

NAC(11)5

Draft Report of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the North American Commission

Hotel Arctic, Ilulissat, Greenland

4 - 6 June 2011

1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 Mr. George Lapointe (USA) was elected Chair of the North American Commission.
- 1.2 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed participants to the Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission.
- 1.3 Canada made an opening statement (Annex 1). An opening statement was made on behalf of the NGOs (Annex 2).
- 1.4 A list of participants at the Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Council and Commissions is included on page **XX** of this document.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- 2.1 The Commission adopted its Agenda NAC(11)7 (Annex 2).

3. Nomination of a Rapporteur

- 3.1 Brett Norton (Canada) was appointed as Rapporteur.

4. Review of the 2010 Fishery and ACOM Report from ICES on Salmon Stocks in the Commission Area

- 4.1 The representative of ICES, Mr. Gérald Chaput, presented the report from ICES on the scientific advice concerning salmon stocks in the North American Commission (NAC) area, CNL(11)8. His presentation is available as document **xx**. The ICES Advisory Committee (ACOM) report, which contains the scientific advice relevant to all Commissions, is included on page **XX** of this document.

5. The St Pierre and Miquelon Salmon Fishery

- 5.1 The Chair drew the attention of the Commission to the Council document presenting information on the St Pierre and Miquelon fishery, CNL(11)16.
- 5.2 The representative of France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) provided additional information to the Commission on its plans in 2011. Canada extended an offer to France (in respect of St. Pierre and Miquelon) to assist in the sampling analysis process of the St. Pierre and Miquelon Sampling Program.

- 5.3. Canada, supported by the United States and the NGOs, encouraged France (in respect of St. Pierre and Miquelon) to accede to the NASCO Convention. The representative of France (in respect of St. Pierre and Miquelon) referred to the letter it had provided to the NASCO Secretariat along with the information on its fishery in May 2010 which outlines its rationale for remaining an Observer to NASCO.

6. Salmonid Introductions and Transfers

- 6.1 In 2010, the Commission considered a Review of the NAC Database on Introductions and Transfers and Scientific Working Group, NAC(10)6. Further in 2010, the Parties agreed: (1) that a detailed international database was no longer necessary; (2) to provide focused annual reports to the Commission on issues of mutual concern; (3) to identify experts who could work over the coming months to identify priority mechanisms and requirements for information exchange on fish health issues; and (4) to make minor revisions to the NAC protocols on Introductions and Transfer of Salmonids to reflect the new information exchange mechanism.
- 6.2 While the Commission agreed in 2010 to changes in the NAC Protocols (NAC(10)6) no request was made to the Council to amend the Williamsburg Resolution. Therefore, the Commission would like to request that the Council agree to modify Appendix 1 of the Williamsburg Resolution, which contains the NAC Protocols, consistent with minor wording changes contained in NAC(10)6 .
- 6.3 The United States and Canada each tabled their respective NAC Annual Reports for 2010 (NAC(11)3 and NAC(11)6). This should allow actions under point 3 (Item 6.1 above) to proceed and for the group to report back to the Commission at the NASCO Annual Meeting in 2012.

7. Sampling in the Labrador Fishery

- 7.1 Canada tabled document NAC(11)4 which provides an update on the sampling activity in the Labrador fishery in 2010 as well as an overview of the salmon fishery in Labrador.

8. Announcement of the Tag Return Incentive Scheme Prize

- 8.1 The Chairman announced that the draw for the North American Commission prize in the NASCO Tag Return Incentive Scheme was made by the Auditor on 12 May. The winning tag was of Canadian origin. The tag was applied to a wild salmon in the Northwest Miramichi River, New Brunswick on 30 June 2010. It was recaptured in the same river on 20 August 2010. The winner of the \$1,500 prize is Mr Bill Haining, New Brunswick, Canada.

9. Recommendations to the Council on the Request to ICES for Scientific Advice

- 9.1 The Commission agreed to the request for scientific advice from ICES prepared by the Standing Scientific Committee in relation to the North American Commission area. The request to ICES, as agreed by the Council, is contained in document CNL(11)10 (Annex 3).

10. Other Business

10.1 There was no other business.

11. Date and Place of the Next Meeting

11.1 The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting at the same time and place as the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Council in 2012.

12. Report of the Meeting

12.1 The Commission agreed a report of the meeting.

Note: The annexes mentioned above begin on page **XX**, following the French translation of the report of the meeting. A list of North American Commission papers is included in Annex 4.