



Council

CNL(15)16

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

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Management and Sampling of the St Pierre and Miquelon Salmon Fishery

1. As in previous years, we have received a report from the Secrétariat Général de la Mer in Paris containing information on the management of the salmon fishery at St Pierre and Miquelon, details of catches and of the number of licenses issued. This information is attached. The total catch in 2014 was 3.811 tonnes and there were 82 authorised fishermen (12 professional licenses and 70 recreational licenses). We are advised that the genetic analysis carried out by Genindexe will be released shortly. Many in-river fishermen reported parr in the Belle River (Langlade) in 2014. A study will be conducted to see if the river could sustain more salmon if their return to the river was facilitated by dredging of the river mouth. The increasing seal population is considered to be affecting the salmon fishery and a seal count will be undertaken in 2015 and, if necessary, a cull may be considered.
2. France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) has been invited to attend the Thirty-Second Annual Meeting and will be represented by Ms Christiane Laurent-Monpetit (Ministère de l'Outre-mer, Paris) and Mr Herlé Goragner (IFREMER, St Pierre and Miquelon).

Secretary
Edinburgh
21 May 2015



PREMIER MINISTRE

**Secrétariat
Général de la Mer**

Le Secrétaire général

Paris, 13 May 2015

N° 301/SGMER

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Le Secrétaire général de la mer
To

The Secretary of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization

RE: Annual Report from France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon)

On the occasion of the 32nd Annual Meeting of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), from 2 – 5 June 2015 at Happy Valley-Goose Bay, I am pleased to advise that the report from France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) was sent to you by e-mail on 29 April 2015. I confirm that this may now be circulated to all delegates.

The administrative components of the report are provided by the St Pierre and Miquelon Maritime Office (Directorate for Territories, Agriculture and the Sea) and the scientific information has been provided by the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER), including the genetic analyses carried out by Genindexe which will be released shortly.

In 2014 the salmon catch decreased to 3,811kg. During the last fishing season, 456 boat inspections were carried out, allowing the boats to be checked on different occasions. Furthermore, preparatory meetings on salmon conservation have been organised for the whole fishing community.

Finally, I would like to advise you that IFREMER's sampling programme continues, with a similar sample size (71) and studies are underway in the Belle-Rivière which could lead to the re-opening of the river mouth.

Mr Peter Hutchinson
Secretary of NASCO
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Michel Aymeric

Annual Report on the Atlantic Salmon Fishery at Saint Pierre and Miquelon 2014 Season

1. Legislation

Salmon fishing at Saint Pierre and Miquelon is regulated by the Rural and Maritime Fishery Law, in particular Book IX, the Orders of 20 March 1987 and 24 March 2015, to revise 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

456 boat inspections were carried out in 2014, 380 of which were of recreational vessels and 76 were professional vessels. The inspections were carried out over 37 days, both in the morning and in the evening.

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 compliance with catch declaration obligations throughout the previous year.

The Maritime 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 2014, 12 professional permits were issued and 70 recreational permits were issued. The number of licenses issued has increased over the last 3 years, although the number of fishers has remained constant since 2005 (an average of 50 fishers per year over the last 10 years).

3. Salmon catch

The total 2014 catch stands at:

Professional catch: 2,250kg (2,291kg in 2013). 526 salmon caught.

Recreational catch: 1,561kg (3,011kg in 2013). 525 salmon caught.

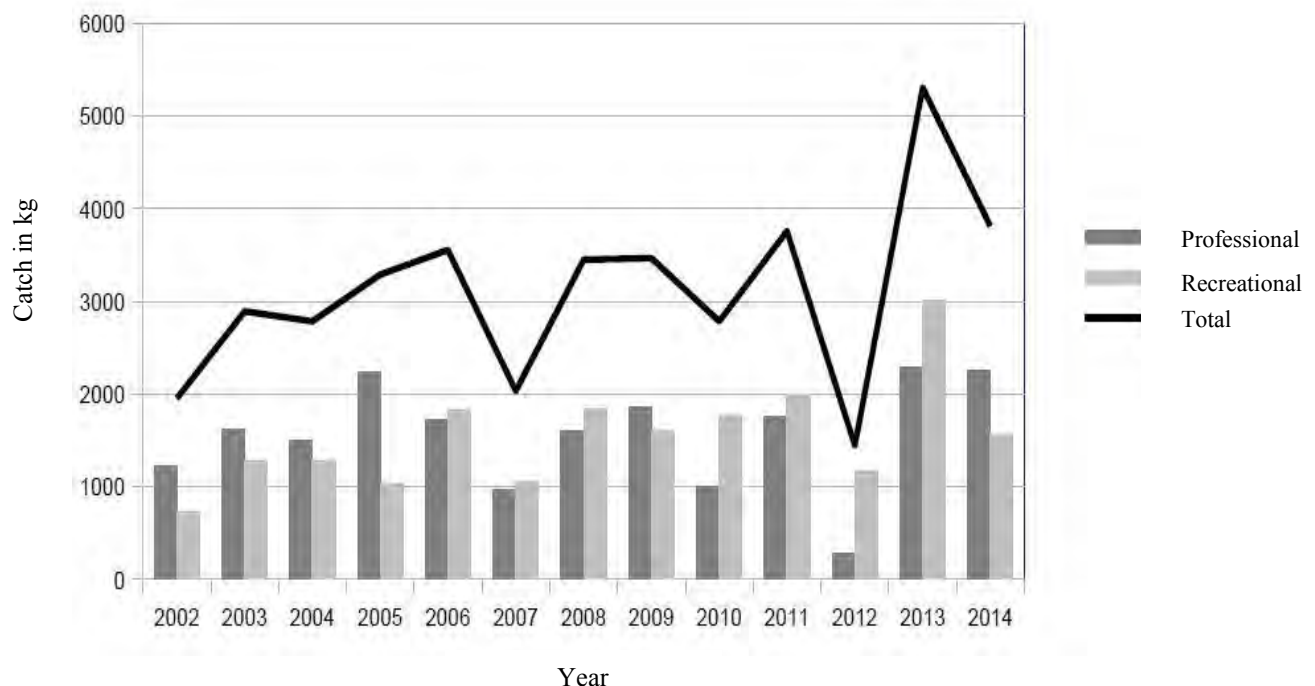
The total weight of the 2014 catch was therefore 3,811kg, compared to 5,302kg in 2013.

The 525 salmon caught by 50 recreational boats averages around 10 salmon per recreational fisher. However, the highest catch by a single recreational vessel was 44 salmon. It should also be noted that many boats 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 526 salmon caught by 11 professional vessels averages around 48 salmon per professional fisher. The highest catch by a single professional vessel was 256 salmon, while one professional license holder did not fish.

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

Salmon catch at St Pierre and Miquelon 2002 – 2014



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 around 16 tonnes of farmed salmon are imported from Canada. The annual consumption of salmon is approximately 3 kg per inhabitant.

4. Profile of fishers/location of fishing sites

The average fisher on the archipelago is male (there are no female salmon fishers on the archipelago) with an average age of 58 (the oldest being 76 and the youngest 38).

The fishing sites are located around the archipelago as follows:



ZONE PÊCHE SAUMON
ABORDS LANGLADE



ZONE PÊCHE SAUMON
ABORDS DE SAINT-PIERRE



5. 2015 Projects

5.1 *Parr Study in the Belle river*

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 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 (see map below).

5.2 *Seal count*

The archipelago's increasing seal population is affecting the salmon fishery. An accurate seal count will be carried out in 2015 and, if necessary, a cull may be carried out on the Prefect's orders.



Deputy Director, Head of Maritime Affairs

Amaury de Guillebon