

West Greenland Commission

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The 1999 Fishery in West Greenland

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Quota 1999

At the 16th annual meeting of NASCO, the West Greenland Commission agreed on a multi-year approach, according to which the catch at West Greenland for 1999 and 2000 should be restricted to that amount used for internal consumption in Greenland, which in the past has been estimated at 20 tonnes.

In keeping with this agreement the Greenland Home Rule Government subsequently set the internal consumption quota at West Greenland at 20 tonnes.

The salmon fishery started on 18 August 1999 and was closed on 14 October 1999 when reportings to the Greenland Fishing License Control Authority had passed 18 tonnes. The total reportings in West Greenland amounted to 19046 kg. 418 kg were caught in East Greenland.

412 licenses were issued in West Greenland in 1999. As in 1998 15-20 licenses were issued in East Greenland.

13 towns where licenses have been issued have reported catches.

3 towns in Northern Greenland, where a total of 80 licenses were issued although salmon rarely occur, did not report any catches,

103 persons have reported catches in 1999 (1 person landed salmon at two sites), including catches both sold and kept for private consumption.

Reported catches for sale totalled 15422 kg and reported catches for private consumption totalled 3623 kg.

Unreported catches are estimated to be approximately 10-15 tonnes.

Control/Monitoring

The system for reporting catches was changed in 1999 as the system used in 1998 made double reportings possible. Official game keepers and inspectors from the Greenland Fishing License Control Authority make random checks at local open air markets in towns and settlements in West Greenland. Random checks have also been made at hotels, restaurants, shops, hospitals and schools.

According to the Greenland Home Rule Executive Order No. 13 of 12 August 1999 on Salmon Fishery:

- All commercial catches of salmon must be reported to the Greenland Fishing License Control Authority (GFLK) on a daily basis by the fisherman. Catches from the recreational fishery must be reported the day after the fishery or for non-residents as soon as possible.
- Only persons licensed to salmon fishery can sell their catches.
- The catches from the salmon fishery can only be sold at local markets and local shops, to hotels, restaurants, schools, hospitals and other public eating places.

The majority of the reportings were obtained from the open air markets.

- Catches from the Greenlandic salmon fishery may not be exported outside of Greenland.