



West Greenland Commission

WGC(20)10

***Presentation of the ICES Advice on
Atlantic Salmon to the West Greenland Commission***

sal.wgc.all

Atlantic Salmon at West Greenland




ICES
CIEM

Photo by Tim Sheehan

4. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the West Greenland Commission area:

4.1 describe the key events of the 2019 fisheries;

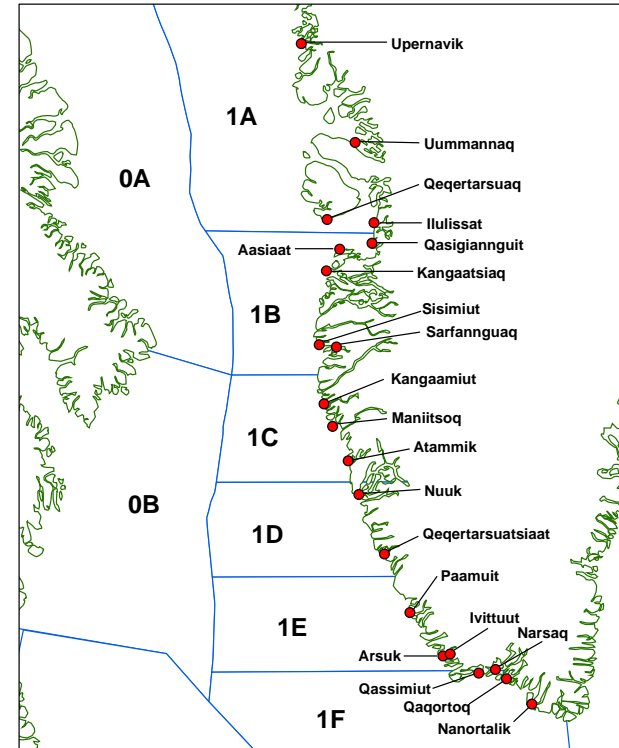
4.2 describe the status of the stocks;

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- ICES advises that when the Framework of Indicators (FWI) was applied in early 2020, a full reassessment was not required and the 2018 ICES advice remains valid
 - no mixed-stock fishery options at West Greenland for the fishing year 2020
 - 2020 marks the final year of NASCO's three-year multi-annual regulatory measure for fishing Atlantic salmon at West Greenland

4.1 Key Events 2019 Fishery

- 2019 quota was 19.5 t, reduced from 30 t due to overharvest in 2018
- No sales to factories permitted
- All fishers required to have a license and mandatory reporting requirements
- Fishing season: 15 August to 31 October

Figure 1: sal.wgc.all

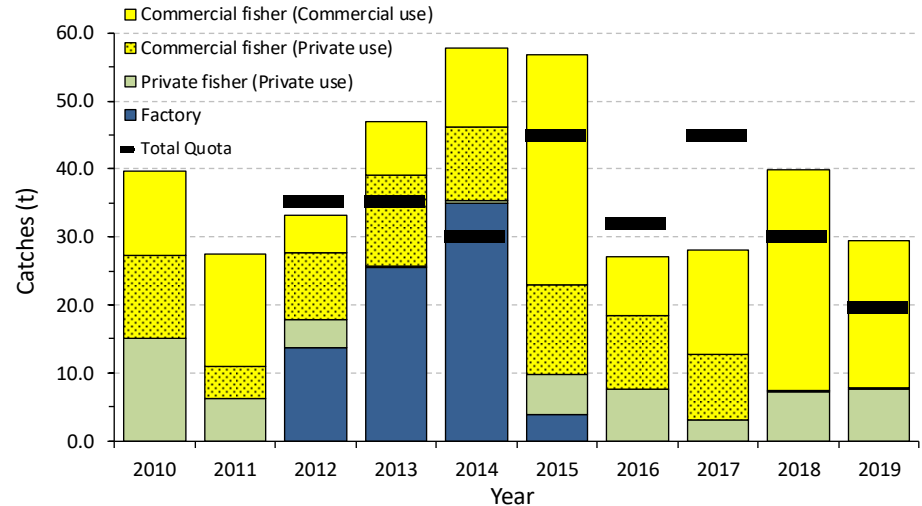
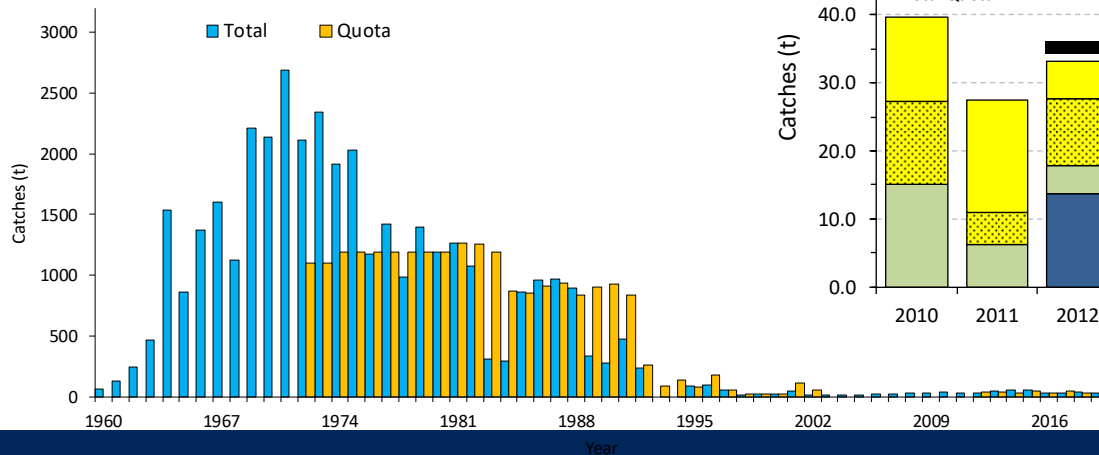


4.1 Key Events 2019 Fishery: Catch



- fishery closed on 25 September as 19.5 t of landings had been registered
- catch later revised to 29.8 t, resulting in an overharvest of approximately 10.3 t
 - 74% commercial use 26% private use
- unreported catch: 10 t

Figure 2: sal.wgc.all



4.1 Catch: Continent of Origin

- International sampling programme continued in 2019
 - 1119 samples collected
 - 71.5% North American (~6800 salmon)
 - 28.5% European (~2600 salmon)

Figure 3: sal.wgc.all

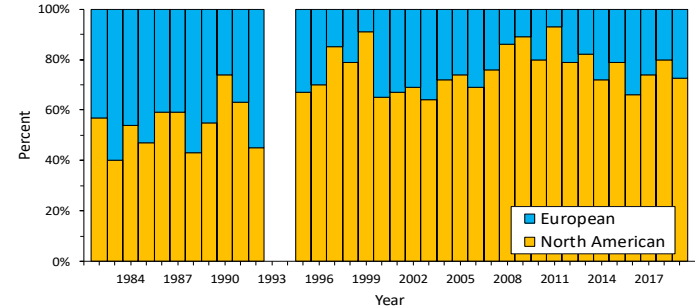
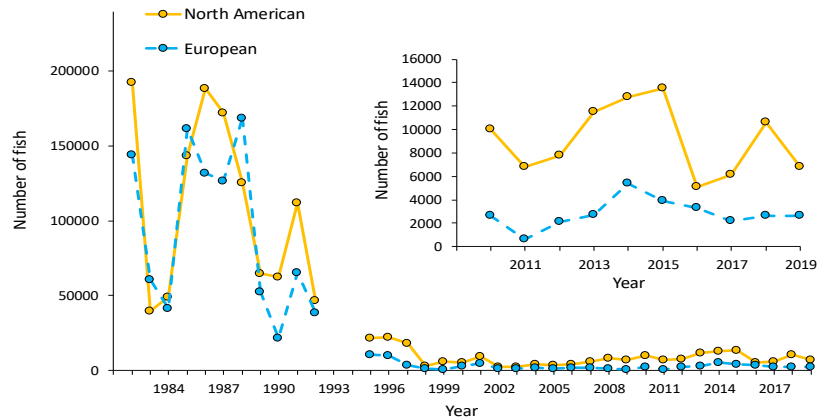


