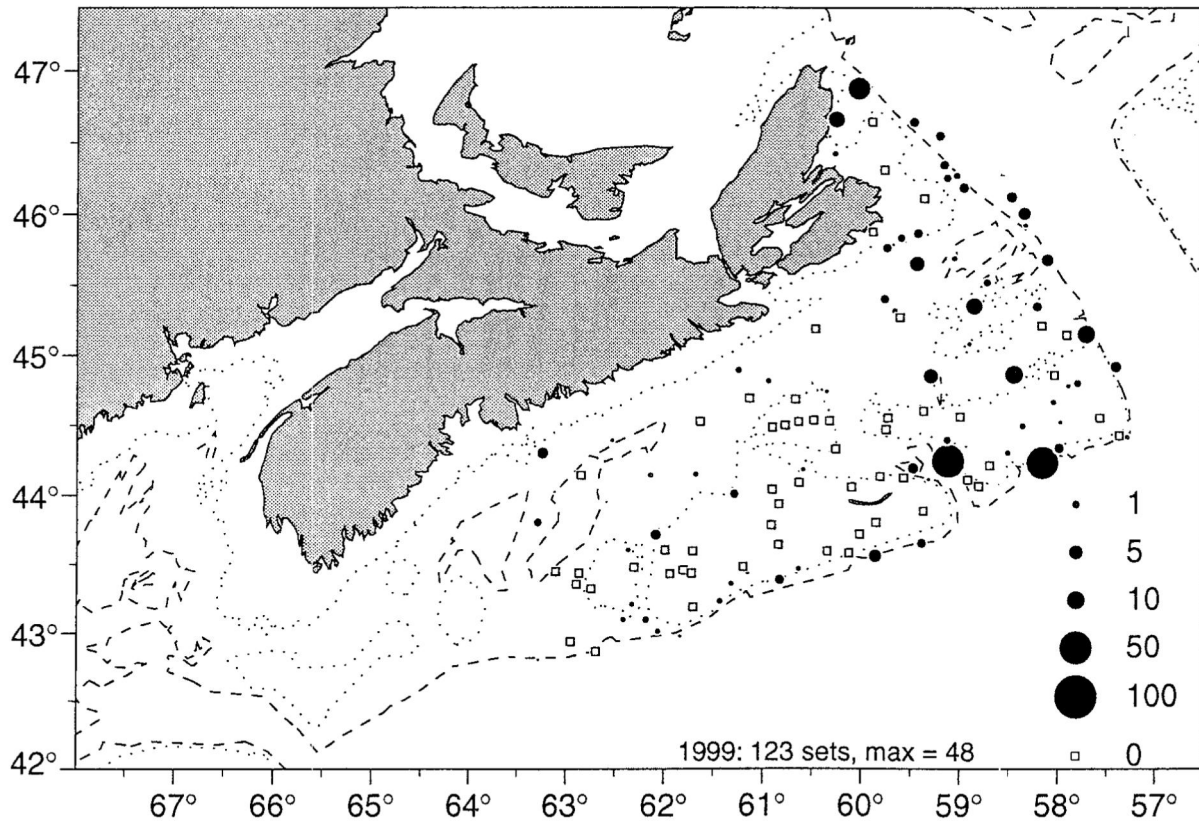


Fig. 44. 4VW Witch Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.



