



Agenda item 6.8
For information

Council

CNL(17)17

***Management and Sampling of the
St Pierre and Miquelon Salmon Fishery***



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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DES OUTRE-MER

DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES OUTRE-MER

SOUS-DIRECTION DES POLITIQUES PUBLIQUES

BUREAU DES POLITIQUES AGRICOLES,
RURALES ET MARITIMES

Paris, le 15 MAI 2017

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La Ministre des outre-mer

à

M. Steinar Hermansen,
Président de l'Organisation de conservation du
saumon de l'Atlantique nord (OCSAN)

Objet : Rapport annuel sur la pêche du saumon à Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon

En prévision de la trente-quatrième réunion annuelle de l'OCSAN à Varberg, Suède, du 6 au 9 juin 2017, les autorités françaises ont l'honneur de vous faire parvenir le rapport de la France au titre de Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon préparé par la Direction des Territoires, de l'Agriculture et de la Mer à Saint-Pierre.

En 2016 la coopération entre l'Ifremer et Pêches et Océans Canada s'est poursuivie, permettant de disposer aussi d'informations scientifiques.

Le sous-directeur
des politiques publiques

Stéphane CAZELLES
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GUADLOUPE MARTINIQUE GUYANE LA RÉUNION MAYOTTE SAINT-PIERRE-ET-MIQUELON SAINT-MARTIN SAINT-BARTHÉLEMY POLYNÉSIE FRANÇAISE NOUVELLE-CALÉDONIE
WALLIS-ET-FUTUNA TERRES AUSTRALES ET ANTARCTIQUES FRANÇAISES



PRÉFET DE SAINT-PIERRE-ET-MIQUELON

Direction des Territoires,
de l'Alimentation et de la Mer

Saint-Pierre, 22 March 2017

Service des Affaires Maritimes et Portuaires

L'adjointe au directeur, chef du service
des affaires maritimes et portuaires

to

**Monsieur le directeur des pêches
maritimes et de l'aquaculture**

Reference:

Tour Sequoia
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RE: Report on the 2016 salmon fishery

***Annual Report on the Atlantic Salmon Fishery at St Pierre and Miquelon
2016 Season***

CC: MOM/Délégué IFREMER SPM / Archives

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1. Legislation

Salmon fishing at Saint Pierre and Miquelon is regulated by the Rural and Maritime Fishery Law, in particular Book IX, the Order of 20 March 1987 and the Order of 24 March 2015 revising the Annexes of Decree No 87-182, which were repealed and integrated into the Rural and Maritime Fishery Law by Decree No 1608/2014 of December 2014.

This legislation establishes the following:

- the fishery is subject to authorisation and an Annual Fishery Plan
- the minimum capture size is 48cm
- nets must be declared and marked
- the minimum mesh size is 125mm
- the fishery season is restricted to 1 May - 31 July
- fishing gear must not be placed within 300m of a river mouth
- restricted fishing effort:
 - 3 x 360m nets for professional fishermen
 - 1 x 180m net for recreational fishermen
- all catch must be declared (through annual declarations and a fishing log)
- all catch in the recreational fishery must be tagged

436 boat inspections were carried out by the Maritime and Port Affairs Service between 9 May and 7 July. These were carried out at random on 48 occasions, in the morning and/or the evening, on both recreational and professional vessels.

2. Authorisation

Authority to fish is granted to professional fishermen (who may sell their catch) and recreational fishermen (who are not permitted to sell their catch).

The allocation procedure is based on fishery precedence and on the applicant's compliance with catch declaration obligations throughout the previous year.

The Maritime and Port Affairs Service deals with requests for permission to fish and allocates each authorised fisher with a specific site to fish for the entire season. The overall fishery site plan is mapped and published by Order of the Prefect.

In 2016, 8 professional and 70 recreational permits were issued. The total number of permits issued has remained stable over the last 4 years, while the number of actual fishers has remained constant since 2005 (an average of 50 fishers per year over the last 11 years).

