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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1966Report and Recommendations of ICES Salmon and Trout Committee, 1965

Chairman: Dr A. E. J. Went

Rapporteur: Dr D. J. Piggins

Proceedings

1. The Chairman opened the proceedings by welcoming the members, Guests and Observers and, in particular, Mr W. J. M. Menzies, a former member of the Committee, and representatives of both Canada and U. S. A. The list of members was checked.
2. The Administrative Report for 1964 was approved with one small amendment.
3. Members reported upon progress made in various fields during 1965 and work planned up to the next meeting. A number of members stated that in view of developments in Greenland steps were being taken to increase the intensity of tagging, particularly as regards smolts (Rec. B. (3)).
4. Mr K. A. Pyefinch reported that no further information had become available since the 1964 meeting as regards recaptures under the Comparative Smolt Tagging Scheme, and he was asked to prepare a final report on the results achieved to date for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee. It was also agreed that whilst it was highly desirable that the scheme should be applied to the west coast of Sweden in the spring of 1966, it was recognized that the intensified tagging program referred to above might prevent some countries from participating. It was left to Dr B. Carlin of Sweden to make such arrangements as were feasible in 1966. Representatives of Canada expressed a desire to be kept informed of developments so that, if possible, a tagging team from Canada could participate.
5. The Committee discussed the report of the Baltic Salmon Working Group and decided to recommend that the Group should remain in existence, and that certain gaps in our knowledge of the Baltic salmon should be filled in by smolt tagging in the western Baltic, Riga Bay, and the Bay of Finland by adult fish taggings in the open sea (Rec. B(1)). It was agreed also to recommend that experiments on the transfer of salmon between river systems should be carried out to test the feasibility of such transfers on a large scale (Rec. B(2)). The Committee noted that the Group would meet in Finland in August 1966.
6. The Chairman reported that the circulation of selected salmon scales from fish, preferably of known age, started some years ago had come to a standstill, and he asked that members who have sets of scales in their possession should distribute them to the next person on the list and inform him accordingly.
7. The Chairman reported that in accordance with the authority given to him at the last meeting he had arranged a discussion between some members of the Committee and representatives of FAO and ICNAF with a view to taking preliminary steps towards the compilation of a Synopsis on the Atlantic Salmon. It had been agreed that as a first step a full bibliography on the Atlantic salmon should be prepared. To this end it was decided that the bibliography published by Dr. Bergeron of Canada recently should be brought up-to-date. In collaboration with FAO the Chairman undertook to circularize it to the members stating the objects of the task and initiating them, as a matter of urgency, to give

details of any additional publications from their own country not already included in Dr Bergeron's list.

8. Mr I.R.H. Allan's draft report on nomenclature (Doc.No. 28) was considered, and it was decided that members should examine this and inform Mr Allan of any amendments which they wanted to make. It was also agreed that Mr Allan be asked to extend his report so as to include trout and sea-trout. The Committee agreed that Dr B. Carlin should prepare a report on the various terms used in hatcheries and fish farms.

9. Representatives of the Iceland, Norway and USSR reported upon catches of pink salmon during 1965, more specimens being obtained than in any year since 1960. Mr Fleming of Canada gave a preliminary account of the transplantation of pink salmon into Newfoundland waters.

10. A report by Dr Paul M. Hansen (Doc.No. 17) on the capture of salmon in Greenlandic waters originally tagged elsewhere was discussed, and the Committee recommended that a Working Group should be established in conjunction with ICNAF to prepare the necessary scientific information needed for a proper assessment of the effect of the Greenlandic salmon fishery on the stocks of Atlantic salmon in different parts of its range (Rec.A(1)). It was also recommended that in connection with this matter member countries should intensify their smolt tagging program (Rec. B(3)).

11. In view of the success in recent years of the Committee's arrangement whereby part of each annual meeting is devoted to a special theme, it was decided to invite members in 1966 to prepare papers on "fluctuations in the characteristics of salmon stocks and runs", and the Chairman was given authority to make any arrangement he felt fit to achieve the Committee's object in this regard (Rec. C(1)). The Committee also recommended that the special subject for consideration at the 1967 meeting should be "salmon hatching and rearing techniques" (Rec. C(2)).

12. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the contributions from non-members to the important discussions on the effects of hydro-electric development of rivers, and the Chairman was asked to convey the Committee's thanks in writing to all those persons who had contributed papers but had not been able to attend the Council's meeting. The Committee was also much appreciative of the contributions from North America on matters relevant to this Council's work in the salmon and trout field and of Dr D. J. Piggins' kindness in volunteering to act as Rapporteur for the meeting.

13. Dr A. E. J. Went was re-elected Chairman.

Recommendations

It was decided: :
C.Res. 1965/2:5 that

- (a) with reference to the Greenland salmon fishery, the program of research drawn up by the ICNAF Assessment Committee be endorsed and developed by all the national organizations concerned with recording SALMON catches and undertaking salmon research in the ICES area, as a matter of urgency.
- (b) ICNAF be requested to join ICES in establishing a joint Working Party on North Atlantic Salmon,
- (c) such a Working Party, comprising a representative of each of the member countries concerned, together with the Secretary of the Liaison Committee of ICES and the Chairman of the Assessment Subcommittee of ICNAF, be

established first to receive and discuss the resulting data and reports, and to develop the program further in their light, and especially to analyze this material in order to provide assessment of the states of the various stocks, the effects of the Greenland fishery on them, and particularly on the abundance of salmon returning to their home rivers, on the catches in home waters and, as far as possible, on the future production of smolts,

- (d) in general the Working Party should so arrange its work that annual reviews and programs may be made at each ICES meeting, while advantage should be taken by those members attending each ICNAF meeting to review information available to date and to report both to ICNAF and ICES as appropriate,
- (e) in the first place, in order to speed the work the whole Working Party might meet at national expense, prior to the ICNAF Meeting for 1966, for 4 days in the week ending May 28th, in Spain, under the chairmanship of Mr J. A. Gulland. In accordance with usual ICES practice, the expenses of the Secretary to the Liaison Committee would be paid by ICES, and
- (f) all available information be provided and circulated to members in advance. (Cost: D. Kr. 2, 000).

C. Res. 1965/4:19 That smolt taggings in the western Baltic, Riga Bay and the Bay of Finland and adult salmon taggings in the open Baltic should be carried out by member countries.

C. Res. 1965/4:20 That experiments involving the transfer of salmon between rivers should be carried out by Baltic member countries to test out the feasibility of such transfers on a large scale.

C. Res. 1965/4:21 That in view of the development in the Greenland area, member countries should intensify their smolt-tagging experiments.

C. Res. 1965/4:22 That the special theme for the papers for the 1966 meeting should be "Fluctuations in the characteristics in salmon stocks and runs".

C. Res. 1965/4:23 That the special theme for papers for the 1967 Meeting should be "Salmon hatchery and rearing techniques" and that Canadian and U. S. workers should be asked to contribute papers for discussion.