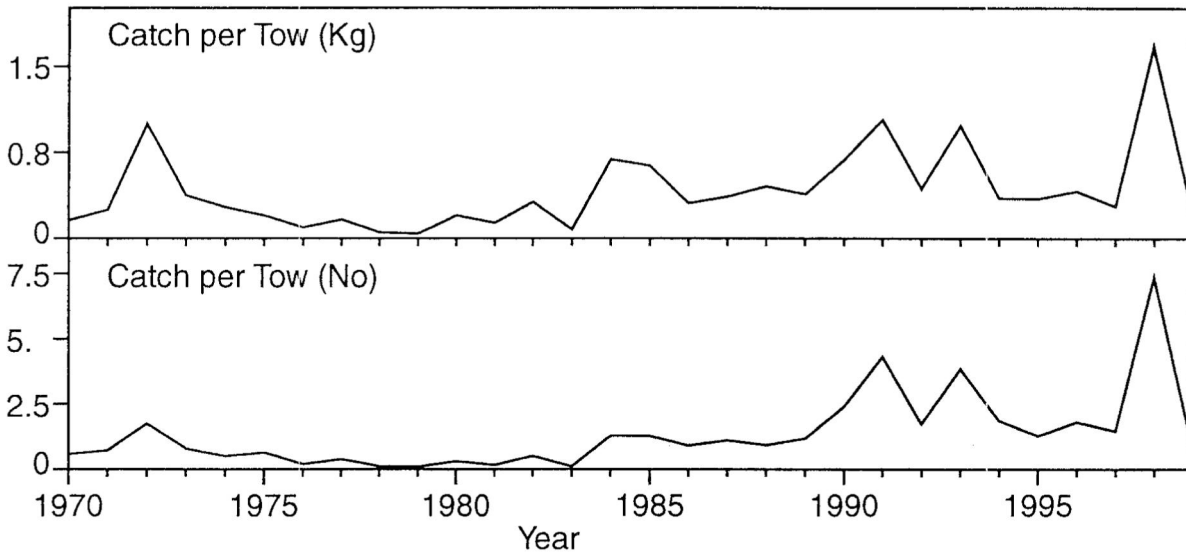


Fig. 45. 4VW Winter Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

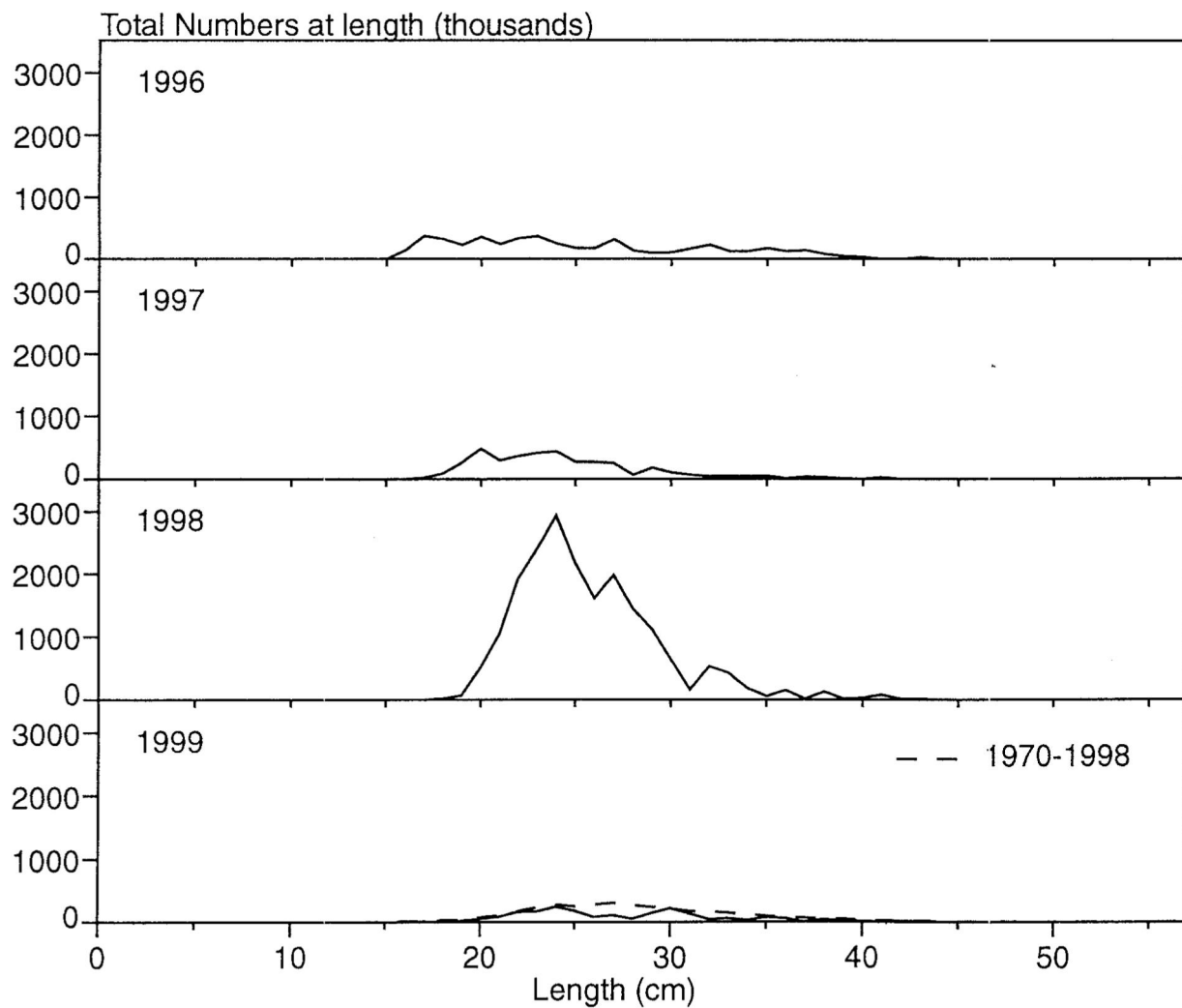


Fig. 46. 4VW Winter Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

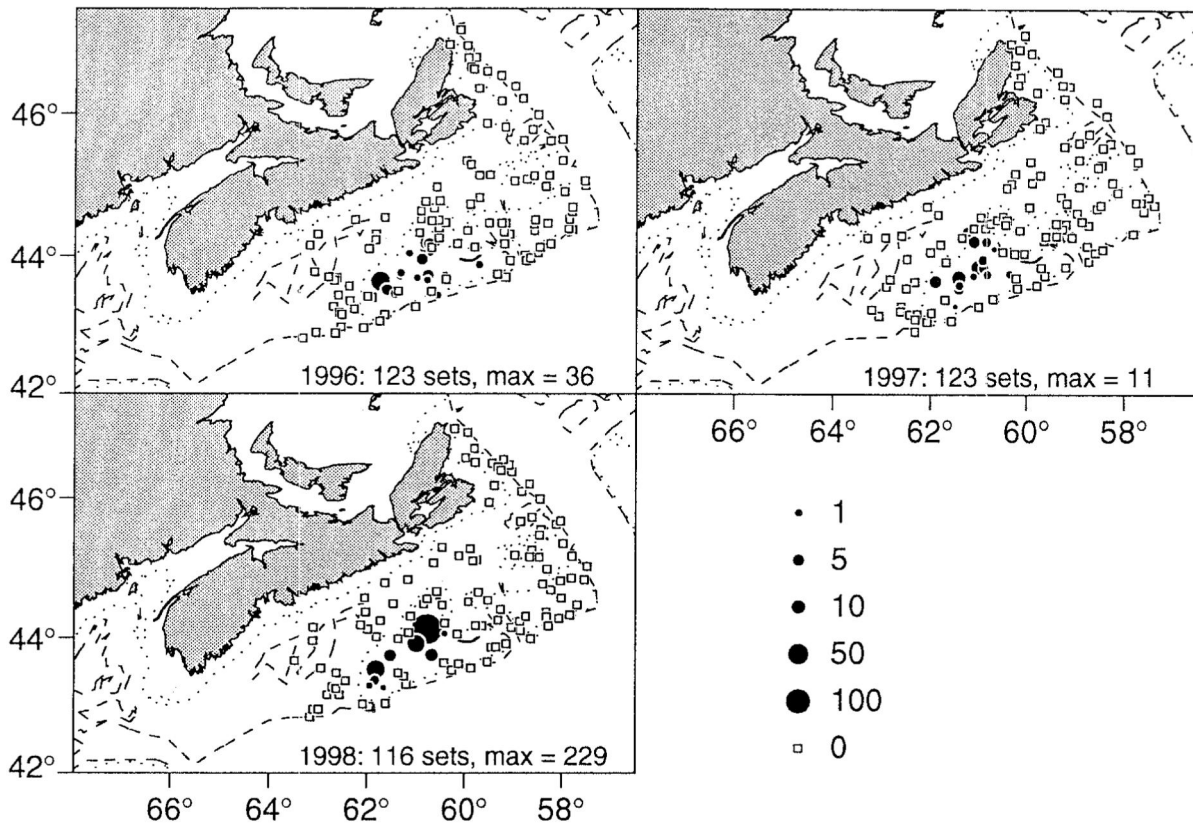


Fig. 47. 4VW Winter Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

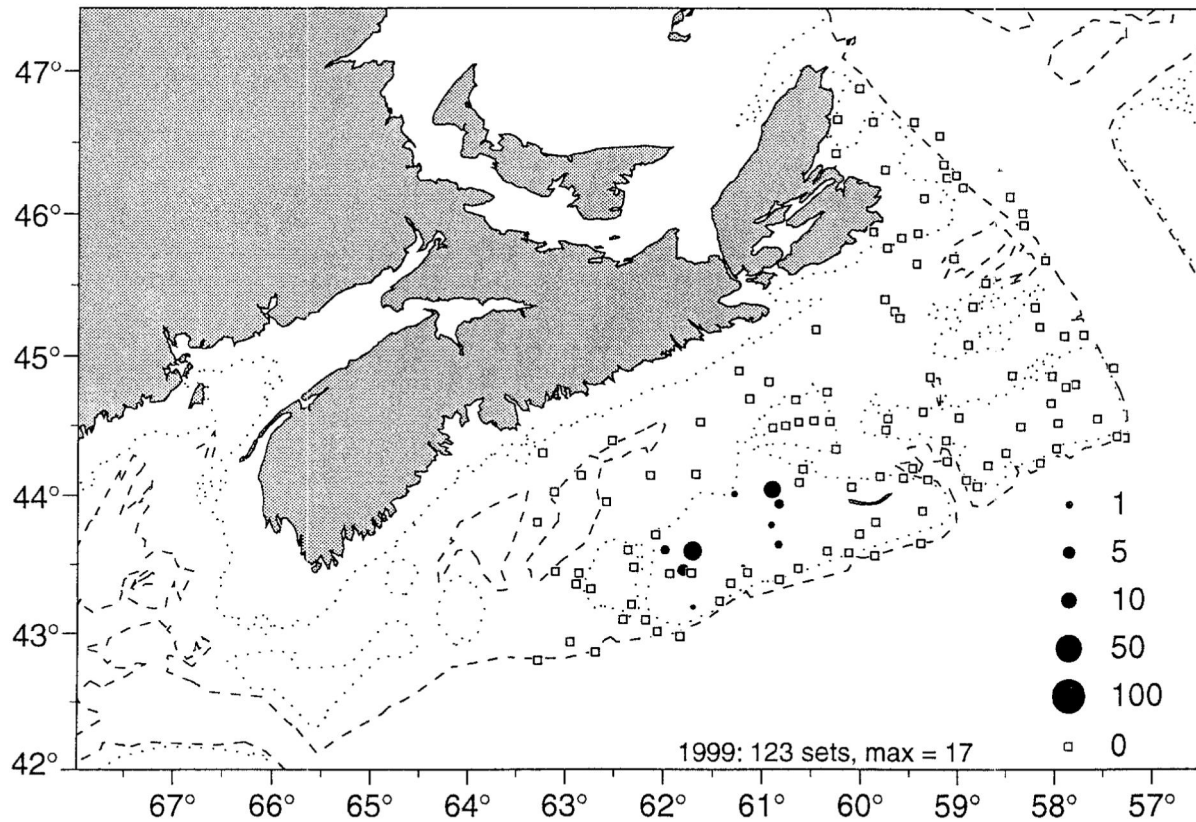


Fig. 48. 4VW Winter Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

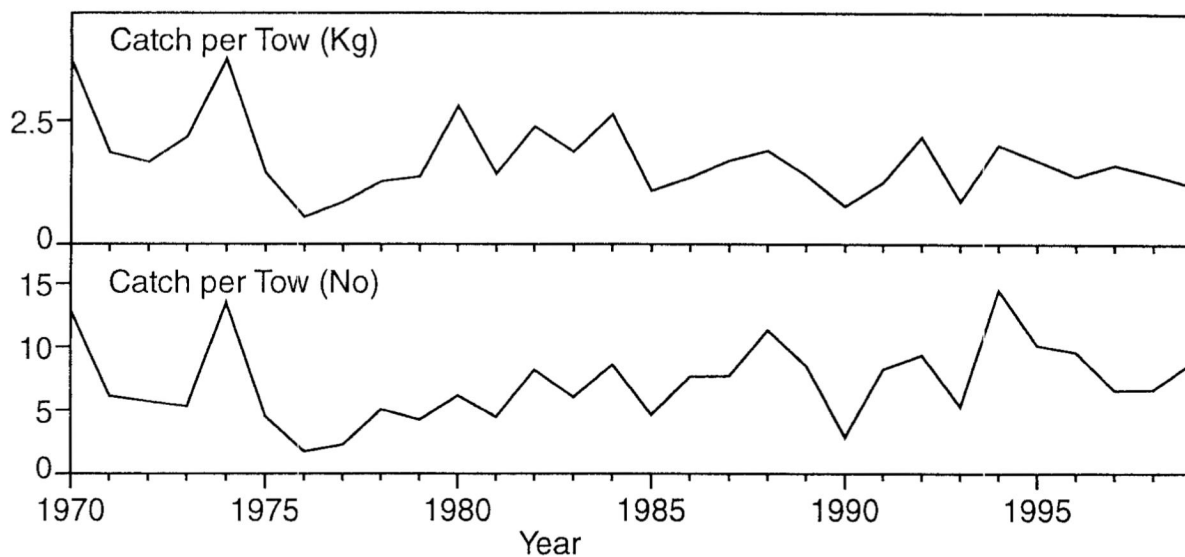


Fig. 49. 4X Plaice stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

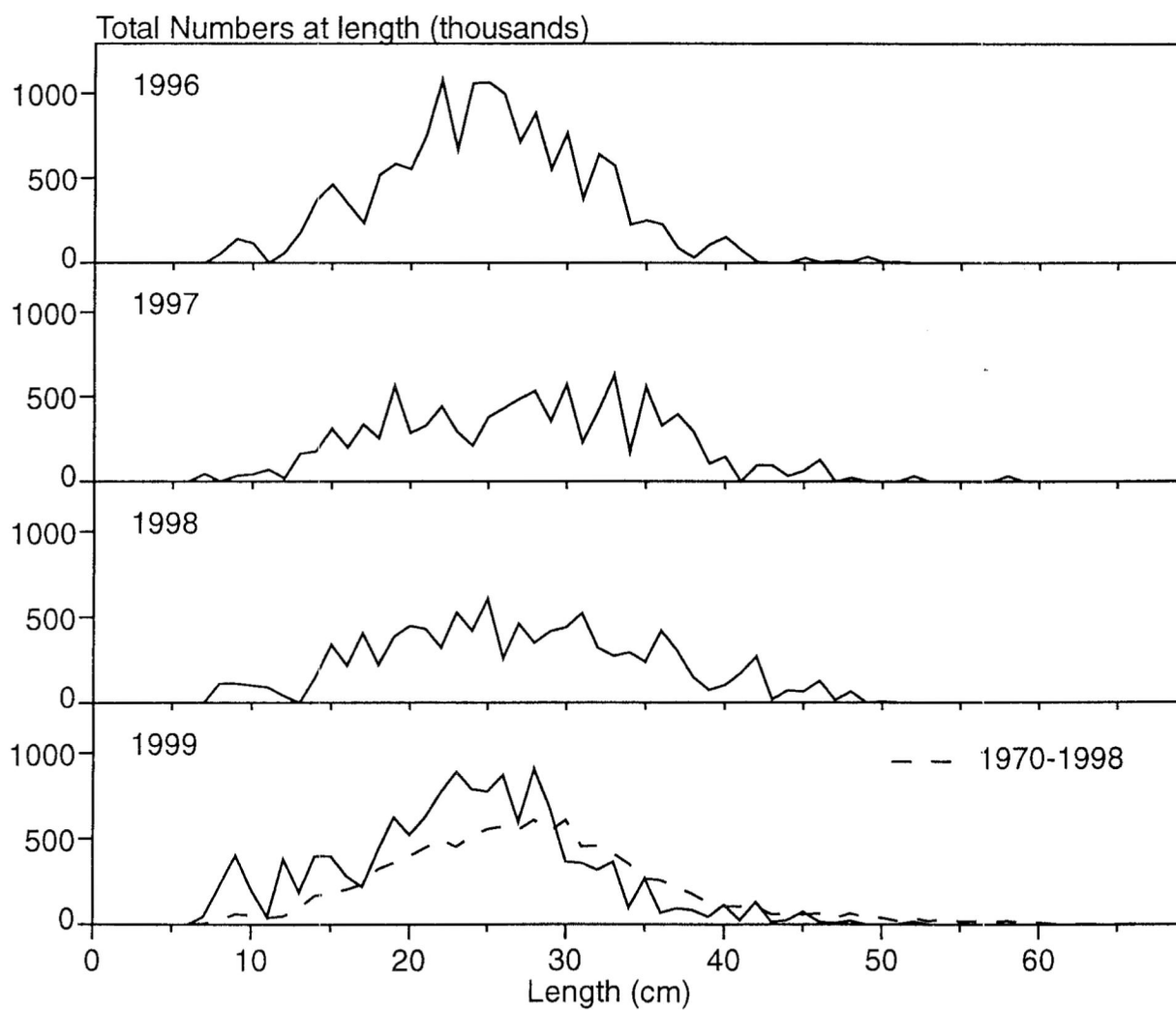


Fig. 50. 4X Plaice length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

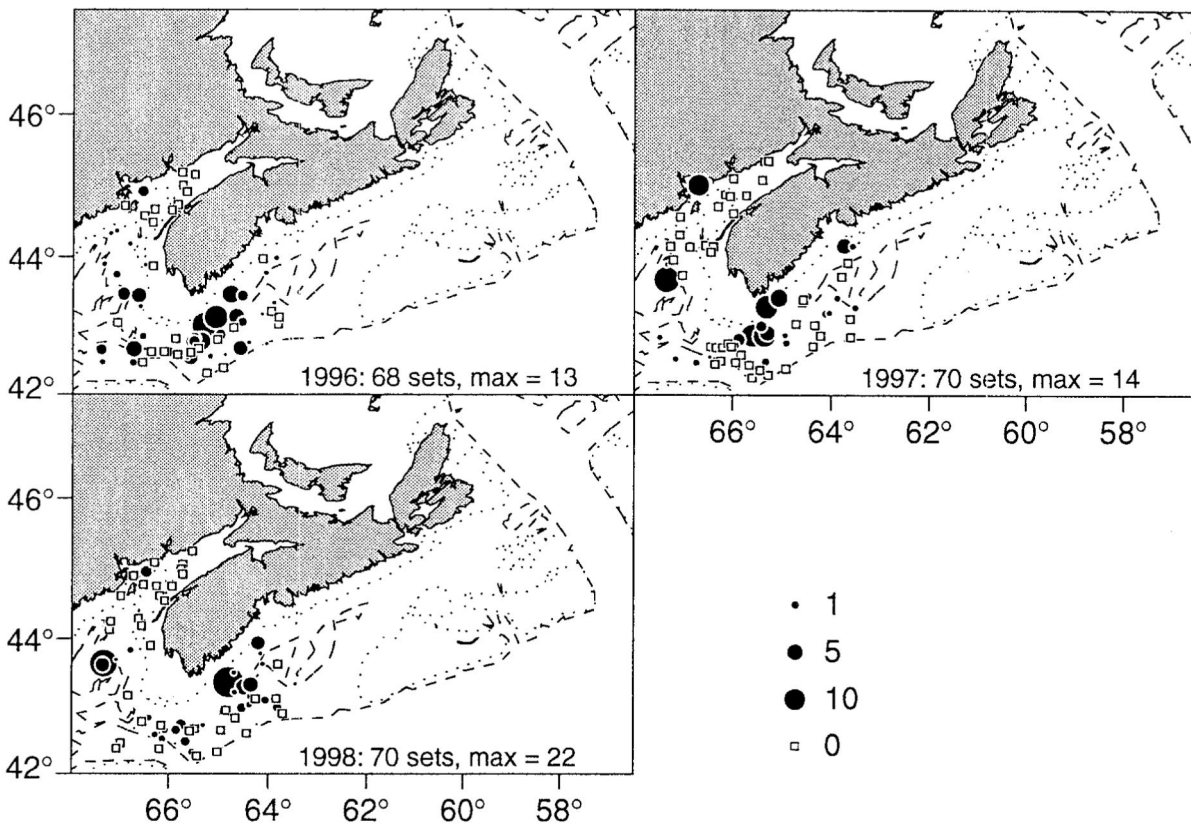


Fig. 51. 4X Plaice Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

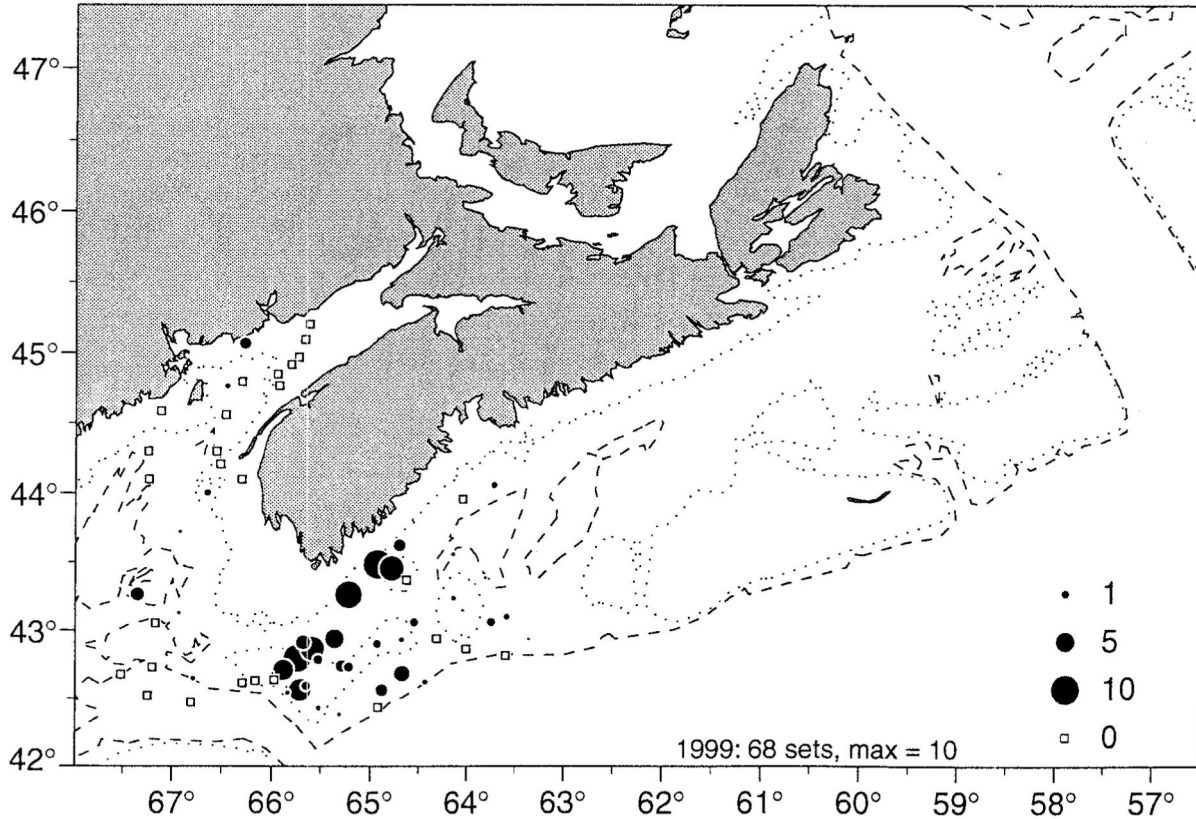


Fig. 52. 4X Plaice Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

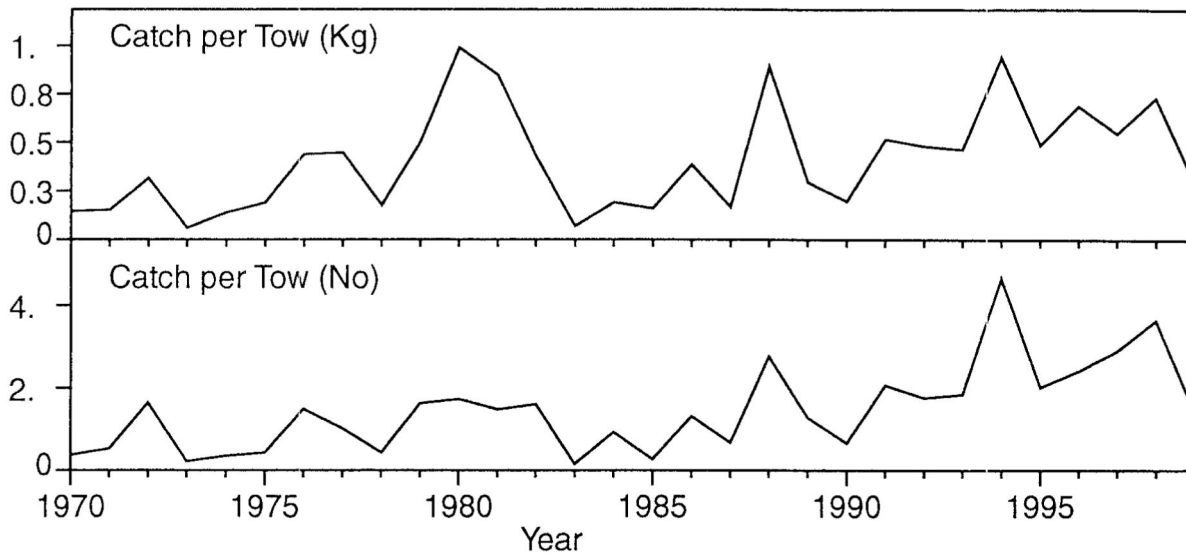


Fig. 53. 4X Yellowtail Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

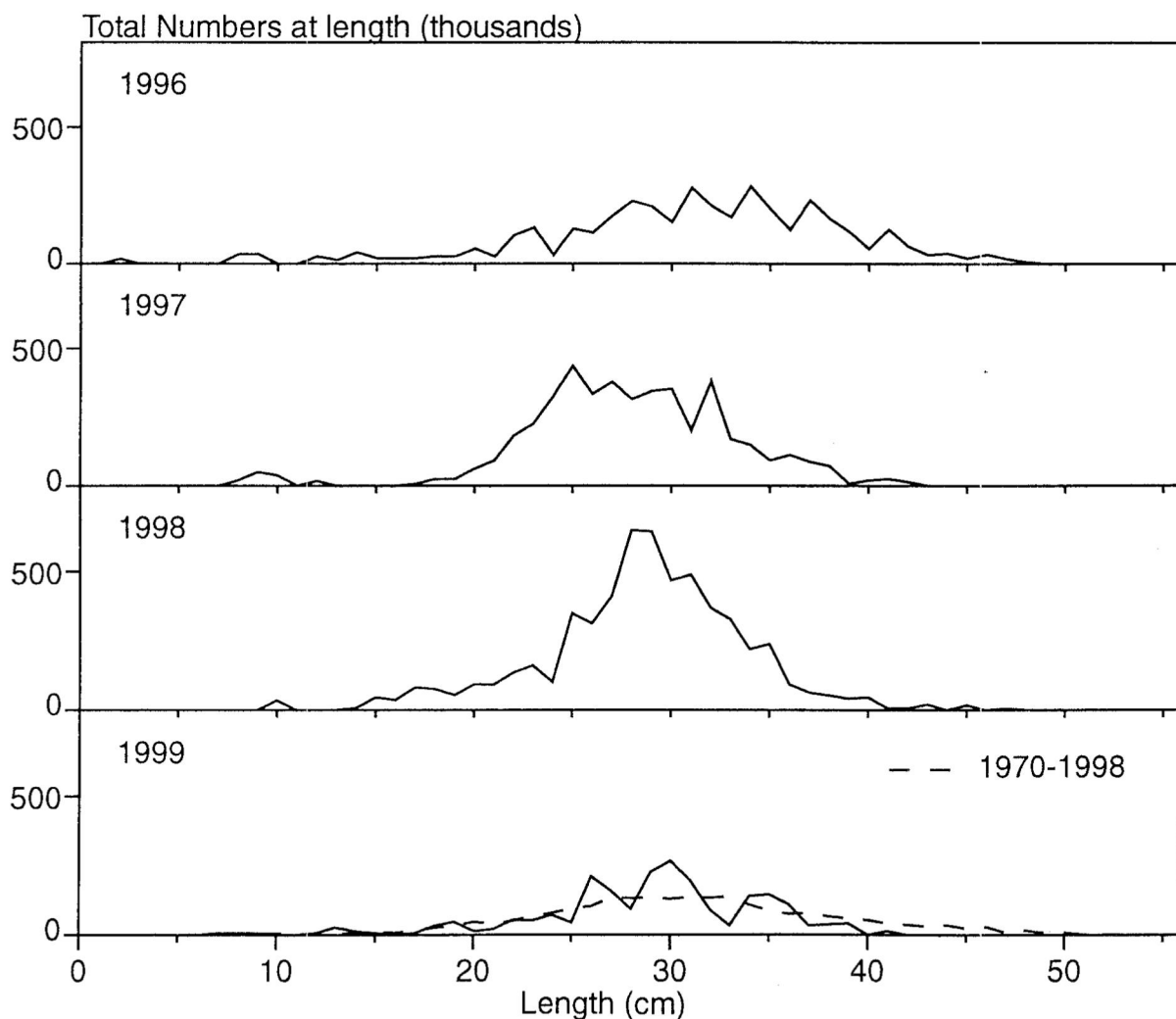


Fig. 54. 4X Yellowtail Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

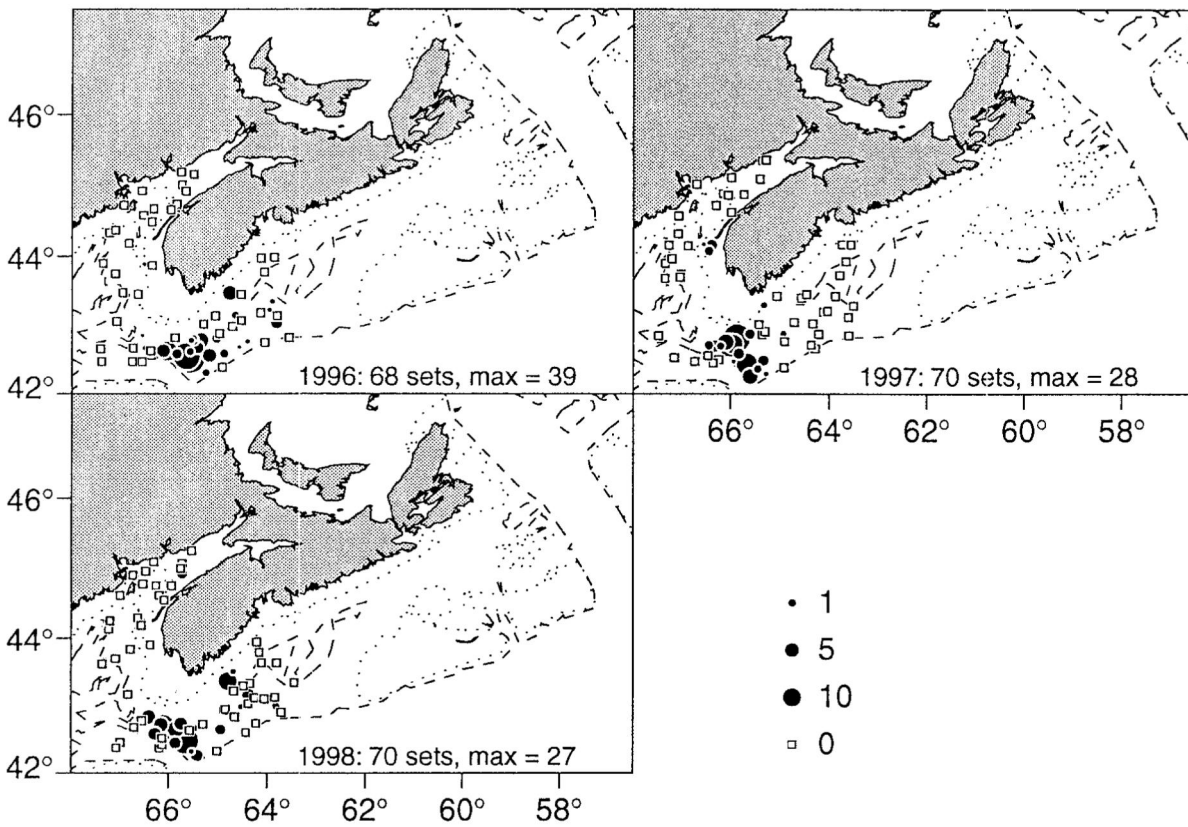


Fig. 55. 4X Yellowtail Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

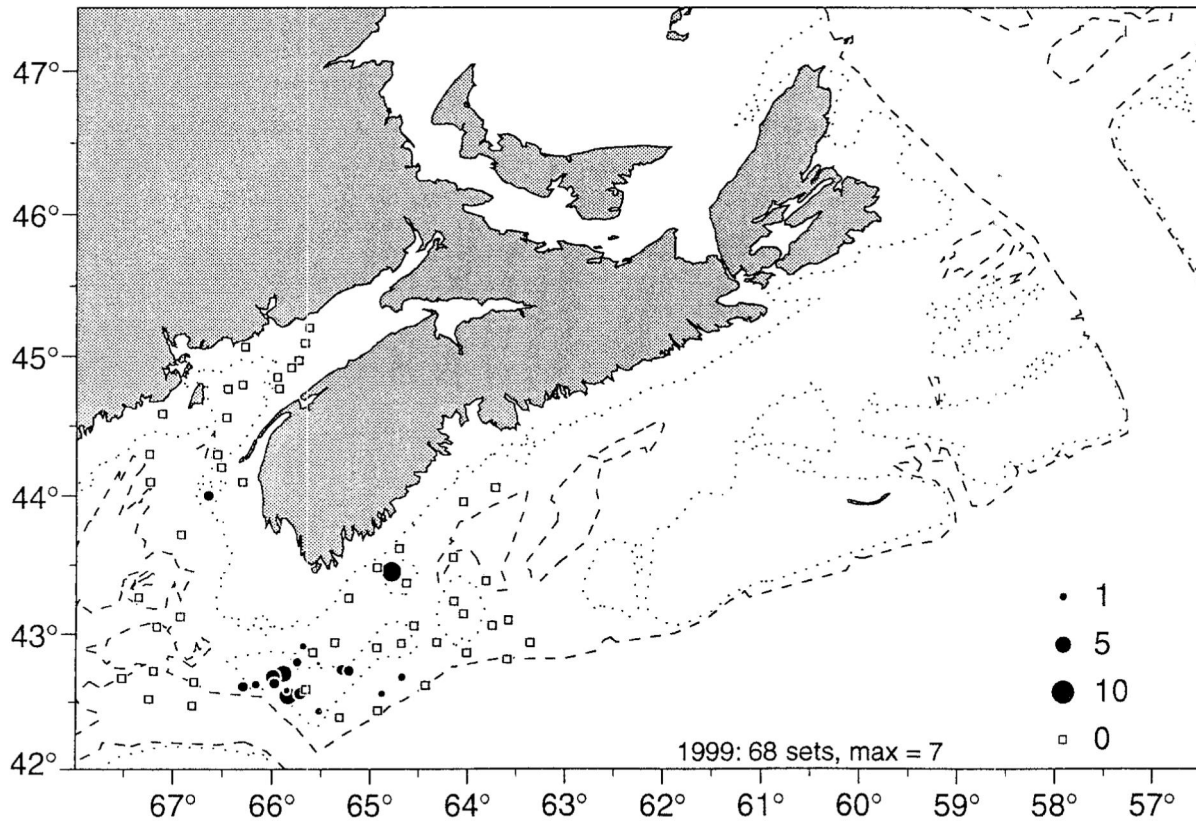


Fig. 56. 4X Yellowtail Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

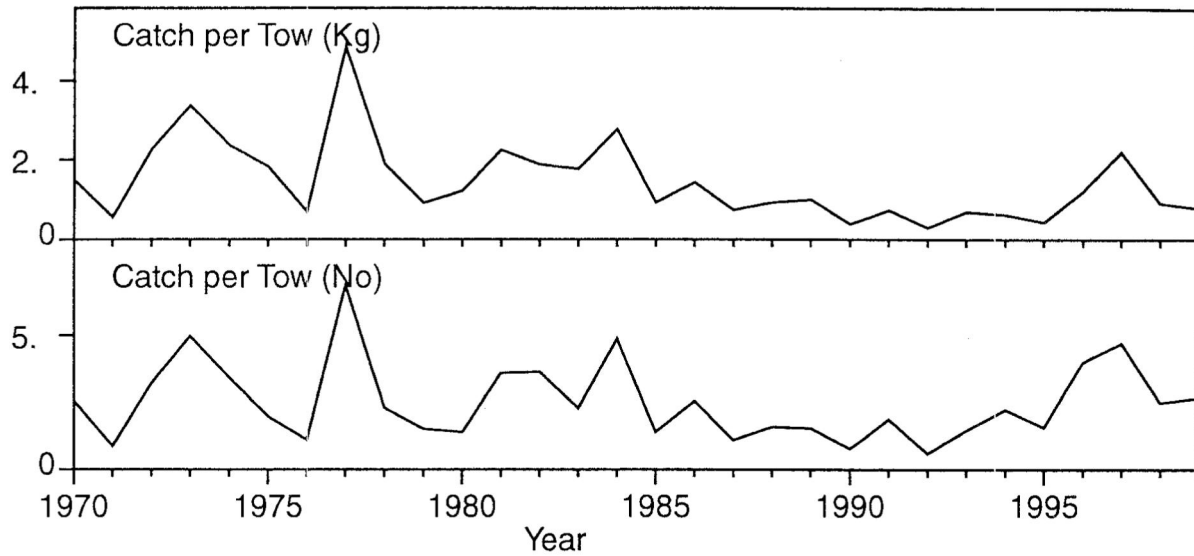


Fig. 57. 4X Witch Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

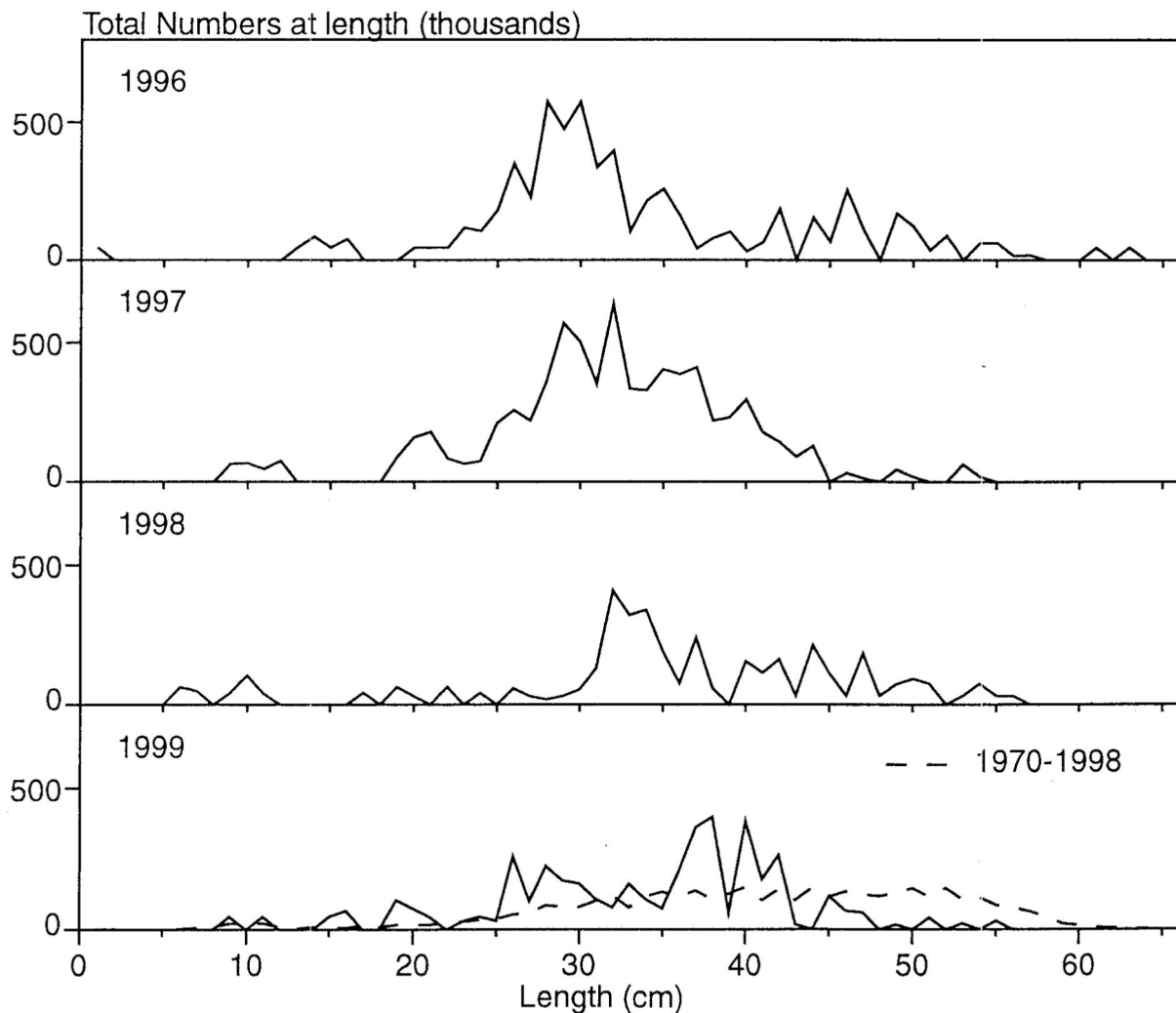


Fig. 58. 4X Witch Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

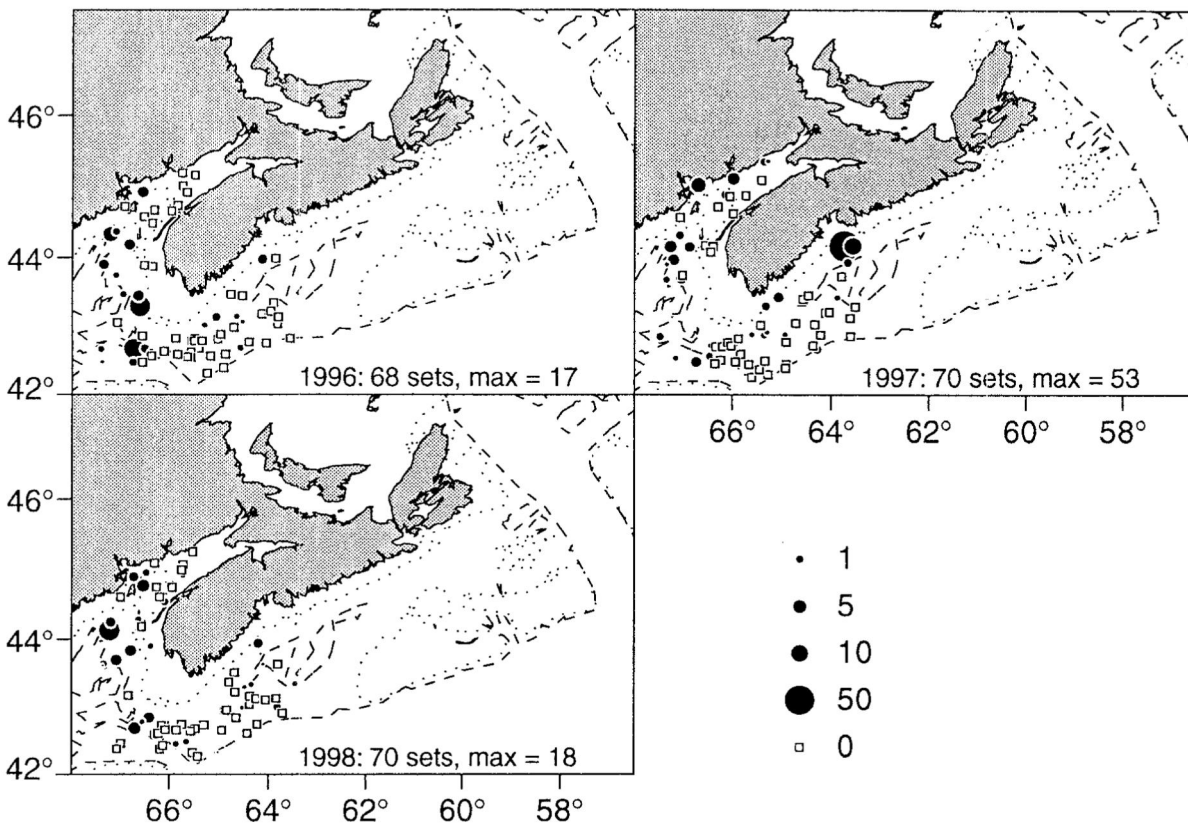


Fig. 59. 4X Witch Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

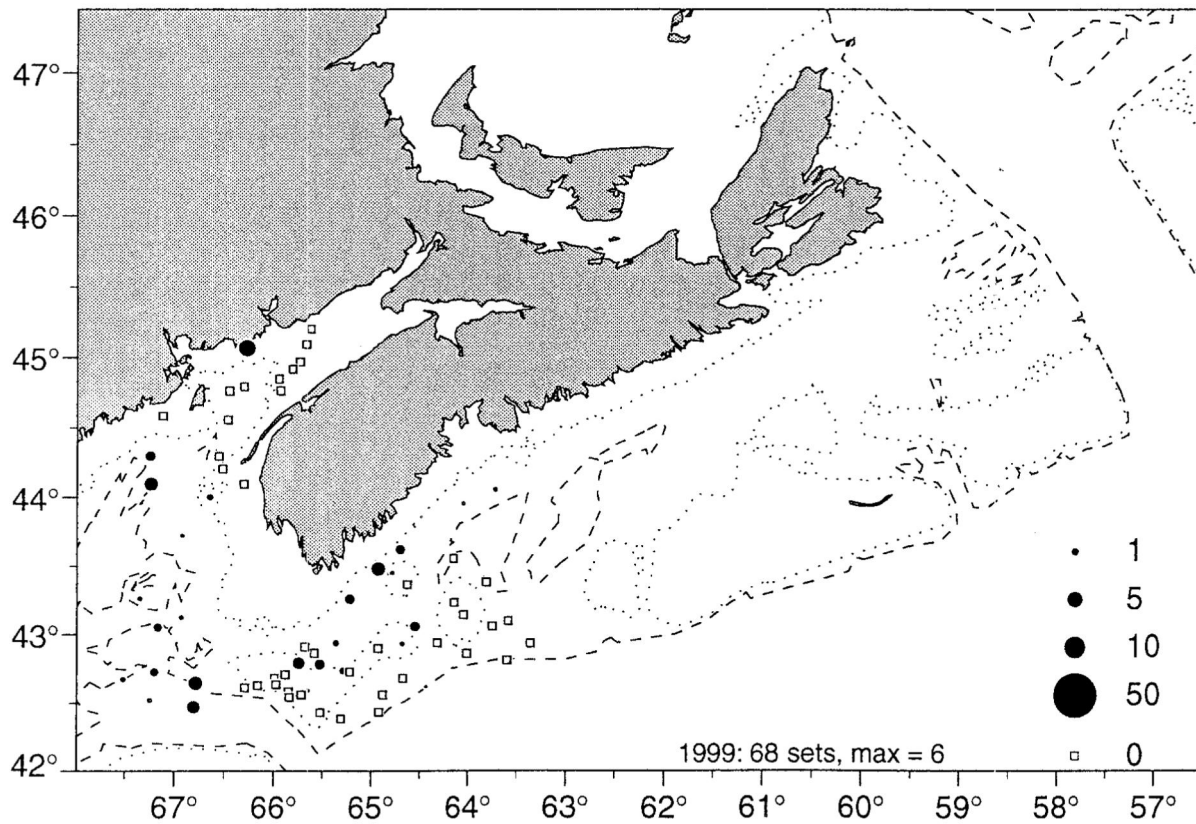


Fig. 60. 4X Witch Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.



