WGC (85) 13

REPORT OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION OF THE

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

3 - 7 June 1985
Edinburgh, UK

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

ORGANISATION POUR LA CONSERVATION DU SAUMON DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

LA COMMISSION DU GROENLAND OCCIDENTAL

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NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

WGC (85)13

REPORT OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

EDINBURGH
22 FEBRUARY 1986

WGC (85)13

REPORT OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION AT THE DRAGONARA HOTEL, EDINBURGH, UK 3-7 JUNE 1985

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The meeting was opened on June 4, 1985 by the Chairman, Mr J. Spencer (EEC).

1.2 The list of participants is given in Annex 1.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.1 The Commission in adopting the agenda WGC (85)9, (Annex 2), agreed that items 5 and 6 would be discussed jointly.

3. NOMINATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

3.1 The Commission nominated Mr I Bruce (Canada) as rapporteur for the meeting.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4.1 Following a discussion of Article 10, paragraph 6 of the Convention and Rules 10 and 11 of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission confirmed that the terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would expire at the end of the Third Annual Meeting.

4.2 The Commission having regard to Article 11, paragraph 1 of the Convention, adopted an amendment to Rule 14 of its Rules of Procedure, WGC (85)10, (Annex 3)

5. REVIEW OF THE 1984 FISHERY AND THE ACFM REPORT FROM ICES ON SALMON STOCKS

5.1 The Chairman of the ACFM, Mr Ulltang, presented the scientific advice from ICES, NASCO (85)11, (Annex 4) and Section 3 of the ICES "Report of meeting of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon". These reports had been prepared in response to a request from the Commission, the terms of which were drawn up at the last annual meeting. He clarified many aspects of the reports in response to queries from the Commission.

Four major factors which were identified as having contributed to the low salmon catches at West Greenland were discussed. These were adverse environmental factors, the lower than normal sea survival rate of the relevant smolt classes, low stock abundance in Canada and reduced fishing effort at West Greenland. However, it was concluded that the relative importance of each factor was not known. Two differences between the 1984 and 1983 fisheries were noted. In 1984, there was firstly a lower percentage of catch in West Greenland area 1D, and secondly, a higher proportion of multi-sea-winter salmon in the catch. The Commission took note of the scientific advice presented by ICES.

5.2 The delegate from Canada submitted a report on the 1984 Canadian salmon fishery which indicated, inter alia, the reductions in catch levels compared to previous years, WGC (85)3, (Annex 5).

6. REGULATORY MEASURES

6.1 The delegate from Canada stressed the need, due to a continued poor stock prognosis for North American origin salmon, for a meaningful quota reduction at West Greenland commensurate with Canada's conservation measures announced for 1985.

6.2 The delegate from the EEC stated that the 1984 TAC did not place a practical limit on the fisheries and therefore the reduction for the 1985 quota at West Greenland must result in a realistic catch limit.

6.3 The delegate from Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) indicated there must be a guarantee that when the stock abundance increases there would also be an increase in the West Greenland TAC. A mechanism to allow this to take place should be agreed. In addition, Denmark underlined that under the provisions of Article 15.5(b) of the Convention conservation measures are required by all parties.

6.4 To address the issues raised by the delegate from Denmark, working papers were reviewed in closed session. One introduced by the Canadian delegate addressed the principle of the West Greenland TAC which was decreased for conservation measures, being increased when stocks recover from a state of low abundance. The delegate from Denmark introduced a working paper on draft terms of reference for a working group on principles for Greenland's future quotas; the Canadian delegate introduced an alternative version.

6.5 With the understanding that any TAC agreed was conditional on agreement on the two working papers mentioned in 6.4, the delegate from Canada made the following proposal for a regulatory measure;

"The total allowable catch of salmon in the West Greenland Commission area for 1985 shall be 600 metric tonnes, WGC (85)6, (Annex 6)."

The proposal was supported by the EEC, opposed by Denmark and the USA abstained. Unanimity not having been obtained, the proposal was defeated.

