

WGC(14)8

WGC Ad Hoc Working Group on Monitoring and Control

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.*” The WGC considered the WGC Chair’s proposal at its 2014 Annual meeting and 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 2009-2013 (2014 as available) fishery, including identifying the degree to which harvest related information is collected for each component of the Atlantic salmon fishery off West Greenland;
2. Review the management and management systems for each component of the fishery;
3. Review fisheries monitoring and management control methods in use in other countries with particular reference to fisheries with similar components as the Greenland fishery (e.g., Canada and Ireland) and consider novel methods; and
4. Recommend and compare options to enhance the monitoring and management of the Atlantic salmon fishery off West Greenland and ensure more complete implementation of the NASCO Guidelines for Management of Salmon Fisheries. Consideration should be given to legislative tools, feasibility, and costs of implementation.

Work Schedule

The Working Group should complete its work and report to the Parties by the end of January 2015 to allow time for Greenland to consider the recommendations and develop a draft plan for discussion at a mid March 2015 intersessional WGC meeting and with sufficient time to allow implementation for the 2015 fishery. Any meetings of the Working Group, as well as the Intersessional WGC meeting, should be held in Greenland to facilitate access to relevant information. 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. The Working Group will be supported by the Secretariat.