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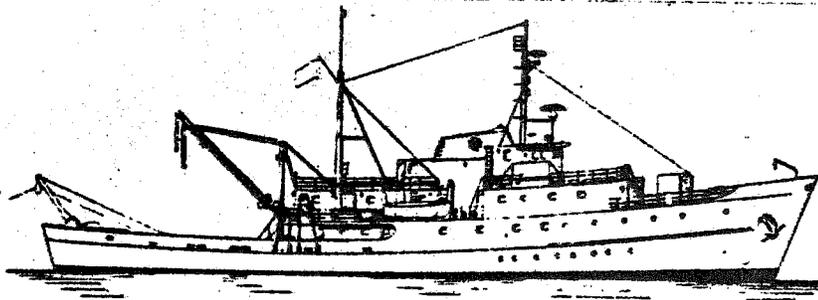
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SECOND QUARTER  
STOCK CATALOGUE 1969

GROUND FISH AND SEA SCALLOPS FISHED BY NEW ENGLAND FLEETS

by

R. L. Schultz and F. A. Dreyer



Bureau of Commercial Fisheries  
Biological Laboratory  
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543  
Laboratory Reference No. 69-10

## HADDOCK

Haddock landings through June were down about 25 percent compared to the same period in 1968 (Table 1). Georges Bank was still the major haddock producer, accounting for 80 percent of the landings. Browns Bank and the Gulf of Maine made up the other 20 percent.

TABLE 1  
HADDOCK SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
(Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Areas	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Georges Bank						
Scrod	4314	7208	3044	2692	7141	14161
Large	9885	9549	5121	5219	14813	16841
Total	14199	16757	8165	7911	21954	31002
Browns Bank						
Scrod	1150	2469	5487	7788	1800	3290
Large	526	1259	2817	3363	866	1653
Total	1676	3728	8304	11151	2666	4943
Gulf of Maine						
Scrod	363	1909	----	----	829	2640
Large	1181	1541	----	----	1866	1922
Total	1544	3450	----	----	2695	4562
Bay of Fundy						
Scrod	5	73	----	2620	348	136
Large	3	27	----	760	205	50
Total	8	100	----	3380	553	186
Total						
Scrod	5832	11657	3558	3962	10118	20225
Large	11595	12376	5005	4990	17750	20466
Total	17427	24033	8563	8952	27868	40691

Landings and effort data, as derived from study vessels fishing on Georges Bank, showed a slight increase in landings per day for the second quarter of 1969 compared to 1968. This is a result of an increase for scrod, (Figure 1) as landings per day of large haddock stayed about the same (Figure 2). The slight increase, however, was caused primarily by catches made in April and May when concentrations of spawners could be located, and does not necessarily reflect an accurate picture of stock density. Also these figures are based on only 37 days fished, about one fourth what it was two years ago.

Figure 1.