At the request of the delegate from Denmark, an explanation of its vote was entered in the record.

"The proposal is contrary to the statement of last year of joint sharing of benefits and burdens. One party to the Convention is not affected correspondingly, neither by the proposal nor by unilateral commitments".

6.6 The delegate from Denmark indicated that a 833 metric tonnes TAC coupled with an acceptable version of the working papers would be acceptable to Denmark. The Chairman sought indications from the other delegations on this level of TAC, but all stated it was too high. This proposal was not voted upon.

6.7 The delegate from the USA proposed that the TAC be set at 735 metric tonnes. The delegates from the EEC, Denmark and Canada, for different reasons, indicated that this proposal was unacceptable. This proposal was not voted upon. The delegate from the USA, in the absence of a successful quota motion, proposed that the Commission proceed to item 8 of the agenda. This proposal was adopted.

7. REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FROM ICES

7.1 The USA delegate presented a paper WGC (85)11, (Annex 7) concerning "Request for Scientific Advice from ICES". The questions submitted were supported by the delegate from Denmark with one amendment. The delegates from Canada and the EEC indicated that they could not approve it immediately and wished for a written procedure to allow for eventual amendments or addition of items.

The Chairman indicated that written proposals received would be communicated to all delegations and items receiving unanimous support would be forwarded to the President and Secretary(1).

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 The delegate from Canada indicated disappointment that no quota had been fixed and indicated his willingness to seek a reconvening of the Commission up to the time of the start of the West Greenland fishery.

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(1) Since the 1985 Annual Meeting the request to ICES (Annex 7) has been adopted by the West Greenland Commission through written procedure.

The delegate from Denmark reiterated his earlier indication that his delegation did not have time available for a subsequent meeting due to limited personnel resources and there had been sufficient time available to solve the matter. The delegates from the EEC and the USA indicated they were likewise disappointed over no quota being established and would be available for a meeting at a later date.

8.2 Denmark submitted a paper on "Draft Terms of Reference for a Working Group on Principles for Greenland's Future Quotas", WGC(85)8, (Annex 8). The paper combined elements of the working papers from the delegations of Canada and Denmark referred to in 6.4. The delegate from Denmark stated the issue needed to be addressed and if no action was taken the same situation would exist next year. The USA supported the position of the delegate from Denmark. The delegate from Canada stated that time was needed to reflect further. The delegate from the EEC proposed that the paper should lie on the table as an official submission from Denmark on "Fair Sharing". In the absence of consensus within the Commission, the Chairman closed the debate on this matter.

9. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

9.1 The Commission agreed that its next meeting would coincide with the Third Annual Meeting of the Council.

10. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT OF MEETING

10.1 The Commission agreed with the Chairman's suggestion that the draft report be circulated to the Heads of Delegations by mail.

ANNEX 1

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION
SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION
3 - 7 JUNE 1985, DRAGONARA HOTEL, EDINBURGH, UK

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

* Denotes Head of Delegation

CANADA

* MR L S PARSONS	Representative Atlantic Fisheries Service, Dept of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario
DR G A NADEAU	Representative Faculte des Sciences de l'Education, Universite Laval, Quebec
MR E McCURDY	Representative Newfoundland Fishermen, Food and Allied Workers' Union, St John's, Newfoundland
DR W M CARTER	Atlantic Salmon Federation, St Andrews, New Brunswick
DR W G DOUBLEDAY	Fisheries Research Directorate, Dept of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario
MR D MEERBURG	Resource Research Directorate, Dept of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario
MR I BRUCE	Dept of External Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario
MR K ROESKE	International Directorate, Dept of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario
MS D PETHICK	International Directorate, Dept of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario
MR B HARVEY	Ministere de la Faune, Loisirs, Chasse et Peches, Quebec

MR H GOUDIE	Department of Fisheries of Newfoundland and Labrador, St Johns, Newfoundland
MR D A MacLEAN	Nova Scotia Dept of Fisheries, Halifax, Nova Scotia
MR P VAGNEUX	Ministere de l' Agriculture, Pecherie et Alimentation, Quebec

