

CNL(05)12

Request for Scientific Advice from ICES

1. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North Atlantic area:

- 1.1 provide an overview of salmon catches and landings, including unreported catches by country and catch and release, and worldwide production of farmed and ranched Atlantic salmon in 2005;
- 1.2 report on significant developments which might assist NASCO with the management of salmon stocks including new or emerging threats to, or opportunities for, salmon conservation and management;
- 1.3 report on developments in methods to identify origin of Atlantic salmon at a finer resolution than continent of origin (river stocks, country or stock complexes);
- 1.4 describe sampling programmes for escaped farmed salmon, the precision of the identification methods employed and the reliability of the estimates obtained;
- 1.5 assess the genetic effects of introgression of farmed Atlantic salmon on wild salmon populations;
- 1.6 provide an assessment of the minimum information needed which would signal a significant change in the previously provided advice for each Commission area;
- 1.7 provide a compilation of tag releases by country in 2005;
- 1.8 identify relevant data deficiencies, monitoring needs and research requirements ¹.

2. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North-East Atlantic Commission area:

- 2.1 describe the key events of the 2005 fisheries and the status of the stocks; ²
- 2.2 provide any new information on the extent to which the objectives of any significant management measures introduced in recent years have been achieved;
- 2.3 further develop the age-specific stock conservation limits where possible based upon individual river stocks;
- 2.4 provide annual catch options or alternative management advice for 2006-2008, if possible based on forecasts of PFA for northern and southern stocks, with an assessment of risks relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding; ³
- 2.5 update and further refine estimates of by-catch of salmon in pelagic fisheries (including non-catch fishing mortality) with an assessment of impacts on returns to homewaters.

3. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North American Commission area:

- 3.1 describe the key events of the 2005 fisheries (including the fishery at St Pierre and Miquelon) and the status of the stocks; ²
- 3.2 provide any new information on the extent to which the objectives of any significant management measures introduced in recent years have been achieved;
- 3.3 update age-specific stock conservation limits based on new information as available;
- 3.4 provide annual catch options or alternative management advice for 2006-2008 with an assessment of risks relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding. ³

4. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the West Greenland Commission area:

- 4.1 describe the events of the 2005 fisheries and the status of the stocks; ^{2,4}
- 4.2 provide any new information on the extent to which the objectives of any significant management measures introduced in recent years have been achieved;
- 4.3 provide annual catch options or alternative management advice for 2006-2008 with an assessment of risk relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding. ³

Notes:

1. *NASCO's International Atlantic Salmon Research Board's inventory of on-going research relating to salmon mortality in the sea will be provided to ICES to assist it in this task.*
2. *In the responses to questions 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1 ICES is asked to provide details of catch, gear, effort, composition and origin of the catch and rates of exploitation. For homewater fisheries, the information provided should indicate the location of the catch in the following categories: in-river; estuarine; and coastal. Any new information on non-catch fishing mortality, of the salmon gear used, and on the by-catch of other species in salmon gear, and on the by-catch of salmon in any existing and new fisheries for other species is also requested.*
3. *In response to questions 2.4, 3.4 and 4.3 provide a detailed explanation and critical examination of any changes to the models used to provide catch advice.*
4. *In response to question 4.1, ICES is requested to provide a brief summary of the status of North American and North-East Atlantic salmon stocks. The detailed information on the status of these stocks should be provided in response to questions 2.1 and 3.1.*