International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

فيتصادر ويكاريهم

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RISKERIDIREKTORATEI. BIBLIOTEKET

REPORT OF THE ICES/ICNAF JOINT WORKING PARTY ON NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON Dublin, March 21-24, 1972

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

March 1972

A. INTRODUCTION

1. The Working Party met in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Dublin on 21st - 24th March 1972. The following were present.

A.W. May	Canada
C.P. Ruggles	Canada
0. Christensen	Denmark
Sv. Å. Horsted	Denmark
J. Møller Jensen	Denmark
I.R.H. Allan	England and Wales
A. Swain	England and Wales
P. Davaine ^a	France
R. Vibert	France
F. Thurow	Federal Republic of Germany
T. Gudjonsson	Iceland
Miss E. Twomey	Irish Republic
A.E.J. Went a	Irish Republic
K.U. Vickers	Northern Ireland
L. Rosseland	Norway
W.R. Munro	Scotland
B.B. Parrish (Chairman)	Scotland
K.A. Pyefinch (Rapporteur)	Scotland
R. Hennemuth	USA
J. Møller Christensen	ICES

a Present for part of the meeting only

Applogies for absence were received from G.J. Ridgway (USA) and A. Bogdanov (USSR). A representative from Iceland attended for the first time.

2. The Working Party received the latest information available on the West

Greenland and Norwegian Sea salmon fisheries, made further assessments of the effects of these fisheries on total and home-waters catches and considered in detail the plans proposed by the Tagging Planning Group for the International tagging programme at West Greenland in 1972.

B. WEST GREENLAND FISHERY

3. At its annual meeting in 1970, ICNAF adopted a resolution setting out a number of regulatory measures for the salmon fishery in its Convention area during 1971. This resolution is set out in Appendix 1. These measures, which came into force on 1 January 1971, included a limitation of the aggregate

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tonnage of the fishing vessels employed or the catch taken by each contracting Government to the 1969 level and the prohibition of the use of any monofilament nets not acquired before 1st July 1970. The events in the West Greenland fishery in 1971, dealt with below, are considered in the light of these measures.

1. Statistics and Composition of the Fishery

4. The salmon catches at West Greenland in the years 1960-71 (the data for

1971 are provisional) are shown in Table 1. In 1971, as in the previous year, it was not possible to separate the catch by Greenland vessels into its drift-net and gill-net components.

5. The total catch in 1971, according to present information, was 2615

metric tons, which is a substantial increase over the catch for 1970 (2146 metric tons) and is the highest catch yet recorded at West Greenland. Though this catch cannot be completely separated into drift-net and gill-net components, the former was, almost certainly, the larger. On the basis of the catches made by research vessels, the size and age composition of the salmon stock exploited were very similar to those in previous years. The stock consisted almost entirely of one-sea-winter fish which had migrated to sea as two- or threeyears-old smolts. The remainder consisted of fish older than one-sea-winter. The sex ratio (3.1 females: 1 male) was also similar to that in previous years. 6. As in previous years, the total catch shown in Table 1 includes a small

catch (less than 10 metric tons) taken at Angmagssalik on the east coast of Greenland. The distribution of the fishery in 1971 is shown in Fig. 1. This indicates that the drift-net fishery extended all along the west coast, from the Disko area in the north to the vicinity of Julianehab in the south and that <u>jill</u> netting was carried out at a number of places along this length of coast.

7. The table below shows the number of vessels (excluding Greenland-registered vessels) which have taken part in the West Greenland drift-net fishery from its inception in 1965.

Year	Number of Vessels							
	Denmark	Faroe	Norway	Sweden	Total			
1 965	0	1	1	0	2			
1 965 1 966	0	1	1	0	2			
1967	4	4	3	0	11			
1968	10	2	4	1	17			
1 969	15	6	11	2	34			
1970	13	7	10	1	31			
1971	11	3	8	0	22			