EEC

*MR J PEARSON	Representative Fisheries Directorate-General, EEC Commission, Brussels
MR J SPENCER	Representative Fisheries Directorate-General, EEC Commission, Brussels
MS M DORAN	Representative Directorate-General for External Relations, EEC Commission, Brussels
MS E TWOMEY	Dept of Fisheries and Forestry, Dublin
DR R G J SHELTON	Freshwater Fisheries Laboratory, Dept of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Pitlochry
MS M VAES	Directorate of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, The Hague
MR A BORDES	Secretariat d'etat, Ministere de la Mer, Paris
MR P LYNG	Dept of Fisheries and Forestry, Dublin
MR P J ELIASEN	Ministry of Fisheris, Copenhagen
MR R JOERDENS	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Bonn
MR J McGHEE	Dept of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Edinburgh
MR R WILLIAMSON	Dept of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Edinburgh

MR R GREGG	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, London
MS A M HENRI	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, London
DR D J SOLOMON	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Lowestoft
MS M SIMS	General Secretariat, Council of the European Communities, Brussels
MR G R ZBYSZEWSKI	General Secretariat, Council of the European Communities, Brussels

DENMARK (IN RESPECT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS & GREENLAND)

*MR A OLAFSSON	Representative Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Copenhagen
MR E LEMCHE/	Representative Home Government of Greenland, Copenhagen
MR O SAMSING	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Copenhagen
MR H KASS	Faroese Home Government, Torshavn
MR J MOELLER-JENSEN	Ministry of Greenland, Copenhagen

USA

*MR A E PETERSON JR -	Representative National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, Mass
MR R A BUCK	Representative Restoration of Atlantic Salmon in America Inc, Dublin, New Hampshire
DR F E CARLTON	Representative National Coalition for Marine Resource Conservation, Savannah, Georgia
DR V C ANTHONY	National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, Mass

MR A W NEILL	National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, Mass
MR D REIFSNYDER	Office of Oceans and Fisheries Affairs, Dept of State, Washington D C
MR P GOODYEAR	National Fisheries Center, Hearneysville, West Virginia
MR J E WEAVER	US Fish & Wildlife Service, Newton Corner, Mass.
MR J DENTLER	U.S. House of Representatives, Washington DC.
MR F DOROUGH	U.S. Mission to European Communities, Brussels
MR T LILLESTOLEN	Office of International Fisheries, Washington, D C
MR S APOLLONIO	Dept of Marine Resources Augusta, Maine.
MR D EGAN	Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Committee, Gulford, Conn.
MR H LYMAN	Salt Water Sportsman Inc., Boston, Mass
MR A V STOUT	Atlantic Salmon Federation, Hanover, New Hampshire

OBSERVERS

NORWAY

DR A LANGELAND	Representative Directorate for Wildlife and Freshwater Fish, Trondheim

SWEDEN

MR I OLSSON	Representative National Board of Fisheries, Goteburg

ICES

MR B PARRISH — ICES, Copenhagen, Denmark

MR O ULLTANG — Institute of Marine Research, Bergen, Norway

EDINBURGH
June 1985

ANNEX 2

WGC(85)9

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION
SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION
3-7 JUNE 1985, DRAGONARA HOTEL, EDINBURGH, UK.

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Nomination of a rapporteur
4. Election of officers
5. Review of the 1984 fishery
6. ACFM report from ICES on salmon stocks — NASCO (85)11
7. Regulatory measures
8. Request to ICES for scientific advice
9. Other business
10. Date and place of next meeting
11. Consideration of draft report of meeting

EDINBURGH
June 1985

ANNEX 3

WGC (85)10

DECISION OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION ON AN AMENDMENT TO RULE 14 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Commission,

Having regard to Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, adopts the following amendment to Rule 14 of its Rules of Procedure,

Rule 14 shall read as follows:

In the event of the office of Chairman falling vacant due to resignation or permanent inability to act, the Vice-Chairman shall act as Chairman until the next meeting of the Commission, on which occasion a new Chairman shall be elected to serve for the remainder of his predecessor's term of office.