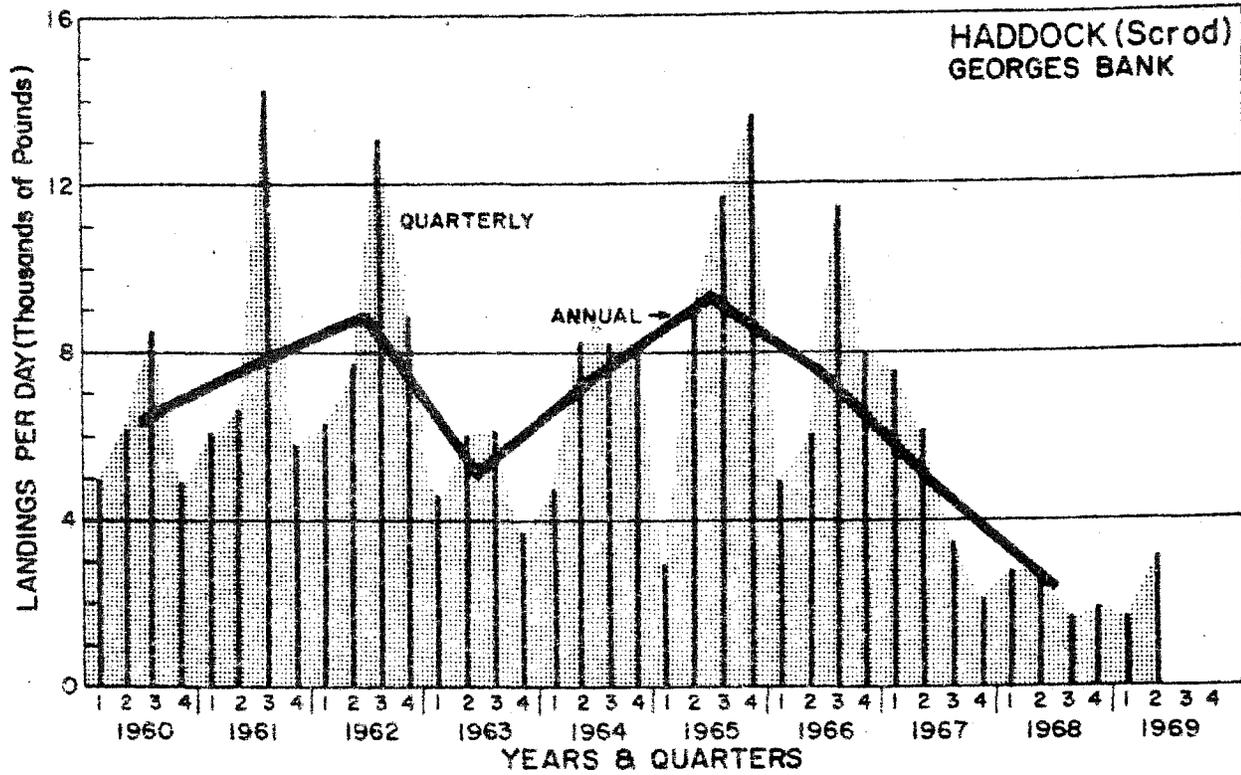
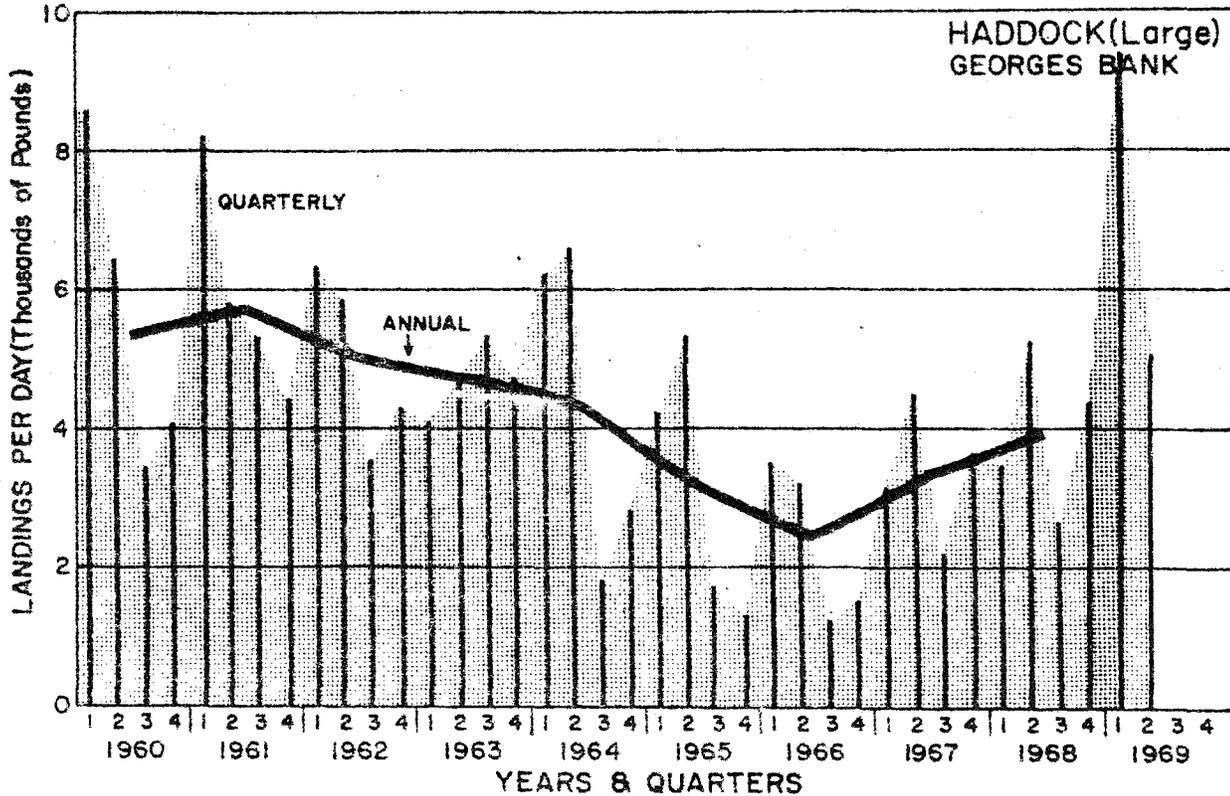