8. This shows that the number of non-Greenlandic vessels participating in the drift-net fishery in 1971 was fewer than in 1970 (assuming that no Swedish vessels fished at West Greenland in 1971), yet the total catch taken by them was approximately 350 metric tons greater. This must mean either that the abundance and/or availability of salmon in the offshore area was substantially greater in 1971, giving rise to higher average catch rates per vessel, and/or that the total effective fishing effort was higher despite the fewer vessels, due to an increase in their fishing power and efficiency. Although insufficient data are available for the changes in fishing power and efficiency to be determined accurately it is known that in recent years improved, more efficient drift-net gear has been adopted progressively by the fishing fleet. Changes in the gear which may have contributed to the greater efficiency are:-

- (a) The use of monofilament nets, which comparative fishing experiments have shown to give higher catch rates than the polyfilament nets used previously. Monofilament nets were first used by a few vessels in 1969 and their use increased rapidly thereafter and, in 1971, most of the drift nets used were monofilament.
- (b) The introduction, by some vessels, of a floating, unbuoyed drift-net head line instead of the normal buoyed one. Limited comparative fishing experiments have shown that nets rigged in this new way gave higher catch rates.
- (c) A progressive adoption of the most efficient drift-net mesh size.

(d) An increase in the number of nets shot per day by some vessels, through the use of monofilament nets during daylight.

9. Although the combined effects of these factors cannot be estimated accurately

the available data suggest that between 1968 and 1971 they, together with a general increase in crew 'skill and experience', resulted in at least a doubling of the average fishing power and efficiency combined of the individual fishing operation and that, therefore, in 1971 the total effective fishing effort by the drift-net fleet was not lower than in 1970. Thus it seems likely that the increase in drift-net catch in 1971 was not primarily due to greater stock abundance, as the average catch per vessel would suggest.

10. These data indicate clearly the limitations of the vessel tonnage regulation introduced in 1971 as a method of stabilising effective fishing effort in a fishery in which major technological and other developments affecting fishing power and efficiency were taking place. Nevertheless the measures introduced did prevent the entry of additional tonnage into the fishery.

2. Origin and Destination of Salmon at West Greenland

(a) <u>Recaptures of Fish at West Greenland Tagged in Home Waters</u>

11. Recaptures during 1963-71 of salmon tagged in home waters either as natural

(wild) or hatchery-reared smolts and as kelts are shown in Tables 2, 3 and 4. These tables include new data and revisions of data presented in earlier reports of the Working Party.

12. The latest data show that, in 1971 as in previous years, fish tagged in the main salmon-producing countries were recaptured at West Greenland. The Working Party draws attention to the recoveries at West Greenland of salmon tagged as wild smolts in the extreme south-west of France in 1969 and 1970. Additional tags were reported from Norway bringing the total for that country to eleven recaptures from the West Greenland area. Salmon occurring in West Greenland are, therefore, now known to originate on the European side from about latitude 63°N to about 44°N, which is almost the southern limit of the species. Attention

is also drawn to the high number and recapture rate, in 1971, from hatcheryreared smolts tagged in the USA in 1970. Seven of these tagged fish, together with one from Canada, were taken in the small east coast catch mentioned in para. 6, which indicates that salmon from North American rivers had migrated far up the east coast of Greenland.

13. Some fish tagged as kelts in home waters have been recaptured at West Greenland, usually in the autumn following release and, in particular, there was a substantial increase in the number of Canadian tagged kelts recaptured in 1970 and 1971.

14. The Working Party agreed, as at its previous meetings, that it was not possible

to obtain reliable estimates of the proportions of the salmon stock at West Greenland originating from individual countries from the tag recapture data. However, the latter continue to indicate that the major part of the West Greenland salmon stock is derived from rivers in Canada, Great Britain and Ireland.

(b) Recaptures of Fish Tagged at West Greenland and in the Labrador Sea

15. In 1970 and 1971, British, Canadian and Danish scientists conducted further tagging experiments at West Greenland. Seven local recaptures were made from
1 to about 30 days after release. Of the fish tagged in 1970, four recaptures were made in home waters (Canada 2, Ireland 1 and Scotland 1). During the 1971
experiment a hatchery-reared fish tagged in the USA in May 1970 was recaptured in Diskofjord and released after re-tagging.