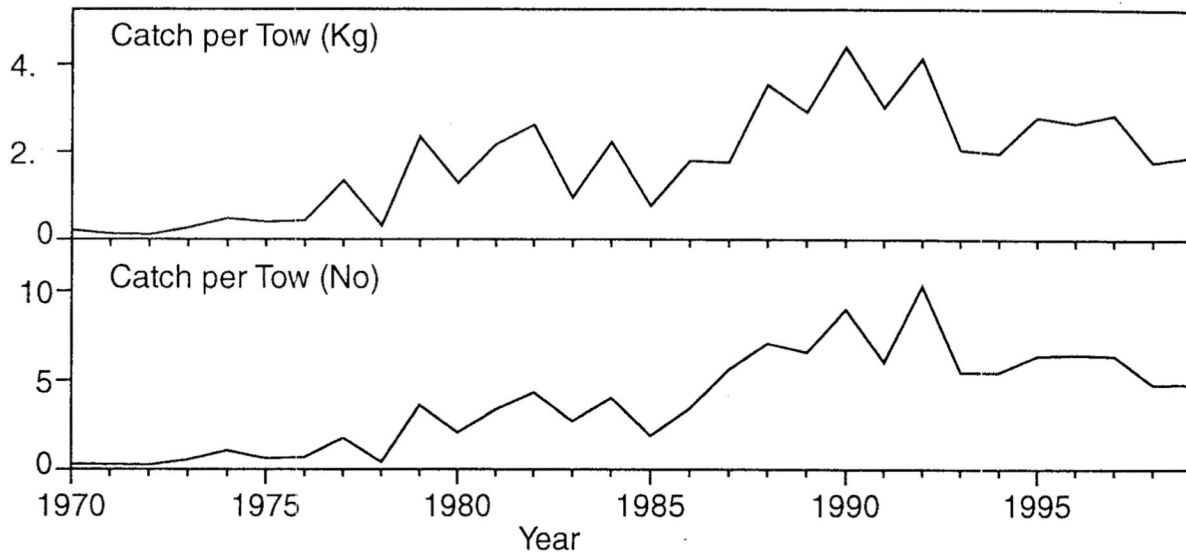


Fig. 61. 4X Winter Flounder stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

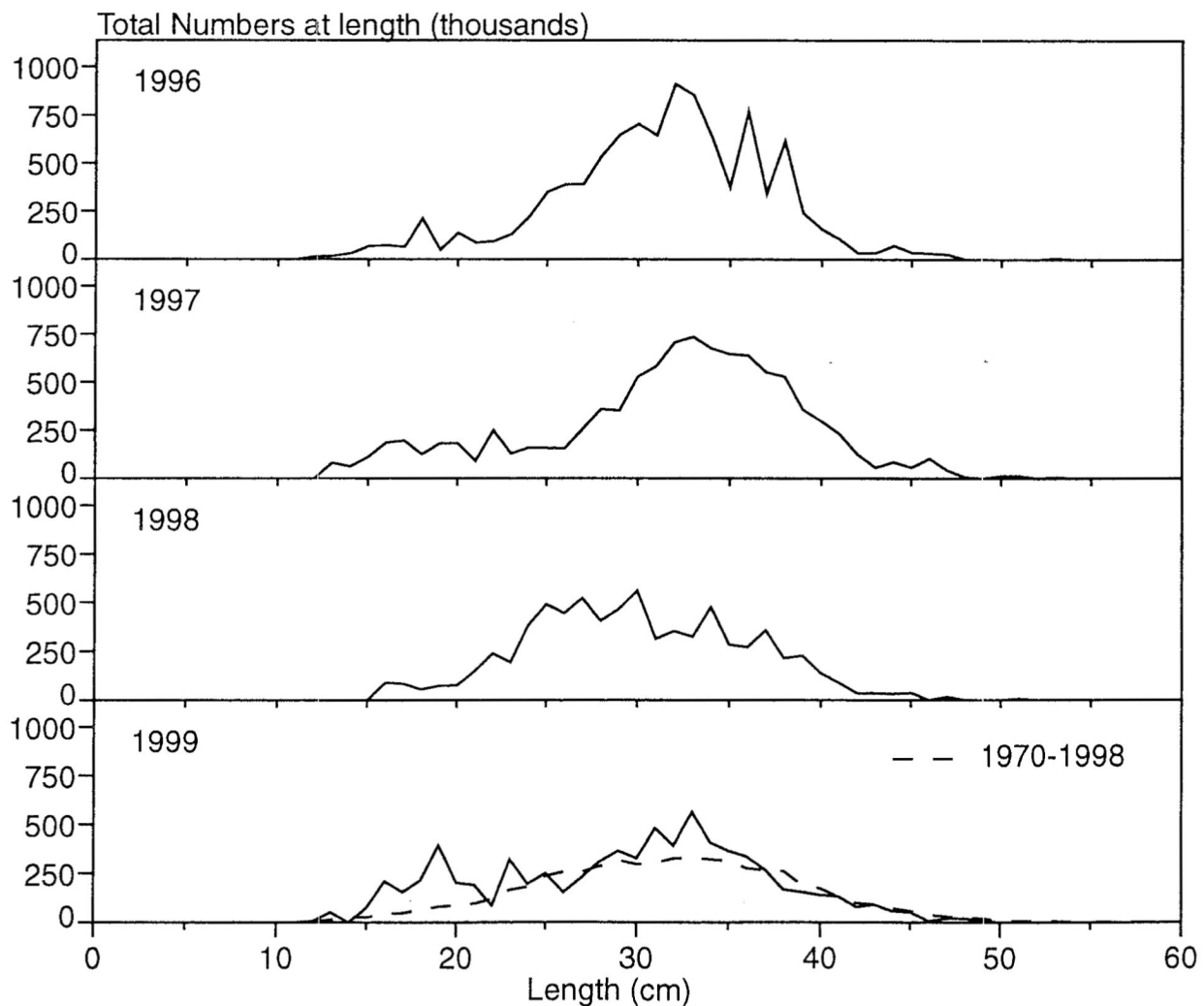


Fig. 62. 4X Winter Flounder length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

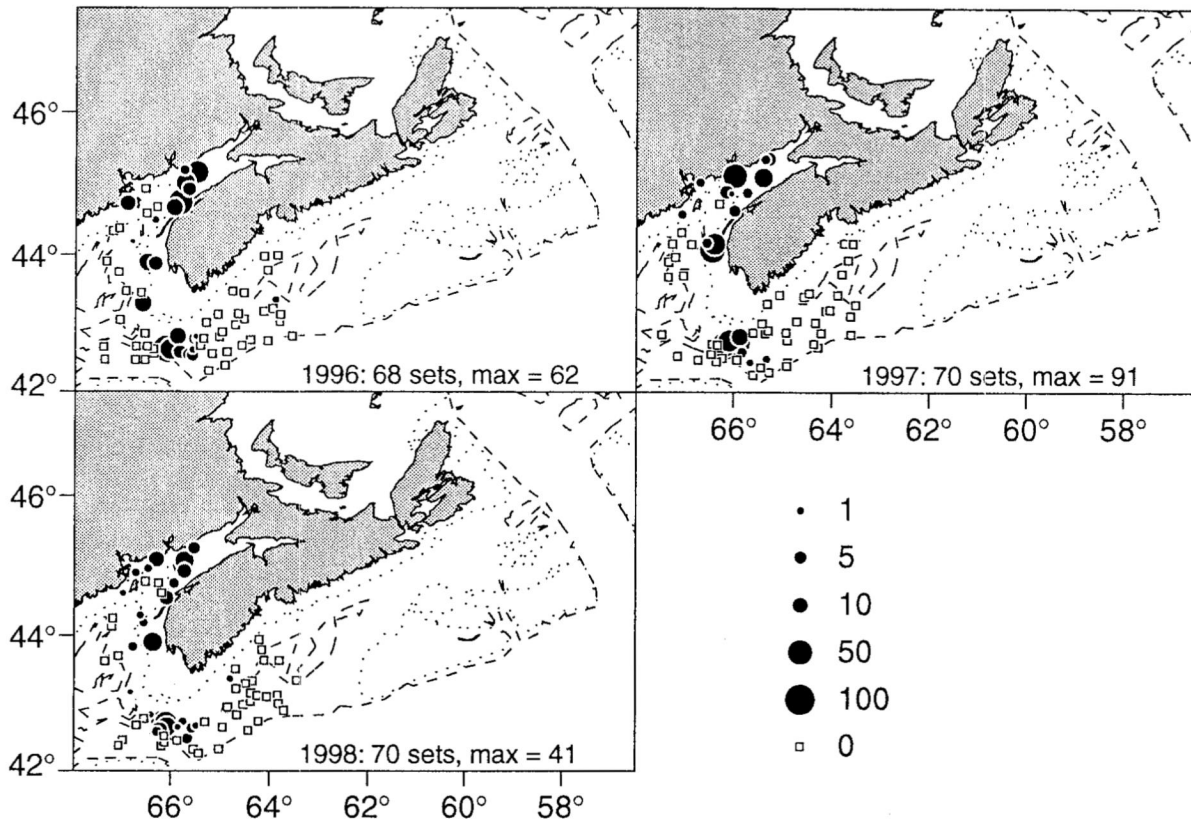


Fig. 63. 4X Winter Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

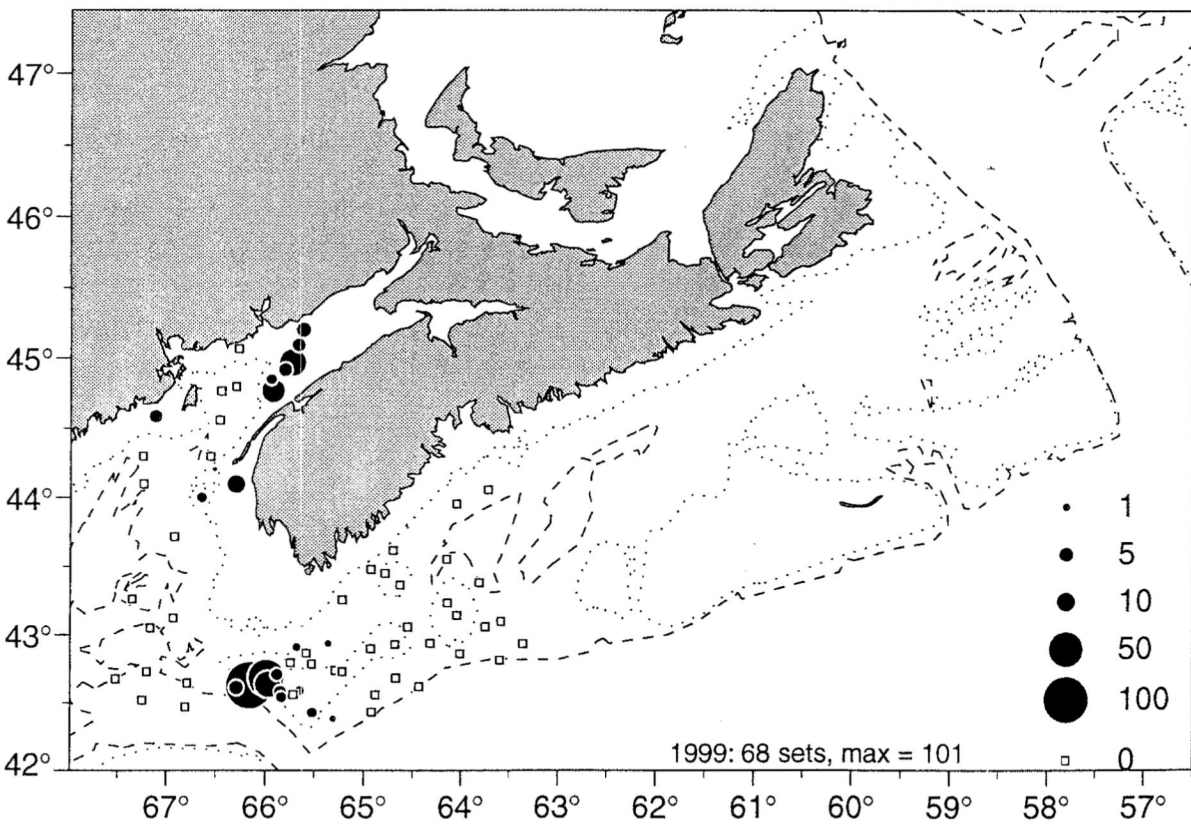


Fig. 64. 4X Winter Flounder Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

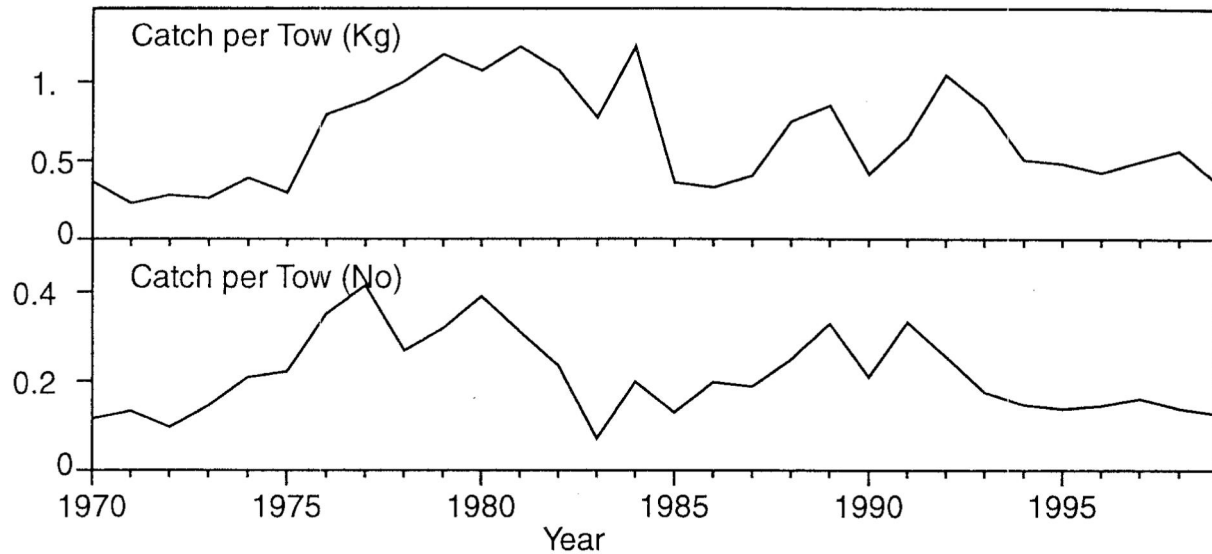


Fig. 65. 4VWX Halibut stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

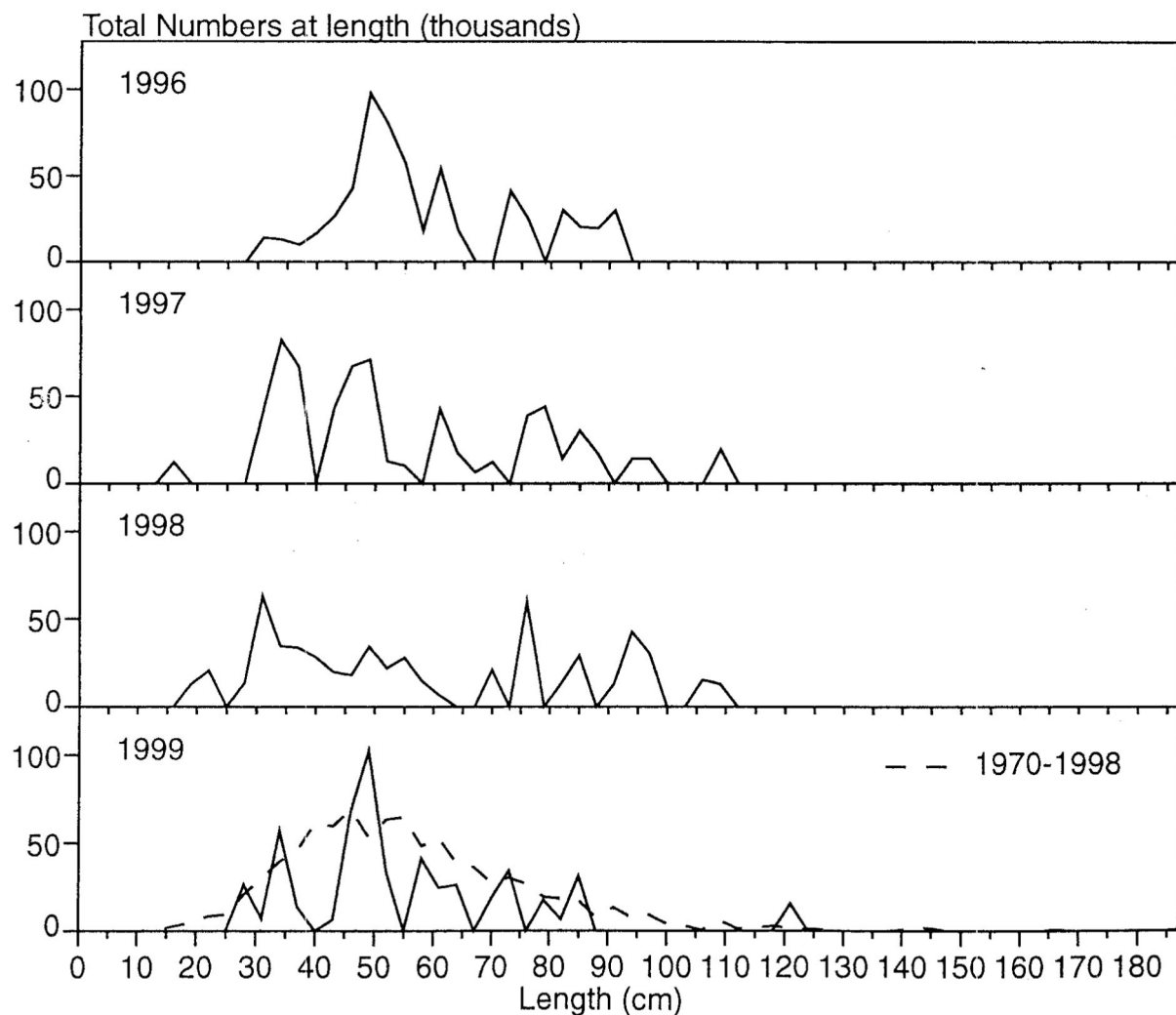


Fig. 66. 4VWX Halibut length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

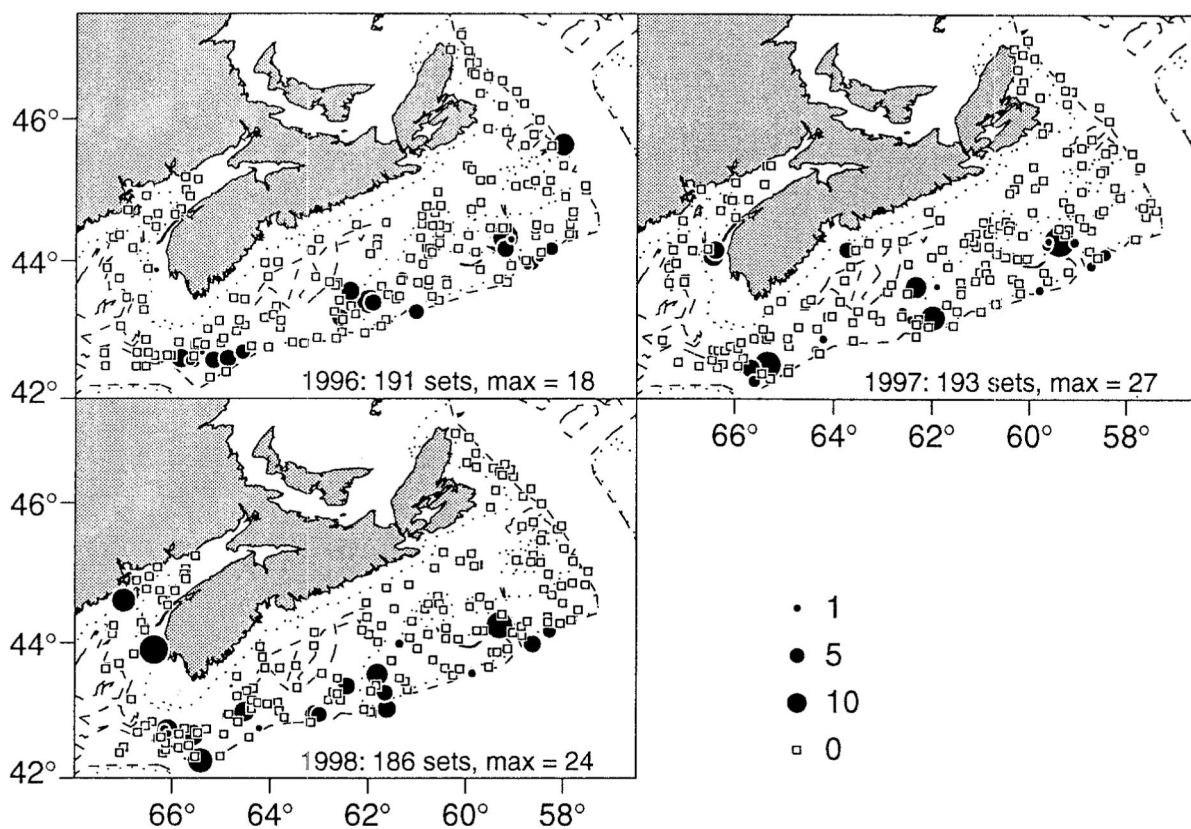


Fig. 67. 4VWX Halibut Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

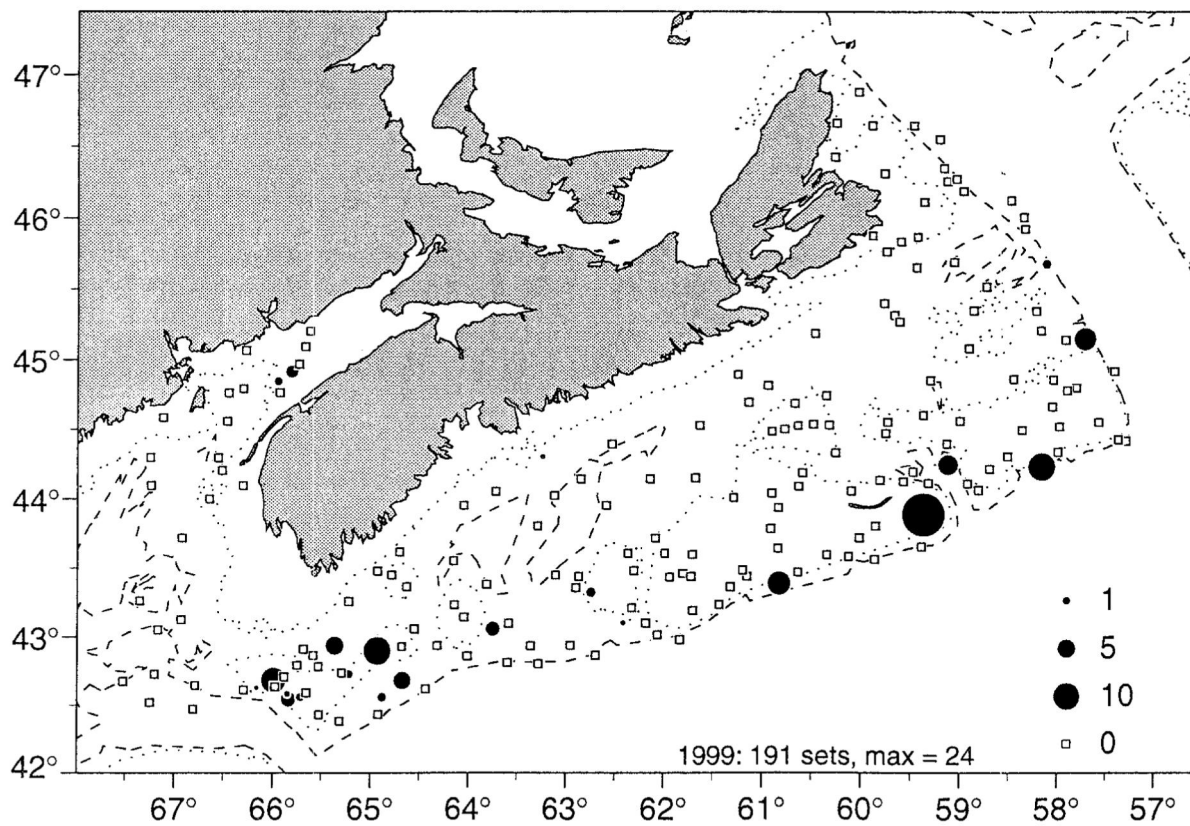


Fig. 68. 4VWX Halibut Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

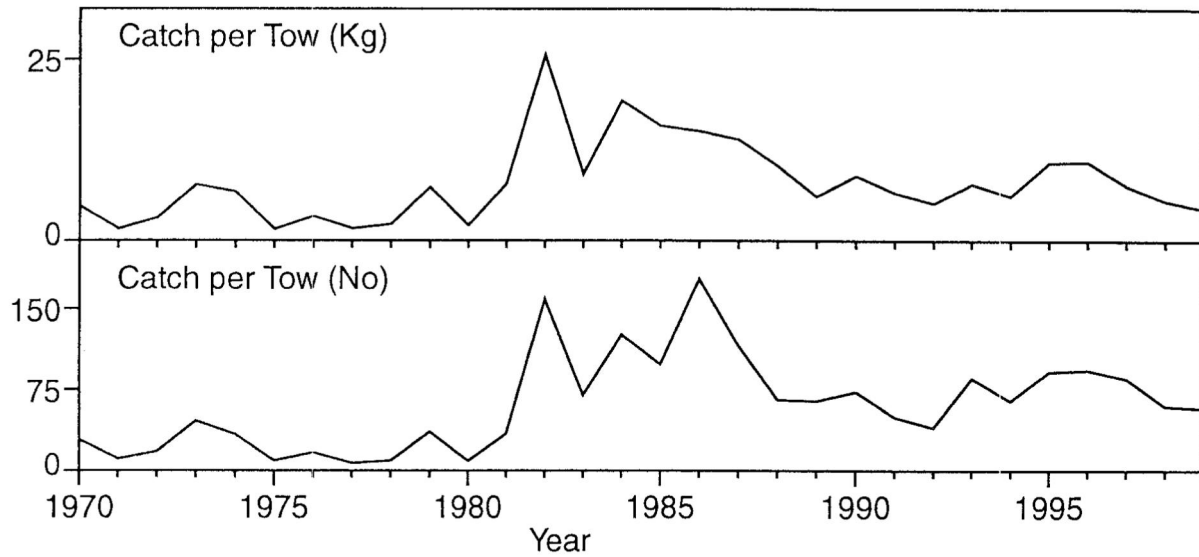


Fig. 69. 4VWX Silver Hake stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

