



Agenda item 6.7
For information

Council

CNL(16)17

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



PREMIER MINISTRE

**Secrétariat
général de la mer**

Le Secrétaire general adjoint

Paris, le 2 juin 2016

N° 75/SGMER

Affaire suivie par Marie-sophie DUFAU-RICHET
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The deputy secretary of the sea

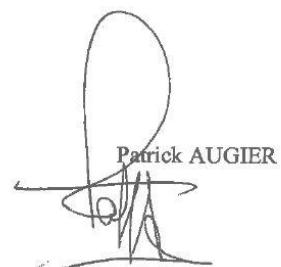
To

Steinar Hermansen, Chairman of
The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)

Subject: annual report of salmon's fisheries of Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon

In view of the next annual meeting of NASCO in Bad-Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, the french authorities have the honour to send you the report for France in respect of Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon prepared by the Direction of Territory, Agriculture and Sea in Saint-Pierre.

Scientific information is not fully available for the 2015 season, as the genetic analyses will be grouped with those for 2016, in a continuing cooperation between the French research Institute for the Exploration of the Sea representative in Saint-Pierre and the DFO Newfoundland and New Brunswick.



Patrick AUGIER



PRÉFET DE SAINT-PIERRE-ET-MIQUELON

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

Saint-Pierre, 3 May 2016

Service des Affaires Maritimes

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

to

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

Reference: 106/MLQ/2016

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RE: Report on the 2015 salmon fishery

Annual Report on the Atlantic Salmon Fishery at St Pierre and Miquelon 2015 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Book IX, the Order of 20 March 1987 and the Order of 24 March 2015 revising the Annexes of Decree No 87-182, which were repealed and integrated into the Rural and Maritime Fishery Law by Decree No 1608/2014 of December 2014.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

127 boat inspections were carried out by the Maritime Affairs Service in 2015, 98 of which were of recreational vessels and 29 were of professional vessels. The inspections were carried out over 11 days, both in the morning and in the evening. A report has been made.

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 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 2015, 8 professional and 70 recreational permits were issued. The total number of permits issued has remained stable over the last 3 years, while the number of actual fishers has remained constant since 2005 (an average of 50 fishers per year over the last 10 years).

3. Salmon catch

The total 2015 catch stands at:

Professional catch: 1,213kg (2,250kg in 2014). 442 salmon caught

Recreational catch: 2,300kg (1,561kg in 2014). 879 salmon caught

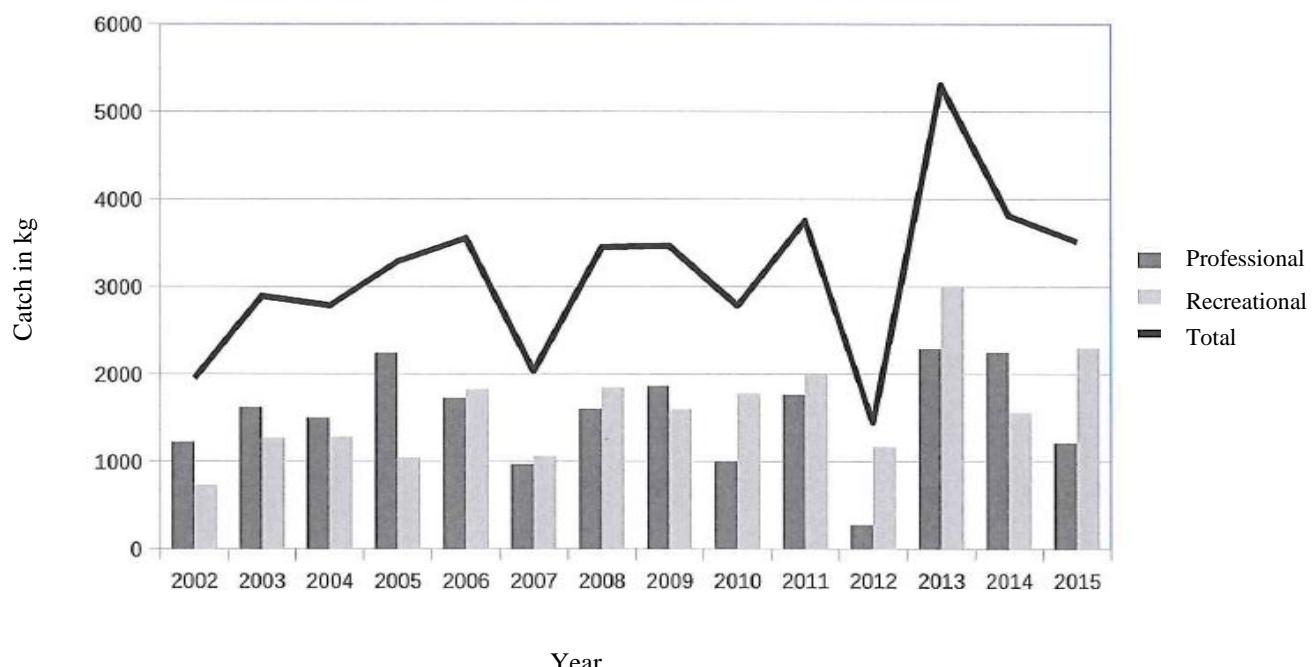
The total weight of the 2015 catch was therefore 3,513kg, compared to 3,811kg in 2014.