EDINBURGH
June 1985

ANNEX 4

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

NASCO (85)11

ACFM REPORT FROM ICES ON SALMON STOCKS

EDINBURGH
June 1985

ACFM REPORT
NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON

1. THE SALMON FISHERIES IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC

Request from NASCO

This advice and the appended report of the meeting of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon respond to questions posed by the Council of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) in relation to the Northeast Atlantic Commission and the West Greenland Commission of NASCO. The questions posed are found in Appendix I of the Working Group report. The report should be consulted for detailed responses to NASCO's request. In this text, all tables (and numbered figures) referred to are found in the Working Group report.

2. NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC

2.1 Exploitation and Fishing Mortality in the North East Atlantic

Commission Area:

Exploitation rates were defined as the number of fish caught in a fishery divided by the number of fish of the appropriate stocks and smolt classes extant when half the catch has been taken plus the remaining half of the catch (p.3).

High sea fisheries

Only one vessel from Finland reported catches (29 tonnes) in the northern Norwegian Sea in 1984 (Table 2). Nominal catches in the Faroes area longline fishery totaled 720 tonnes in 1984 (Table 3).

Norway

Analysis of recaptures of tagged fish from Southwestern Norway indicated that, in general, exploitation of one sea-winter salmon at the Faroes is very low while exploitation of two sea-winter fish is probably moderate. Exploitation of all sea-age groups of these tagged fish in Norwegian home waters exceeds 74% and is often over 90%

Scotland

The estimated 1984 exploitation rate for the fixed engine fishery of the Moray Firth, outside the river was 0.13 and the corresponding rate for the net and coble fishery in the river was 0.11. Estimated exploitation rates in the North Esk net and coble fishery increased to 0.62 for one sea-winter fish and 0.44 for multi sea-winter fish in 1984 (Table 6). These ratios are overestimated since they were based only on returns to the river during the time of the commercial fishery.

Republic of Ireland

Exploitation rates for the Burrishoole River were estimated to be 73.4% and 79.9% in 1983 and 1984 respectively.

Conclusion

Exploitation rates in home water fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic appear to vary from a few percent to over 90%.

Options for total catches within safe biological limits

New information on growth and stock composition were not adequate to vary the advice of the Working Group in 1982. It is not possible at the present time to estimate and advise on a single TAC which would maintain the home water stocks and safeguard stocks within safe biological limits. A TAC applied to fisheries of mixed stocks does not ensure that the proper catch restrictions occur on any given stock. Even with a TAC of zero in sea fisheries, spawning escapement is not guaranteed as exploitation rates in some mixed stock fisheries in home waters may exceed 90%

There is no evidence that mixed stock fisheries on the high seas poses a particularly serious threat to individual stocks of salmon, relative to other fisheries.

2.2 Distribution of Salmon Stocks

The pattern of distribution of salmon in the Northeast Atlantic reported by ICES to NASCO in 1984 was confirmed. Recaptures in the Faroes fishery of salmon tagged as smolts from Sweden, Scotland and Norway were plotted by statistical rectangle of recapture (Figure 2). It appears that salmon originating from these countries are mixed within the Faroes fishery. The proportion of tagged fish in the catch appears to be higher towards the north and west and the proportion of salmon originating in Norway, Finland, and the USSR appears to increase with latitude. The proportion of salmon of North America origin in the 1981/82

Faroes fishery was estimated to be 0% with confidence limits of 0% and 3%.

2.3 Salmon Biomass in the Faroes Fishing Zone

The Working Group was not able to assess the salmon biomass in the fisheries zone of the Faroe Islands nor estimate the average weight gained and the food consumed by salmon in the zone. Progress towards answering these questions is reviewed in the Working Group report (p. 12-13).

