

Council

CNL(11)15

Report of the Socio-Economic Sub-Group

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Background

1. Under the Strategic Approach for NASCO's 'Next Steps', CNL(05)49, the key issues identified in relation to the social and economic aspects of the wild Atlantic salmon are to: ensure that appropriate emphasis is given to the social and economic aspects of the wild Atlantic salmon; strengthen the socio-economic data as a basis for managing salmon; integrate socio-economic aspects in decision-making processes; and disseminate socio-economic information to ensure due weight is given to the salmon compared to other important commercial and public interests. In 2007, the Council had established a Working Group on Socio-Economics which had met in 2008 and had presented its interim report to the Council at its Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting, CNL(08)17. The Working Group had commenced work in developing an international collation of social and economic values to inform management and which would support NASCO's public relations work.
2. In order to continue this and other work as effectively and efficiently as possible, a Sub-Group had been established and its first report was presented to the Council last year, CNL(10)17. The Sub-Group comprises Guy Mawle (EU) and Oystein Aas (Norway), as Co-Chairs, Dr Ciaran Byrne (EU), Ms Kim Blankenbeker (USA) and Mr Paul Knight (NGOs). Other representatives from the EU had asked to be informed of the Sub-Group's work. The Sub-Group had previously developed tables of socio-economic information relating to rod and line and net and trap fisheries, since the original tables developed by the Working Group had been difficult to interpret, especially by non-economists and the format developed for these tables by the Sub-Group was considered to be more suitable for inclusion on the NASCO website. The tables were not complete, but were considered to be work in progress, and gaps in the information presented had been highlighted. The Sub-Group had also developed an outline proposal for a Special Session, to be held in 2011/2012, and a format for presentation of socio-economic information on the website. Last year, the Council had welcomed the progress made and had agreed that the Parties should be given an opportunity to respond to the Sub-Group's proposals.

Progress since last year

3. Over the last twelve months, the Sub-Group has further developed the pages relating to socio-economic information for inclusion on the NASCO website and has prepared a proposal for the Special Session, which the Council has agreed should be held during the 2012 Annual Meeting. It has not received any further information from the jurisdictions for inclusion in the tables of socio-economic information, so it has not proposed making these available on the NASCO website at the present time. However, it would welcome feedback on the tables including information to address

gaps in the data and updating of existing data so that the tables can be made publicly available in the future.

Web Pages

4. In its 2010 report, the Sub-Group had developed, to varying degrees, draft web pages relating to 'The Value of Salmon', 'Who Values the Salmon and Why?', 'Changes in Value' and 'Measuring Value'. It has further developed these pages, with the exception of the 'Measuring Value' page which it will develop later. The three new pages can be viewed via the following link www.nasco.int/value_thevalues.html. These pages are not yet publicly available but, if the Council agrees, they could be made available after the Annual Meeting. In the future, the Sub-Group would like to make the tables of socio-economic information relating to 'rod fisheries' and 'net and trap' fisheries available on the website. These tables are included in this paper as Annex 1, and if the jurisdictions have information to complete gaps in the tables or to update them it would be helpful if this could be made available to the Secretariat.

Special Session

5. In 2004, NASCO adopted 'Guidelines for Incorporating Social and Economic Factors in decisions under the Precautionary Approach', CNL(04)57. To date, there has been a limited exchange of information in relation to socio-economic issues and the objective of the 2012 Special Session is to provide an opportunity for a more detailed exchange of information on how jurisdictions are incorporating socio-economic factors in decisions relating to: management of salmon fisheries; habitat protection and restoration; and aquaculture and related activities. It is hoped that, in addition, the Special Session will lead to a clearer understanding of the usefulness of the NASCO Guidelines and discussion of the future role of NASCO in relation to the social and economic aspects of salmon management. A draft Programme is contained in Annex 2. The Sub-Group has made some suggestions for possible case studies to be presented by the jurisdictions and is willing to liaise with the jurisdictions to further develop the Programme following the 2011 Annual Meeting.

