

	<b>West Greenland Commission</b>  <i>Letter from Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) regarding the Salmon Fishery in Greenland</i>	<b>WGC(21)20</b>
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Aalisarnermut Piniarnermullu Naalakkersuisoqarfik  
 Departementet for Fiskeri og Fangst  
 Ministry for Fisheries and Hunting

**NAALAKKERSUISUT**  
 GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND



**NASCO**  
**Att. West Greenland Commission,**

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland - DFG) would like to provide a status of the management strategy for the salmon fishery in Greenland to the West Greenland Commission (WGC). As has been previously informed, Greenland has developed a management plan for the salmon fishery in Greenland with an attached executive order. Previously distributed documents have been the unofficial drafts. Greenland would like to inform that as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, both the executive order and the management plan have become publicly available.

The official executive order is in Greenlandic and Danish, but please find the unofficial English translation attached with this letter. The Management Plan has been published in three languages (Greenlandic, Danish, and English) and can be found on the webpage of the Government of Greenland. The management plan can be found via the following link:

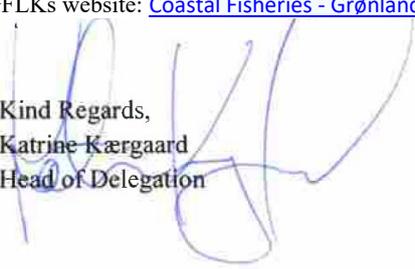
[https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Fiskeri\\_Fangst\\_Landbrug/Eng/2021/forvaltningsplan\\_Laks\\_ENG.pdf](https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Fiskeri_Fangst_Landbrug/Eng/2021/forvaltningsplan_Laks_ENG.pdf)

The quota for 2021 has been divided between the management areas according to the distribution key in the management plan. There has also been set starting dates of the respective seasons for each management area. These starting dates have been proposed by the Association of fishermen and hunters (KNAPK) according to the Management Plan and fixed by the Government of Greenland.

Management Area	Starting Date	Quota (metric tons)	
East Greenland	September 1st	Commercial:	1.5
		Non-commercial:	1.5
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>
Northwest Greenland	September 1st	Commercial:	7.56
		Non-commercial:	3.24
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Southwest Greenland	August 1st	Commercial:	11.34
		Non-commercial:	4.86
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>16.2</b>

Furthermore, we would like to inform you that the quota uptake of Greenlandic fisheries is made public on a weekly basis at GFLKs website: [Coastal Fisheries - Grønlands Fiskerikontrol \(gflk.gl\)](https://www.gflk.gl/)

Kind Regards,  
 Katrine Kærgaard  
 Head of Delegation



**Government of Greenland Executive Order no. 33 of 30 July 2021 on Salmon Fishery**

Pursuant to Sections 5, 8, 10, 10a(I), 13(2), 23, 25, 26, 33(2) and 34(3) of Parliamentary Act no. 18 of 31 October 1996 on fishery, as most recently amended by Greenland Parliamentary Act no. 28 of 28 November 2016, the following is hereby enacted:

**Part 1**

*Scope and definitions*

*Scope*

1. This Executive Order shall apply to salmon fishery in the Greenlandic fisheries territory:
  - 1) West of Cape Farewell in NAFO Area 1. Fishing for salmon outside 40 nautical miles from the baseline is prohibited.
  - 2) In the East Greenland fishing grounds. However, only the following sections of the law shall apply: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16. Fishing for salmon outside 12 nautical miles from the baseline is prohibited.
  - 3) In fishing for salmon in the Kapisillit River.

*Definitions*

2. For the purposes of this Executive Order, commercial fishing means fishing carried on with the intention to sell all or part of the catch.
  - (2) For the purposes of this Executive Order, non-commercial fishing means fishing carried on with the intention for private consumption of the catch.
  - (3) For the purposes of this Executive Order, purchase of salmon means the commercial purchase and reception of salmon directly from persons licensed to commercially fish salmon.

**Part 2**

*Commercial salmon fishery*

*Conditions for commercial salmon fishery*

3. Only persons who hold a licence for commercial salmon fishing are authorised to sell salmon caught within the scope of the Executive Order, cf. Section 1.

