

**Council**

**CNL(10)34**

*Information from the French Authorities on the St Pierre and Miquelon  
Salmon Fishery  
(Revised)*



## **CNL(10)34**

### ***Information from the French Authorities on the St Pierre and Miquelon Salmon Fishery***

The attached letter, information on management of the fishery, details of catches and of the number of licenses issued and studies in progress were received today, 18 May, from the French Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.

With regard to France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) acceding to the NASCO Convention, the letter reiterates that France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) wishes to retain its observer status and to increase its collaboration with NASCO through strengthening monitoring and supervision of the fishery and continuing some scientific studies which commenced in 2008 in the 'Belle Rivière'.

The provisional 2009 catch of 3.464 tonnes was the second highest in the ten year time-series and similar to the catch in 2008. The number of licenses issued (8 professional and 50 recreational) is lower than in 2008 (9 professional and 55 recreational) and 2007 (66 licenses in total). No information was provided on the sampling programme in 2009 but it is understood from information presented to the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board that no sampling was conducted in 2009 although it is planned to recommence this programme in 2010.

Secretary  
Edinburgh  
18 May 2010





MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

**Maritime Fisheries and  
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**The President of NASCO  
11 Rutland Square  
Edinburgh  
EH1 2AS  
UK**

Paris, 11 May 2010

**Re:** 2009 Administrative Report (FR-SPM) attached.

Mr President,

I am pleased to provide you with the 2009 administrative report from France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) (which has observer status to NASCO) in preparation for your next Annual Meeting to be held in June 2010 in Quebec.

This information has been provided by the St Pierre and Miquelon Department for Maritime Affairs, which is responsible for monitoring this traditional coastal fishery.

I would remind you once again of the low catch levels in French territorial waters, which are mainly consumed within the family circle (while remoteness causes constant difficulty with regards to a quality protein supply for the population), some salmon can be sold commercially within a small circle (restaurants or fishmongers can purchase from authorised professional fishermen only).

France wishes to retain its observer status and to increase its collaboration with NASCO through strengthening monitoring and supervision of the fishery and by continuing with the scientific studies which commenced in 2008 in the “Belle Rivière” at Langlade.

Yours sincerely

**Phillipe Mauguin  
Director of Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture**

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MINISTRY FOR ECOLOGY, ENERGY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
AND THE SEA  
Responsible for Green Technology and Climate Negotiations

*Saint Pierre and Miquelon  
Department for Maritime Affairs*

Saint Pierre, 30 April 2010

**Annual report on the Atlantic  
Salmon Fishery at Saint Pierre  
and Miquelon**

2009 Season

Ref:078/JPD/2010

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RE: SPM Salmon Report 2009

## **1. Legislation**

Salmon fishing in the St Pierre and Miquelon archipelago is regulated by decree No 87-182 of 19 March 1987, implemented under the Order of 20 March 1987.

This legislation establishes the following:

- The fishery is under license and subject to an Annual Fishery Plan
- The minimum capture size is 48cm
- Nets must be declared and marked
- The minimum mesh size is 125mm
- The fishery season is restricted to 1 May – 31 July
- It is not permissible to place fishing gear within 300m of a river mouth.
- Restricted fishing effort:
  - 3 x 360m nets for professional fishermen
  - 1 x 180m net for recreational fishermen
  - All catch must be declared (through annual declarations and the fishery log)

## **2. Permit allocation**

Fishing permits are allocated to professional fishermen (who may sell their catch) and recreational fishermen (who are not authorised to sell their catch).

The allocation procedure is based on fishery precedence and on respect for the obligation to declare catch throughout the previous year.

The Department for Maritime Affairs deals with permit applications and allocates each permit holder with a specific site to fish for the entire season.

This map of the fishery is published by Order of the Prefect.

In 2009, 8 Permits were issued to professional fishermen (9 in 2008) and 50 were issued to recreational fishermen (55 in 2008). The total number of permits has decreased in comparison to the two previous years (66 in 2007, 64 in 2008 and 58 in 2009).

### 3. Salmon Catch

The total 2009 catch stands at:

Professional catch: 1864kg (1604kg in 2008)

Recreational catch: 1600kg (1846kg in 2008)

748 salmon were caught (819 in 2006, 470 in 2007 and 933 in 2008)

The total weight of the 2009 catch was 3464kg (3450kg in 2008 and 2032kg in 2007) and fishing effort remains low.

The 748 salmon caught by 50 recreational boats averages at just under 15 salmon per recreational fisherman. It should also be noted that many boats only fish for a very short period and bring their nets in well before the end of the permitted season, as what they have caught will be sufficient for them and their immediate circle.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Professional Fishery										
No. of licenses	8	10	12	12	13	14	13	13	9	8
Catch volume	1134	1544	1223	1620	1499	2243	1730	970	1604	1864
Recreational Fishery										
No. of licenses	35	42	42	42	42	52	52	53	55	50
Catch Volume	1133	611	729	1272	1285	1044	1825	1062	1846	1600
Total catch	2267	2155	1952	2892	2784	3287	3855	2032	3450	3464

There is no export of salmon and all salmon caught are consumed on the local market. Most salmon caught are retained for personal consumption, while only a few are sold to restaurants or individuals through a local fishmonger.

It should be noted that there is no fishing for salmon in the archipelago's rivers.

### 4. Studies in progress

In 2009 the Directorate for Agriculture and Forestry in St Pierre and Miquelon launched a study and inventory project on wild Atlantic salmon in the Langlade rivers with the following objectives:

- to assess the presence of wild Atlantic salmon in the Langlade watercourses in order to improve understanding of the state of the population throughout the year and the local migrations of the species
- To better understand the related issues in order to manage and develop the resource and, if necessary, to rebuild stocks.

This study, which receives financial support from the public authorities, has not yet been completed so the results are as yet unknown.