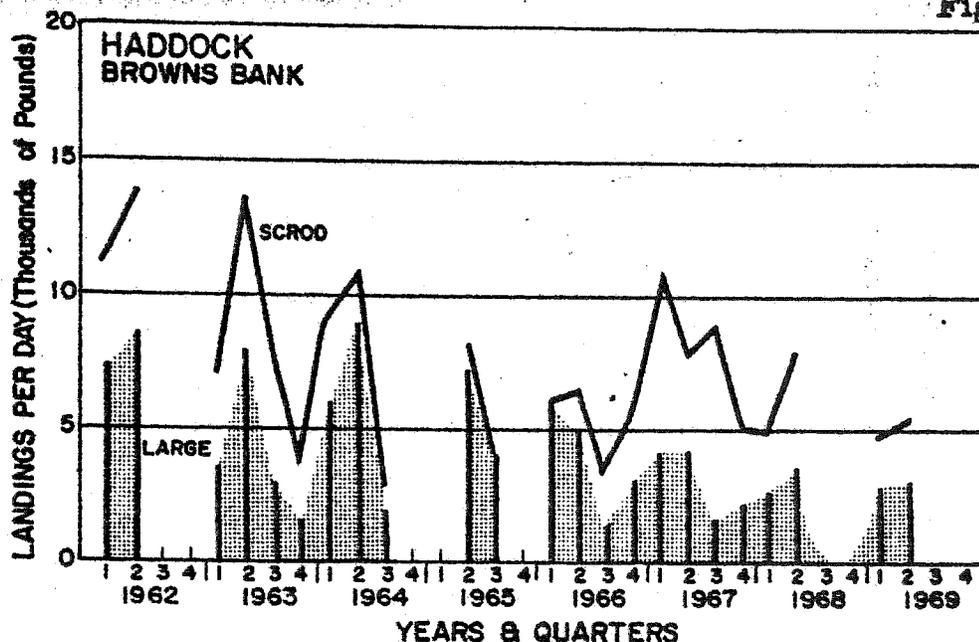


