



North-East Atlantic Commission

NEA(18)06

Mixed-Stock Fisheries

(Tabled by the Russian Federation)

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Nowadays Atlantic salmon mixed-stock fisheries in the Russian Federation are conducted in Murmansk and Archangelsk regions in the White Sea only. Coastal salmon fisheries in the Barents Sea are prohibited by the Fishing Regulations for the Northern Fisheries basin (order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 414, 30.10.2014).

Commercial, recreational and indigenous people fisheries are allowed at fishing sites only. Catch limits for anadromous fishes are established annually on the region-by-region basis by the Federal Agency for Fisheries. A regional catch limit is further allocated to commercial, recreational and indigenous people fisheries by the Regional Commissions on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish.

Regional Directorates of the Federal Agency for Fisheries are responsible for issuing fishing permits to users of fishing sites in accordance with a catch limit allocation by a Regional Commission on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish. Users of fishing sites are obliged to report catches to a Regional Directorate of the Federal Agency for Fisheries twice a month. Once the allocated catch limit is fished out the fishery must be closed.

Coastal fisheries in the White Sea were conducted at traditional fishing stations. In Murmansk region the only gear in use was a stationary coastal trap with a leading net. Two or three traps with leading nets are allowed to be installed one after another from the shore. In Archangelsk region both coastal traps and gill nets are still traditional fishing gears.

The coastal salmon fisheries in the Barents Sea were closed completely in late 1950s. The coastal fisheries in the White Sea remained unregulated until late 1980s. In 1987, for the first time, a catch limit was established for coastal fisheries in Murmansk region. The quota was set at 60 t, which, on the basis of the average weight of salmon, corresponded to 21000 fish.

In 2008 the catch limits in coastal fisheries were further reduced. As a result the coastal catches decreased from over 100 t in 1980s to around 50 tonnes in 1990s and to around 30 t since 2008. In 2016 and 2017 the total declared catches of Atlantic salmon taken in coastal areas of the White Sea were 23.5 and 12.9 t, respectively, the lowest ever recorded (Table). In 2017 only 2.0 t were declared in Murmansk region and 10.9 t were reported in Archangelsk region.

Table. Nominal catches of Atlantic salmon in Russia in 2016-2017 (in tonnes round fresh weight).

Provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2017	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
Confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2016	33.9	0.0	12.9	46.8
	32.3	0.0	23.5	55.8

Nowadays commercial coastal salmon fisheries in Russia is viewed more as a social measure, a traditional way of fishing by local people from Pomor villages along the White Sea coast. Oared boats (karbass) are still in use to inspect fishing gears at sea.