4. Commercial fishing for salmon is conditioned by a licence issued by the Government of Greenland on application.

(2) A licence pursuant to (1) may only be issued to applicants who satisfy the following criteria:

- 1) The applicant has a permanent link to Greenlandic society, as defined in Section 3(4) of the Greenland Fisheries Act.
- 2) The applicant meets the requirements for admission to commercial fishing as defined in Section 6(3) of the Greenland Fisheries Act.
- 3) The applicant owns the allowed fishing equipment and the vessel for salmon fishing, that may measure up to and including 12.8 metres (42 feet) in length overall.
- 4) The applicant states in the application the number of salmon nets and the type or make of the nets in the possession of the applicant.
- 5) In the case of applicants who have held a licence in the previous fishing season, the reporting obligation in the previous fishing season must have been fulfilled, cf. Sections 9 and 16.

#### *Equipment for commercial salmon fishery*

5. Commercial fishing for salmon may only be executed with:

- 1) Hooks, or
- 2) Up to 20 salmon nets with a stretched mesh size of at least 140 mm, of which no more than 5 nets may be tied together at one time.

(2) Mesh sizes are measured by loosely inserting a measuring device attached to a ½ kg weight into the net and letting it drop into the mesh. 20 meshes are measured parallel to the float line. All meshes must comply with the requirement set out in (1), no. 2.

(3) All salmon nets used must be labelled with the full name of the owner or the name of the vessel and the port identification letters. The label must be made of water-resistant material.

(4) The salmon nets must be emptied regularly when weather conditions permit, and as often as is necessary to ensure that the usability of the fish caught is not impaired.

#### *Regulation of commercial salmon fishery*

6. Commercial fishing for salmon may be conducted as a quota fishery with the intention to sell to onshore first sales plants, or via to the open-air markets and local institutions.

7. For commercial fishing, the Government of Greenland determines the Greenlandic quota for salmon each year, taking international agreements into account.

(2) In consultation with the Association of Fishers and Hunters in Greenland (KNAPK), the Government of Greenland sets the start date for commercial salmon fishery. The start date will be announced through the national press.

(3) Catches from commercial salmon fishing in Greenland may only be bought or sold outside Greenland with the permission of the Government of Greenland.

8. When the set quota approaches its limit, the Government of Greenland shall issue notice of when commercial fishing for salmon and the purchase and sale of catches from this fishery must cease. The notice will be given through the national press.

## *Reporting of catches from commercial salmon fisheries*

**9.** All catches of salmon must be reported immediately to the Greenland Fishery Licence Control Authority (GFLK).

(2) In the case of direct sales at open-air markets, fishermen licensed to fish commercially for salmon must report each landing of salmon. The reporting must include all salmon landed. The report must contain all the information required by Appendix 1, and may be submitted via [Sullisivik.gl](mailto:gflk@nanoq.gl) or sent to GFLK, Postboks 501, 3900 Nuuk, Fax 34 63 60, or by e-mail to [gflk@nanoq.gl](mailto:gflk@nanoq.gl).

### **Part 3**

#### *Non-commercial salmon fishery*

##### *Conditions for non-commercial salmon fishery*

**10.** Non-commercial fishing for salmon is conditioned by a licence issued by the Government of Greenland on application.

(2) A licence pursuant to (1) may only be issued to applicants who satisfy the following criteria:

- 1) The requirements set out in Section 8(1) of the Greenland Fisheries Act.
- 2) In the case of applicants who have held a licence in the previous fishing season, the reporting obligation in the previous fishing season must have been fulfilled, cf. Sections 15 and 16.

##### *Equipment for non-commercial salmon fishery*

**11.** Non-commercial fishing for salmon may only be undertaken with:

- 1) Hooks, or
- 2) One 2,000 knot salmon net with a stretched mesh size of at least 140 mm.

(2) Mesh sizes are measured by loosely inserting a measuring device attached to a ½ kg weight into the net and letting it drop into the mesh. 20 meshes are measured parallel to the float line. All meshes must comply with the requirement set out in (1), no. 2.

