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Norwegian Spurdog Taggings in 1964

by

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In continuation of the experiments carried out in 1958-1963 (Aasen, 1964) 2395 spiny dogfish were tagged during three cruises in 1964, partly in the Shetland waters and partly on the Norwegian coast. The number of recoveries from the 1964 experiments amounts to 60. The total number of recaptures in 1964 was 217.

An evaluation of the recapture figures showed that the total instantaneous mortality rate was similar to that of the preceding years, when it had reached the alarming figure of  $Z = 0.72$ . (See Figure 1).

The collection of catch and effort data (expressed as tons per 1000 boxes (50 kg) of bait) has been continued during 1964. The weighted mean was 564 tons per 1000 boxes of bait against 717 in 1963. The average stock in 1964 was estimated to 6 000 tons against 7 000 tons the year before.

The total Norwegian catch in 1964 dropped by some 6000 tons compared with the average catch for the three preceding years (30384 tons). For 1965 the total catch up to August 31st is the lowest catch ever since 1959 for the corresponding time-intervals.

As a step towards preserving the stock of spiny dogfish, the Norwegian Fisheries Authorities have as from March 15th, 1964, forbidden to land fish below 70 cm total length.

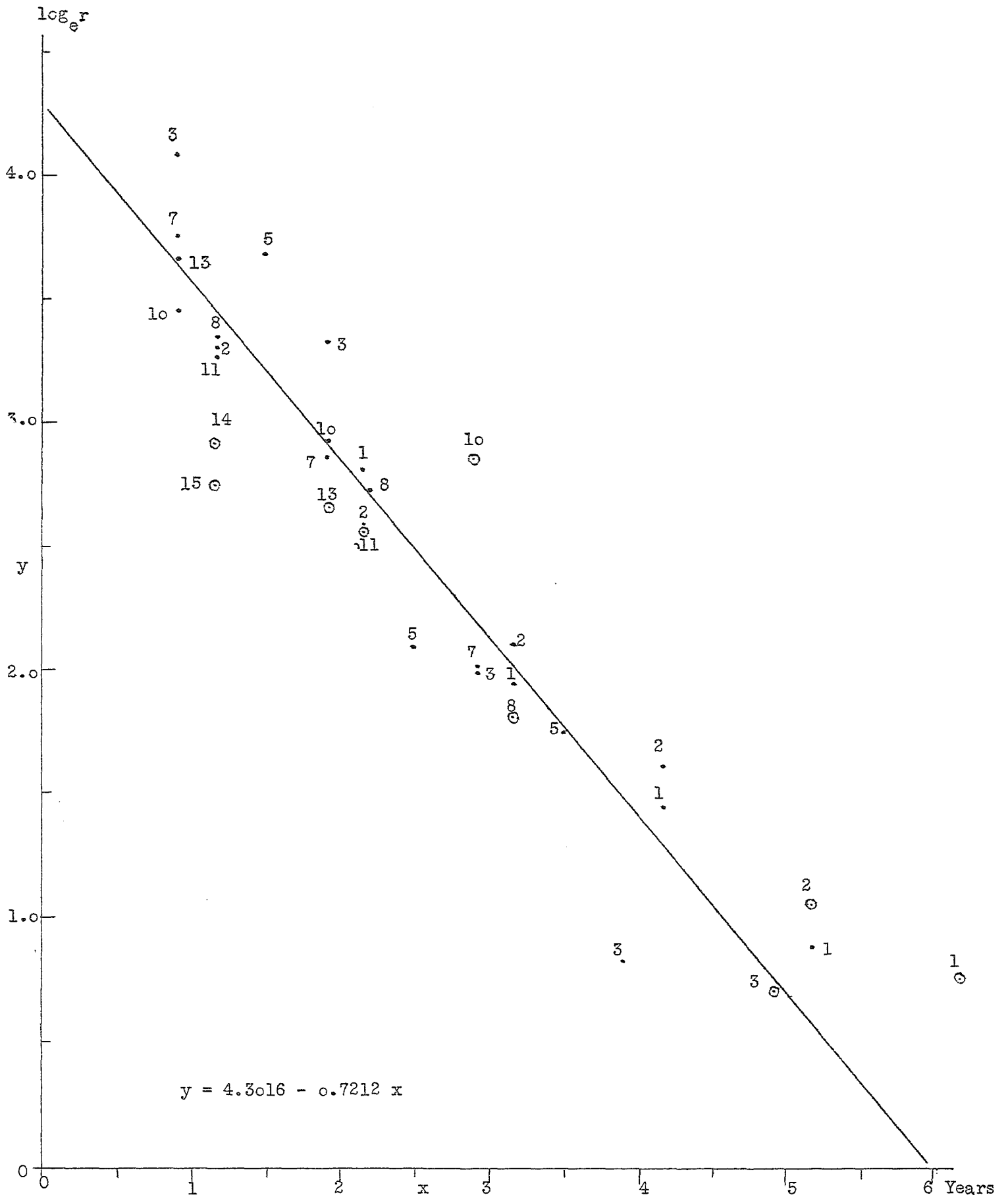
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From a liberal viewpoint on the question of transoceanic migrations one may say that these are in fact established. There is on record one recapture of a spurdog tagged in Newfoundland waters recaptured in Icelandic waters. There is also on record one recapture in Faroese waters of a spurdog tagged on the Norwegian coast. Finally, English taggings on the Scottish west coast have given 1 recapture in Icelandic waters.

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Reference

- Aasen, Olav.            1964            "The exploitation of the spiny dogfish (Squalus acanthias L.) in European waters".  
Fiskeridirek.Skr., 13(7):5-16.



r = % recaptures per 10 000 tons  
1, 2, 3, etc. = tagging experiments

Figure 1. Total mortality rate in the spurdog stock. All Norwegian taggings in open waters included. The 1964 observations are marked off by a circle.