Figure 2.



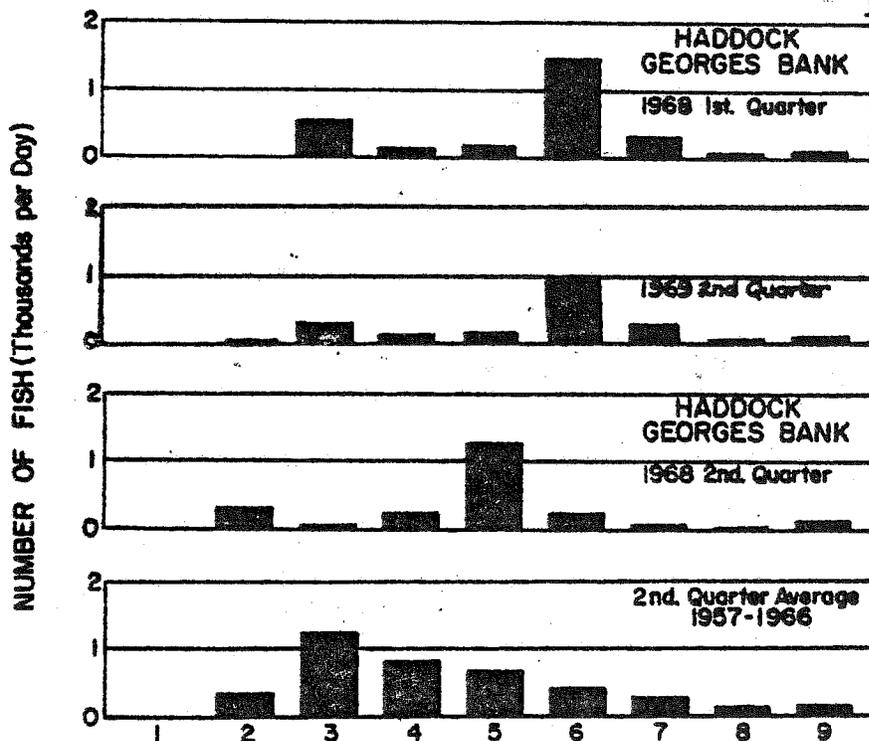
Landings per day on Browns Bank (Figure 3) showed a decrease for the second quarter. This decrease came mainly in the scrod category. No significant change in this pattern is expected.