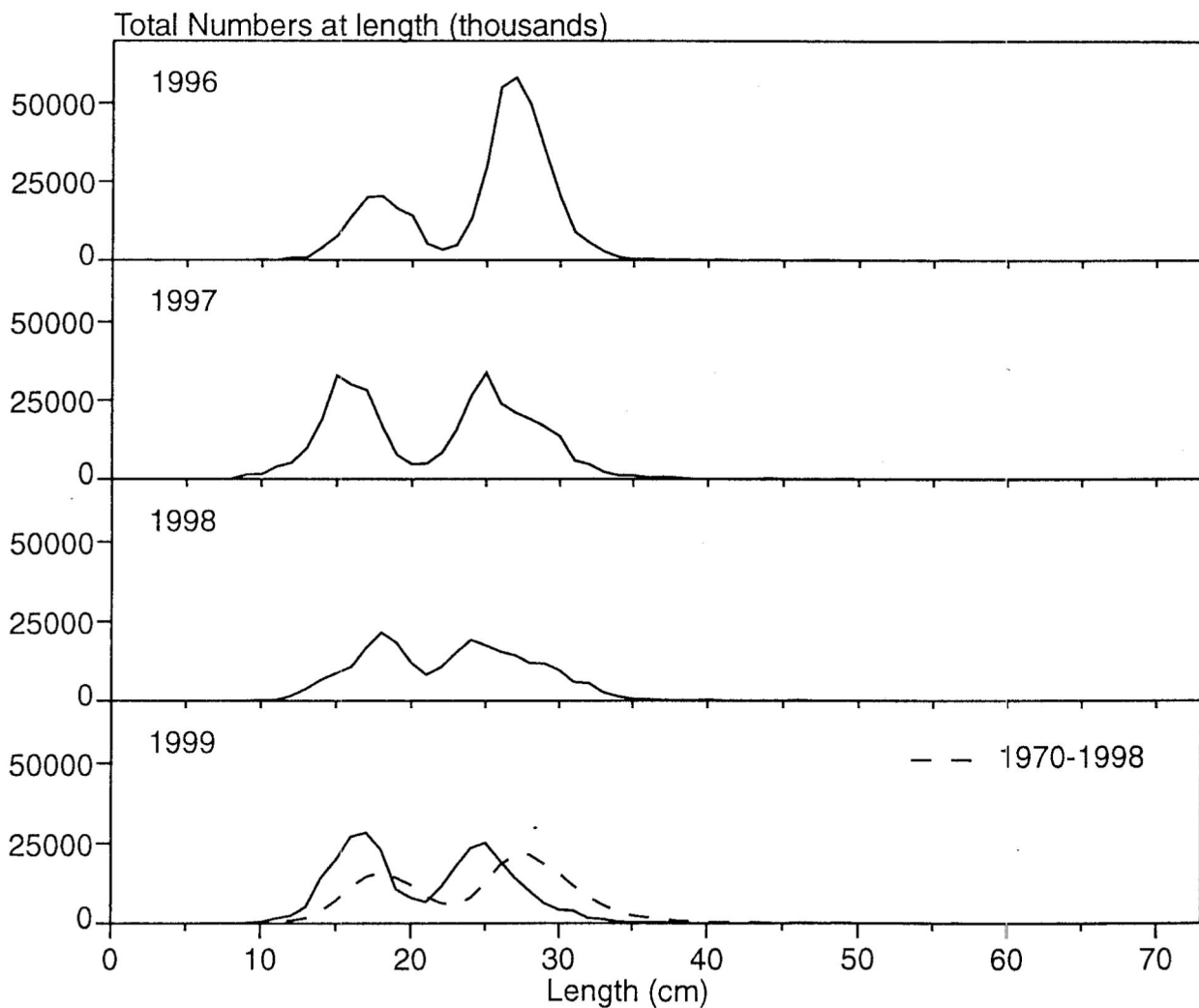


Fig. 70. 4VWX Silver Hake length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

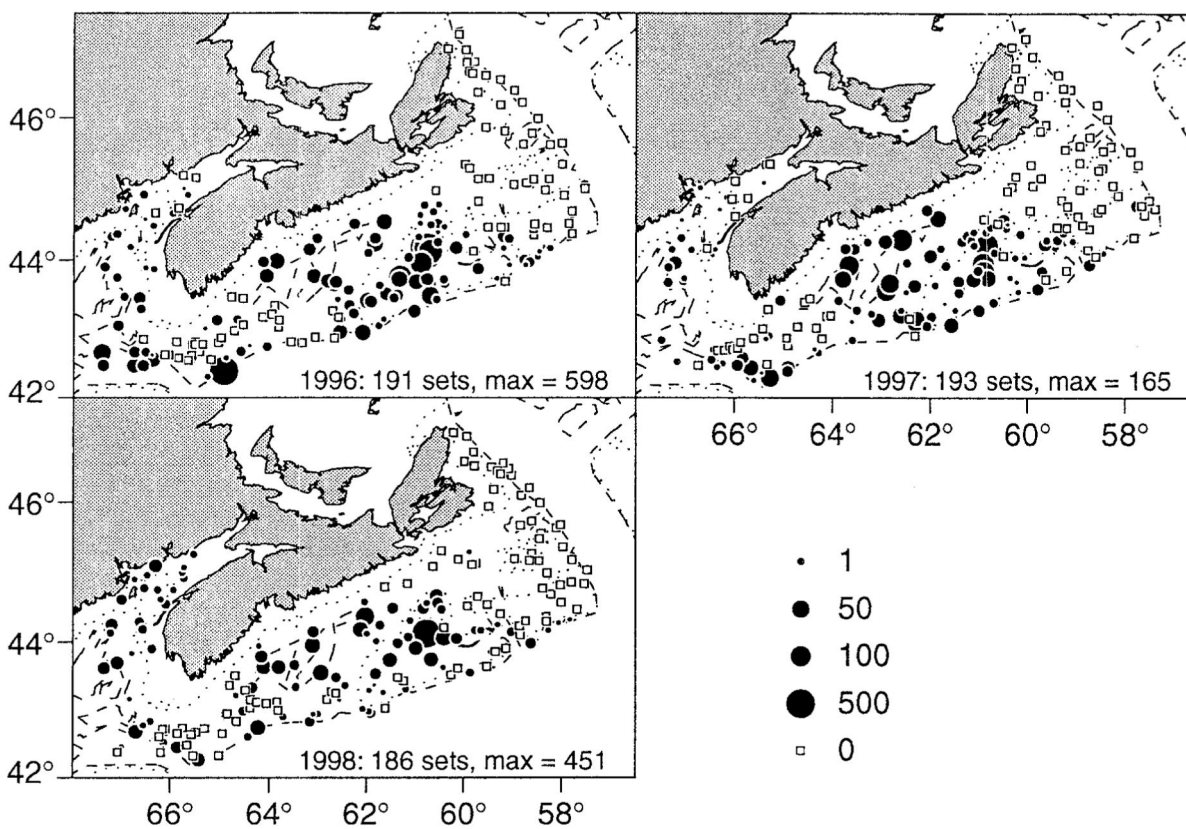


Fig. 71. 4VWX Silver Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

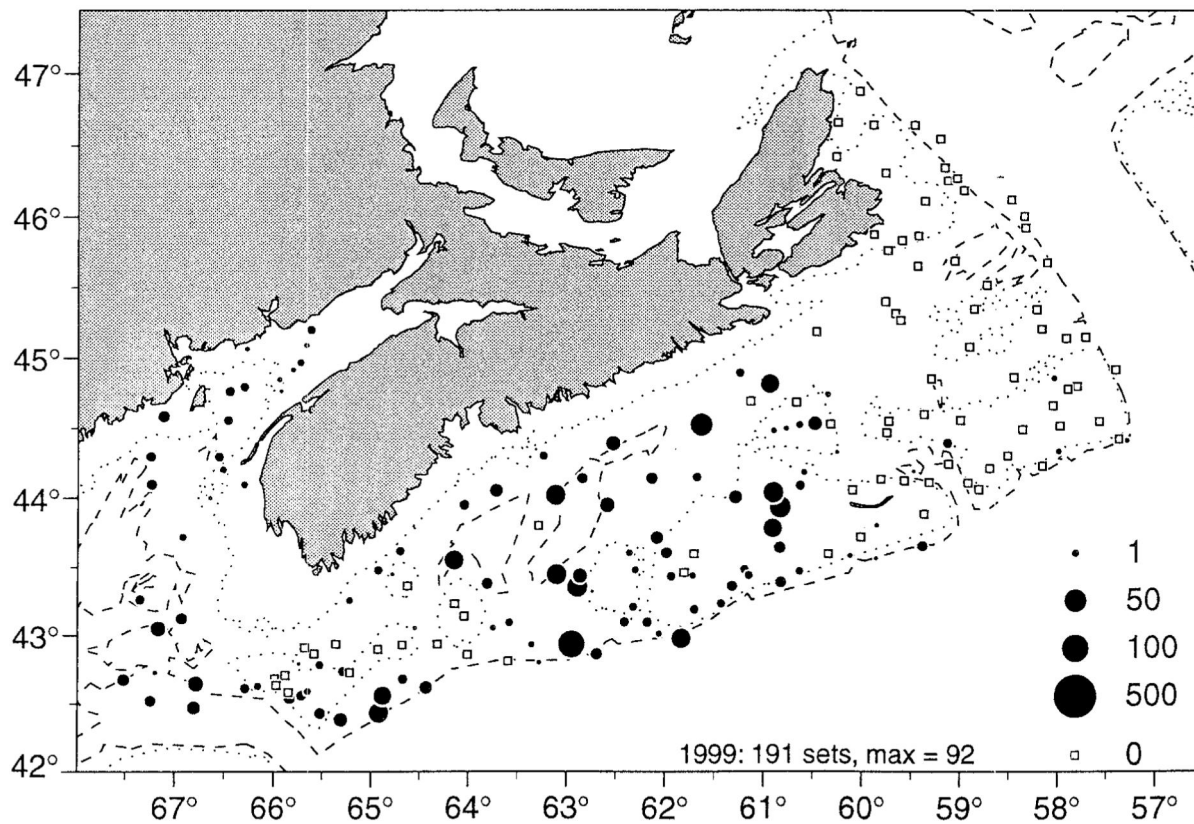


Fig. 72. 4VWX Silver Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

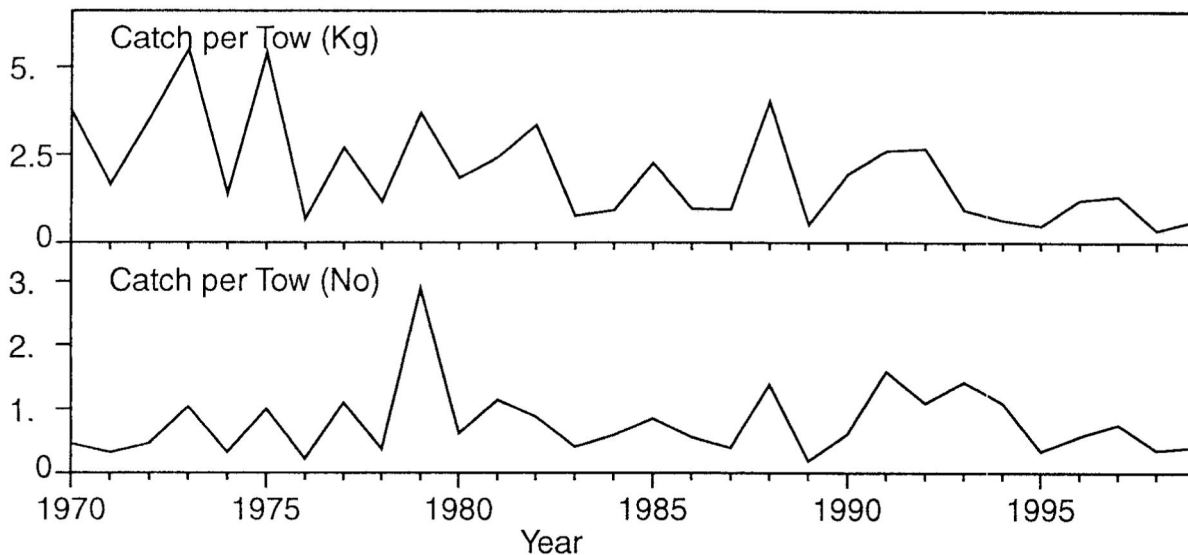


Fig. 73. 4VsW Winter Skate stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

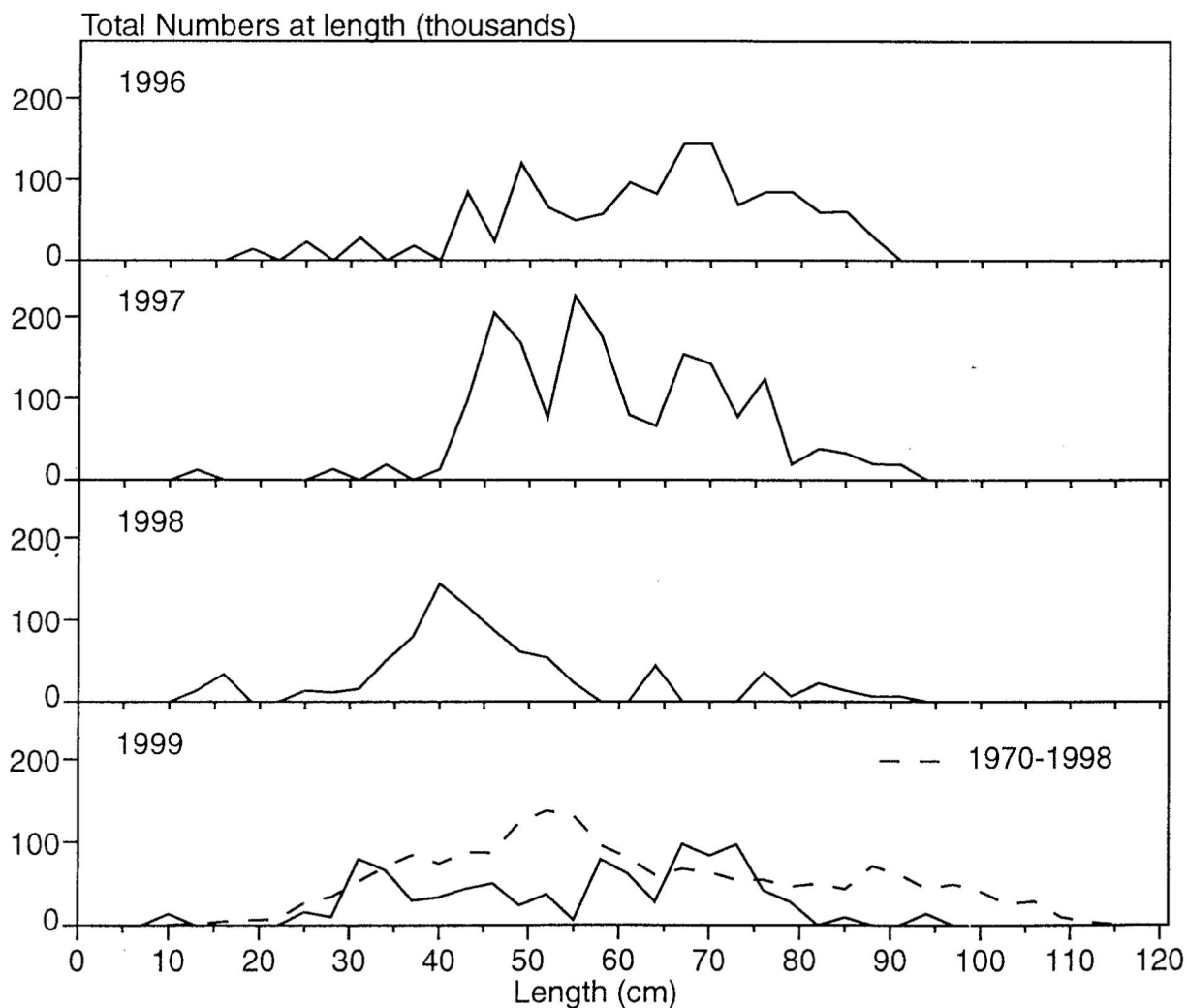


Fig. 74. 4VsW Winter Skate length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.