Figure 4: sal.wgc.all

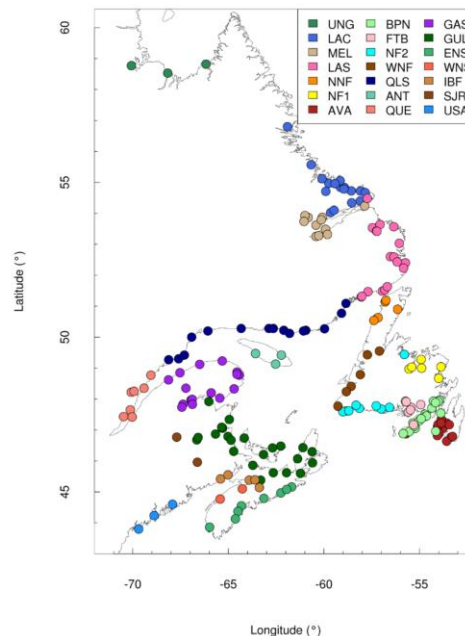
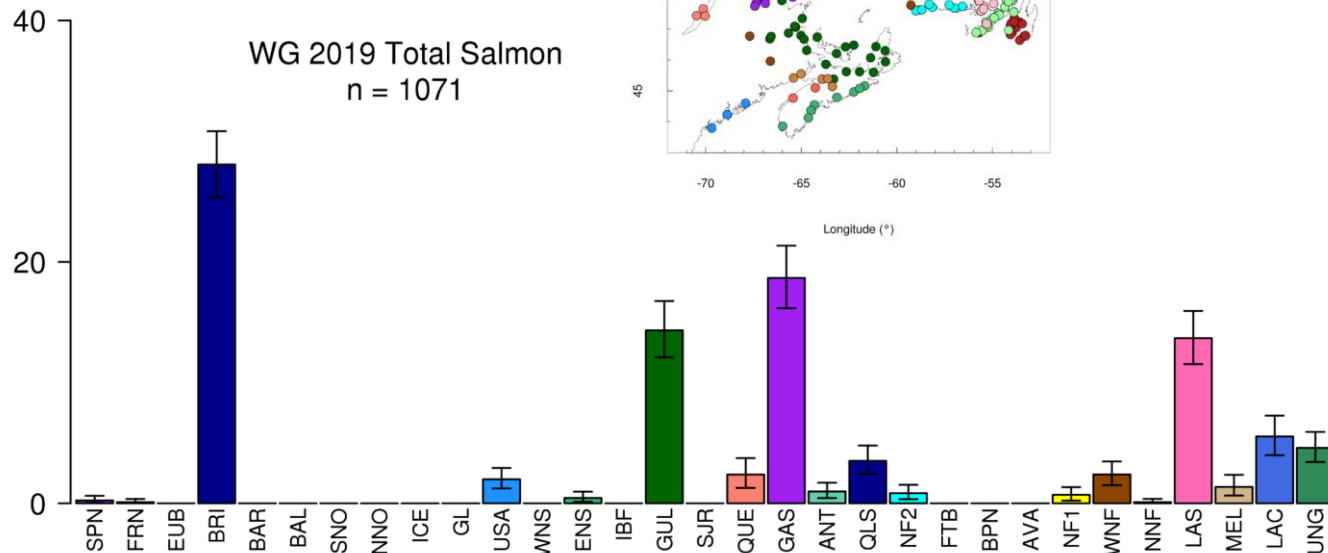
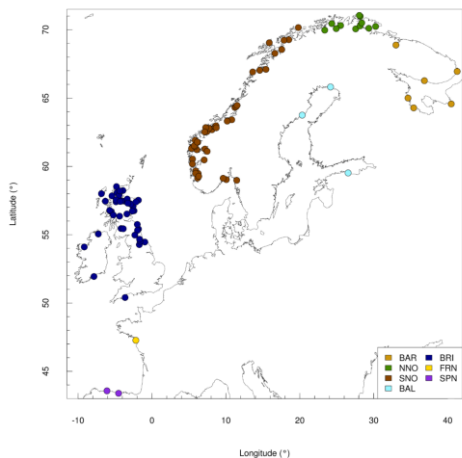


4.1 Catch: Region of Origin

- Genetic Baseline: 31 reporting groups
- European origin: 99% Ireland and United Kingdom group
- North American origin: 65% to three groups
 - Gulf, Gaspe and Labrador South



Figure 5 and Table 7: sal.wgc.all

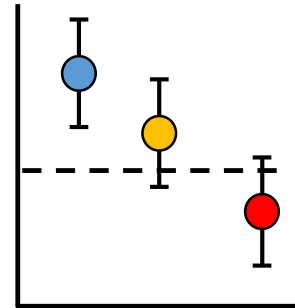


4.2 Status of Stocks: Risk Assessment Framework



- Management advice for West Greenland fishery based on non-maturing 1SW salmon (return as 2SW/MSW) from North America (NAC) and Southern-Northeast Atlantic (S-NEAC)
 - Pre-Fishery Abundance (PFA) relative to Spawner Escapement Reserve (SER)
 - SERs - CLs adjusted for natural mortality (3% per month at sea)
 - Spawners (2 SW NAC and MSW S-NEAC) relative to Conservation Limits (CLs)

- Full Reproductive Capacity :
 - lower bound of the 90% confidence interval of the estimate above reference point
 - equivalent to a probability of at least 95% of meeting reference point
- At Risk of Suffering Reduced Reproductive Capacity:
 - lower bound of the confidence interval is below reference point, but the midpoint is above
- Suffering Reduced Reproductive Capacity:
 - midpoint is below reference point



4.2 Status of Stocks: Pre-Fishery Abundance (PFA)



Figure 6: sal.wgc.all

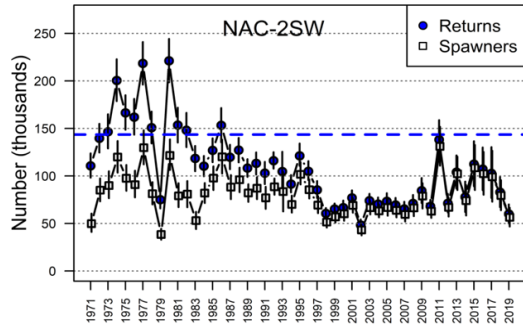
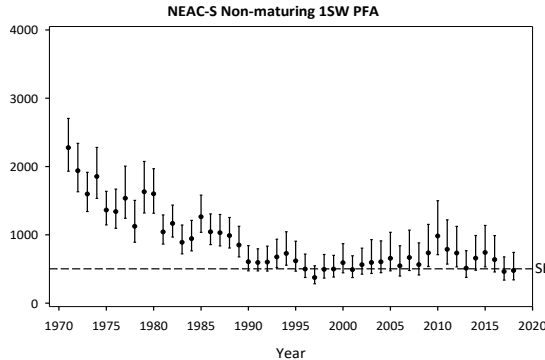
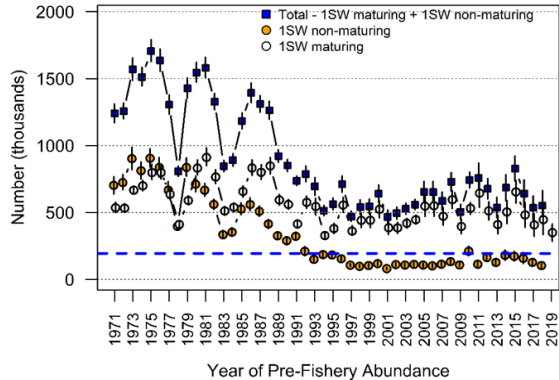
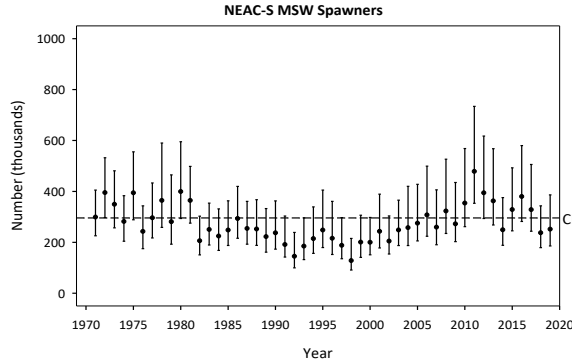


