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Council\*

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International Council for the  
Exploration of the Sea

C.M. 1977/B: 20  
Gear and Behaviour Committee

Concerning the Draft Manual

by Dr. A. I. Treschev (ed. P.J.G. Carrothers) on

"Application of the Fish Volume Method  
for Measuring Fishing Effort"



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P.J.G. Carrothers

The Fished Volume (formerly Swept Volume) Method for measuring fishing effort has been a subject of much discussion and misunderstanding for over ten years. This method is used in a member-country of ICES and has many interesting features which make it worthy of consideration by other countries and agencies as a tool for fisheries research, fishery resource management and prosecution of the commercial fisheries.

In an effort to clarify the method for trial by member countries, Dr. Treschev was asked by ICES (C.Res. 1973/4:10) to prepare this manual. The first draft was presented by Dr. Treschev to the 63rd. Statutory Meeting in Montreal, and one copy was made available to each member country. This draft was edited by Mr. Carrothers for English presentation only in an effort to improve readability and to clarify ambiguities, and this second draft was discussed by a special joint session of the Gear and Behaviour Working Groups in Hull in March 1976. After considerable private discussion and correspondence between the author, the editor and others, a revised and edited draft was assembled and discussed by the Engineering Working Group in Hamburg in April 1977. At that time further desirable revisions became apparent and the Working Group agreed that the Manual has reached the stage where it can be recommended for publication in the Co-operative Research Report Series.

The Manual is too large to be reproduced economically as regular meeting document, but it is planned to have several copies of the final draft available at the 65th. Statutory Meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, for inspection by interested persons. The Manual contains terms and definitions with discussion of concepts, detailed description of methods for calculating

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fishing power, how to determine fishing effort, fishing efficiency and fishing intensity, and how to apply the method in technical studies of fishing operations, analysis of fish stocks and regulation of the fishery.

In each application the user must be the final judge of the suitability of the method. The method is recommended for consideration and the manual has been prepared as a reference for such consideration. It is hoped that the Gear and Behaviour Committee will agree with its Engineering Working Group that this document is worth publishing by ICES.