Figure 3.



Age compositions on Georges Bank haddock in the second quarter (Figure 4) show no unexpected patterns of distribution. The 1963 year class (6 year olds) still is the most common age group, although their numbers have been greatly reduced since they were recruited in 1966 and 1967. The index of relative strength of the 1966 year class (3 year olds) is about 25 percent of the last 10 year average.

Figure 4.



YELLOWTAIL

Yellowtail landings for 1969 were about two million pounds ahead of 1968, through June (Table 2). The five million pound increase from Georges Bank more than compensated for the three million pound decrease from Southern New England grounds.

TABLE 2  
YELLOWTAIL SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
(Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Areas	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Southern						
New England	3162	5473	<del>356</del> 4902	5800	11542	14364
Georges Bank	8998	6496	5498	5927	13941	8927
Middle Atlantic	404	219	6941	9163	1050	667
Cape Cod Bay	732	967	4220	4106	1838	2134
Total	13296	13155	5330	5794	28371	26092

Landings per day from Georges Bank (Figure 5), however, did not reflect this increase in landings. It showed a decrease in the second quarter compared to 1968 (Figure 6) as did landings per day from Southern New England grounds.

Figure 5.

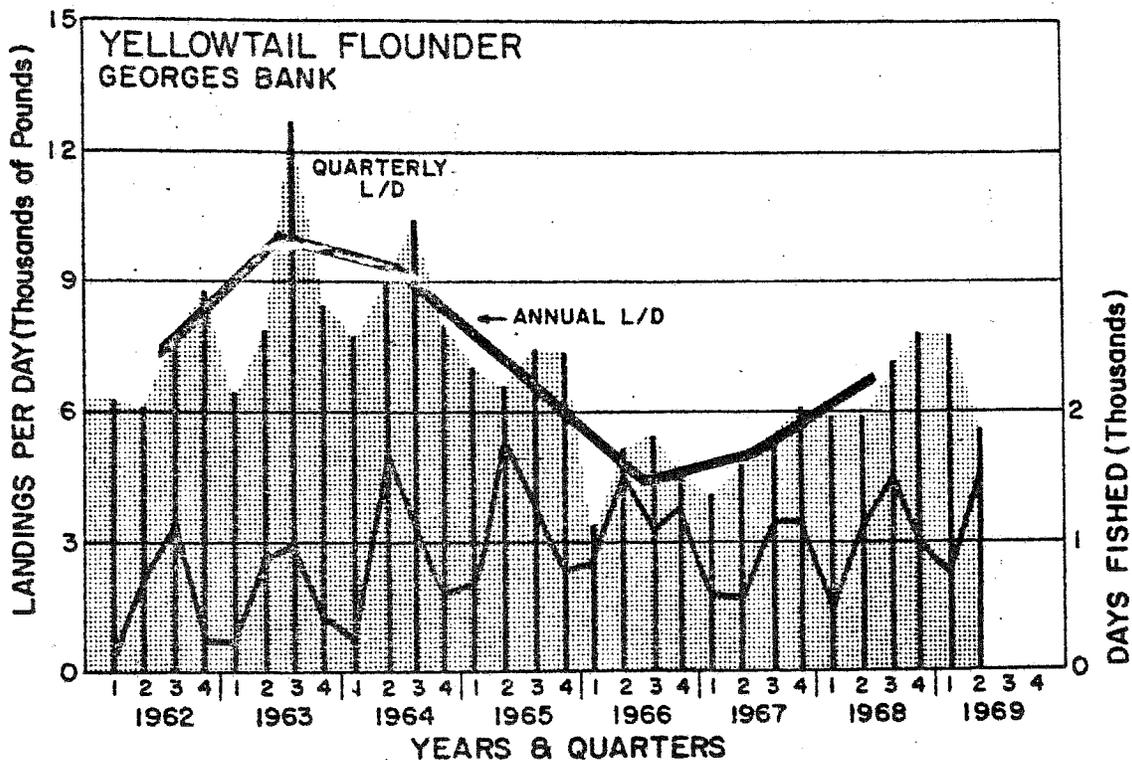
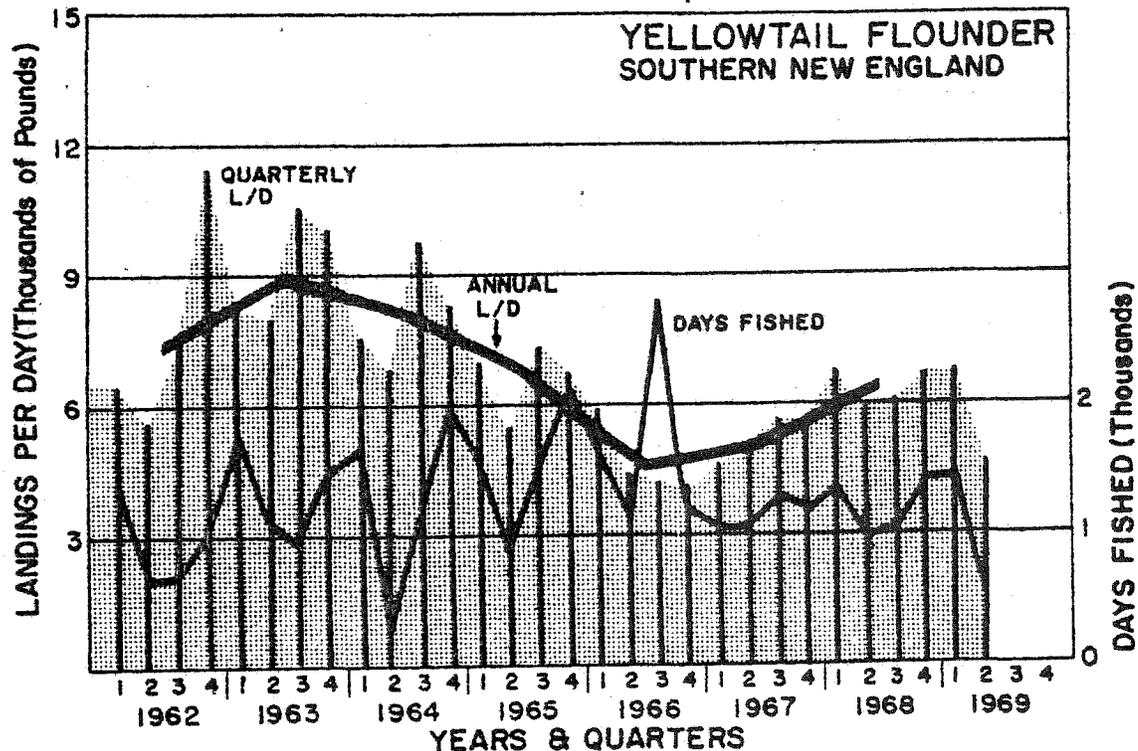


Figure 6.



Without information on age composition to tell us the strength of the incoming year class, we are not in a position to adequately predict the future of the yellowtail fishery for the rest of 1969 or 1970.

Apparently there has been an oral agreement among the fishermen to voluntarily limit their catches to 6,000 pounds per man, per trip. This agreement has been in effect since early this year and seems to be working well as far as the fishermen are concerned. Its effect on abundance and landings could be significant however.

#### COD

Cod landings (Table 3) for 1969 in the second quarter, were about the same as in 1968. Landings per day for cod was up slightly. No big increase in landings is expected this year unless the pattern of fishing changes due to the absence of haddock. If many of the vessels start fishing for cod exclusively, our index of relative abundance could be altered significantly.

TABLE 3  
 COD SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
 (Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Area	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Georges Bank	9727	9651	3265	2974	15573	15643

### REDFISH

Redfish landings for the first half of 1969 were about the same as in 1968 (Table 4). Second quarter totals were off about 10 million pounds in 1969, because of a good first quarter in Gulf of St. Lawrence landings.