16. Additional tagging was conducted in 1970 and 1971 by Canadian scientists in

the Labrador Sea and a total of 86 fish was tagged in the area. Eleven recaptures have been reported; 6 in the northeast of Newfoundland and 5 in Chaleur Bay on the borders of the Canadian provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick. 17. Table 5 gives details of the recaptures of fish tagged at West Greenland and

in the Labrador Sea from 1965 to 1971 inclusive. This shows that 38 recaptures have been reported in home waters, 27 of which were of salmon tagged in the West Greenland area. Of the latter, 12 were recaptured in North America

(Canada) and 15 in Europe (Great Britain, Ireland and Spain). Attention is drawn to the recapture in the River Ason in Spain, which is near the southern limit of the species on the eastern side of the Atlantic.

(c) Other Studies

18. Investigations were continued in 1970 and 1971 on biochemical characters and parasite fauna (as biological tags) in relation to the study of the origin and mixing of salmon at West Greenland.

19. Canadian investigations of blood serum protein in association with parasite studies have provided promising results. Blood samples of 204 Atlantic salmon taken in the Labrador Sea and the West Greenland areas in the autumn of 1970 were analysed by Canadian scientists, using methods described in pravious reports. Forty-nine per cent of the fish were identified as North American in origin and fifty-one per cent as European, a result similar to the proportionate returns of salmon tagged at West Greenland and recaptured in home waters (para. 17).

Further work is in progress to check these results.20. Research on transferrin polymorphism which was carried out in England, had indicated that a certain proportion of the salmon can be distinguished as to

the continent of origin. An analysis of 984 blood samples collected in the West Greenland area in 1970 showed that 18(2%) could be specifically identified as fish from the UK, 159(16%) as fish from North America though the remaining 807(82%) could not be allocated between the two populations. Further research on these latter fish is in progress. With the co-operation of a Danish commercial fishing vessel, 1,830 blood samples were collected in the West Greenland area in 1971 and these are now being analysed. Work on various biochemical aspects of this problem is also currently being undertaken in other countries.

21. Work on parasites as biological tags was continued in 1970 and 1971. The

Canadian results indicate that the abundance of the parasite <u>Anisakis simplex</u> in North American salmon at West Greenland and in home waters is consistently lower than for European salmon, whereas the parasite Eubothrium crassum is more

prevalent in West Greenland and in North American than in European salmon. 22. Other methods for the separation of stocks are being investigated. Of

these, the use of scale characteristics, which has proved so successful in the case of Pacific salmon, appears to be promising. Work in this field is in progress in a number of countries but the results are not yet sufficiently advanced for the full value of this method to be assessed.

3. Assessments of the Effects of the West Greenland Salmon Fishery

23. Previous assessments by the Working Party of the effects of the West

Greenland fishery on home-waters stocks and catches of two- or more sea-winter salmon have been based on estimates of the changes in total weight (i.e. the resultant of natural mortality and growth) which would have occurred in the salmon comprising the west Greenland catch had they not been caught there and, if surviving, had returned to home-waters in North America or Europe (ICES, C.op. Res. Rep., Nos. 8, 12, 24). The lowses to the combined North American and European home-waters stocks for a West Greenland catch of around 2,000 metric tons, as in 1969 and 1970, was estimated in this way to lie in the range 1,100 -2,700 metric tons, and to the home-waters catches of between 650 - 1,600 metric tons (using upper and lower values of instantaneous natural mortality rate of 0.02 and 0.1 per month respectively). The same general levels of estimated losses were obtained from the simulation of home water catches of two- or more sea-winter salmon in Canada and the UK returning from West Greenland. assuming they had all been present in the fished area there (for details see ICNAF Comm. Doc. 71/14 and ICNAF Res. Doc. 71/72). It is evident from the West Greenland catch data in Table 1 that the losses to the home-waters stocks and catches resulting from the West Greenland fishery in 1971, estimated by the same method as in previous years, was probably somewhat greater than the above estimates for 1969 and 1970.

24. In the absence of accurate measures of the relative contributions of salmon from different countries to the West Greenland stock it is not possible to

estimate reliably the losses on an individual country basis. However, the information available from tag recaptures (paras. 14 and 17) and biochemical studies (para. 19) suggests that, in recent years, the stock at West Greenland was composed of salmon from North America (almost entirely Canada) and Europe (mainly Great Britain and Ireland) in roughly equal proportions, suggesting tentatively that the home-waters losses are also roughly equally divided between them.