2.4 Effects of Harvesting Salmon at Different Stages of their Migration Routes;

Revised calculations of relative weight gain lead to qualitatively similar results to those advised by ICES in 1984 (Table 7). Highest relative losses occur for young fish which would mature one year later and lowest losses for harvesting older fish which would have matured in the same year. The calculations do not distinguish between spawners and fish caught in the home water fishery.

2.5 Non-Catch Fishing Mortality

The non-catch fishing mortality in the Faroes fishery was estimated to be about 5% in 1983/84, however, preliminary estimates suggest a higher rate in 1984/85. No new information was available elsewhere in the Northeast Atlantic.

2.6 Tagging Programs

On the subject of tagging as a means of assessing the interception fisheries, the Working Group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both internal and external tagging of salmon at sea as well as tagging smolts in home waters. Tagging at sea could provide answers which tagging smolts could not and vice versa. Smolt tagging in home waters is usually limited to a few locations and many are restricted to hatchery-reared fish which may not be representative of larger populations of salmon either in pattern of migration or in rates of exploitation. Tagging at sea poses large logistical problems but the main problems are the necessary adjustments for uneven returns and variable reporting rates in home waters. Costs for tagging at sea and in home waters are provided in the report.

With regard to tagging programns designed to determine the composition of exploited stocks and of catches, the Working Group and ACFM wish to repeat its recommendation of 1982 that smolt tagging be expanded and that special emphasis should be given to the use of internal tags.

2.7 Specify Deficiencies in Data and Sampling Programs Necessary

ACFM endorsed sampling programs recommended by the Working Group to remedy identified data deficiences.

These deficiences were related to:

1) estimation of exploitation rates
2) distribution of salmon stocks
3) effects of harvesting salmon at various stages of migration
4) post-smolt mortality

2.8 Biological Characteristics of Catches at the Faroes

Catches and catch rates in the Faroes fishery in 1983/84 by statistical rectangle are shown in Figures 6 and 7. Both catches and catch rates were greatest between the latitudes of 64^0-66^0 trending northeasterly from 8^0 to 3^0 longitude. The age composition of catches is given in Table 8 and the monthly mean weights at age are given in Table 9. Two-sea-winter salmon made up 87% the catch while 3 sea-winter (10%) and 1 sea-winter salmon (3%) provided lesser amounts. For the period of January - April, the mean weights of salmon caught were 1.54, 3.79, and 8.53 kg for 1 SW, 2 SW, and 3 SW, respectively. The sex composition position of the 1983/84 catches (Table 10) over all ages was 77% (females) and 23% (males) which generally existed for all 3 age groups.

3. West Greenland and Related Home Water Fisheries

3.1 The West Greenland fishery in 1983 and 1984

Statistics and composition of the fishery and regulation in force

The fishery started on 10 August 1984 and ended on 8 December. The total catch was 297 tonnes, about the same as the 310 tonnes in 1983 and about one third of the quota of 870 tonnes.

Origin of salmon at West Greenland

The proportion of salmon of North American origin in samples from 1984 commercial catches was 51% (Table 14). No temporal trends or differences between NAFO divisions were detected.

Biological characteristics

North American origin one sea-winter salmon were significantly shorter and lighter than their European counterparts, as previously observed. The sea age composition of catch samples in 1984 was 87.6% one sea-winter, 11.6% multi sea-winter and 0.7% previous spawners. In 1983 and 1984 the numbers of multi sea-winter salmon landed were similar to previous years in spite of the almost fourfold decrease in total catch.

3.2 Possible causal factors leading to the very low 1983 and 1984 catches at West Greenland:

At least four factors have contributed to the low catches of salmon at West Greenland in 1983 and 1984.These are listed below in no particular order of priority.

1. Adverse environmental factors
2. Lower than normal sea survival rate of relevant smolt classes
3. Reduced stock abundance in Canada and of the spring-run salmon component in Scotland.
4. Reduced fishing effort at Greenland for both years, at least during the important early part of the fishing season.

3.3 Future research

ACFM endorsed the recommendations of the Working group for future research.