TABLE 4  
 REDFISH SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
 (Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Area	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Gulf of Maine	1711	2853	35425	28911	8069	7014
Nova Scotia	893	5846	36122	35306	912	8819
Gulf of St. Lawrence	3452	7583	36048	59802	13205	7583
Total	6056	16282	35883	45594	22186	23416

Landings per day estimates for the Gulf of Maine show further increases through the second quarter of 1969. This pattern of gradually increased abundance of redfish in the Gulf of Maine has continued since 1965. Landings per day estimates for the Nova Scotian grounds showed a no change in 1969. Landings per day in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for 1969 dropped considerably from 1968.

### SILVER HAKE (Food fish)

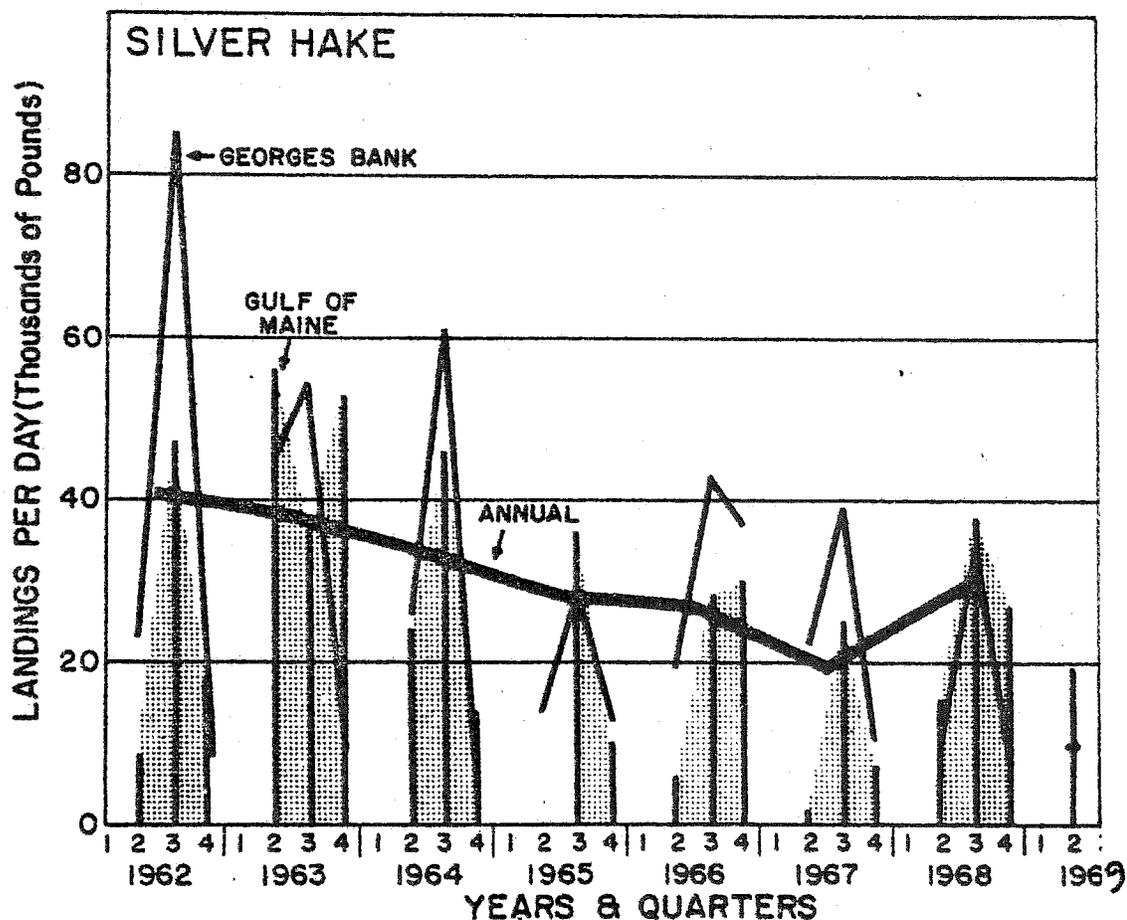
Landings of silver hake usually begin to pick up in the second quarter in the Portland and Gloucester area, but for the first half of 1969, silver hake landings were off about 2 million pounds from 1968. This decrease came mainly from the Gulf of Maine as Georges Bank silver hake landings were about the same (Table 5).

