



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release UPON RECEIPT

### BOSTON FISH PIER LANDINGS FOR DECEMBER, 1940

Fishermen in the Boston area received 84 cents per hundred weight more for their catch in December 1940 than they did in December 1939.

This fact was revealed today when the Boston Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, released its December summary report showing an average price of \$3.76 per hundred pounds was paid to the fishermen during December 1940 against \$2.92 for a year ago. During December 1940 21.2 million pounds of fish were landed at the Boston Fish Pier and sold through the New England Fish Exchange; in December of the previous year the landings totalled 22.0 million pounds.

An increase of 48 cents per hundred weight was also noted when the December 1940 figure was compared with the November 1940 price of \$3.28. The average price of \$3.45 for the entire 12 months of 1940 is 66 cents, or 24 percent, higher than the comparable figure of \$2.79 for 1939.

The December catch, which was the result of 544 trips to inshore and off-shore banks was worth about \$798,000 to the fishermen, while during the same month in 1939, the catch--landed from 532 trips--was worth \$154,000 less, however, or about \$644,000.

In 225 trips, offshore vessels brought in 18.6 million pounds of the total, spread among 19 classifications, at an average price of \$3.86 per hundred weight. Inshore craft, in 319 trips, landed about 2.5 million pounds consisting of 17 classifications, bringing \$3.03 for an average.

From offshore vessels, haddock (4.0 million pounds at \$5.36); pollock (3.8 million pounds at \$2.11); market cod (2.7 million pounds at \$3.80); rose-fish (2.2 million pounds at \$2.24); and large cod (1.6 million pounds at \$4.56), were the most abundant species during December.

The month's highest average price--again as in November--was brought by halibut at \$21.70; sea scallops at \$18.20 were second; and lemon sole, at \$10.06, was third.

Inshore craft landed 1.3 million pounds of pollock (at \$2.11 per hundred pounds) in greatest quantity. Market cod (354,000 pounds, at \$4.16) and yellow-tails (288,000 pounds, at \$1.73) followed.

Peak of vessel traffic into Boston occurred on Monday, December 23, when 66 vessels landed with 2 million pounds of fish; the highest average price was paid on Saturday, December 28, when only 13,820 pounds--mainly sea scallops--sold at \$17.53 per hundred weight.

#