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THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1967

Report of the Second Meeting of the ICES/ICNAF Joint Working Party on North Atlantic Salmon

Copenhagen, 4 October 1966.

On Tuesday, 4 October, at 2030 hrs. the Working Party held a meeting in conjunction with the meeting of ICES. Members present were:-

M.W. Smith acting for K.R. Allen
Paul M. Hansen

I.R.H. Allan

A.E.J. Went

L. Rosseland

K.A. Pyefinch

B. Carlin

A. Posgay acting for B. Skud

Canada

Denmark

England and Wales

Ireland

Norway

Scotland

Sweden

U.S.A.

and Mr. B.B. Parrish, Chairman of the Assessment Sub-Committee of the Research and Statistics Committee of ICNAF.

Also present: Mr. A.J. Aglen (Scotland), Dr. F. Thurow (Germany), Mr. J.G. Hunter (Canada), Mr. L.R. Day (ICNAF), Prof. A. Lindroth (Sweden), Dr. W. Templeman(Canada), Mr. O. Christensen (Denmark) and Prof. S. Zarnecki (Poland).

In the absence of the Chairman (Mr. K.R. Allen) it was agreed that Dr. A.E.J. Went, as Chairman of the ICES Salmon and Trout Committee, should act as Chairman for the meeting, and Mr. K.A. Pyefinch was asked to act as Rapporteur. The Agenda, as presented by Mr. K.R. Allen, was adopted.

The report of the first meeting of the Working Party was examined and approved, subject to the following amendments and/or additions:-

(a) The list of members was recast as follows:-

J.A. Gulland (Chairman)
K.R. Allen
Paul M. Hansen
I.R.H. Allan
A.E.J. Went
L. Rosseland
K.A. Pyefinch
B. Carlin
B. Skud

Canada (Rapporteur)

Denmark

England and Wales

Ireland Norway Scotland Sweden U.S.A.

Mr. Sv.Aa. Horsted (Denmark), Mr. B.B. Parrish (Scotland), Dr. W. Templeman, Chairman of the Research and Statistics Committee, and Mr. L.R. Day, Executive Secretary of ICNAF also took part.

- (b) The words "including some fish tagged in countries on both sides of the Atlantic" to be added after "spawners" in line 6 of paragraph 2 of the Section II (page 3 of draft) and the full stop after spawners replaced by a comma.
- (c) Add to Table 1 (page 7) details for Ireland and Scotland (information to be supplied to Chairman by appropriate members of the Working Party).
- (d) A new Section XI be added on page 20 before the existing Section XI on the draft as follows:-

¹⁾ also presented to the 1966 ICES meeting as document C.M: 1966/L:17

XI. EFFECT OF THE GREENLAND FISHERY ON THE COMBINED SALMON CATCHES AT WEST GREENLAND AND IN HOME-WATERS

Consider 100 salmon in Greenland waters of average weight W, if they are all caught they will yield a catch weighing $100~\rm W_1$. - if they are not caught and start their return to home rivers, some will die naturally, some will survive, and spawn, and some will be caught in the fisheries, by which time they will have an average weight $\rm W_2$. If the percentage of the original 100 which is caught in the home fisheries is P, then the weight of the home catch will be PW .

If the two catches are exactly balanced, so that the same total weight of fish will be caught from the original 100 fish, whether they are caught in Greenland or left with the subsequent chance of capture in the home fisheries, then

or
$$v_1 = pw_2$$
 $v_1 = 100 \frac{w_1}{w_2}$

From Section VI we have an estimate of w_2/w_1 as 1.46, therefore

$$P = \frac{100 \times 1}{1.46} = 69,0 \text{ or } 70\% \text{ approximately.}$$

If the actual percentage caught in home waters, of the fish escaping in Greenland is greater than this amount, then, and only then, will the combination of a Greenland and a home-water fishery give a lower total yield than the home-water fishery alone.

- (e) Renumber all sections after new Section XI accordingly and
- (f) Change the word "increase" in line 8 of paragraph 2 on page 21 to "difference".

After considerable discussion of the draft "Constitution and Rules of Procedure" prepared by Mr. K.R. Allen in accordance with an ICNAF resolution it was agreed that, as far as payment of expenses are concerned this would appear to be a matter for decision independently by ICES and ICNAF in relation to their own members and not a matter for the Working Party. It was felt that the suggestion relating to "publication of reports could best be dealt with by agreement between ICES and ICNAF, and it was left to the Acting Chairman to bring this matter to the notice of ICES through the Salmon and Trout Committee. The Working Party agreed that its responsibility was limited to the production of a report and its presentation to ICES and ICNAF for joint approval and such action as these organisations may think fit. Accordingly, there was a general consensus of opinion that no formal "constitution and rules of procedure" were required, particularly as the original Rome resolution provides for the composition and major directives for the Working Party.

The Working Party briefly reviewed the programme of research in Greenland for 1966 and considered that as far as possible similar work should be carried on in 1967. Dr. Paul M. Hansen gave some preliminary information of the fishery to date and informed the Working Party, inter alia that it appeared that the intensity of fishing would be greatly increased in 1966 over that of 1965.

On the subject of the collection of statistics Mr. Parrish emphasized the need for first class statistics relating to the catch of salmon in member countries, divided where possible into salmon on the one hand and grilse on the other. Such statistics for as long a period as possible should be furnished to the Chairman of the Working Party, and the Chairman of the Assessment Sub-Committee of the Research and Statistics Committee of ICNAF as soon as possible after the close of each year. It was stressed that where possible catch/effort statistics should also be produced.

The Working Party emphasized the need to give, in any material collected, the method of measuring salmon, and it was stressed that if scale analyses on the lines set out in a recent communication from the Chairman were later carried on, scales would have to be taken from a uniform place on the body of the fish. The Working Party expressed its appreciation of the assembling by the Chairman of material relating to "the use of scale characteristics for the separation of stocks in Pacific salmon" as transmitted with the Chairman's letter dated 2nd September 1966.

On the subject of the time and place of the next meeting, whilst the Working Party would have to be guided by the Rome resolution, it was considered that unless there was definite business to conduct the Working Party should not be called together as a matter of form. It was stressed that unless the majority of members could attend meetings the value of a Working Party would be small. It was felt, therefore, that the holding of a meeting in conjunction with the ICNAF meeting in 1967 in Boston might not be advisable, but that if the Chairman was of the opinion that sufficient material would be available to warrant calling such a meeting, he should do so. From the European side, however, as much notice as possible would be needed as generally members of the Working Party would not attend meetings of ICNAF as representatives of their respective European countries.

The Working Party accordingly present the report of its first meeting and takes the opportunity to express its grateful thanks to Mr. J.A. Gulland and Mr. K.R. Allen for their efforts on behalf on the Working Party.

A.E.J. Went ACTING CHAIRMAN