TABLE 5  
SILVER HAKE SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
(Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Area	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Gulf of Maine	3953	5591	19763	15470	3953	5591
Georges Bank	3212	3314	10870	11273	3315	3529
Total	7165	8905	16321	13908	7268	9120

Landings per day for silver hake in the Gulf of Maine looked pretty good in the second quarter this year, with about a three thousand pound per day increase compared to 1968 (Figure 7). Landings per day remained about the same for Georges Bank.

Figure 7.



A preliminary analysis of research vessel survey data indicates poor recruitment over the last few years in the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank. Rather poor fishing might be anticipated this year and also over the next year or so.

## INDUSTRIAL SPECIES

Second quarter landings of industrial fish in 1969 were behind 1968 figures by more than nine million pounds. This decrease has come from species other than red and silver hake as their landings have remained about the same (Table 6). Total landings (all species) for the first six months of 1969 were down about 10 percent compared to 1968.

TABLE 6  
INDUSTRIAL RED AND SILVER HAKE SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
(Landings in thousands of pounds, live weight)

Species	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
<u>So. New England</u>						
Red Hake	3576	4317	21009	16425	3608	4334
Silver Hake	2056	1763	12077	6702	2120	1813
Total	5632	6080	33086	23127	5728	6147
<u>Mid-Atlantic</u>						
Red Hake	524	57	10956	2291	524	57
Silver Hake	403	233	8428	5611	408	233
Total	927	290	19384	7902	932	290
Total Red Hake	4100	4374	19724	16241	4132	4391
Total Silver Hake	2459	1996	11496	6575	2528	2046
Total Industrial	21172	30762	125817	97994	39856	44360

Silver hake abundance has doubled over that of 1968 (Figure 8) and landings per day of red hake for the second quarter (Figure 9) was at the highest level recorded since 1965.

The groundfish survey indicates good recruitment of silver hake in 1968 and also an increased population in Southern New England.

Figure 8.