Next Steps

6. The Council is asked to consider the proposals made by the Sub-Group on the new web pages relating to socio-economic aspects of the wild Atlantic salmon and for the 2012 Special Session including the possible topics to be addressed by each jurisdiction. Feedback on both of these elements might be given to the Secretariat either at the Annual Meeting or by a given date after the Annual Meeting. It would also be helpful to the Sub-Group if each jurisdiction could update the tables presented in Annex 1 by addressing any gaps in the information or updating, as appropriate, the information presented.

Secretary
Edinburgh
10 May 2011

Net and trap fisheries								
	Numbers caught	Weight caught (kgs)	Number of licences	Number of fishers	Gross value (Euros)	Year of data	Source	Most important type of gear
Canada		48000			NR	2007	ICES WGNAS	
St Pierre & Miquelon		3450	64	64		2008	CNL (09)32	
Greenland		24646	261	105	NR	2007	CNL31.847	
Iceland		16544	ID		110000			
Faroe Islands	0	0						
Russia		35000	330		255000	2007	CNL31.847	Trap nets, gill nets
Norway		426000	1971		2663000	2007		Bend and bag nets
Sweden		200	> 4	4		2008	FAR 2009	Trap nets
Finland			780					Nets and local rods in Teno
Denmark	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	2007	FAR	Recreational Gillnets are likely taking salmon as by-catch
England & Wales	10922	37900	362	971	437000	2007	see comment	Biggest catches are made by drift nets
Scotland	19897	57033	945	503	983250	Mostly 2007		Should be checked by "Scots"
Ireland		30000	158		675000??			
Northern Ireland		18000	30		?	2007	FAR	
France		5100	32				CNL (09)31	Drift nets
Other								
	Delete this column?	701873	4608		5,123,250			
	Euro - USD conversion = 0.75							
	Euro - GBP conversion = 1.15							
	Euro - CaD conversion = 0.70							

Rod fisheries								
	No. Caught (incl. C&R)	Number of fishers	Fishing days	Total Expenditure (Million Euros)	Jobs supported	Year of data	Source	Comments
USA	3	90	250	0		2007	FAR	No broodstock fishery incl
Canada	80000	40340	364890	53		2005	CNL (08)17	Need to check if right estimate is used
Iceland	45454	35000	175000	check or calculate	1200		FAR	Iceland withdrew from NASCO in 2009
Russia	51000	15500	110000	check or calculate	250		FAR	
Finland	16000	9479	36000	check or calculate			ICES WGNAS	
Norway	112000	90000	900000	175	ID	2008	Various	
England and Wales	19984	27,000	135000	43	1200	2007	Various	
Scotland	35581	40000	467000	85	2200	Various	Various	Should be checked
Ireland	30826	20000	200000	check or calculate	1200			
Northern Ireland	10010	6000	60000	check or calculate	300			Need update?
Sweden (west coast)	3850	7500	33000	check or calculate		2008		C&R not included
Denmark	1680			check or calculate		2007	FAR	
Germany	0	0	0					Delete?
France	1900	2401	29000	check or calculate		2008	CNL(09)31	
Spain	Checking	Checking	Checking	check or calculate				
	408288	293,385	2,510,080	356	6350			
	Euro - USD conversion = 0.75							
	Euro - GBP conversion = 1.15							
	Euro - CaD conversion = 0.70							

Note: NR = not relevant; ID = insufficient data

***Draft Proposal for a Special Session at the 2012 Annual Meeting on
Incorporating Social and Economic Factors in Decision-making under the
Precautionary Approach***

Background

In 2004, NASCO adopted Guidelines for incorporating social and economic factors in decisions under the Precautionary Approach, CNL(04)57. These Guidelines form a framework for decisions which may affect the wild Atlantic salmon and the environments in which it lives. They were developed on the basis that all decisions in relation to: the management of salmon fisheries; habitat protection and restoration; aquaculture, introductions and transfers and transgenics; stock rebuilding programmes; and by-catch will be taken in the context of the Precautionary Approach as adopted by NASCO and its Parties.

