

WGC(18)11

Multi-Annual Regulatory Measure for Fishing for Atlantic Salmon at West Greenland

RECOGNISING the existence of an internal-use fishery in Greenland;

RECOGNISING the responsibilities that the NASCO Convention confers on the West Greenland Commission;

CONSIDERING the interest to balance, to the extent possible, stock conservation needs with a fishery and the scientific advice provided to NASCO by ICES in 2018; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of minimising impacts to stocks of contributing salmon populations in the West Greenland fishery;

Thus, the members of the Commission agree as follows:

- (1) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees not to export wild Atlantic salmon or its products from Greenland and to prohibit landings and sales of Atlantic salmon to fish processing factories;
- (2) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to open the fishery no earlier than 15 August and to close the fishery no later than 31 October each year;
- (3) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to restrict the total allowable catch for all components of the Atlantic salmon fishery at West Greenland to 30 metric tonnes. In the event of any overharvest in a particular year, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to an equal reduction in the total allowable catch in the following year, and agrees not to carry forward any under-harvest into a future year;
- (4) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to, in a timely manner, inform NASCO and, as appropriate, ICES, of improvements of the monitoring, management control and surveillance or any modification to the management of the Atlantic salmon fishery and to provide an annual report on the outcome of the fishery;
- (5) States of origin agree to share experiences with Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) on monitoring, management, control and surveillance in the salmon fishery through knowledge-sharing exchange programmes;
- (6) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to annually collect and verify catch data of fishing activity of all licensed fishers;
- (7) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to require all fishers for Atlantic salmon to have a licence to fish, and to prohibit fishing for Atlantic salmon without a licence;
- (8) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) also agrees to authorise only licensed full-time hunters and fishers to sell Atlantic salmon only at open air markets in communities;
- (9) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to require all licensed fishers for Atlantic salmon to provide a full accounting of fishing activity and harvest.

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) also agrees to require reporting on a daily basis to allow for in-season monitoring of the total allowable catch;

- (10) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to prohibit all licensed fishers for Atlantic salmon who have not provided a full accounting of their catches, including reports for zero catches, within one month of the end of the fishing season at the latest, from acquiring a licence for the following season until required reporting is received. Within one month after the fishing season, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to follow up with fishers who have not provided a full accounting of their catches, including zero catches;
- (11) As a condition of the licence, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) agrees to require fishers to allow samplers from the NASCO sampling programme to take samples of their catches upon request;
- (12) Information should be provided to fishers and supervisors at open air markets explaining the rationale for the sampling programme. The findings of the sampling programme should be disseminated through appropriate means, with the assistance of the Government of Greenland, as requested; and
- (13) The Commission agrees to apply this regulatory measure to the fishery at West Greenland in 2018. The Commission also agrees to apply this measure in 2019 and 2020 unless:
 - a. any member of the Commission requests its reconsideration based on the review of the annual report pursuant to Paragraph 4 and / or
 - b. the application of the Framework of Indicators indicates that there has been a significant change to the indicators and, therefore, a reassessment is warranted.