3. Salmon catch

The total 2016 catch stands at:

Professional catch: 978.58kg (1,213kg in 2015). 436 salmon caught

Recreational catch: 3,749kg (2,300kg in 2015). 1,246 salmon caught

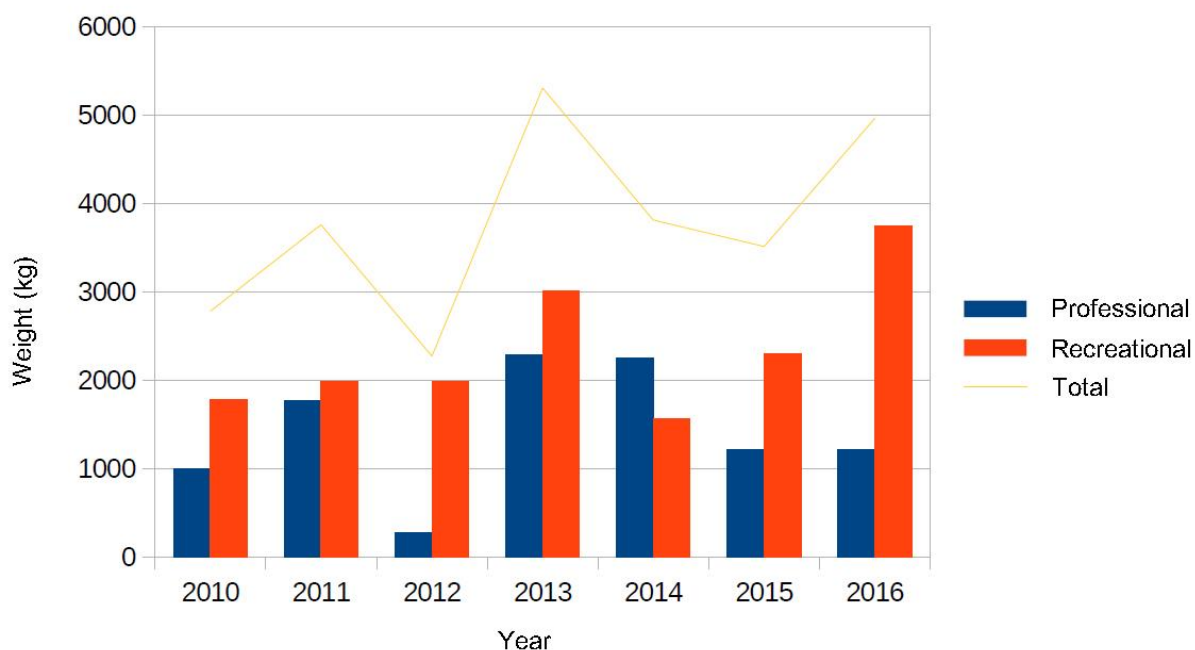
The total weight of the 2016 catch was therefore 4,727kg, compared to 3,513kg in 2015.

The 1,246 salmon caught by 65 recreational boats averages around 19 salmon per recreational fisher. However, the highest catch by a single recreational vessel was 49 salmon. It should also be noted that many people only fish for a very short period and bring their nets in well before the end of the permitted time-frame, when they consider that their catch is sufficient for their personal use and that of their immediate circle.

The 436 salmon caught by 8 professional vessels averages around 54 salmon per professional fisher. The highest catch by a single professional vessel was 247 salmon. One professional license holder reported that he did not fish this season.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Professional Fishery															
No. of licenses	12	12	13	14	13	13	9	8	9	9	9	9	12	8	8
Catch volume	1223	1620	1499	2243	1730	970	1604	1864	1002	1764	278	2291	2250	1213	978
Recreational Fishery															
No. of licenses	42	42	42	52	52	53	55	50	57	58	60	64	70	70	70
Catch Volume	729	1272	1285	1044	1825	1062	1846	1600	1780	1992	1168	3011	1561	2300	3749
Total catch	1952	2892	2784	3287	3855	2032	3450	3464	2782	3756	1446	5302	3811	3513	4727

Salmon catch at St Pierre and Miquelon 2010 - 2016



There is no export of salmon and all salmon caught are consumed by the local market. Most are retained for personal consumption, with only a few sold to restaurants or individuals through a local fishmonger, or directly by the fisher to individuals at market.

It should be noted that there is no salmon fishing in the archipelago's rivers and that the territory imports around 16 tonnes of farmed salmon from Canada. The annual consumption of salmon is approximately 3kg per inhabitant.

4. Profile of fishers/location of fishing sites

The average salmon fisher on the archipelago is male (no females fish), aged approximately 55 years old (the youngest being 38 and the oldest 77).

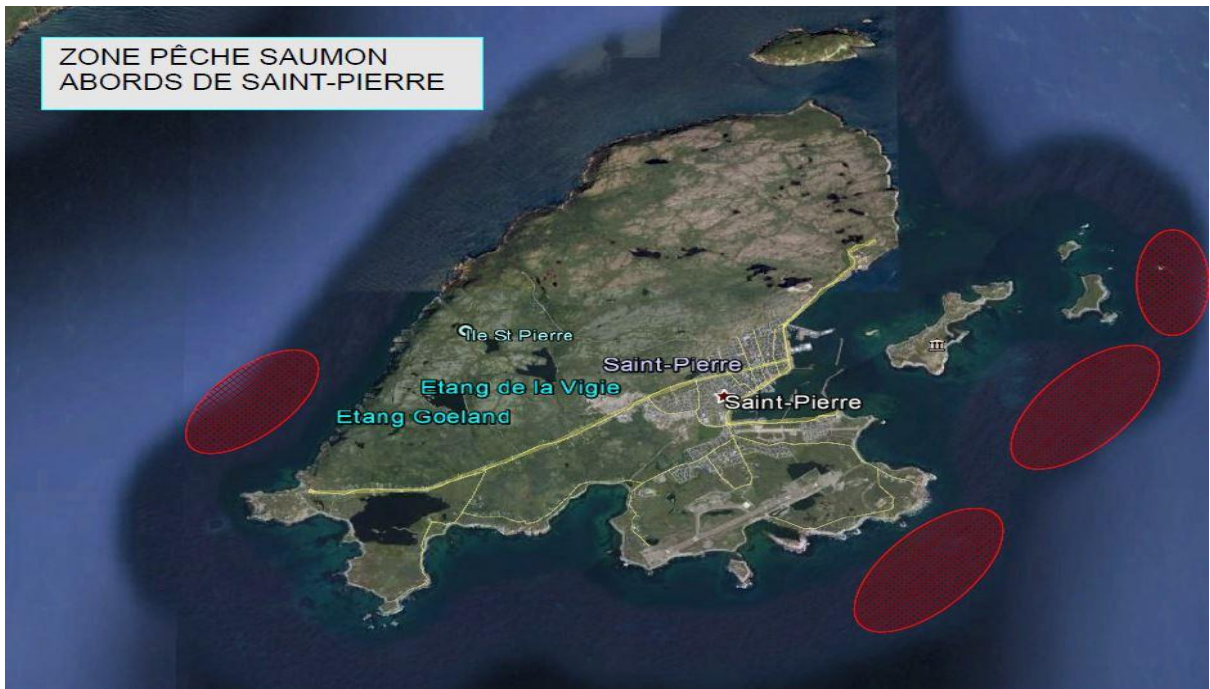
The Atlantic salmon fishing sites are located around the archipelago as follows:



ZONE PÊCHE SAUMON
ABORDS LANGLADE



ZONE PÊCHE SAUMON
ABORDS DE SAINT-PIERRE



5. 2016 Project Reports

5.1 *Parr Study in the Belle river*

The situation in 2015: Many in-river fishers reported the presence of parr in the Belle river (Langlade) in 2014. A study will be carried out to determine whether the river, whose mouth is frequently obstructed, could sustain more salmon if their return to the river was facilitated by dredging the river mouth. An awareness campaign will be launched in April to ensure that in-river anglers can distinguish between parr and trout. Depending on the results, it is planned to dredge the river mouth and establish a fisheries exclusion zone to facilitate the return of salmon to the river.

2016 Update: The Belle river was not obstructed in 2016 and there was therefore no need to dredge the river. Electro-fishing was carried out to determine whether there were parr present in the river. The results are not yet known, but initial indications seem to show that some were found. These efforts will therefore continue in 2017.

5.2 *Seal counts*

The situation in 2015: The November 2015 report on the current status of, and recommendations for monitoring, the seal population at St Pierre and Miquelon does not indicate an overpopulation of these marine mammals in the archipelago. However, the report establishes a procedure for monitoring seal populations, recognising the different species. The report also recommends studying the seals' diet and interactions between seals and fishing activity.

2016 Update: It has not been established that the seal population is increasing. However, the impact of these mammals on fishery resources, particularly salmon, is under serious consideration. Two studies, one involving telemetric tracking of seals (the BEST project) and another involving an analysis of their diet, are currently seeking funding. Two seal counts were carried out in July and November 2016 and four more are planned for April, July, September and November 2017.