It was the Council's intention that the Parties and jurisdictions would initially report on the application of the guidelines to one of the elements above. However, following the 'Next Steps' for NASCO review the Council agreed a new approach to reporting on progress in implementing the Precautionary Approach. Under this new arrangement more detailed Focus Area Reports (FARs) were prepared on one of the focus area topics of management of fisheries (2008/2009); habitat protection, restoration and enhancement (2009/2010); and aquaculture, introductions and transfers and transgenics (2010/2011). It had been the Council's intention that the FARs would include a description of how socio-economic factors are included in management decisions taken under the Precautionary Approach. However, the Review Groups that have assessed the FARs have concluded that most FARs failed to provide a clear indication of how socio-economic factors are incorporated into management decisions

Objectives

One of the aims of the 'Next Steps' process was to improve the exchange of information among jurisdictions in managing salmon under the Precautionary Approach so as to facilitate a collaborative learning process. To date, there has been a limited exchange of information in relation to socio-economic considerations. The proposed objective of the 2012 Special Session is to provide an opportunity for a more detailed exchange of information on how jurisdictions are incorporating socio-economic factors in decisions taken under the Precautionary Approach relating to: management of fisheries; habitat protection and restoration; and aquaculture and related activities. It is hoped that in the light of this Special Session there will be a clearer understanding of:

- the approaches used, and challenges faced, by jurisdictions in incorporating socio-economic factors in managing wild Atlantic salmon, its habitats and aquaculture and related activities under a Precautionary Approach;
- the usefulness to the jurisdictions of the NASCO Guidelines and any modifications that may be needed to them to assist jurisdictions with their application;
- the future role for NASCO in relation to the social and economic aspects of salmon management.

Structure

Subject to other commitments ideally a full afternoon or morning session of the Council would be allocated to the Special Session. After an Introduction on NASCO's work to date on socio-economics, it is envisaged that there would a number of case studies of about 10 minutes each (depending on the number of presentations), for each focus area of decision-making, followed by discussion. There will also be a period of time for general discussion at the end of the Session. The focus of the presentations will be on approaches and challenges to incorporating socio-economic aspects in management decisions not the presentation of socio-economic information. To minimise the need to present too much detail, it is suggested that jurisdictions willing to make a presentation at the Special Session will also table a paper. These papers may be made available on the NASCO website. The suggestions for presentations made below are only ideas from the Sub-Group in the hope that jurisdictions might agree to contribute. Alternative suggestions are welcomed for consideration by the Sub-Group. It is recommended that the Chairman of the Session would develop conclusions based on the presentations and discussions and report back to the Council during the plenary sessions.

Draft Programme

1. Opening of the Special Session
2. Overview of NASCO's work on social and economic factors in salmon management
3. How social and economic factors have been incorporated into recent management decisions relating to:
 - (a) Salmon fisheries;
 - (b) Habitat Protection and Restoration;
 - (c) Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics.

Under each theme in (a) – (c) above, it is envisaged that there would be 2 or 3 brief presentations followed by a period of discussion.

4. General Discussion

To allow for views to be expressed on the usefulness of NASCO's Guidelines for Incorporating Social and Economic factors in Decisions under the Precautionary Approach, and consideration of the future role for NASCO in relation to social and economic issues.

5. Close of the Special Session

The following are examples of case studies that might be considered under each theme:

(a) *Management of salmon fisheries*

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to the management of Irish salmon fisheries.

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to the management of salmon fisheries in Canada, including the Aboriginal fishery.

How social and economic factors are being incorporated in decisions relating to management of Norwegian salmon fisheries.

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to management of the salmon fisheries at Greenland and/or the Faroe Islands.

(b) *Habitat Protection and Restoration*

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to the removal of barriers to migration for salmon and other fish in the US.

How social and economic considerations relating to salmon are being built into delivery of the EU Water Framework Directive.

How social and economic aspects of salmon stocks and fisheries were included in the decision relating to the proposed Severn Tidal Barrage, UK.

(c) *Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics*

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to the *G.salaris* eradication programme in Norway.

How social and economic considerations are being incorporated in decisions relating to the management of salmon farming in Scotland.

Conclusions

The Sub-Group believes that given the lack of reporting to date, a well planned Special Session focusing on socio-economic issues is timely, will facilitate a valuable exchange of experiences among jurisdictions, will highlight approaches and challenges to incorporating socio-economic factors in management decisions and will allow for feedback on the NASCO Guidelines and for consideration of NASCO's future role on this topic. The Council is asked to consider this proposal for a Special Session with a view to providing feedback to the Sub-Group so that the programme can be finalised well in advance of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting.