

WGC(14)5

Draft Proposal to Establish an WGC Ad Hoc Working Group on Monitoring and Control (Tabled by the US)

At the 2014 intersessional meeting of the West Greenland Commission, the Proposal from the Chair regarding the Management of the West Greenland Fishery in 2014 (annex 15 of WGC(14)4) was considered. Operative paragraph 1 of that document specifies that “*States of origin will share experiences with Greenland on the development of approaches to improve the monitoring of landings at West Greenland (e.g., through the use of carcass tagging) with a view to ensuring full reporting.*” To facilitate implementation of this aspect of the WGC Chair’s proposal, it is proposed that an *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Monitoring and Control be established with the terms of reference specified below to evaluate the current management of the Atlantic salmon fishery off of West Greenland taking into consideration the NASCO Guidelines for the Management of Salmon Fisheries.

Terms of Reference

1. Review data on the 2004-2013 fishery, including identifying the degree to which harvest related information is collected for each component of the Atlantic salmon fishery off West Greenland¹;
2. Review the management of each component of the fishery²,
3. Review monitoring and management measures and programs in use in other countries with particular reference to fisheries with similar components as the Greenland fishery (e.g., Canada and Ireland).³
4. Recommend and compare options⁴ to enhance the management of the Atlantic salmon fishery off West Greenland and ensure more complete implementation of the NASCO Guidelines for Management of Salmon Fisheries.

Work Schedule

The Working Group should complete its work no later than 1 December 2014 so that its report can be circulated to the Parties and considered during discussions leading up to the

¹ Including review of records of fishing activity, catch statistics, and estimates of the level of unreported catches and other mortalities identifying where harvest related information is required to be reported vs where it is requested but provision is voluntary, the completeness of data, the timing of provision of such information, the level of compliance/participation and consequences/penalties in cases of non-compliance.

² Including identification of the degree to which managers have the capability to close fisheries and regulate fishing effort and/or harvests and the controls implemented in a timely manner and the measures/approaches in place to ensure oversight, verification, compliance and enforcement, including to minimize unreported catches.

³ Describe the measures in place, including whether mandatory and/or voluntary, the level of compliance/participation, consequences/penalties in cases of non-compliance, costs and logistics of implementation and results.

⁴ Options should be identified for all components of the fishery and should include associated pros, cons, costs and feasibility.

2015 annual meeting. The Working Group should present an overview of its findings at the next meeting of the WGC following submission of its report, whenever that meeting may occur.

Composition of the Working Group

The Working Group should be composed of a mix of managers and scientists with experience in developing and implementing monitoring and control programs with particular emphasis in monitoring and control programs that have been implemented within small isolated communities. Prior participation in the International Sampling Program in West Greenland is desirable. For Greenland, the Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority should, at a minimum, be represented.