Figure 7: sal.wgc.all

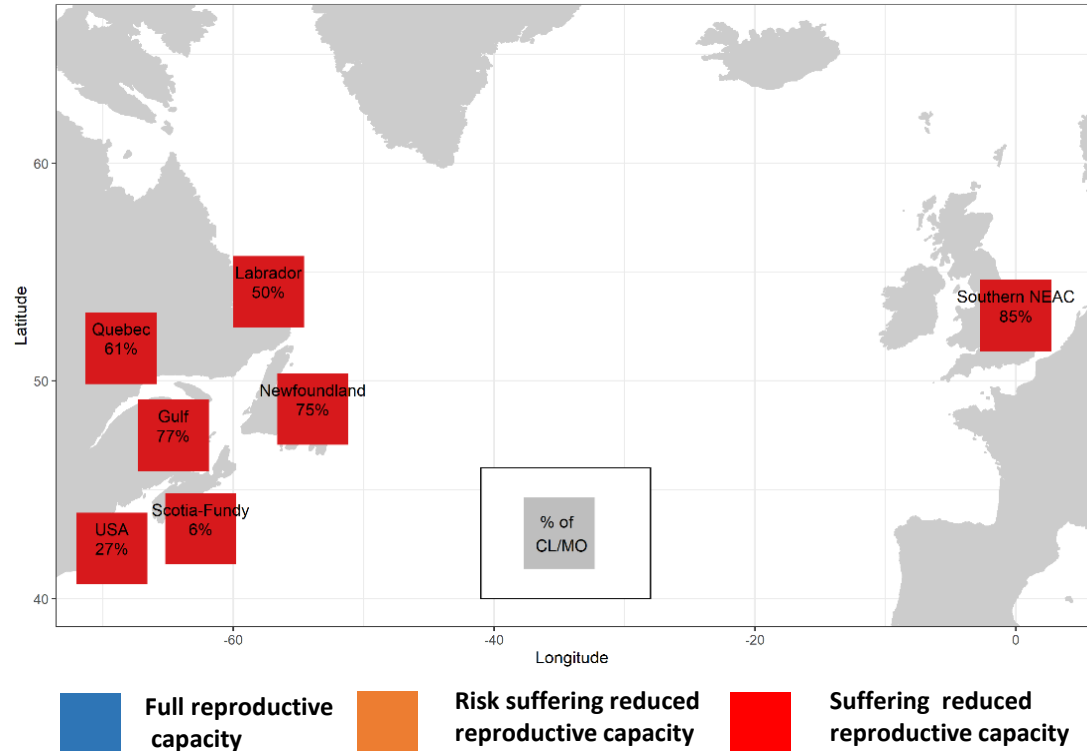


- PFA estimates of non-maturing 1SW salmon suggest continued low abundance
 - North America: suffering reduced reproductive capacity
 - Southern-NEAC: suffering reduced reproductive capacity

4.2 Status of Stocks: Spawners

- 2019 Spawners
- Median estimate < CLs
 - 6 of 6 North American 2SW stocks
 - Southern-NEAC MSW stock

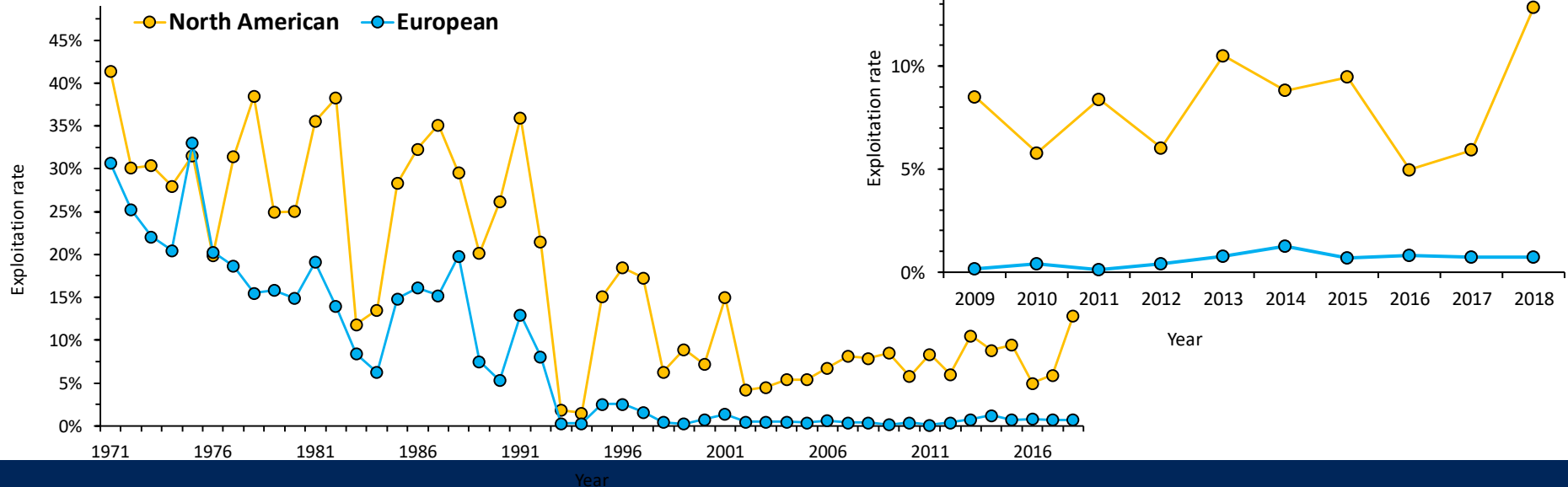
Figure 8: sal.wgc.all



4.2 Status of Stocks: Exploitation Rate

- Exploitation rate = Greenland Catch ÷ Pre-Fishery Abundance (PFA)
 - North America: 12.9% Southern NEAC: 0.7%

Figure 9: sal.wgc.all



4.2 Status of Stocks: Summary

- Despite major changes in fisheries management in the past few decades and increasingly more restrictive fisheries measures, salmon returns have remained near historical lows
- It is likely, therefore, that other factors besides fisheries are constraining production.



Photo by Tim Sheehan