The 879 salmon caught by 60 recreational boats averages around 14 salmon per recreational fisher. However, the highest catch by a single recreational vessel was 43 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 442 salmon caught by 8 professional vessels averages around 55 salmon per professional fisher. The highest catch by a single professional vessel was 224 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
Professional Fishery														
No. of licenses	12	12	13	14	13	13	9	8	9	9	9	9	12	8
Catch volume	1223	1620	1499	2243	1730	970	1604	1864	1002	1764	278	2291	2250	1213
Recreational Fishery														
No. of licenses	42	42	42	52	52	53	55	50	57	58	60	64	70	70
Catch Volume	729	1272	1285	1044	1825	1062	1846	1600	1780	1992	1168	3011	1561	2300
Total catch	1952	2892	2784	3287	3855	2032	3450	3464	2782	3756	1446	5302	3811	3513

Salmon catch at St Pierre and Miquelon 2002 – 2015



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.

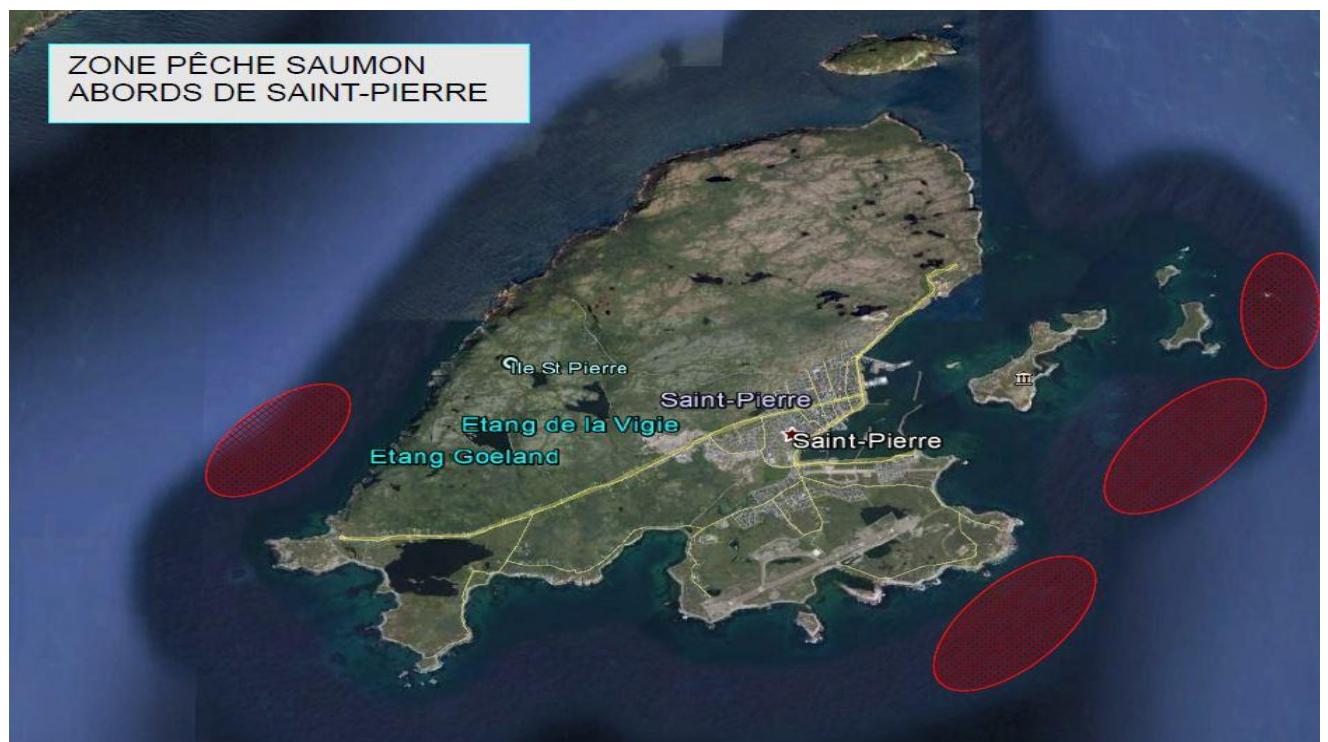
It should be noted that there is no salmon fishing in the archipelago's rivers and that the territory imports around 16 tonnes of farmed salmon from Canada. The annual consumption of salmon is approximately 3kg per inhabitant.

4. Profile of fishers/location of fishing sites

The average salmon fisher on the archipelago is male (no females fish), with an average age of 55 (the youngest being 38 and the oldest 77).

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





5. Results of the 2015 Projects

5.1 Parr Study in the Belle river

2014 Report: 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.

Results: The Belle river was not obstructed in 2015 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 2016.

5.2 Seal count

2014 Report: 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.

Results: A study is being carried out with the help of the French Institute for Marine Mammals, based in La Rochelle. A procedure to count the seals has been established and training on recognising the different species is scheduled for summer 2016. The initial stages of the study do not indicate an overpopulation of these marine mammals in the archipelago.

L'Administrateur de 1^{ere} classe
des Affaires Maritimes
Julie Morawski
Chef du service des Affaires Maritimes