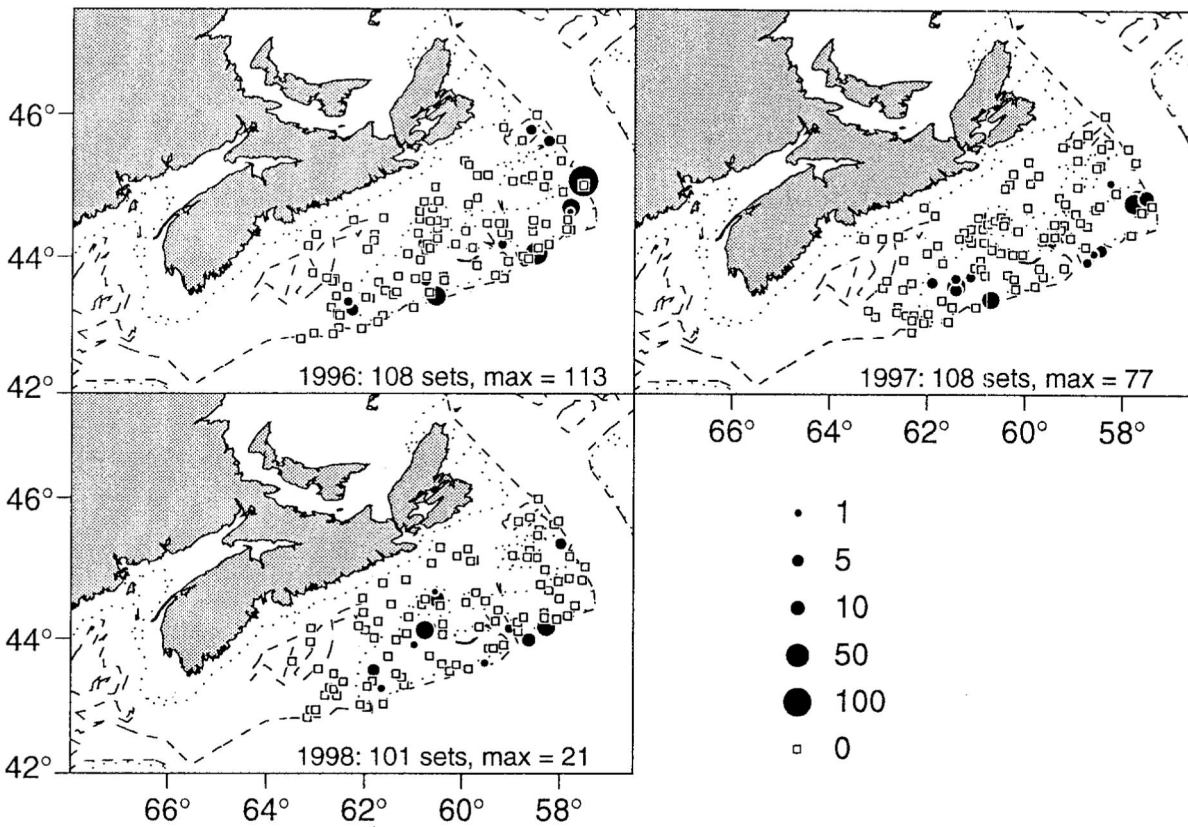


Fig. 75. 4VsW Winter Skate Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

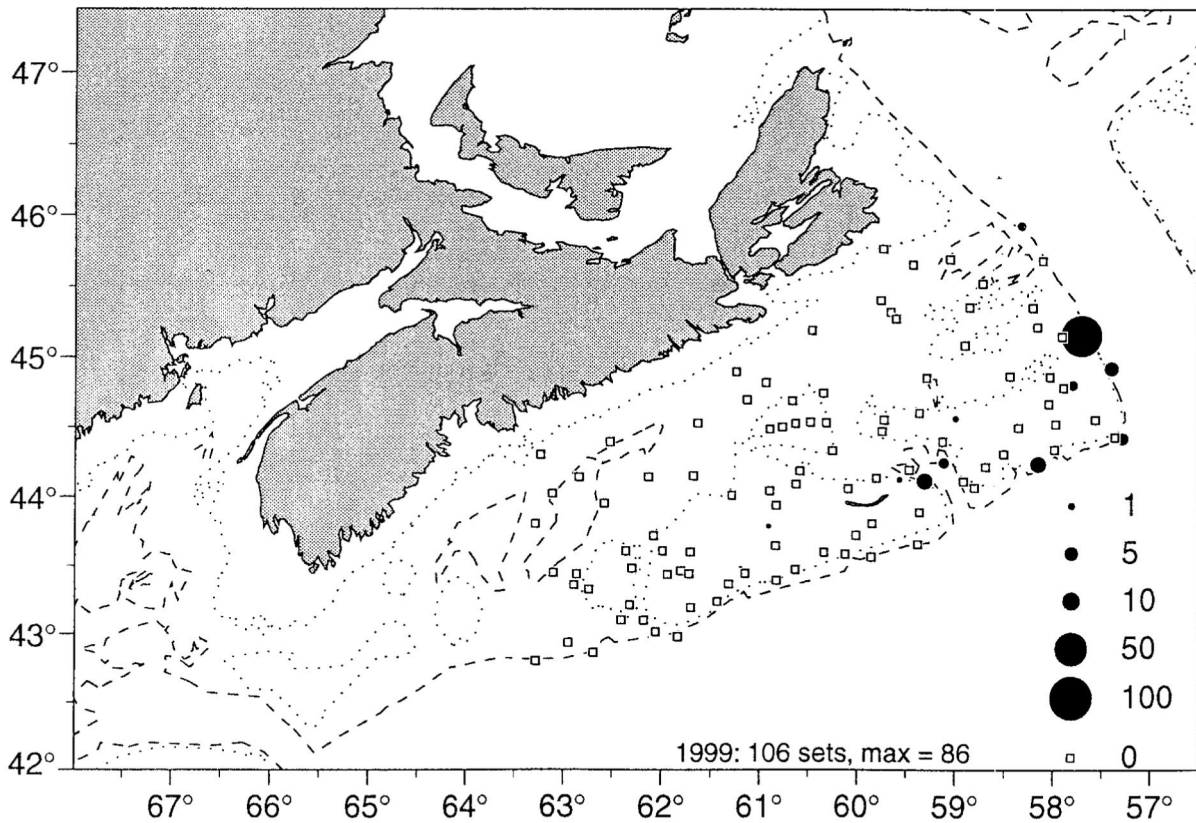


Fig. 76. 4VsW Winter Skate Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

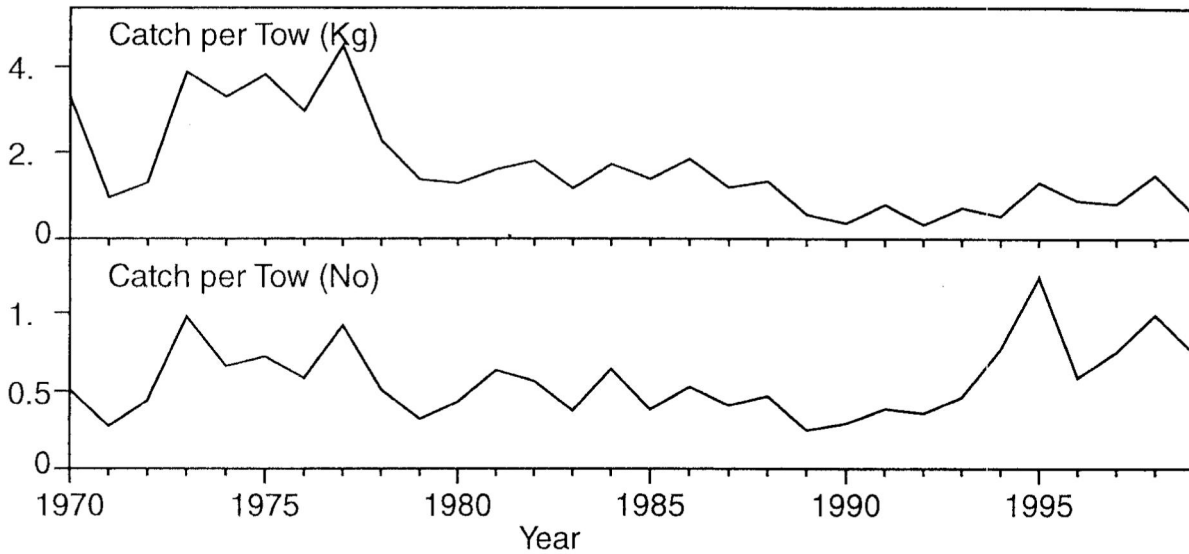


Fig. 77. 4VWX Monkfish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

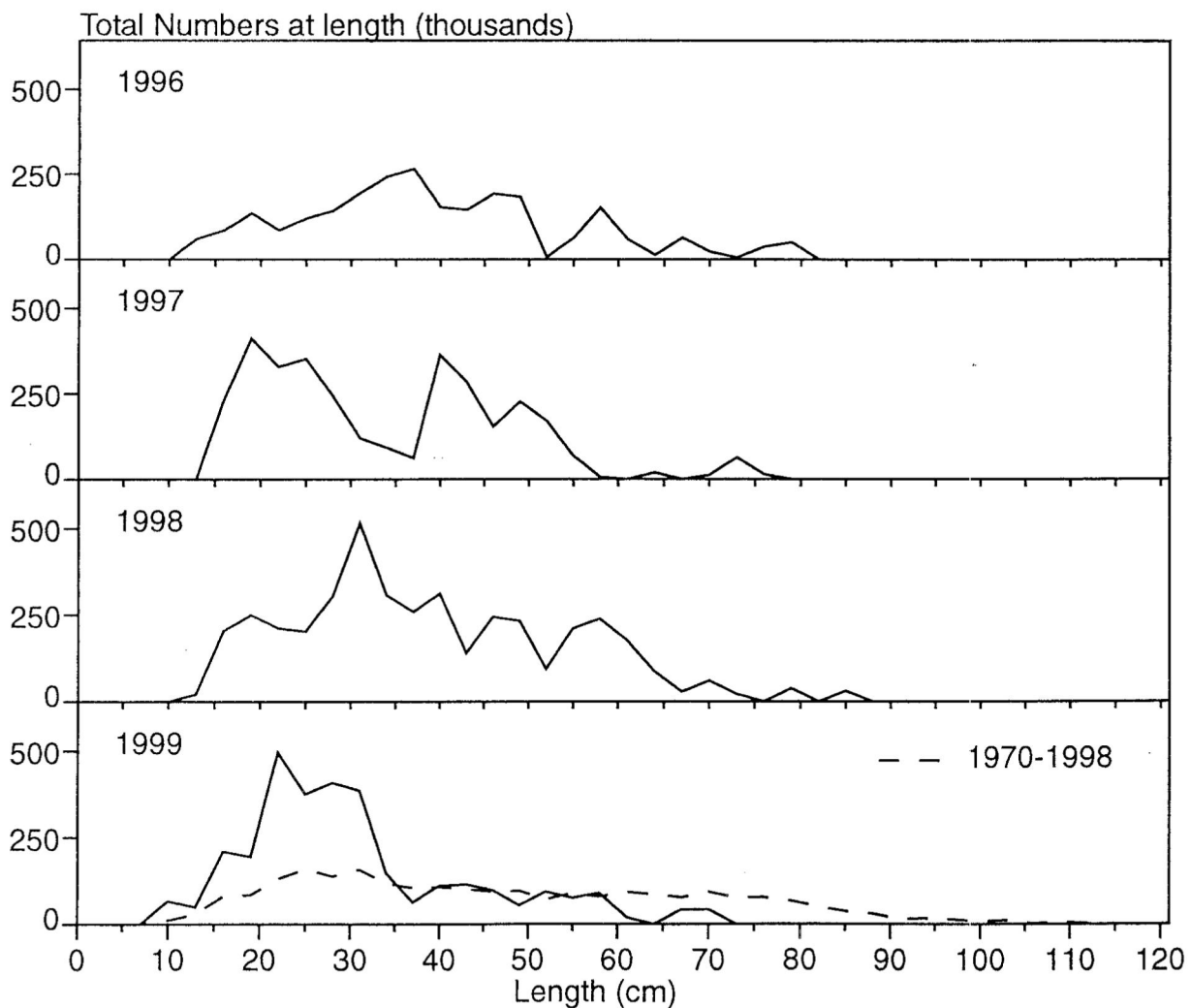


Fig. 78. 4VWX Monkfish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

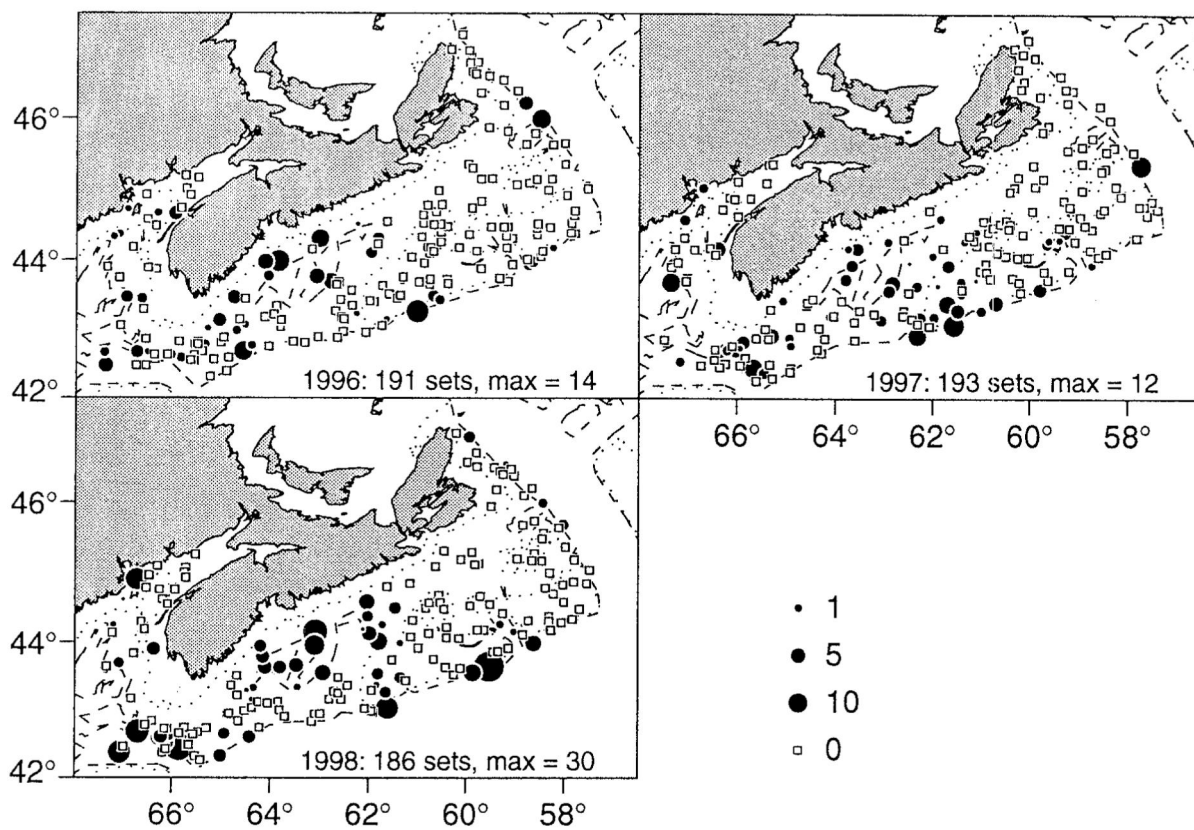


Fig. 79. 4VWX Monkfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

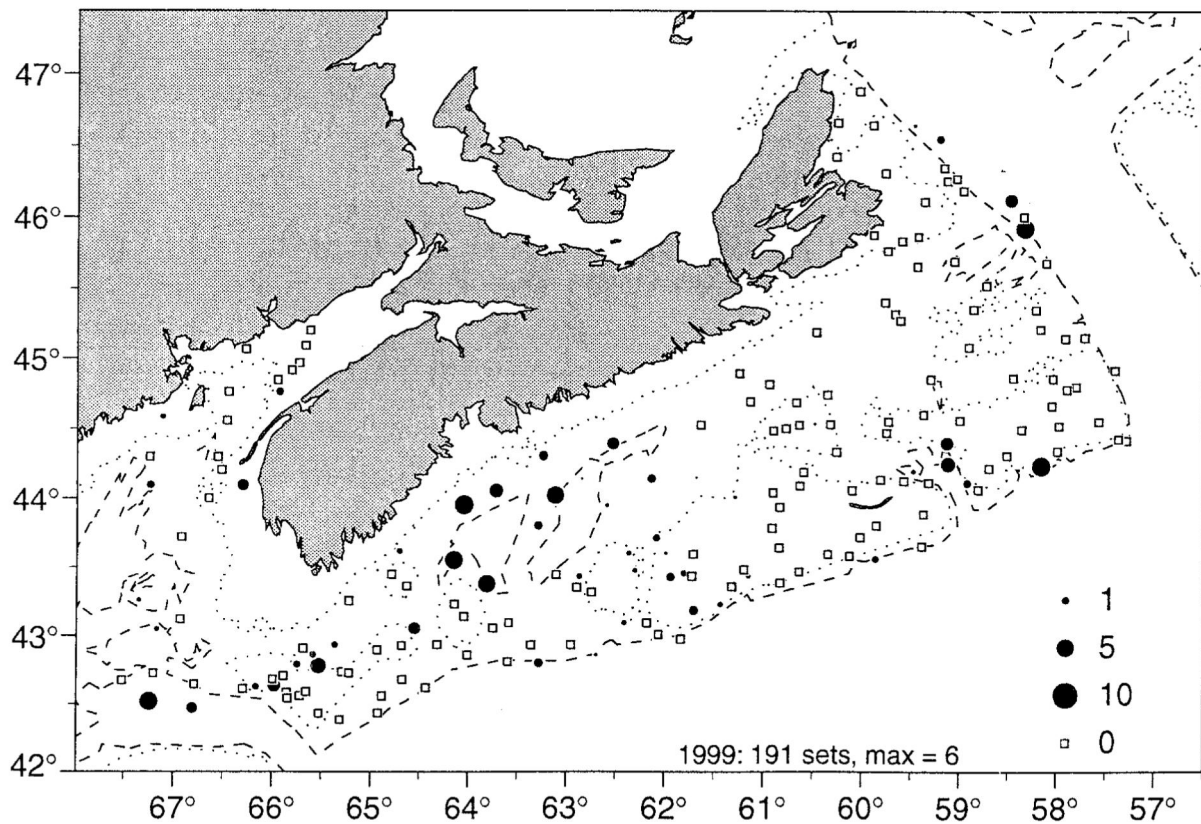


Fig. 80. 4VWX Monkfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

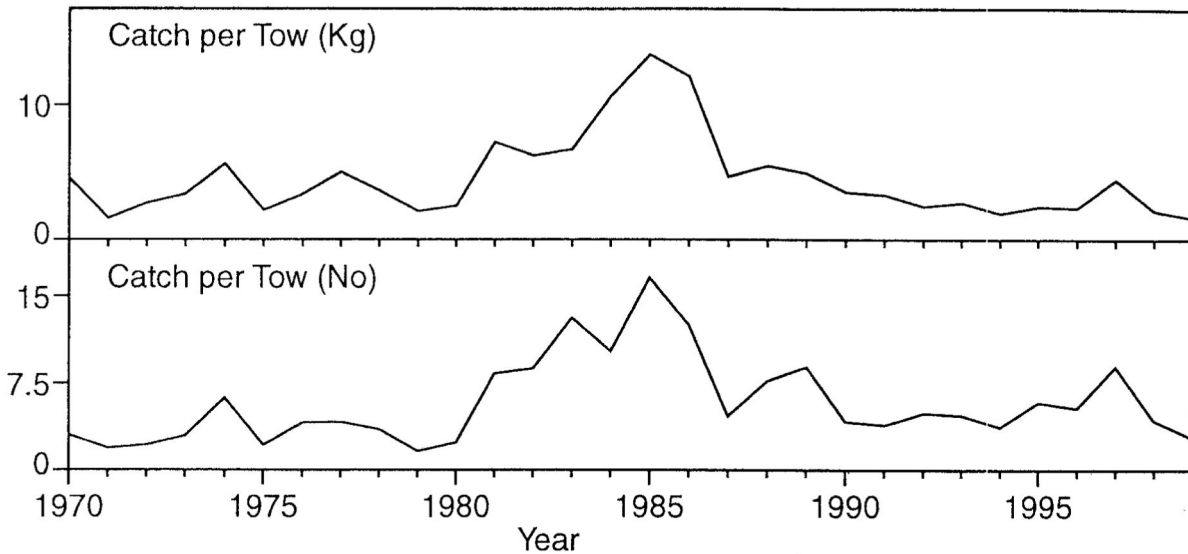


Fig. 81. 4VW White Hake stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

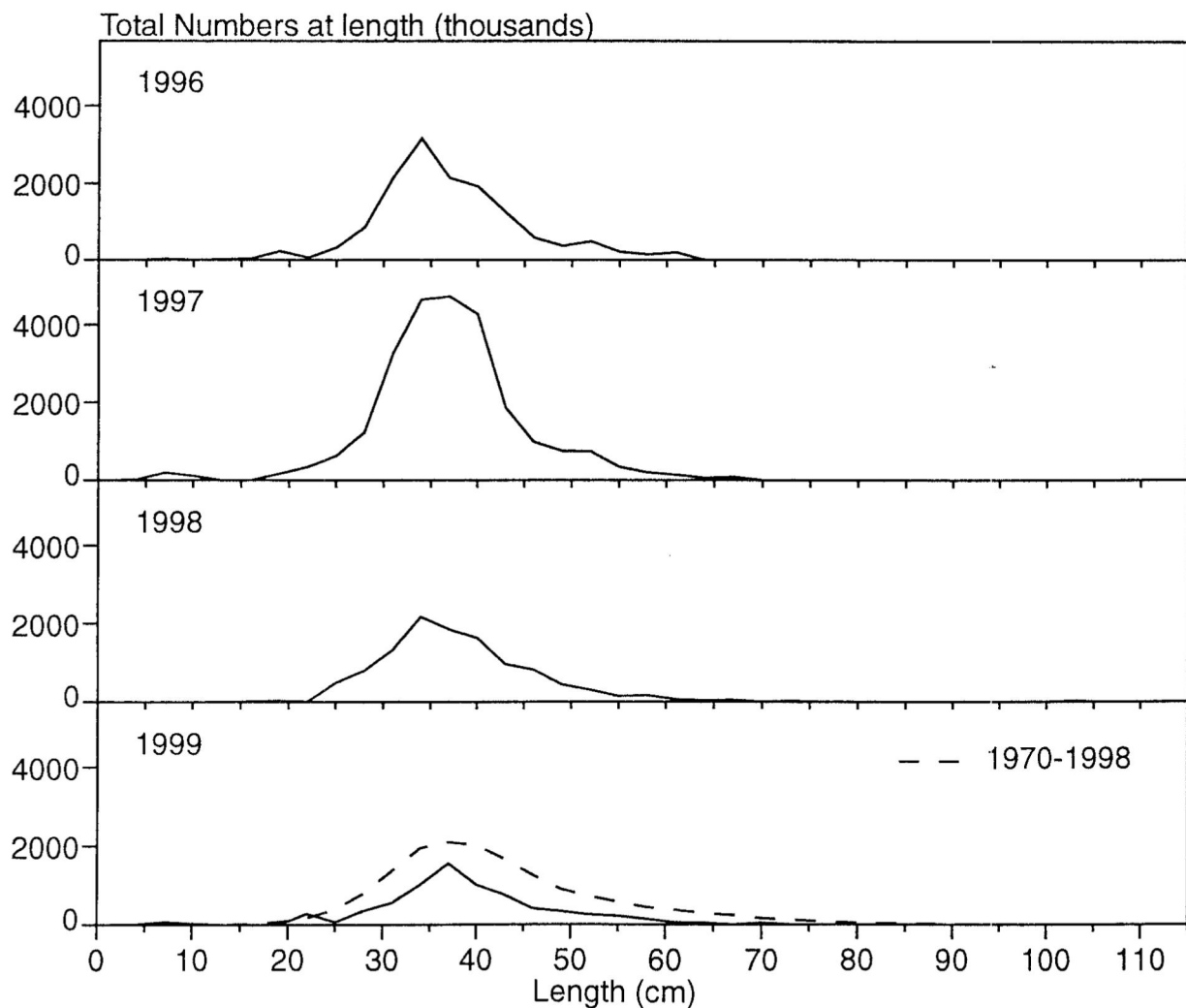


Fig. 82. 4VW White Hake length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

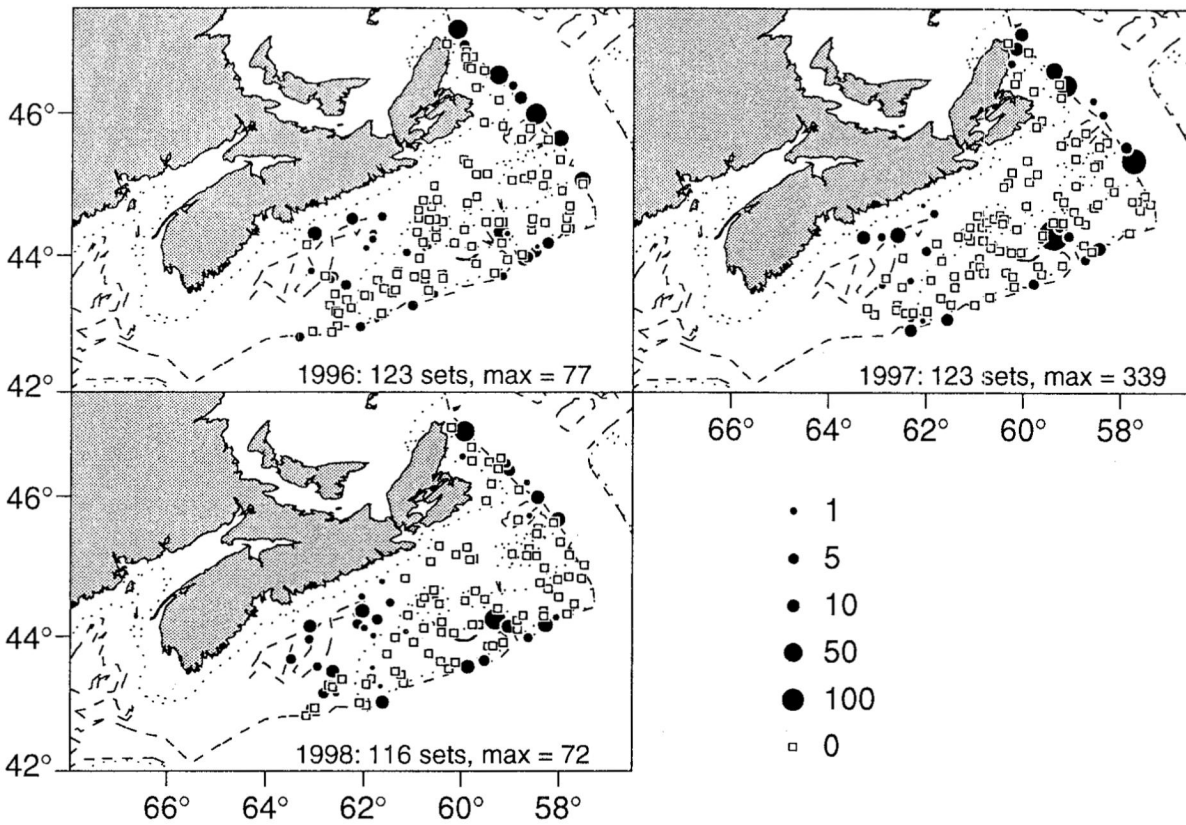


Fig. 83. 4VW White Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

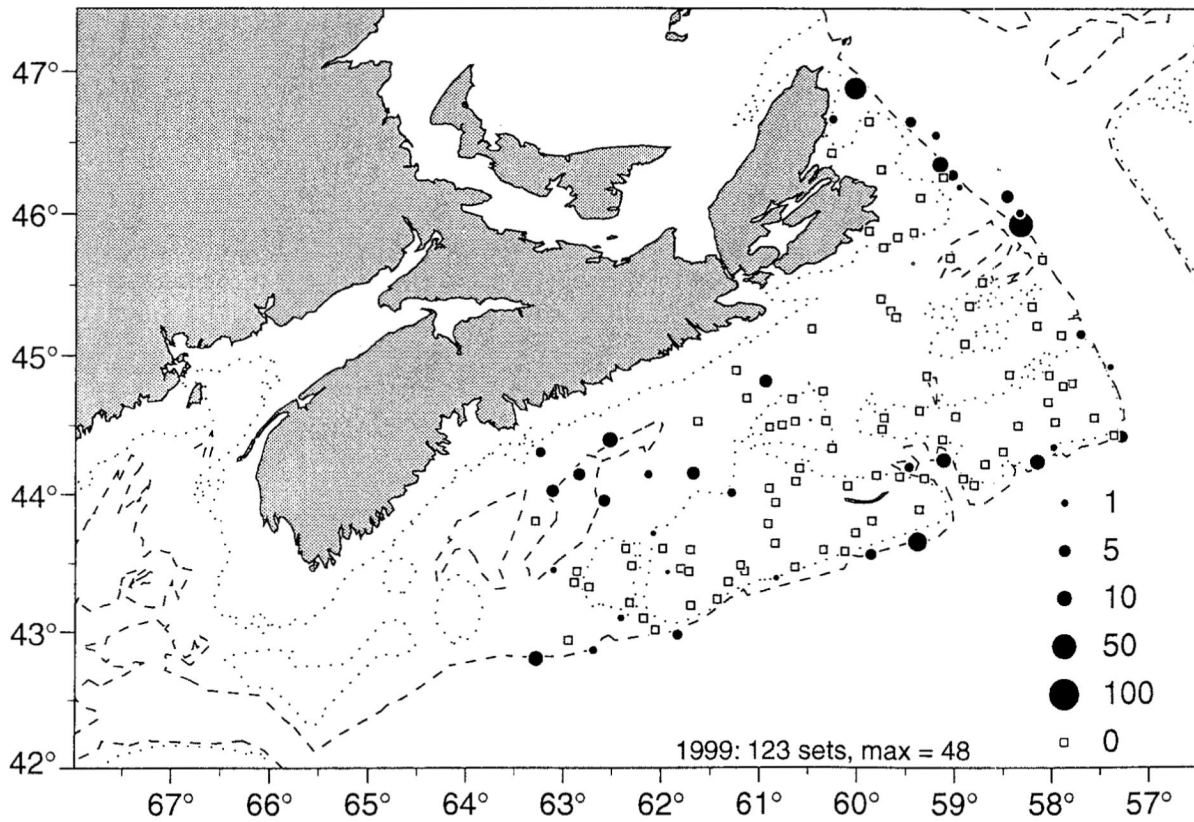


Fig. 84. 4VW White Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

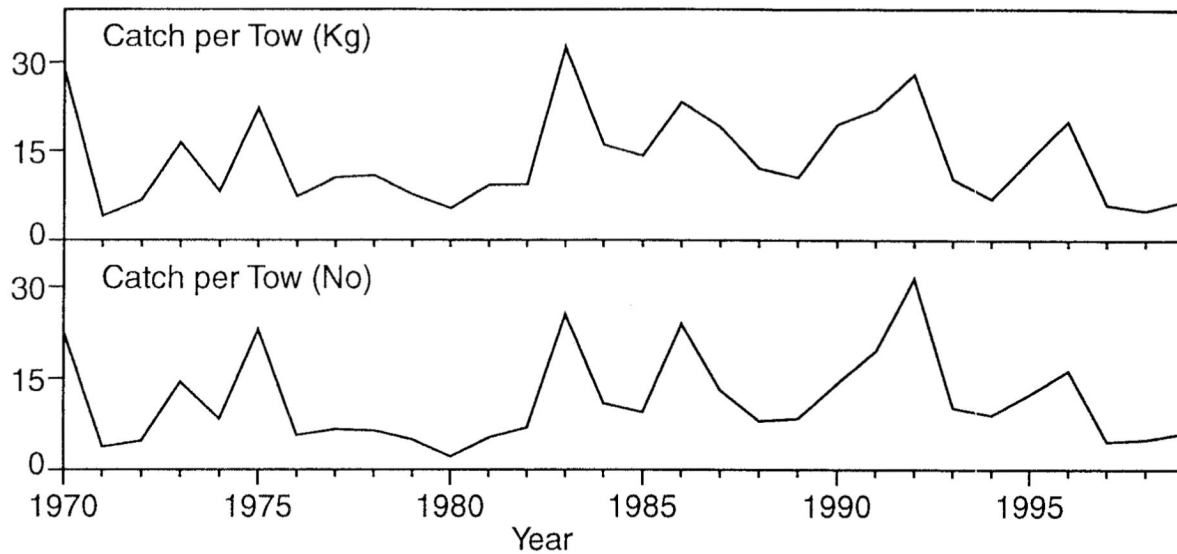


Fig. 85. 4X White Hake stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

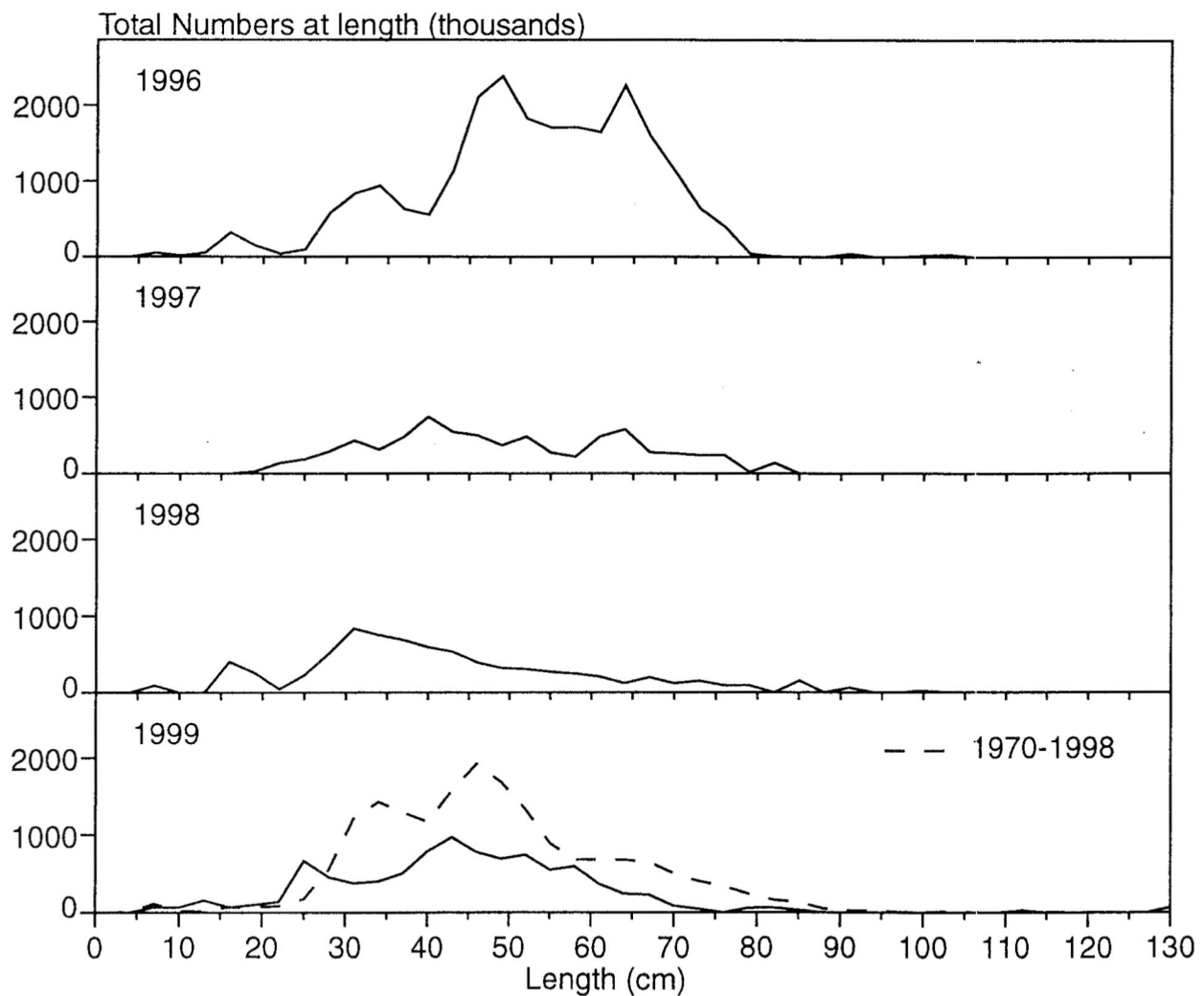


Fig. 86. 4X White Hake length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

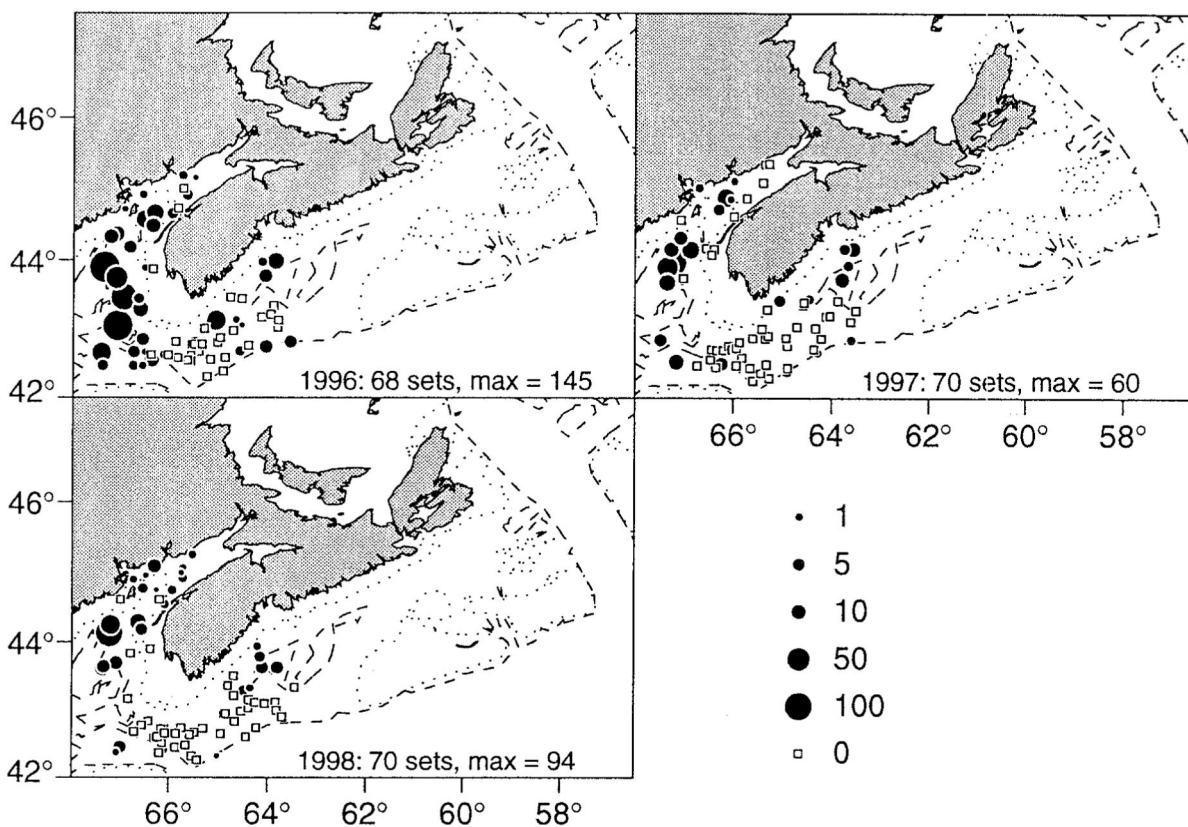


Fig. 87. 4X White Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

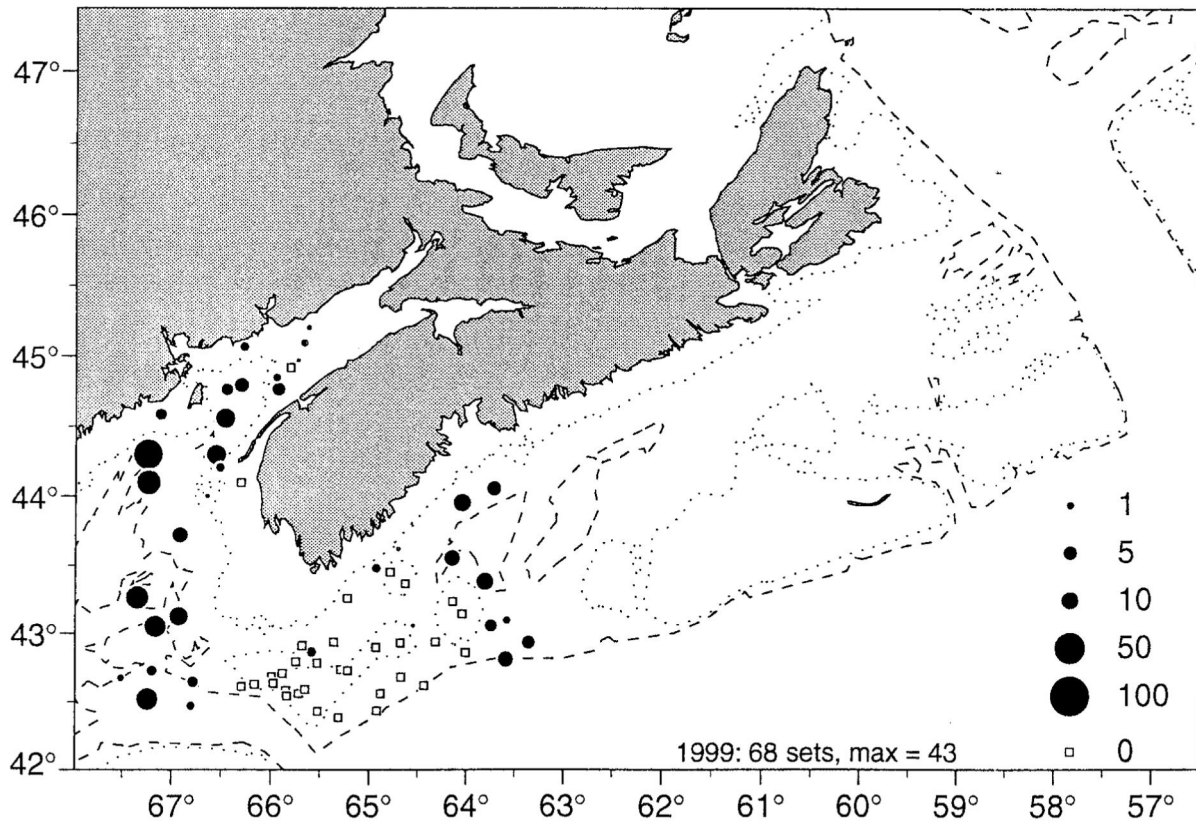


Fig. 88. 4X White Hake Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.



