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MUNDY, P. R.; QUINN, T. J.; DERISO, R. B., 1985: Fisheries Dynamics: Harvest Management & Sampling. Wash. Sea Grant Tech. Rep., Univ. of Washington, Seattle, USA, 60 pp, US\$ 5.00.

The key for appreciating this useful little book is to realize that it is *not* an exposition of "Fisheries Dynamics", nor of "Harvest Management and Sampling", but that it is, more prosaically, a collection of three papers, which may be retitled as follows:

1. A definition and discussion of some methods of harvest control, illustrated with data from shrimp and salmon fisheries in North Carolina and Alaska, respectively, by P. R. MUNDY (34 pp).
2. A broad description of the sampling scheme used to obtain data on the North Pacific halibut fishery, by T. J. QUINN II (12 pp), and
3. Stock assessment and some evidence of density dependence of growth and recruitment in North Pacific halibut, by R. B. DERISO (11 pp).

That this booklet is less than its title implies can be demonstrated by the references it contains. Altogether, 62 items are listed in the three separate lists of references; 21 are to previous contributions by various combinations of the three authors. Of the 41 other items, only 1 (!) pertains to an author not based in Canada or the U.S.A. - lucky J. G. POPE of Lowestoft, U.K.

Clearly, what we have here cannot be regarded as much more than a record of local experiences. The contributions of QUINN and DERISO (see above) are, in fact, rather conventional descriptions of such experiences, but can be recommended - because of their clarity - to readers interested in a bird's eye view of the North Pacific halibut fishery, and for useful references on this topic.

The local experiences discussed by MUNDY, on the other hand, have lessons in them which will apply to areas others than those he discusses specifically - because he concentrate on defining concepts (such as "harvest control") and on the rôle of fishery biologists vis-à-vis regulatory agencies, the fishing industry and the public, i.e. on a question crucial to fishery biologists throughout the world.

Two quotes shall illustrate both the lively style MUNDY uses in his exposé,

"the primary objective of a harvest control operation is not set by biologic or economic factors as evaluated by fishery biologists or economists; they are set by the owner of the resource, the political state. This is a bitter pill for many fishery biologists to swallow . . ."

and his main emphasis:

"The regulatory process is the interface between the fisheries profession and the general public. If the harvest control process is inept, then the profession appears to be inept."

Further in his text, MUNDY lists those criteria that must be met for fishing agencies to fulfill their function of regulating/managing the fisheries entrusted to them - and he suggests that many (most ?) agencies do not live up to their task.

I found this general part of MUNDY's paper most enlightening, more so than his discussion of two examples of harvesting systems, which will be of interest mainly to those interested in intricate imbroglios, such as the Alaska Salmon and U.S. shrimp fisheries.

In summary: MUNDY's discussion of our profession's state and status, and his specific approach to harvest control, make this booklet worthwhile, and one gets two papers on a halibut fishery into the bargain.

D. PAULY, Manila