

WGC(01)5

The 2000 fishery in West Greenland

(Tabled by Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland))

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Quota 2000

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 Monday 14. August 2000 and was closed on Friday 18. August 2000 when reportings to the Greenland Fishing Licence Control Authority had passed 18 tonnes. The total reportings in West Greenland amounted to 20.5 tonnes. There are no reportings of catches from East Greenland in 2000.

The fishing-season of 2000 with only 5 fishing-days was significantly shorter than the fishing-season of 1999 with 57 days (when total reportings amounted to 19.5 tonnes), and even shorter than the fishing-season of 1998 with 137 days (when total reportings amounted to only 11 tonnes). The quota was 20 tonnes all three years.

179 licences were issued in West Greenland in 2000. This is a significant reduction from the 412 licences issued in West Greenland in 1999.

46 persons have reported catches in 2000, including catches both sold and kept for private consumption. This is a significant reduction from the 103 persons reporting catches in 1999.

In 2000 as in 1999, a landing company was given permission to purchase salmon from the fishermen for distribution in Greenland. Most of the reportings of catches for sale in 2000 came from this arrangement, and only few reportings of catches came from sale through the open markets or to hotels, restaurants, hospitals and other public eating-places.

Reported catches for sale totalled 19.900 kg. and reported catches for private consumption totalled 604.5 kg. Of the total reported catches in 2000 the part that are reported caught for private consumption made out 3 %, and this is a significant reduction from the 23 % in 1999.

Unreported catches are estimated to approximately 10 tonnes.

Control/Monitoring

The system for reporting catches was changed in 1999 as the system used in 1998 made double reportings possible. This new system was kept in force in 2000. Official gamekeepers and inspectors from Greenland Fishing Licence 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:

- The fisherman must report all commercial catches of salmon to the Greenland Fishing Licence Control Authority on a daily basis. Catches from the recreational fishery must be reported the day after the fishery, or for the non-residents as soon as possible.
- Only persons licensed for salmon fishing can sell their catches.
- The catches from salmon fishery can only be sold at local markets and local shops, to hotels, restaurants, schools, hospitals and other public eating-places.
- Catches from the Greenlandic salmon fishery may not be exported outside Greenland.