4. The Salmon Fisheries of the Northwestern Atlantic

4.1 Request from NASCO

This advice and the appended report of the meeting of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon respond to an urgent request by the North American Commission of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) to provide further advice on the areal and seasonal distribution of Canadian catches of salmon and catches of U.S.A. origin salmon in Canadian fisheries (see Appendix 1 of the Working Group report). In the text, all tables and figures referred to are found in the Working Group report which should be consulted for a detailed response to the question.

4.2 Areal and seasonal distribution of Canadian Salmon

Catches and catches of U.S.A. origin salmon in Canadian Fisheries;

Only Canadian catches from 1974-83 and tag returns from 1970-83 for U.S.A. origin salmon in Newfoundland and Labrador were considered since these fisheries account for 80 percent of Canadian returns of U.S.A. salmon tags.

Tag data were summarized from the basic data cards stored at the Atlantic Sea-Run Salmon Commission in Bangor, Maine for 1970-1983. A major concern regarding the summarization of the data was knowledge about the exact date of capture. The Working Group examined original coding sheets and tag return envelopes for smolts released in 2 randomly selected years (1974 and 1981) and concluded that the non-recording of the tag recovery date was not an important error, especially, for fish captured in the fall season.

Tables 3 and 4, respectively, show the distribution of tag recoveries and catches by month and Statistical Area for all years considered. Most (82 percent) of the recaptures and catches (73 percent) in Newfoundland and Labrador were in Statistical Areas A-D and O.

Area and month distribution of catches and tag recaptures are presented for each year in Tables 5 and 6 of the Working Group report. Inter-annual changes in geographical patterns are presented in Tables 7 and 8. There was considerable inter-annual variation, particularly in the geographical distribution of the recoveries. An accurate description, however, of the inter-annual variation was difficult to make due to the small number of tags involved. Statistical Areas A, B and O usually had higher percentages of recoveries than did other areas. Fifty-nine percent of the tag recoveries were of the 1973, 1974 and 1979 releases. Total returns per 1000 marks varied widely from year to

year (Table 9).

A preliminary examination of tag recoveries by Statistical Section in Northeast Newfoundland gave no evidence that the catch of U.S.A. origin salmon was mainly at headlands. Statistical sections, however, do not provide sufficient detail to draw conclusions regarding the relative importance of recoveries at headlands and bays.

An average of 0.84 percent of the total Newfoundland-Labrador salmon catch occurred from September 1 - December 31 in 1974-83, with fluctuations over an sixfold range (Figure 6). For the last four years, the total catch has declined while the autumn fishery has remained constant so that the proportion taken in the fall has increased. The percent of tag recoveries during this period has varied from 7 percent to 48 percent with an average of about 28 percent.

4.3 Research needs

ACFM endorses research needs as identified in the Working Group Report.

5. Abundance Projection for Salmon Stocks in 1985

Salmon abundance in several areas in 1985 (and future years) is expected to be below average for several reasons. Poor grilse returns in 1984 suggest low returns of 2 sea-winter fish in 1985. Low egg deposition in Canadian rivers in 1978 and 1979 suggests that the return of one sea-winter fish in 1985 and 2 sea-winter fish in 1985 and 1986 will also be poor. Egg deposition has, in fact, been poor in most MSW salmon producing rivers in the Gulf of St Lawrence and in the St John river during the past 7 years. ACFM noted the reduced abundance of spring run salmon at Scotland and the high exploitation rate in the River Ims in Norway. If these rivers are indicative of neighbouring rivers (and this is not known) and if river escapement has bearing on the subsequent abundance of the next generation at sea then catches everywhere are likely to be reduced in the next few years.The variability of smolt survival at sea might influence this.

ANNEX 5

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

WGC (85)3

CANADIAN ATLANTIC SALMON CATCHES (TONNES)
(REVISED 17 MAY 1985)

EDINBURGH
June 1985

(Revised May 17, 1985)

TABLE. Canadian Atlantic Salmon Catches (Tonnes)

(Information provided to the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES)).