25. The results of detailed studies of the recaptures at West Greenland of salmon tagged as smolts in Canadian rivers show that individual rivers make markedly different contributions to the exploited stock at West Greenland. They indicate that only a small proportion of the natural smolt production in rivers running into the Bay of Fundy contributes to the West Greenland stock but, for other Canadian rivers where smolts have been tagged, especially in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the contribution has been substantial. This means that Canadian home-water losses also differ markedly between river stocks. On the basis of available tag recapture data and taking into account the differences in stock size, these losses may be greatest for the stocks in the rivers running into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, of which the Miramichi is the largest.

26. The above assessments of home-waters losses refer to the direct, immediate effects on the population of salmon which, if not caught and if surviving, will return to home waters in subsequent years. They take no account of the possible effect of a reduction in spawning stock size, resulting from the exploitation at West Greenland, on future smolt production in home waters.
27. Data from the Miramichi River stock in Canada show that there has been a

steady decline in the abundance of two- or more sea-winter salmon entering the river since 1960 and of grilse since 1965, resulting in a marked reduction in the egg production potential of the spawning stock to a level in 1969-71 at which smolt production is probably severely reduced. Although this decline began amongst year-classes produced before the West Greenland fishery reached a high level and was therefore mainly due to other causes it is possible that the West Greenland fishery has contributed to the decline in the most recent years.

C. NORWEGIAN SEA FISHERY

28. At its annual meeting in 1970, NEAFC adopted a resolution setting out a number of regulatory measures for the salmon fishery in its Convention area during 1971. This resolution is set out in Appendix 2. These measures, which came into force on 1st January 1971, included a closed season (1st July to 5th May), closed areas ((i) east of Longitude 22°E and, (ii) between Latitudes 63° and 68°N east of the Greenwich meridian), a minimum size for salmon caught (60 cm.) and a minimum hook size (gape not less than 19mm.). These measures have affected the catches in 1971 to such an extent that, in several respects, they are no longer comparable with the catches of previous years.

1. Statistics and Composition of the Fishery

that in 1970.

29. Data on the catches taken and the number of vessels operating in the Norwegian Sea fishery in the years 1965-1970 and provisional statistics for 1971 are given in Table 6. These show that the rapid growth of the long-line fishery since 1965 was halted in 1971 as a consequence of the new regulations. In fact, the fishing effort was lower and the catch only amounted to about half

30. Information on the catch-per-unit-effort in the long-line fishery in

1968-1971 is given in Table 7. Judged from information on the fishery in 1969 and 1970 abundance and/or availability of salmon in the exploited area seems to rise gradually from February until April and decline during the remaining part of the season. The Danish catch-per-unit-effort data for May-June was approximately the same in 1969, 1970 and 1971. It should, however, be noticed that observations in 1970 and 1971 show a marked decline of abundance and/or availability of salmon during June. As the fishery in 1971 was extended over a longer period in June, the catch-per-unit-effort data for this month are not strictly comparable with those for previous years.

31. Owing to the establishment of closed areas in 1971, the long-line fishery was restricted to north of Latitude 68°N and west of Longitude 22°E from the

Norwegian fishery limit to a distance of 360 nautical miles from the coast (Fig. 2). The main fishing was concentrated within 100 miles from the coast. No commercial salmon fishing was conducted in the vicinity of the Farce Islands in 1971.

32. In previous reports, it has been pointed out that about 90% of the exploited stock in the Norwegian long-line fishery in the period February to mid-May had already spent two or more winters in the sea but that, after mid-May one-seawinter fish formed an increasing proportion of the catch. As the fishing season in 1971 was restricted to May-June it was to be expected that, in comparison with previous years, one-sea-winter fish would form a greater proportion of the total catch. This was supported by Danish catch data which showed that about 15-20% of the catch (15% of the landings) consisted of this sea age group, compared with 10% in 1970. Prohibition of fishing in the closed areas, where the catches of former years were especially dominated by older salmon, probably also contributed to this increase. It would, however, probably have been greater but for the minimum fish and hook size regulations. The former resulted in some discarding of fish below 60 cm. in length.