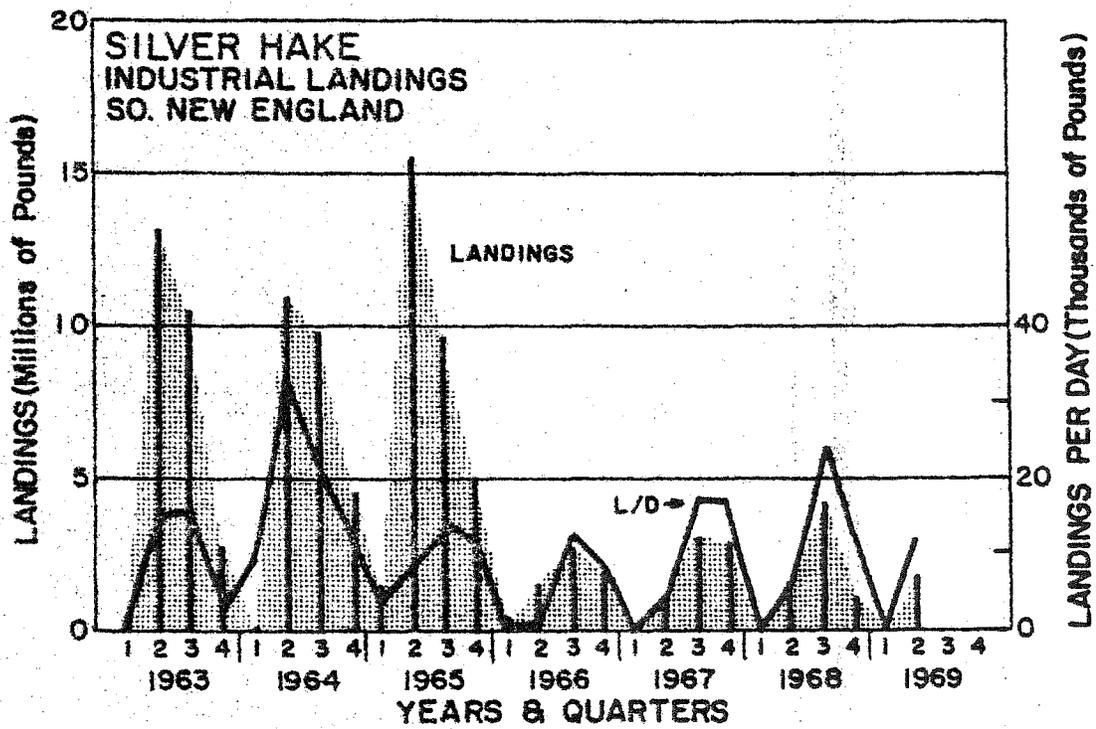
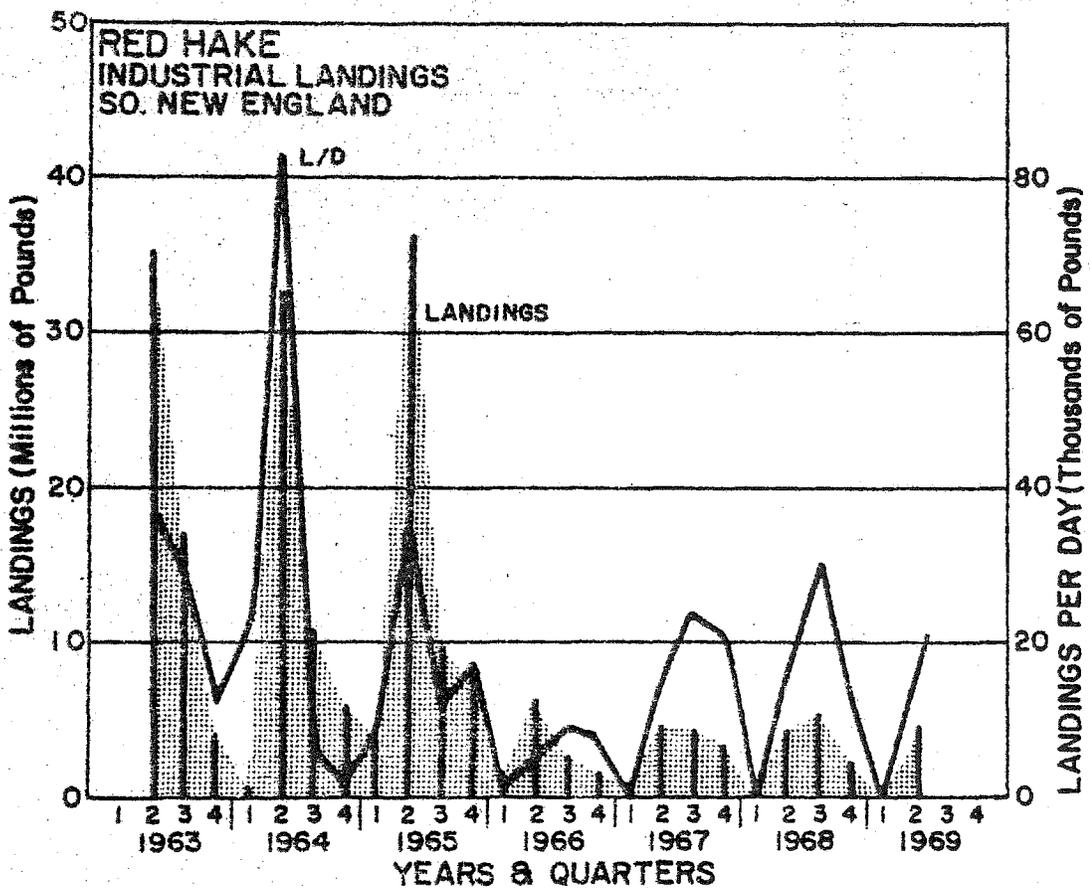


Figure 9.



## SEA SCALLOPS

New England landings of sea scallops in 1969 were off about 40 percent compared to 1968 (Table 7). No change in this trend is expected in the near future.

TABLE 7  
SEA SCALLOP SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS  
(Landings in thousands of pounds, meat weight)

Area	Landings		Landings/Day		Accumulative Landings	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Georges Bank	819	289	1171	1420	1127	1080
Middle Atlantic	1003	2656	1091	1736	1696	3520
Total	1822	2945	1125	1699	2823	4600