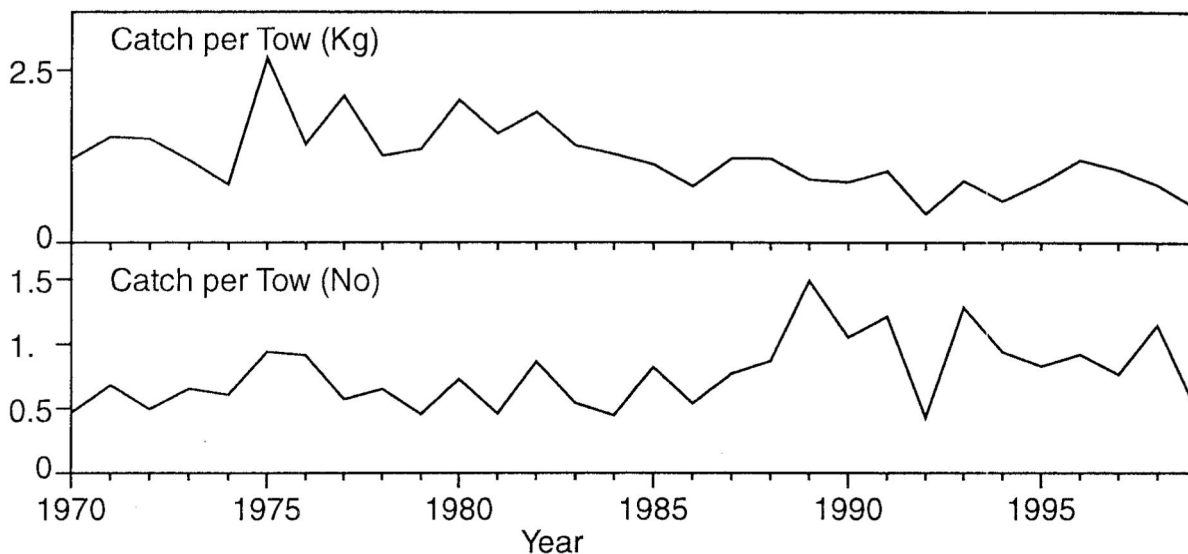


Fig. 89. 4VWX Wolffish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

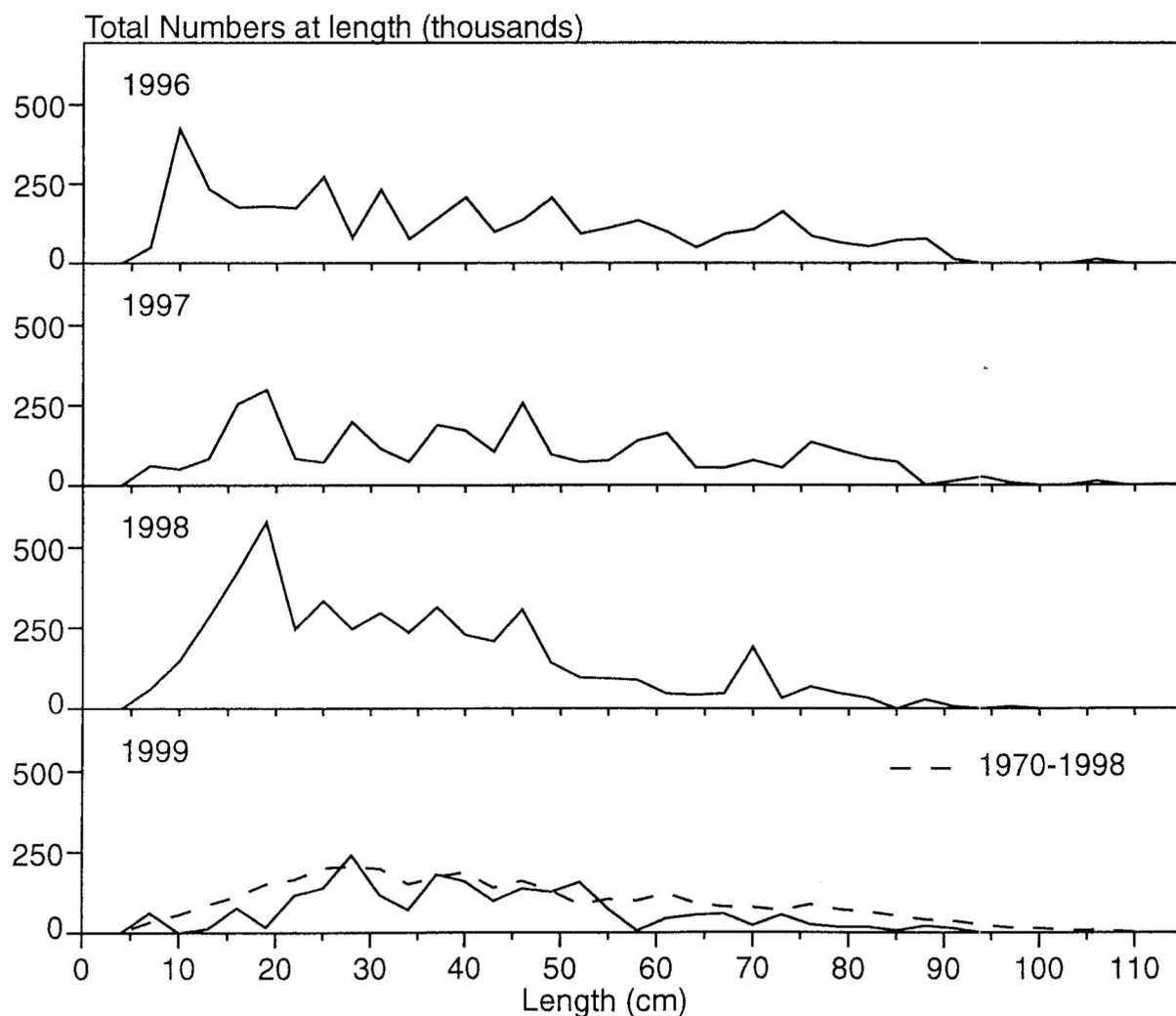


Fig. 90. 4VWX Wolffish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

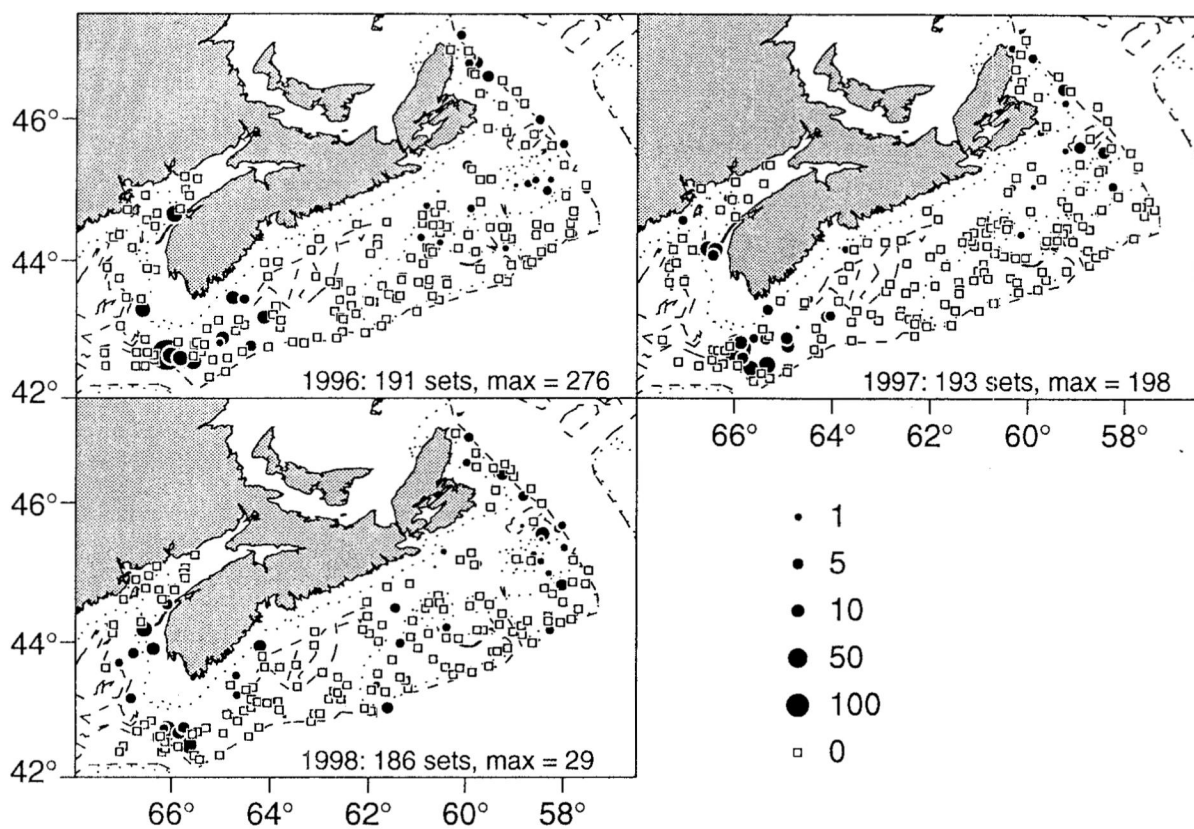


Fig. 91. 4VWX Wolffish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

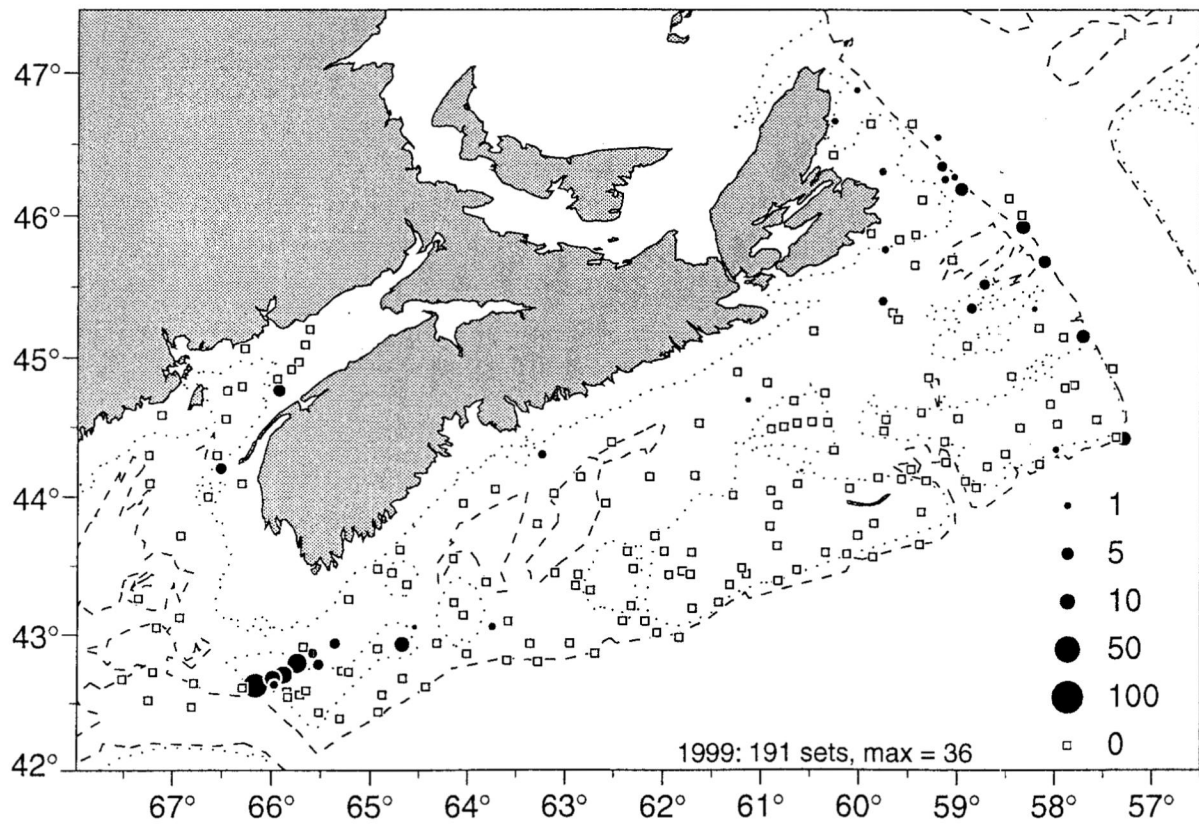


Fig. 92. 4VWX Wolffish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

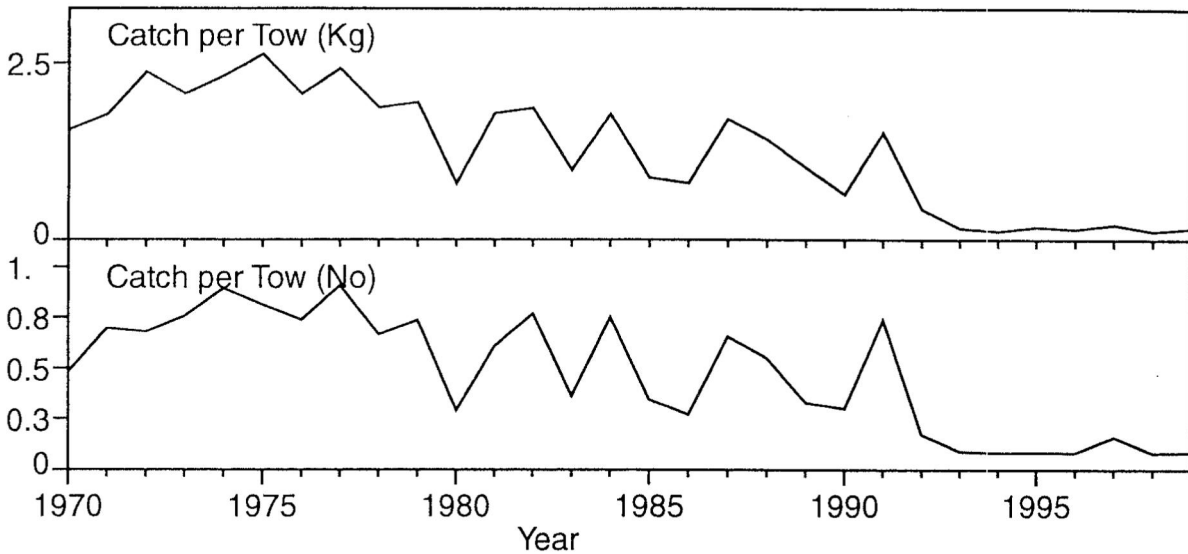


Fig. 93. 4VWX Cusk stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

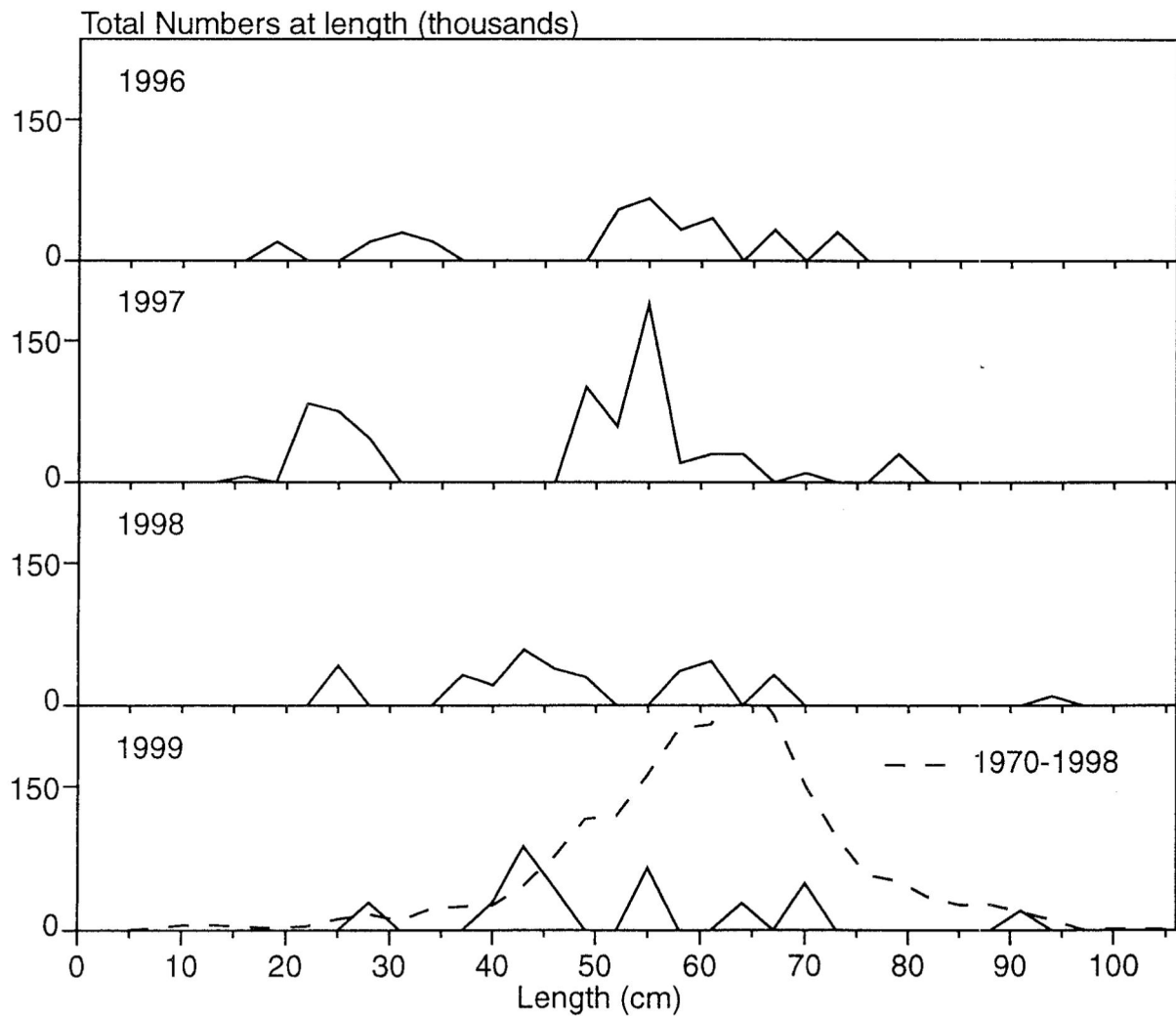


Fig. 94. 4VWX Cusk length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

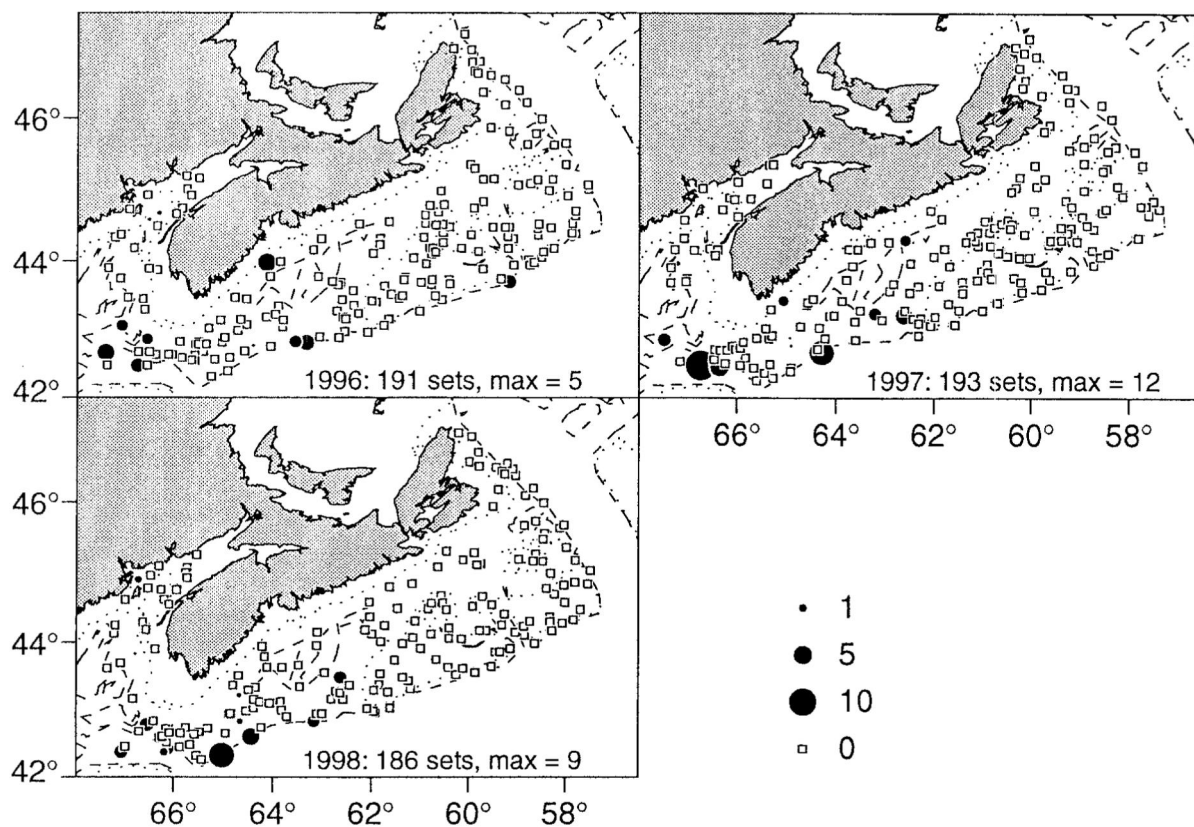


Fig. 95. 4VWX Cusk Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

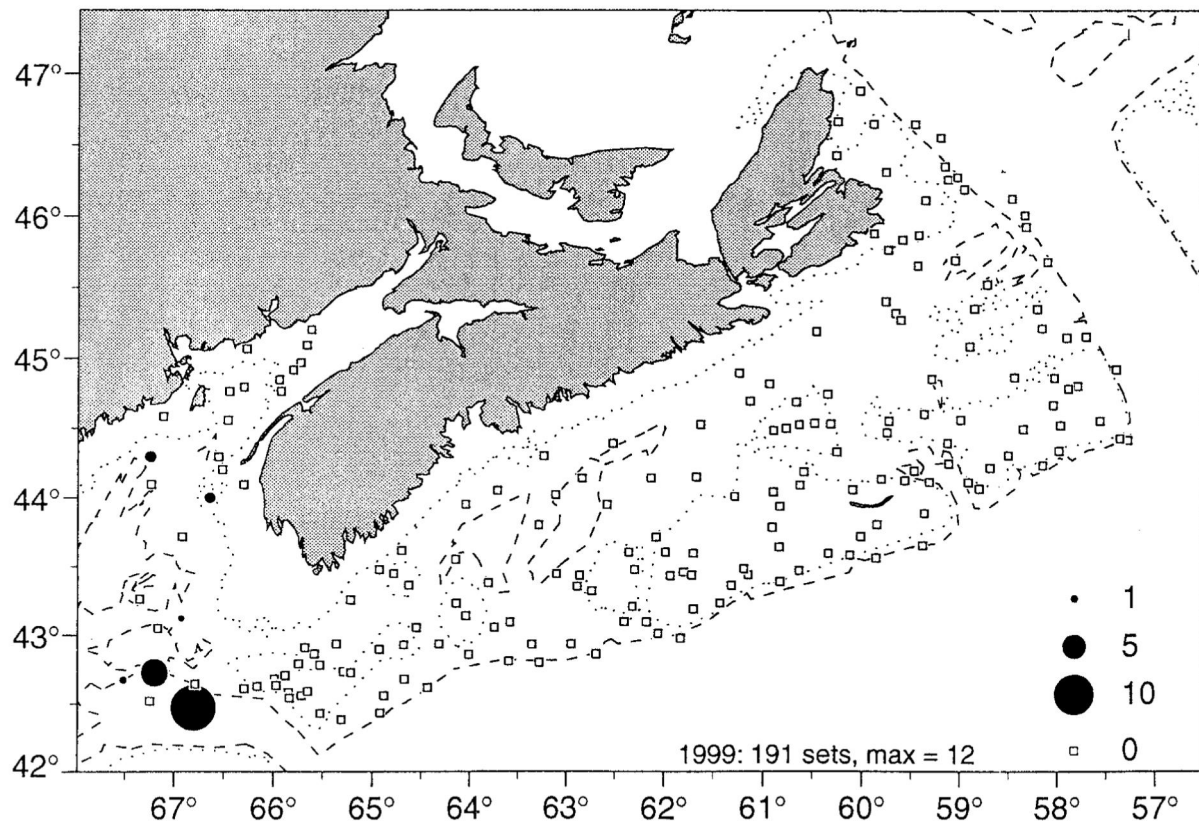


Fig. 96. 4VWX Cusk Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

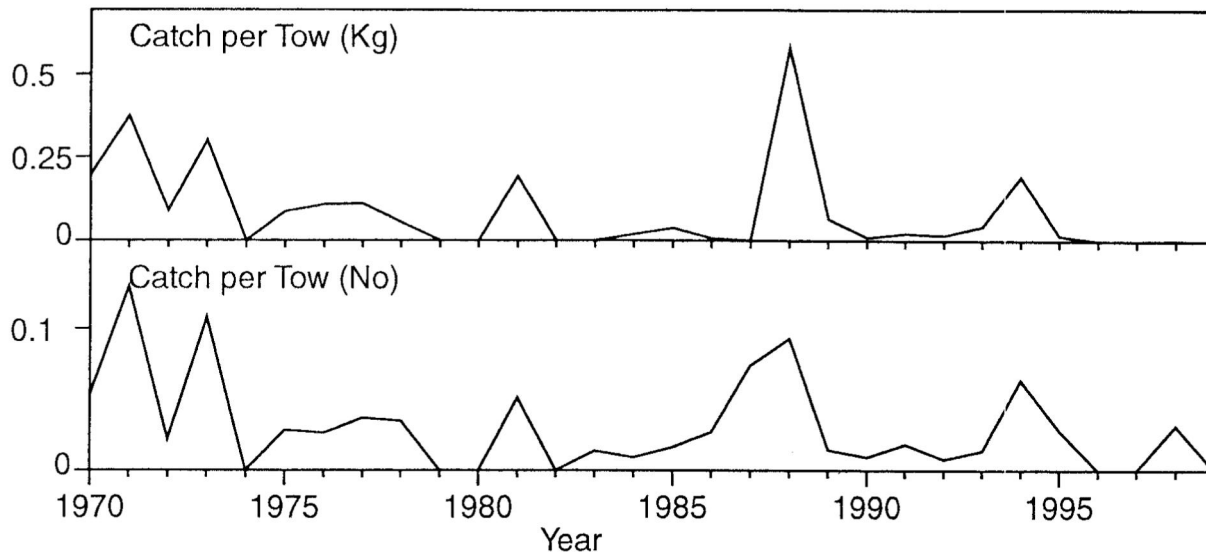


Fig. 97. 4VW Lumpfish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

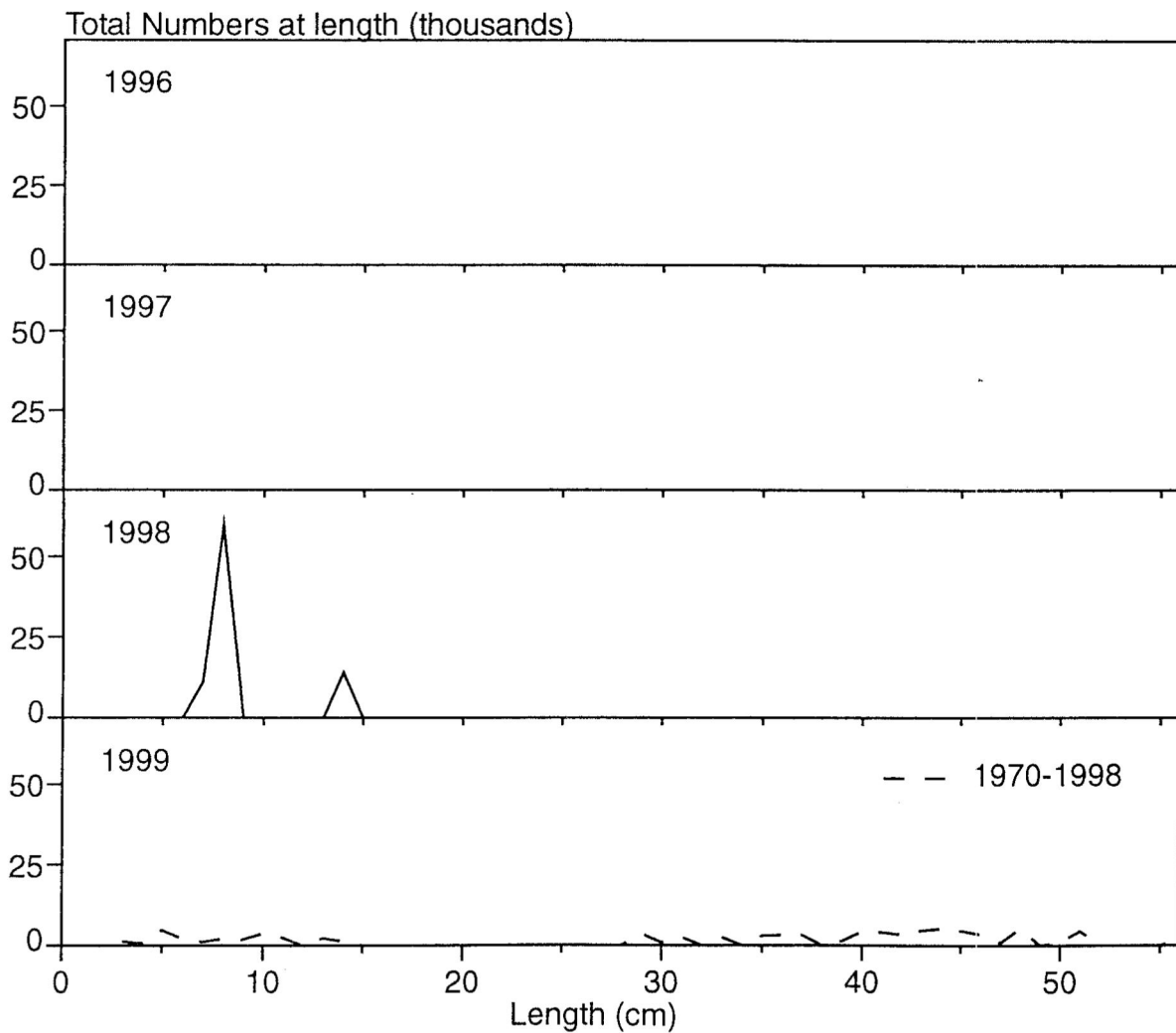


Fig. 98. 4VW Lumpfish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

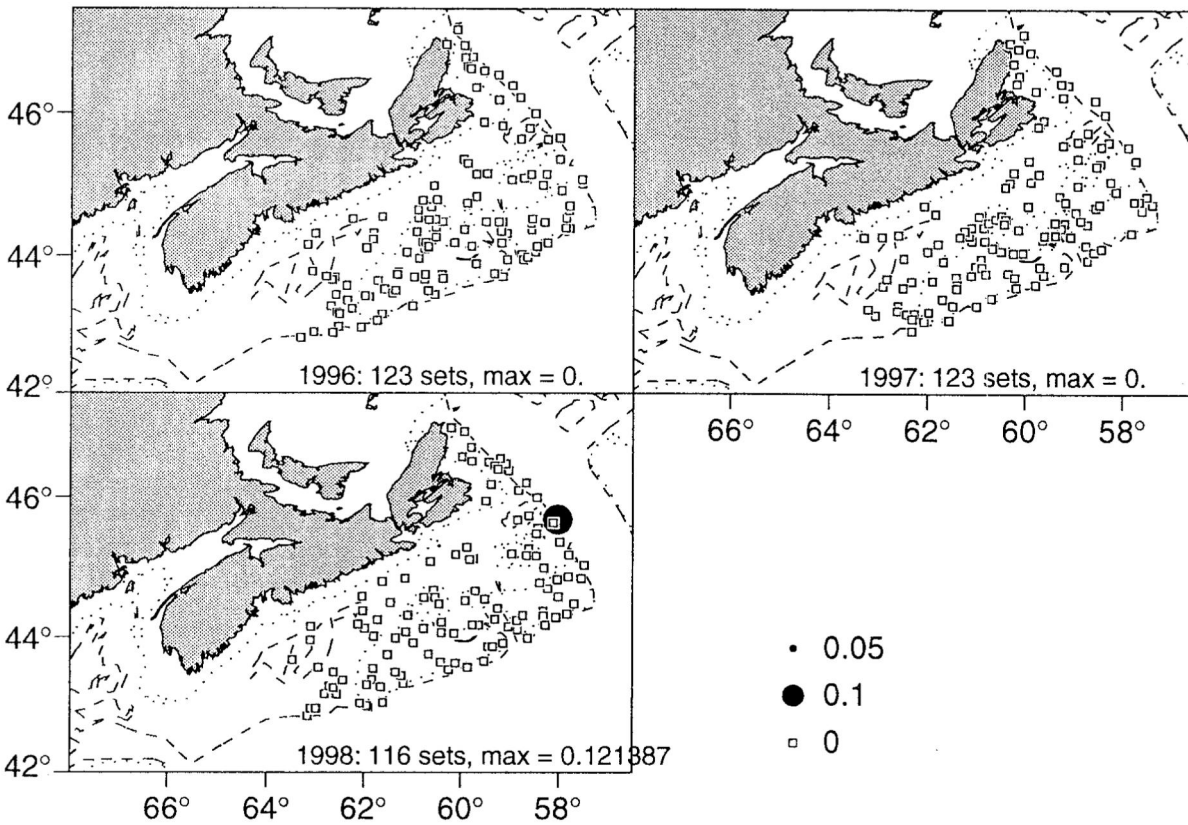


Fig. 99. 4VW Lumpfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

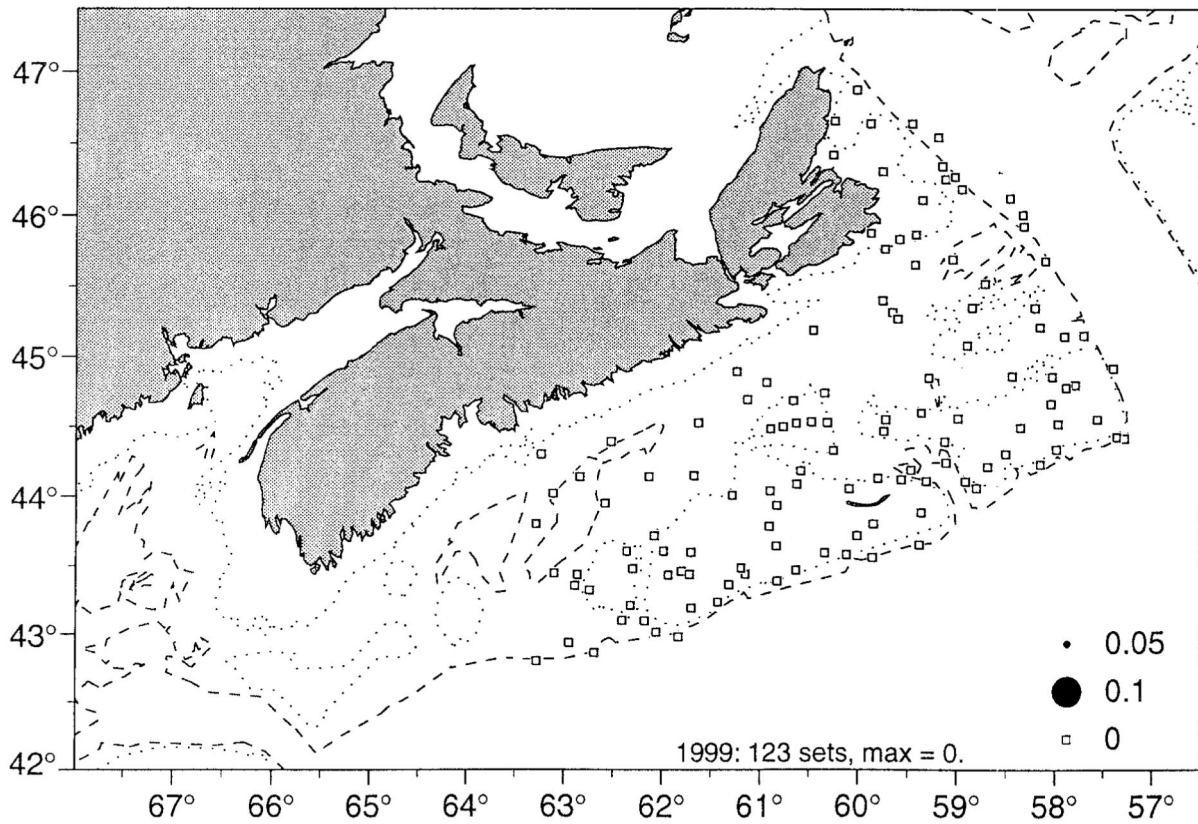


Fig. 100. 4VW Lumpfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

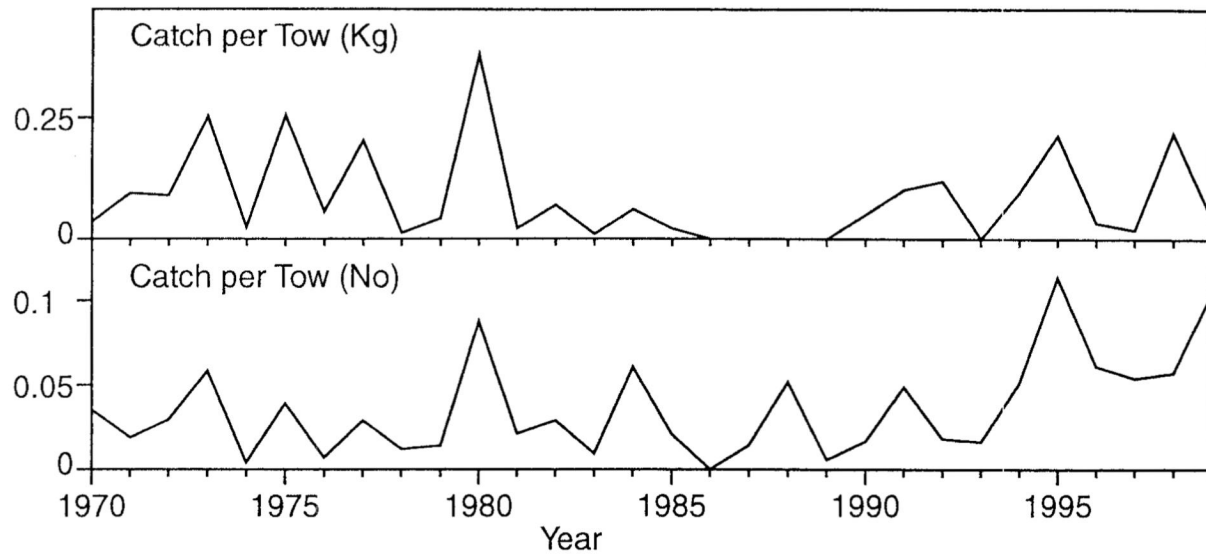


Fig. 101. 4X Lumpfish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

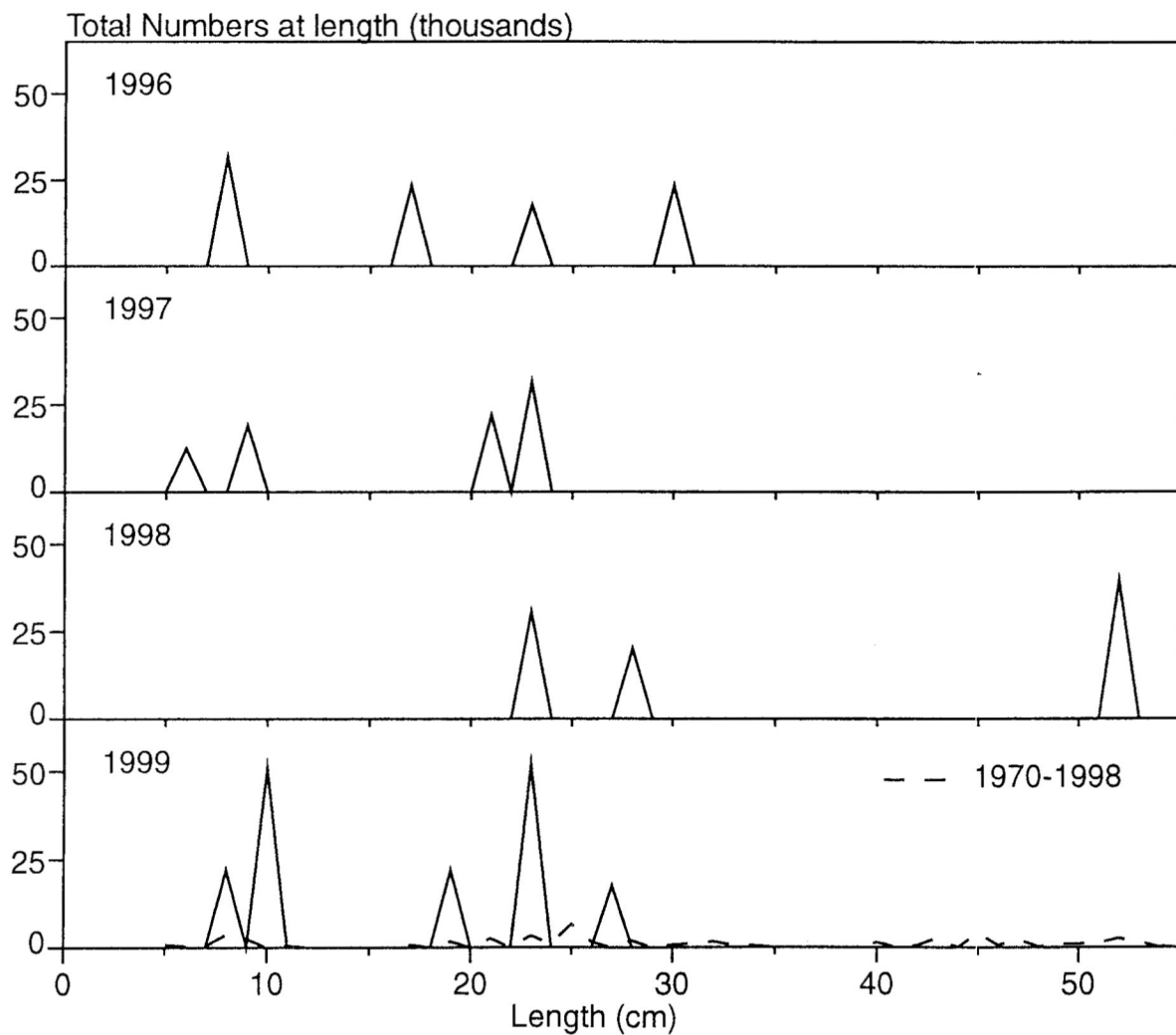


Fig. 102. 4X Lumpfish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.



