

APPENDIX III

The Fisheries Research Board of Canada
and its place in the scientific development
of Canada during the next decade. 1968-1978.

I. INTRODUCTION

" The Board has charge of all Dominion fishery research stations in Canada, and has the conduct and control of investigations of practical and economic problems connected with marine and fresh water fisheries, flora and fauna, and such other work as may be assigned to it by the Minister." *

The Canadian Government has a responsibility to know all that can be known about the total Canadian environment. This includes the vast Canadian bodies of fresh and salt water. These waters are unique to Canada, and while knowledge gained elsewhere may be useful on occasion, it can never be a substitute for a detailed understanding of our own aquatic environments and the life therein. As noted above, the Government of Canada at one time delegated its primary responsibility in these matters to the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. From time to time new agencies have been created by the Government to deal with special problems. Where responsibilities overlap the FRB may participate in the new research or, to avoid duplication, its existing activities may be coordinated as required.

It is not enough to be charged with responsibilities; it is also necessary to discharge these responsibilities through the best available means. The deployment by the FRB of limited resources has in the past brought notable returns in specific areas where definite problems in aquatic resources demanded solutions. In large part these problems and successes resulted from the rapid change in the fisheries of Canada from fairly primitive harvesting operations to vertically

* From the Fisheries Research Board Act.