Year	Grilse	Salmon	Total
1960	-	-	1636
1961	-	-	1583
1962	-	-	1719
1963	-	-	1851
1964	-	-	2069
1965	-	-	2116
1966	-	-	2359
1967	-	-	2863
1968	-	-	2111
1969	-	-	2202
1970	761	1562	2323
1971	510	1482	1992
1972	558	1201	1759
1973	783	1651	2484
1974	950	1589	2539
1975	912	1573	2485
1976	785	1721	2506
1977	662	1883	2545
1978	320	1225	1545
1979	582	705	1287
1980	917	1763	2680
1981	818	1619	2437
1982	716	1082	1798
1983	513	911	1424
1984	472	648	1120

The 1984 total catch of salmon (1120 tonnes) is:

- 41.8% below the previous 5 year mean (1925.2t)
- 47.2% below the previous 10 year mean (2119.6t)

For the MSW (multi-sea-winter) salmon only, the catch in 1984 of 648 tonnes is:

- 46.8% below the previous 5 year mean (1217.0t)
- 54.0% below the previous 10 year mean (1407.1t)

NOTE: ALL CATCH FIGURES FOR 1984 ARE PRELIMINARY

(Revised May 17, 1985)

NOMINAL CATCHES (PROVISIONAL) OF ATLANTIC SALMON IN CANADA FOR 1984 (IN KG ROUND FRESH WEIGHT)

	GRILSE	% of Total	SALMON	% of Total	TOTAL	% of Total
QUEBEC						
R	4,058	0.9	37,772	5.8	41,830	3.7
C	1,499	0.3	60,628	9.4	62,127	5.6
Total	5,557	1.2	98,400	15.2	103,957	9.3
NFLD.						
R	74,607	15.7	3,227	0.5	77,834	7.0
C	344,234	73.0	478,794	73.8	823,028	73.4
Total	418,841	88.7	482,021	74.3	900,862	80.4
MARITIMES						
R	30,894	6.5	1,847	0.3	32,741	2.9
C	14,851	3.1	40,738	6.3	55,589	5.0
Total	45,745	9.6	42,585	6.6	88,330	7.9
NATIVE FOOD FISHERY (ALL AREAS)	2,124	0.5	24,994	3.9	27,118	2.4
TOTAL	472,267	100.0	648,000	100.0	1,120,267	100.0

R = Recreational (TOTAL = 152,405 KG OR 13.6%)
C = Commercial (TOTAL = 940,744 KG OR 84.0%)

NOTE: ALL CATCH FIGURES FOR 1984 ARE PRELIMINARY

(Revised May 17, 1985)

TABLE: A COMPARISON OF THE OVERALL 1983 AND 1984 ATLANTIC SALMON FISHERIES* (IN TONNES)

AREA	GRILSE		SALMON		TOTAL	
	83	84	83	84	83	84
QUEBEC						
R	4.2	4.0	46.6	37.8	50.8	41.8
C	6.4	1.5	88.1	60.6	94.5	62.1
TOTAL	10.6	5.5	134.7	98.4	145.3	103.9
NEWFOUNDLAND						
R	55.8	74.6	8.0	3.2	63.8	77.8
C	401.5	344.2	615.0	478.8	1016.5	823.0
TOTAL	457.3	418.8	623.0	482.0	1080.3	900.8
MARITIMES						
R	29.5	30.9	37.5	1.9	67.0	32.7
C	15.6	14.9	115.8	40.7	131.4	55.6
TOTAL	45.1	45.8	153.3	42.6	198.4	88.3
NATIVE	?	2.1	?	25.0	?	27.1
TOTAL	513.0	472.3	911.0	648.0	1424	1120.3

*Numbers may not add directly due to rounding process.

