

	<p>Council</p> <p><i>Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2023 Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) – Greenland</i></p>	<p>CNL(24)34</p>
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***Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for
the Calendar Year 2023***

The Annual Progress Reports allow NASCO to evaluate progress on actions taken by Parties / jurisdictions to implement its internationally agreed Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines and, consequently, the achievement of their objectives and actions taken in accordance with the Convention. The following information should be provided through the Annual Progress Reports:

- any changes to the management regime for salmon and consequent changes to the Implementation Plan;
- actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year;
- significant changes to the status of stocks, and a report on catches; and
- actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

*In completing this Annual Progress Report please refer to the **Guidelines for the Preparation and Evaluation of NASCO Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress, CNL(18)49.***

These reports will be reviewed by the Council. Please complete this form and return it to the Secretariat **no later than 1 April 2024.**

Party:	Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)
Jurisdiction / Region:	Greenland
1: Changes to the Implementation Plan	
1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan (Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 November).	
No changes were made to the implementation plan in 2023	
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.	
Reporting percentage amongst license holders is up 14%-points from 2022 to 2023 with a reporting percentage of 82%. The number of reports received has also increased by 28% compared to 2022.	
A new initiative for the Kapisillit salmon: The Ministry of Fisheries and Hunting, have in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Self-sufficiency, Energy and Environment, started the application-process for an EU-funded project via Bestlife2030. The project will focus on conservation of the Kapisillit river and surrounding area, and thereby the Kapisillit salmon, through a focus on local involvement and management.	

2: Stock status and catches.				
2.1 Provide a description of any new factors that may affect the abundance of salmon stocks significantly and, if there has been any significant change in stock status since the development of the Implementation Plan, provide a brief (200 word max) summary of these changes.				
No new factors that may affect the abundance of salmon stocks significantly has been observed.				
2.2 Provide the following information on catches: (nominal catch equals reported quantity of salmon caught and retained in tonnes ‘round fresh weight’ (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or ‘round fresh weight equivalent’).				
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2023 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	N/A	N/A	32,6	32,6
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2022 (tonnes)	N/A	N/A	28,9 tonnes	28,9 tonnes
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2023 (tonnes)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2023	N/A			
3: Implementation Plan Actions.				
3.1 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (section 2.9 of the Implementation Plan).				
<i>Note: the reports under ‘Progress on action to date’ should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.</i>				
Action F1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	Evaluation of the reporting system implemented in 2018 through the new Government of Greenland Executive Act, including 0-catch reporting requirement and validation process taking place after the end of the fishing season.		
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Improved reporting and more valid data, which can be used to improve management measures		
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	The Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority (GFLK) will continue its increased focus on monitoring and controlling the fishery and sale at open air markets throughout the period.		

		<p>Before the fishing seasons in 2019 and 2020, the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture and GFLK will evaluate the reporting of the previous season and what worked and did not work of the initiatives for improved reporting and validation of the reporting. If needed, new measures will be implemented before the following fishing season.</p>
	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i></p>	<p>Reporting percentage has increased from 68% in 2022 to 82% in 2023. The number of reports received has also increased from 1.267 in 2022 to 1.616 in 2023.</p> <p>The number of reports received with-in season is only 44,6% compared to 84% in 2022. This change is related to a larger part of the >0 catches, being reported after the close of the fishery, than in 2022. Most of these reports are still received within the 14 days limit, but do not help to contribute to the monitoring of the fishery and the decision on when to close it.</p> <p>The number of 0-catch reports received has increased from 2022 by 76%. This corresponds to the number of license holders only reporting 0-catch, which has increased by 53% from 2022 to 2023 (or constituting 45% of license holders in 2023 compared to 25% in 2022). The number of reports received between time of closure and last day of reporting has increased from constituting 23% of 0-catch reports in 2022 to 41% in 2023. In conclusion, more 0-catch reports are received during or after the season, where it is still allowed, which means that more license holders understand that 0-catch also need to be reported.</p> <p>A change in our license and reporting system, will make it possible to see the difference of when a report is received and when it is manually entered into the system by a GFLK employee. This could give a better picture of the delay in the reports received from the municipalities and via email.</p> <p>Technical issues with the online reporting system has also affected the 2023 season: reports with errors were not sent to GFLK, but got stuck in the system (see document WGC(24)03 for details). This has been fixed now and should improve the live reporting during the 2024 season.</p> <p>More valid data: this season there were several reports of catches in the Kapisillit area. Every year GFLK looks at the reports and the catch areas listed in the report. This year three >0 catch reports were received from the area. All of them had listed catch areas not relevant for the Kapisillit area and should belong to the Southwest area instead. The catch came to 23,9 kilos in total.</p>
	<p>Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<i>action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F2:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Enhance awareness and implementation of the new license system, requiring all fishermen, including private to hold a license and the requirement that the issuance of a license is based on the previous year's reporting
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Increased awareness and full implementation of the new legal requirement, which should lead to improved reporting and better data.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Co-operate with the Fishermen's Association, the Municipalities and relevant stakeholders for maximum awareness as well as awareness raising on the internet and national media. Furthermore, continuing the increased focus of the wildlife officers during the fishing season, including the locale information meetings that the wildlife officers / GFLK have each year with the municipality officials, local fishermen's organizations and individual fishermen.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i>	Radio sports ran daily during the season. These contained information about how to report and consequences of not reporting. An ad was made for both of the national newspapers in Greenland with a link to the online reporting website as well as a continuous ad on their website with a direct link to the online reporting website Sullissivik. Text messages were sent to all license-holders both during the season with a reminder to report, and when their area was closing with a reporting deadline. In collaboration with NASF and ASF, the Ministry managed and promoted a lottery in the citizen science programme for salmon samples to be received by the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources. A video was made by a famous Greenlandic influencer, Q's Greenland, with information about the competition and that a condition of entering the lottery was to report. License appliers that did not fulfil the reporting requirement in 2022 were not issued licenses in 2023. This was made clear through all the information channels used for this season, as well as on the individual license.

