

North American Commission

NAC(03)13

Letter from the President to France regarding St Pierre and Miquelon

CNL39.032

12 June, 2003

Mr Christian Ligeard
Maritime Fisheries Assistant Manager
Ministry of Agriculture Food, Fishing and Rural Affairs
3 Fontenoy Place
75007 Paris
FRANCE

Thank you for your letter of 29 May.

I very much appreciate the information you provided and the background you gave NASCO on the salmon fisheries surrounding the great historic islands of St Pierre and Miquelon.

I particularly welcome France's expression (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) of its willingness to engage in a salmon sampling program in 2003. It is very important for NASCO to have a better understanding of the migration patterns of salmon caught in St Pierre and Miquelon waters. As you know, salmon stocks are at very low levels and the sampling will contribute to enhanced management and conservation of the resource. We would like to express our desire to participate with your scientists in this very important project. In view of the great urgency to begin our scientific cooperation during the coming fishing season in July and August, Dr Malcolm Windsor will contact you to arrange details on this project.

Mr Ligeard, let me express to you the great amount of goodwill that your letter generated within NASCO during our Twentieth Annual Meeting in Edinburgh. This project will certainly benefit both the citizens of St Pierre and Miquelon and the NASCO Contracting Parties but, more importantly, will contribute greatly to safeguarding the Atlantic salmon. I look forward to a strong partnership between France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) and NASCO.

Yours sincerely

Jacque Robichaud
President