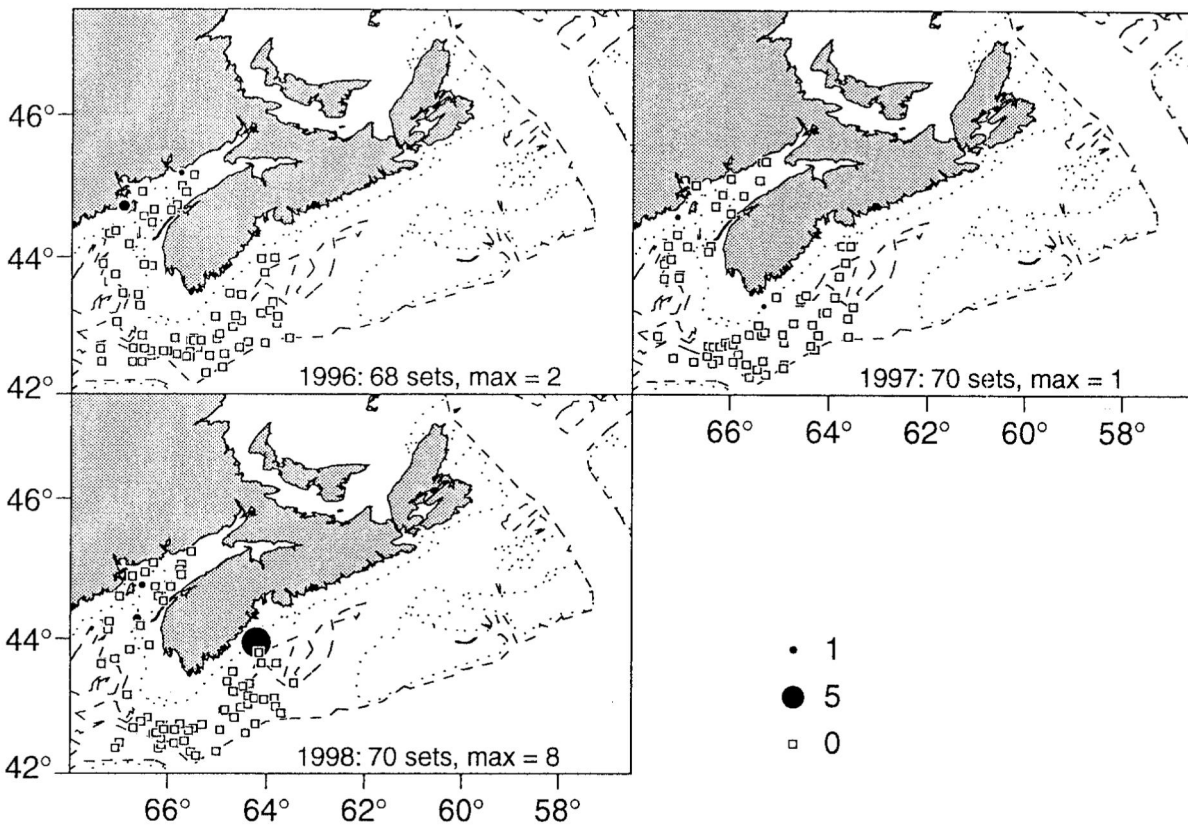


Fig. 103. 4X Lumpfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

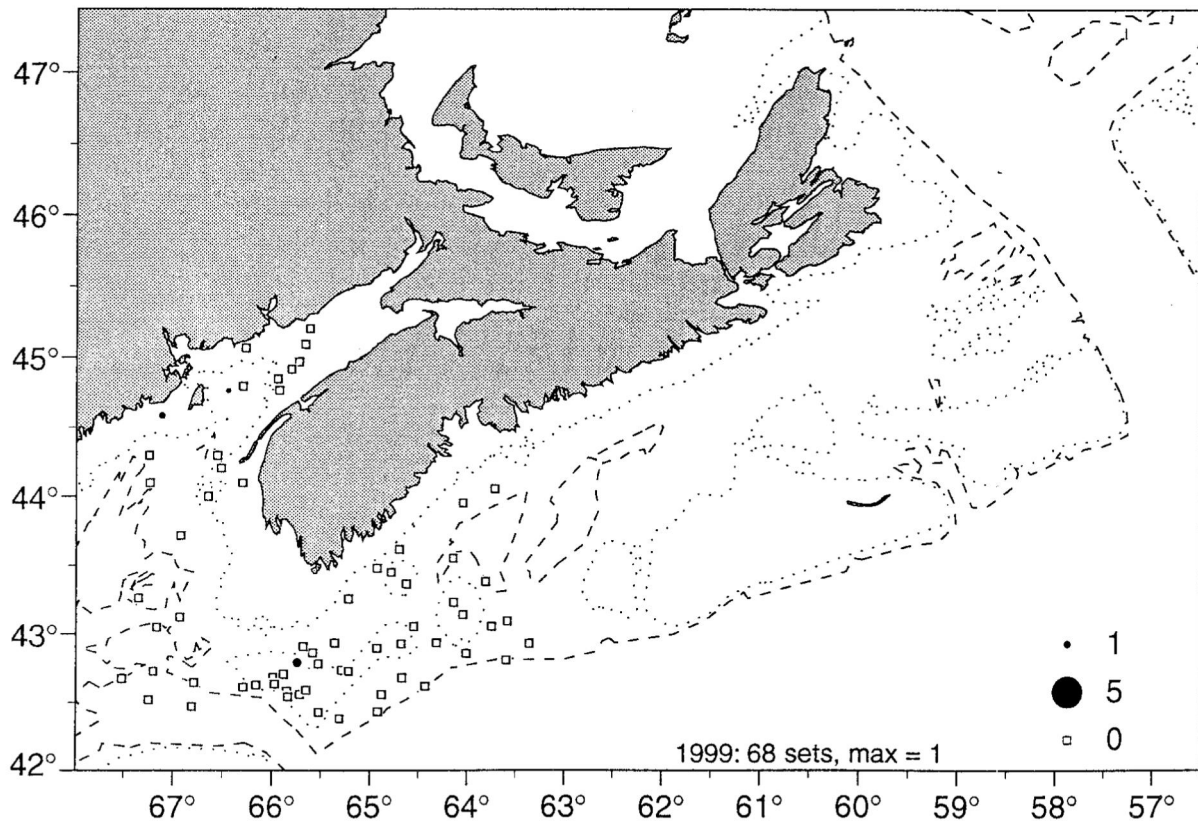


Fig. 104. 4X Lumpfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

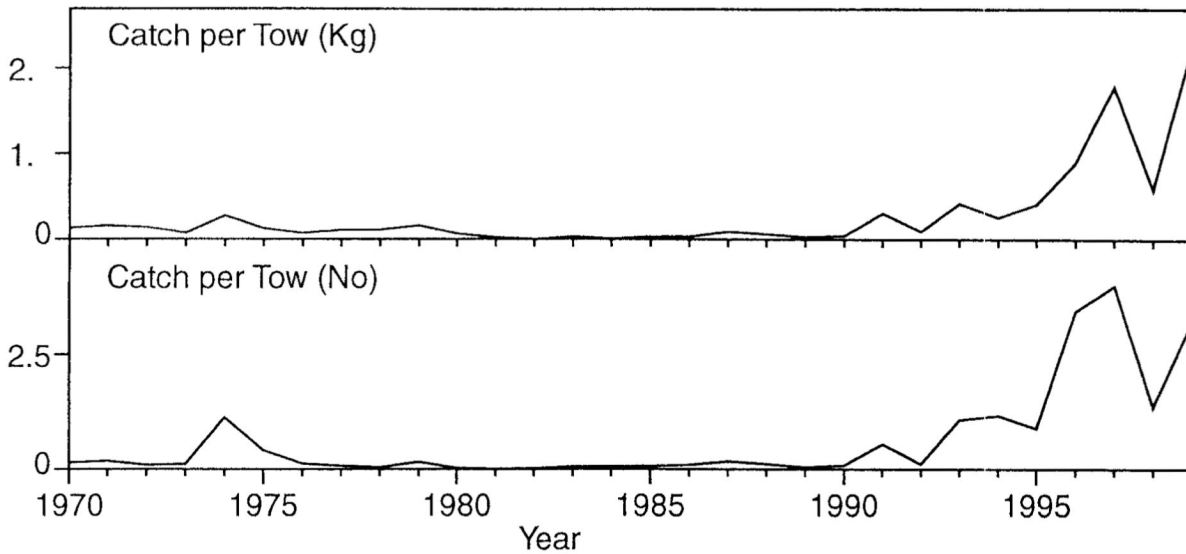


Fig. 105. 4VW Turbot stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

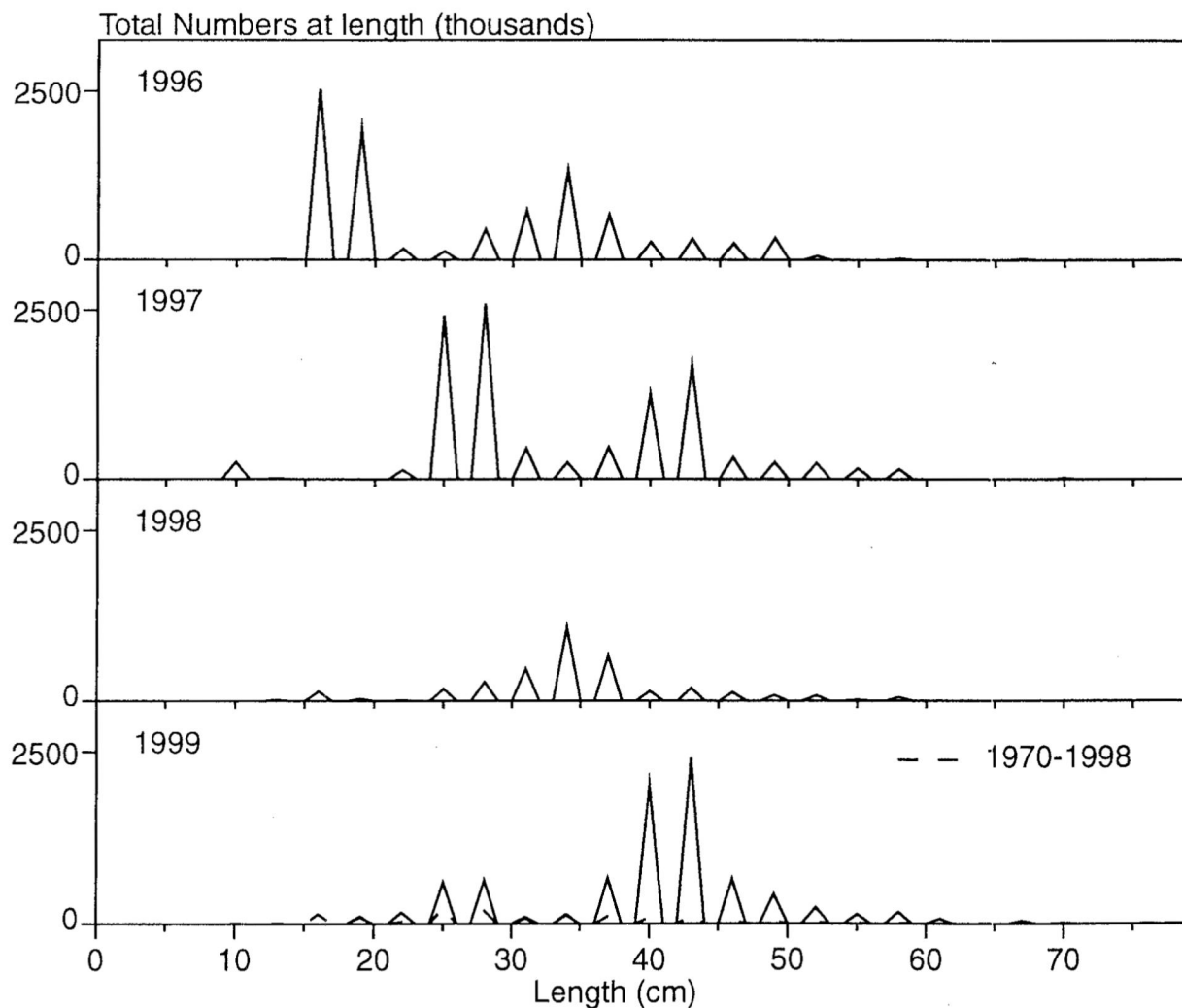


Fig. 106. 4VW Turbot length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

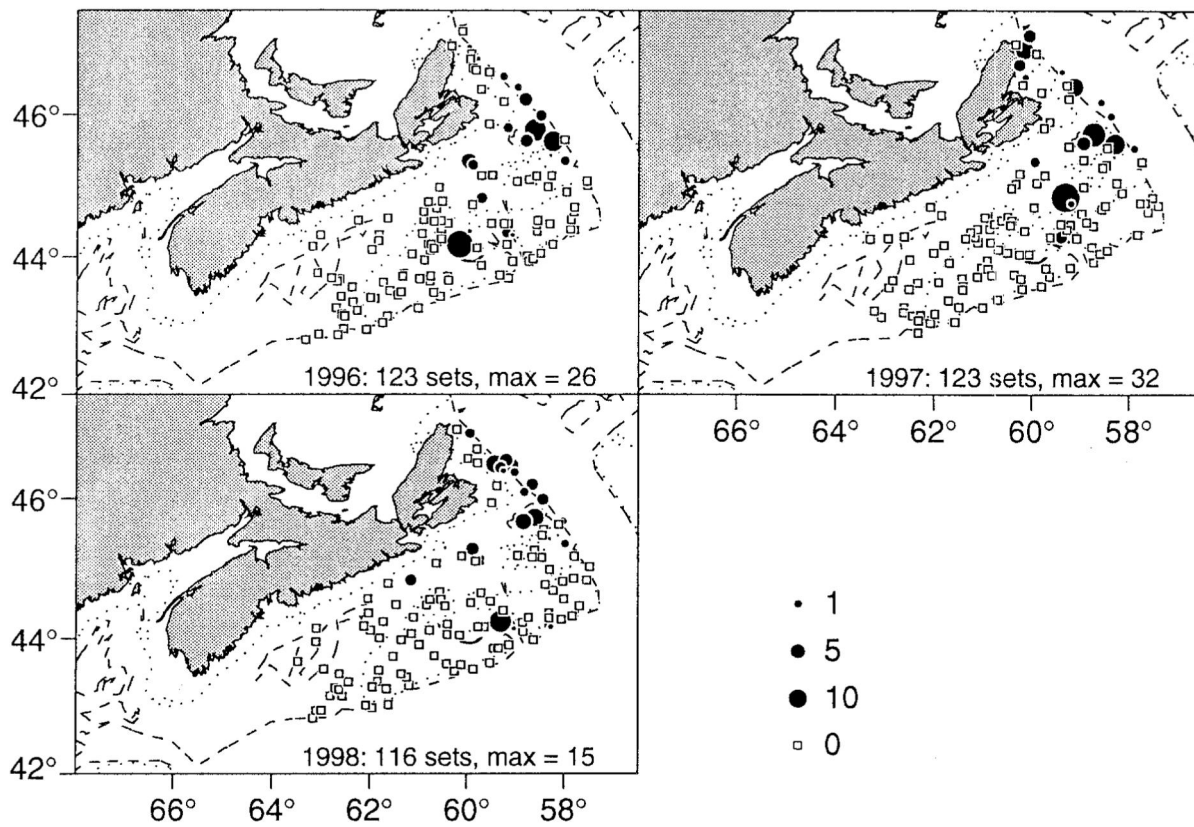


Fig. 107. 4VW Turbot Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

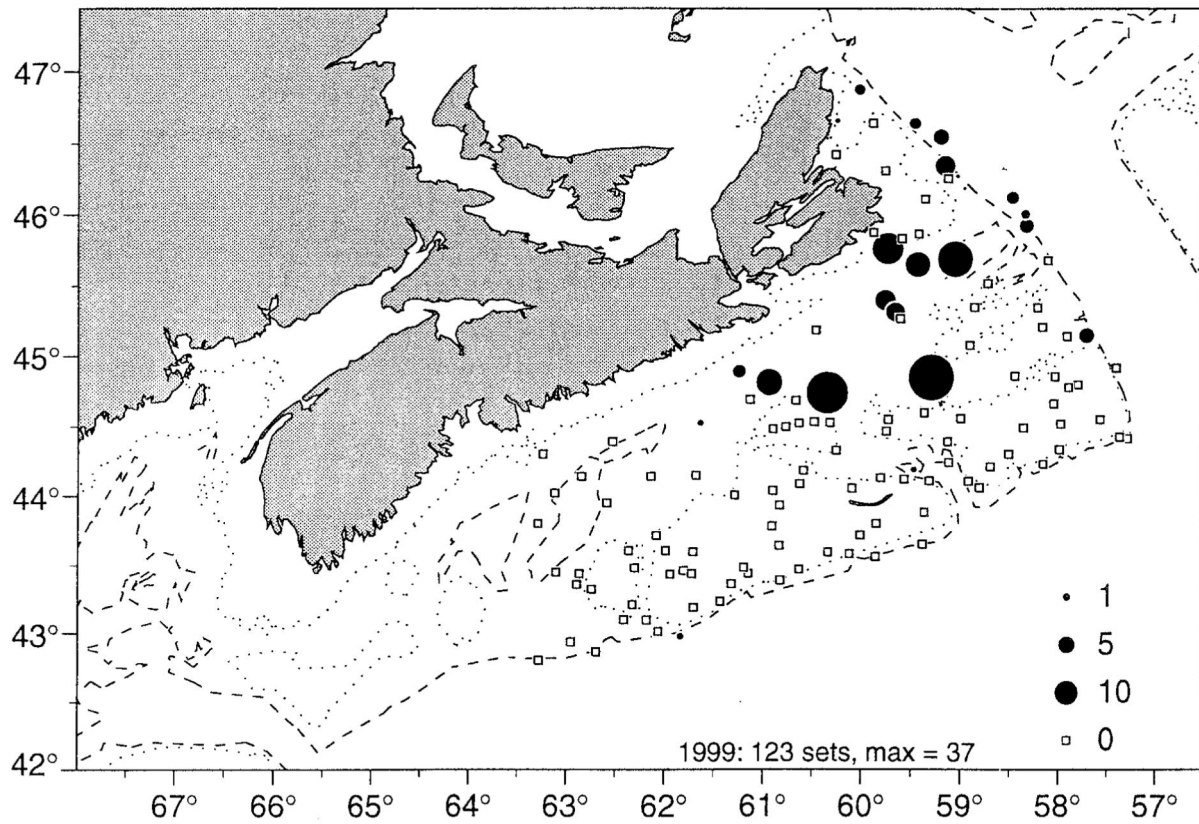


Fig. 108. 4VW Turbot Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.

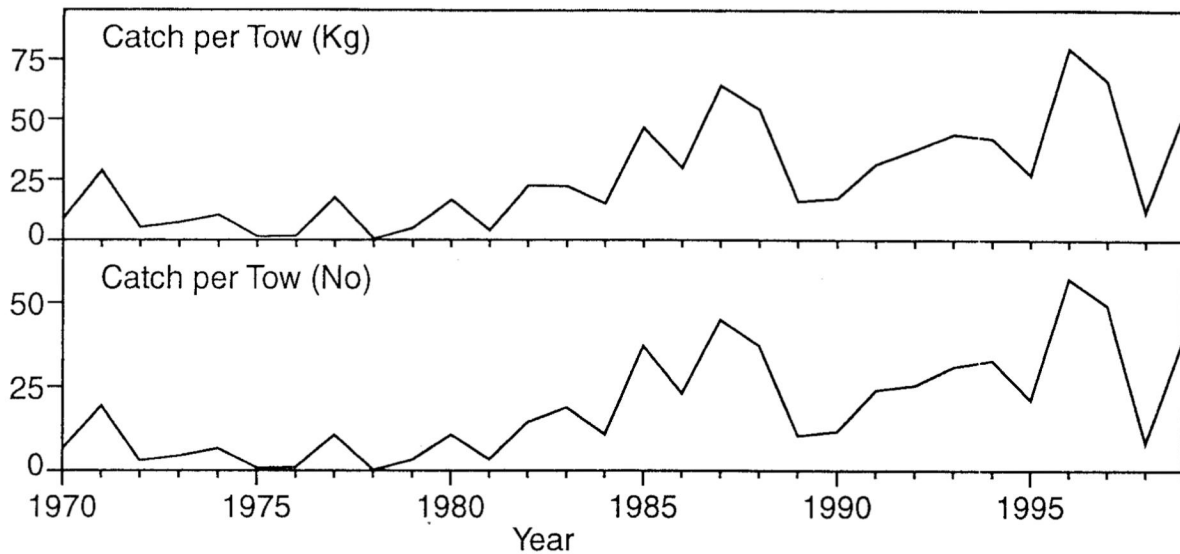


Fig. 109. 4VWX Spiny Dogfish stratified mean Weight and Number caught per tow from the Summer surveys.

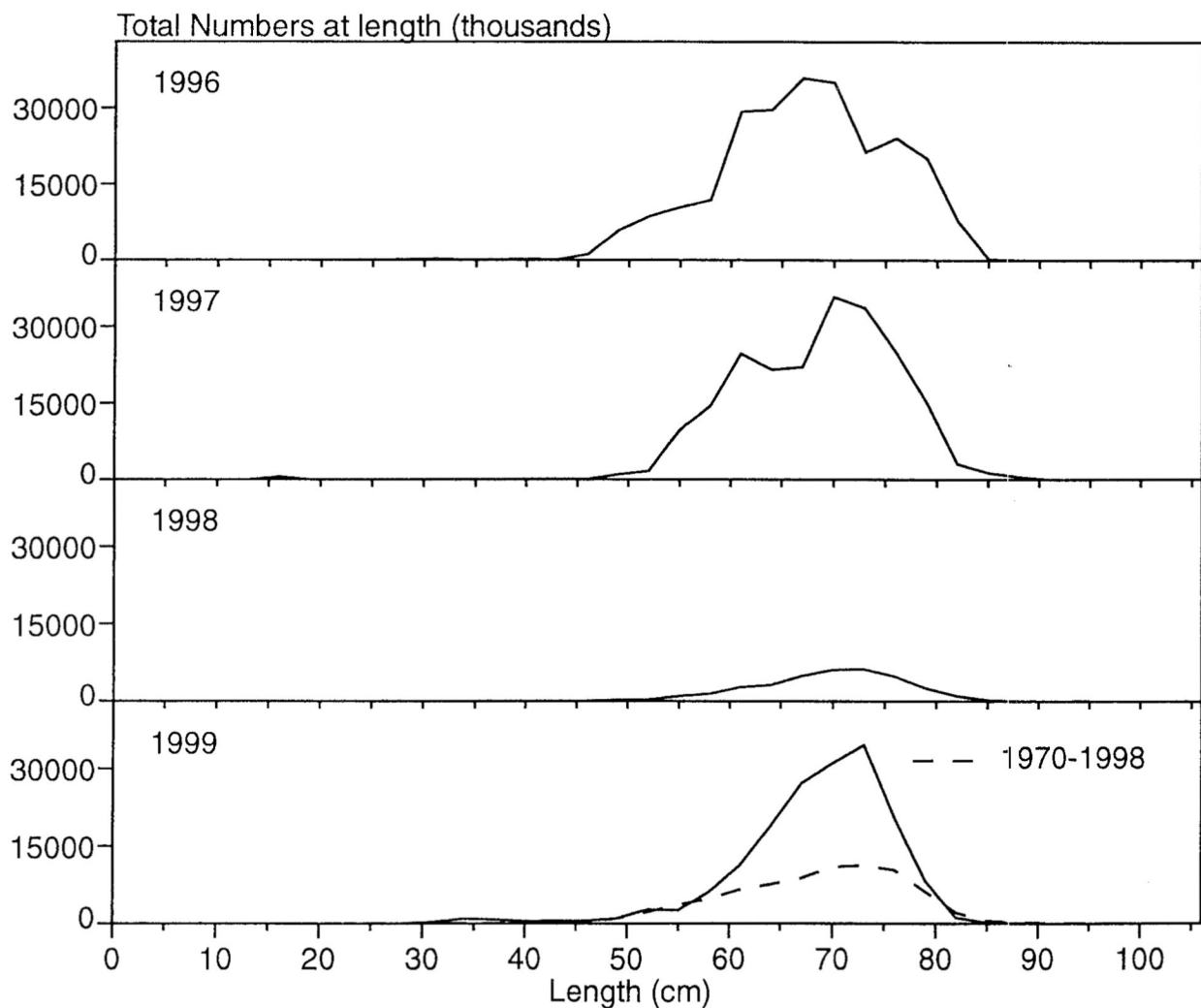


Fig. 110. 4VWX Spiny Dogfish length frequency distribution from the Summer surveys.

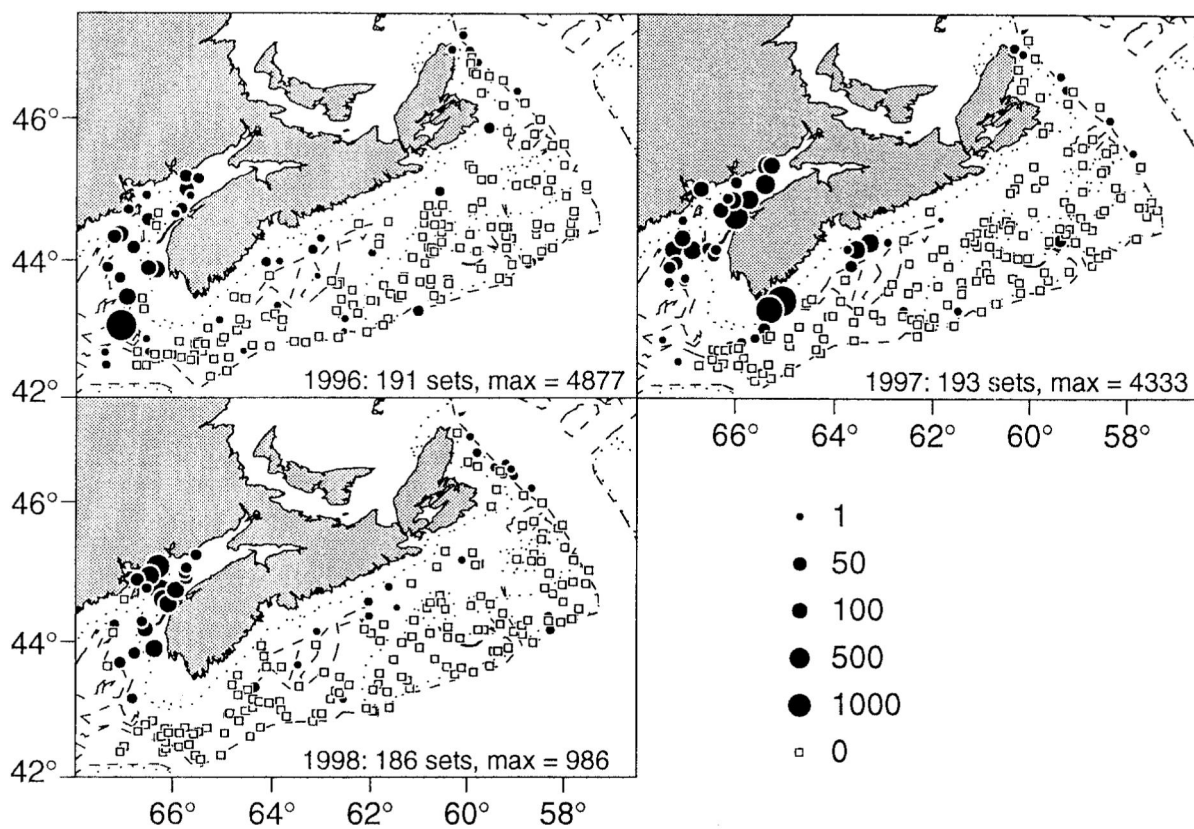


Fig. 111. 4VWX Spiny Dogfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1996-1998 Summer Groundfish Survey.

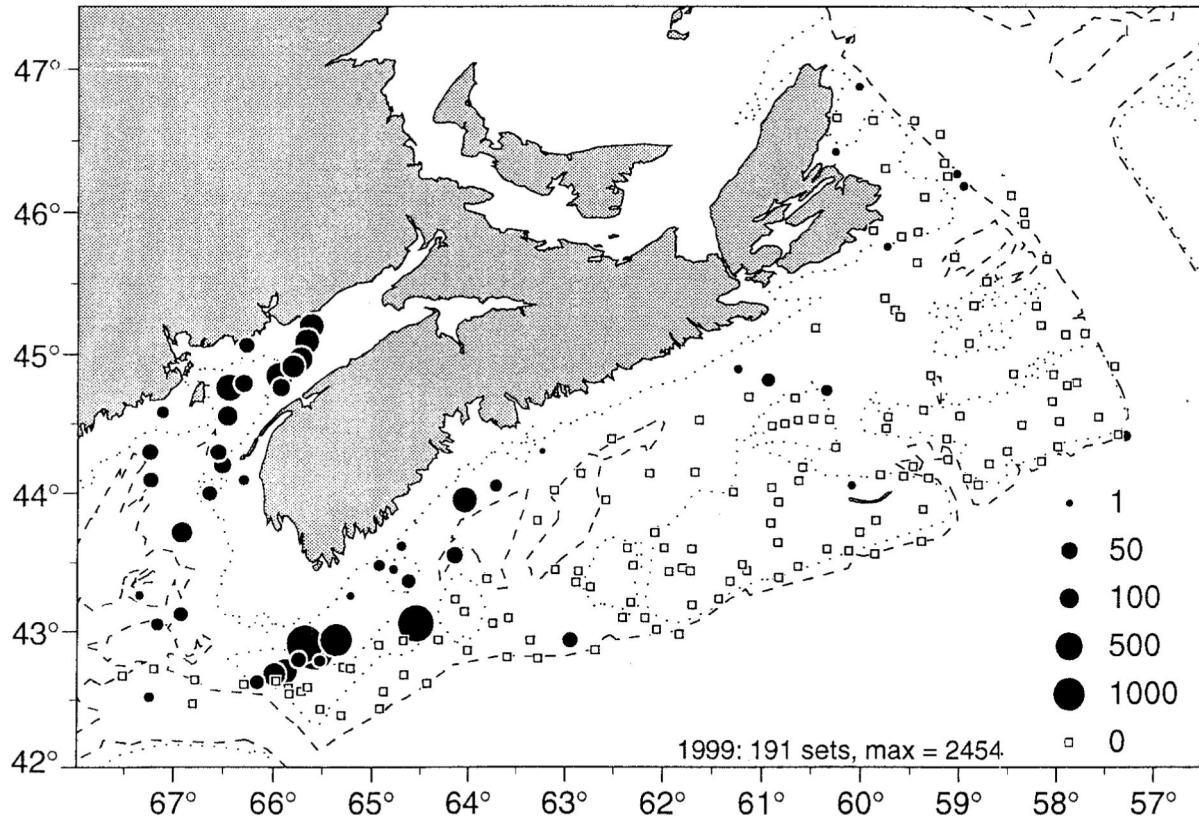


Fig. 112. 4VWX Spiny Dogfish Biomass (kg/tow) from the 1999 Summer Groundfish Survey.