		The GFLK wildlife officers have in their daily monitoring of the Greenlandic fishery, including the salmon fishery, promoted and recommended the online reporting system Sullissivik to the fishermen, as this is easier to communicate to the fishermen and to train them to use, rather than the manual reporting option available through the municipalities.
	Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F3:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Continue the heightened level of monitoring and control of the salmon fishery and the increased focus on salmon fishing in the Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority.
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Improved monitoring and control, which should also lead to improved reporting and stronger compliance for both professional and private fishermen.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Increased patrolling and random checks both at markets and at sea, recovery of unmarked fishing gear, dialogue with fishermen and hand-outs of the reporting schedule, information meetings with stakeholders, regular publication of the catch data, reporting by wildlife officers, validation of catch data.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i>	GFLK performed day to day monitoring of the quota uptake during the fishing season. Quota uptake was made public weekly on the GFLK website. Reminders for fishermen to report catch were made through press releases, radio spots, text messages and ads in the national newspapers and on their websites.
	Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it</i>	Ongoing

	<i>should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
<p>3.2 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (section 3.5 of the Implementation Plan).</p> <p><i>Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.</i></p>		
Action H1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	The completion and adoption of a protection plan for the Kapisillit River stock and the entire river area.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Protection of the entire river areas including adjacent estuarine area from anthropogenic effects (pollution, development of agriculture and gillnetting) and specifying rules of public access, including fishery.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	The implementation of the protection act will be evaluated by the stakeholders in order to ensure that the management goals are met. Regular patrolling and random checks by the locale wildlife officers and recovery of unmarked fishing gears.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)	A new initiative for the Kapisillit salmon: The Ministry of Fisheries and Hunting, have in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Self-sufficiency, Energy and Environment, started the application-process for an EU-funded project via Bestlife2030. The project will focus on conservation of the Kapisillit river and surrounding area, and thereby the Kapisillit salmon, through a focus on local involvement and management. If the application is approved the project can start in the fall. The outcome should be a management plan for the Kapisillit river and salmon stock, and through local involvement, will help monitor and regulate the Kapisillit River stock. Scientific advice for the Kapisillit river stock will be given in 2024. Greenland is a part of the PINKTrack program monitoring Pink salmon through eDNA. GFLK has performed routine within-season visits to the Kapisillit area to observe that current rules are complied with.
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third	Ongoing

	reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
<p>3.3 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (section 4.11 of the Implementation Plan).</p> <p><i>Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.</i></p>		
Action A1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)	
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')	Choose an item.

	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
4: Additional information required under the Convention		
4.1	Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification.	
4.2	Details of any new commitments concerning the adoption or maintenance in force for specified periods of time of conservation, restoration, and other management measures.	
	Work on getting funds for conservation of the Kapisillit River has commenced.	
4.3	Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.	
4.4	Details of any new actions to invite the attention of States not party to the Convention to matters relating to the activities of its vessels which could adversely affect salmon stocks subject to the Convention.	
4.5	Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.	
	GFLK has, like all other years, maintained strict surveillance on the catch and sale of salmon within the season period.	
North American Commission Members only:		
4.6	Details of any new measures to minimise bycatches of salmon originating in the rivers of the other member.	
4.7	Details of any alteration to fishing patterns that result in the initiation of fishing or increase in catches of salmon originating in the rivers of another Party except with the consent of the latter.	