(3) Salmon nets must be labelled with the full name of the owner. The label must be made of water-resistant material.

(4) The salmon net must be emptied regularly when weather conditions permit, and as often as is necessary to ensure that the usability of the fish caught is not impaired.

##### *Regulation of non-commercial salmon fishery*

**12.** Non-commercial fishing for salmon may be carried out as a quota fishery.

**13.** For non-commercial fishing, the Government of Greenland determines the Greenlandic quota for salmon each year, taking international agreements into account.

(2) The starting date for non-commercial salmon fishery will be the same as that of commercial salmon fishery, cf. Section 7(2).

14. When the set quota approaches its limit, the Government of Greenland shall issue notice of when the non-commercial fishing for salmon must cease. The notice will be given through the national press.

#### *Reporting of catches from non-commercial salmon fishery*

15. All catches of salmon from non-commercial salmon fishing must be reported to the Greenland Fishery Licence Control Authority (GFLK).

(2) Catches must be reported via Appendix 1 of the Executive Order or via Sullissivik.gl. The report must be sent to GFLK, Postboks 501, 3900 Nuuk, Fax 34 63 60, or by e-mail to [gflk@nanoq.gl](mailto:gflk@nanoq.gl) immediately upon arrival after emptying the net, cf. Section 11(4).

#### **Part 4**

#### *Reporting of 0-catches from commercial and non-commercial salmon fishery*

16. All licence holders for commercial and non-commercial salmon fishery who have not fished for salmon, must report this by submitting Appendix 1.

(2) All licence holders for commercial and non-commercial salmon fishery who have fished for salmon, but have not caught any salmon, must report this by submitting Appendix 1.

(3) Zero catches must be reported via Appendix 1 of the Executive Order or via Sullissivik.gl. The report must be sent to GFLK, Postboks 501, 3900 Nuuk, Fax 34 63 60, or by e-mail to [gflk@nanoq.gl](mailto:gflk@nanoq.gl) no later than 14 days after the closure of the salmon fishery.

#### **Part 5**

#### *Fishing for salmon in the Kapisillit River*

17. Each year, the Government of Greenland sets a starting date for fishing for salmon in the Kapisillit River.

(2) Fishing in the Kapisillit River is for private consumption only. This fishery is conditioned by a licence issued by the Government of Greenland on application.

(3) A licence, pursuant to (2), may be issued to applicants who satisfy the following criteria:

1) The requirements set out in Section 8(1) of the Greenland Fisheries Act.

2) In the case of applicants who have held a licence in the previous fishing season, the reporting obligation in the previous fishing season must have been fulfilled, cf. Sections 15 and 16

(4) Fishing with any type of net is prohibited within 1,000 metres of the mouth of the Kapisillit River.

(5) Only fishing with single-hook rods is allowed in the river itself.

(6) When the set quota approaches its limit, the Government of Greenland shall issue notice through the national press of when fishing must cease. The Government of Greenland may decide that all fishing thereafter is to be conducted as 'catch and release' with mandatory reporting of both retained and returned fish.

## **Part 6**

### *Measures*

**18.** Violation of Section 1 no. 1 and 2, Section 3, Section 4, Section 5(1), (3) and (4), Section 7(3), (4) and (5), Section 8(3), Section 9, Section 10(1), Section 11(1), (3) and (4), Section 13(3), Section 14(3), Section 15 and Section 16 may result in a fine.

(2) If the violation is committed by a limited liability company, a limited company, a cooperative or a joint-owned shipping company, the company as such may be criminally liable, cf. Part 5 of the Criminal Code.

(3) The rules of the Criminal Code on confiscation shall also apply.

(4) Fines shall be paid into the National Treasury.

## **Part 7**

### *Entry into force*

**19.** This Executive Order shall enter into force on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

(2) At the same time, Government of Greenland Executive Order no. 32 of 28 August 2020 on salmon fishery shall be repealed.

*Government of Greenland, July 30th 2021*

**Aqqaluaq B. Egede**

Minister for Fisheries and Hunting

/Jørgen Isak Olsen

Permanent Secretary