R = Recreational
C = Commercial

NOTE: ALL CATCH FIGURES FOR 1984 ARE PRELIMINARY

(Revised May 17, 1985)

IMPACT OF 1984 SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN ON MSW SALMON

Fishery	Average Canadian Catch of MSW Salmon for the year 1978-83 (tonnes)	PREDICTED: Average Canadian Reduction of MSW Salmon catches, if 1984 Plan had been in effect for 1978-83 (tonnes)	PREDICTED: Reduction (%)	ACTUAL 1984: 1984 Catch (tonnes)	ACTUAL 1984: Reduction From Average (tonnes)	ACTUAL 1984: Reduction %
Recreational	130.6	91.9	70.4	42.9	87.7	67.2
Mainland Commercial	206.1	104.0	50.5	101.4	104.7	50.8
Newfoundland Commercial	880.7	117.5	13.3	478.8	401.9	45.6
TOTAL	1,217.4	313.4	25.7	623.1	594.3	48.8

NOTE: ALL CATCH FIGURES FOR 1984 ARE PRELIMINARY

ANNEX 6

WGC (85) 6

WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION

PROPOSAL BY CANADA : REGULATORY MEASURES

The total allowable catch of salmon in the West Greenland Commission area for 1985 shall be 600 metric tonnes.

EDINBURGH
6 June 1985

ANNEX 7

WGC (85)11

REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FROM ICES

(ii) West Greenland Commission Area:

a) describe the events in the West Greenland fishery in 1985, including regulations in effect, gears and vessels in use, temporal and geographical distribution of the fishery, and the quantity and composition of the catches by continent, and, if possible, country of origin;

b) advise on the effects of varying levels of harvest at Greenland on subsequent returns of large salmon to home waters;

c) estimate the impact of management measures taken and proposed by States of origin of salmon occurring in the Commission area on home water catches and, where possible, on spawning escapements;

d) evaluate the tag recovery and return procedure at West Greenland, including an assessment of the accuracy and completeness of information accompanying tag return, and indicate methods for improving the tag recovery and return procedure;

e) to consider estimates of spawning escapements and target spawning biomass for salmon stocks occurring in the Commission Area.

EDINBURGH
June 1985

ANNEX 8

WGC (85) 8

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON PRINCIPLES FOR GREENLAND'S FUTURE QUOTAS

1. Representatives of the West Greenland Commission will meet in a Working Group before the next Annual Meeting of NASCO.

2. The Working Group shall consider and recommend a definition of the concept of fair sharing of the burdens and benefits of salmon conservation measures in the West Greenland Commission.

3. The Working Group shall advise the West Greenland Commission how the concept of fair sharing defined under Item (2) may be applied.

4. In exercising its functions under item (2) and (3) the Working Group shall consider, inter alia,:

   (a) a definition of a 'fair share' for Greenland of the stocks of salmon occurring in the West Greenland Commission area.

   (b) a method of allocating the 'fair share' to Greenland, including correction mechanisms, possibly for periods of more than one year, in order to compensate for deviations from projected catch levels.

EDINBURGH
7 June 1985

ANNEX 9

NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION
SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION
3-7 JUNE 1985, EDINBURGH, UK

LIST OF WEST GREENLAND COMMISSION PAPERS

WGC (85)1	Provisional agenda
WGC (85)2	Draft agenda
WGC (85)3	Canadian atlantic salmon catches (tonnes), (Revised 17 May 1985)
WGC (85)4	Draft report of the West Greenland Commission
WGC (85)5	Draft decision of the West Greenland Commission on an amendment to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure
WGC (85)6	Proposal by Canada on regulatory measures
WGC (85)7	Draft request for scientific advice from ICES
WGC (85)8	Draft terms of reference for a working group on principles for Greenland's future quotas
WGC (85)9	Agenda
WGC (85)10	Decision of the West Greenland Commission on an amendment to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure
WGC (85)11	Request for scientific advice from ICES
WGC (85)12	Atlantic salmon management measures for Canada 1985
WGC (85)13	Second annual report of the West Greenland Commission
NASCO (85)11	ACFM report from ICES on salmon stocks

NOTE: This list contains all papers submitted to the Commission prior to and at the meeting. Some, but not all, of these papers are included in this report as annexes