33. As in previous years, the condition factors of the two-sea-winter salmon

caught in the long-line fishery varied widely but were, on average, low compared with salmon of the same sea age caught at various localities in Norwegian coastal waters. However, the difference between the condition factors of the salmon in the two fisheries in 1971 (10-15%) was less than in previous years (20-30%).

2. Origin and Destination of Salmon in the Norwegian Sea

34. Information on recaptures in the Norwegian Sea fishery of salmon tagged as smolts in home waters is given in Tables 2 and 3 and, for tagging experiments in the Norwegian Sea, in Table 8. Data for 1971 indicate that, as in previous years, the great majority of salmon fished in the Norwegian Sea originated from and returned to Norwegian rivers, though some recaptures were recorded from rivers in the USSR.

35. During the spring in 1969, 1970 and 1971, Faroese and Scottish scientists

undertook tagging experiments off the Faroes. A total of 666 salmon was tagged and 29 recaptures, shown in Table 9, have been reported, 15 in Scotland, 5 in Norway, 5 in Ireland, 2 at West Greenland and 1 each in England and the USSR. Most of the recaptures were made in the year of tagging. Of those recovered in home waters, 19 were grilse and 7 were two-sea-winter salmon (the sea age of the recapture in the USSR is not known). The two West Greenland recaptures are of particular interest as they suggest that the Faroes may be on one of the routes taken by European salmon on their way to Greenland.

3. Assessment of the Effects of the Norwegian Sea Fishery

36. In 1970, data on the age composition of long-line samples showed that, as in previous years, about 90% of the exploited stock in the Norwegian Sea consisted of fish which had spent two or more years in the sea and that therefore the effects of this fishery on home-waters stocks and catches would be confined mostly to two- or more sea-winter salmon. Comparable data for 1971 showed that with the implementation of the seasonal and area closures, the proportion of these salmon in the long-line catch decreased somewhat, averaging approximately 80%.

37. The assessment of the effects of the Norwegian Sea fishery on total salmon

<u>yield</u> (Norwegian Sea plus home waters) was approached, as in previous years, using data on the increase in weight of the fish from the period of peak fishing in the Norwegian Sea to the period of peak fishing in Norwegian coastal waters and on the proportion of fish present in the fished area which, if not caught there, would subsequently be caught in the home-waters fisheries. Although accurate measures of this proportion are not available it is possible to estimate a limiting value for it, above which the presence of the long-line fishery would lead to a decrease in the total catch from the population of two-sea-winter salmon. For 1970, it was estimated to lie in the range 77-83% and for 1971, when the peak of the fishery in the open sea occurred later than in 1970 (due to the closure at the beginning of the season), it was approximately 90%. The

available data suggest that the average exploitation rate of two-sea-winter salmon in the river systems to which these salmon, if surviving, would return, was below these levels (estimates from a simulation model indicated that it lay between 50-80%) and that therefore the Norwegian Sea fishery in both 1970 and 1971 resulted in a larger catch of two-sea-winter salmon than would have been taken in its absence. It should, however, be pointed out that the overall average 'quality' of the catch taken in the offshore fishery in both years was lower than that taken in home waters.

38. In the last published report of the Working Party (ICES Coop. Res. Rep.,

No. 24, 1971), a provisional assessment was made of the losses to the twosea-winter salmon stock in home waters resulting from the long-line fishing in the Norwegian Sea. On the basis that the loss due to natural mortality between the time the salmon are exploited in the open sea and their return to home waters is about the same as the increase due to growth, it was estimated that the losses to the home-waters salmon stocks to which two-sea-winter salmon in the Norwegian Sea return would be roughly the same as (but not greater than) the Norwegian Sea catch. It follows, therefore, that in 1969 and 1970, the estimated loss to the home-waters <u>stocks</u> was around 800-1,000 metric tons. The corresponding estimates of losses to the home-water <u>catches</u> in these years were probably within the range 400-500 metric tons.

39. Since, as shown in Table 6, following the implementation of the closed

season and area regulations in the Norwegian Sea, the long-line catch in 1971 was substantially smaller than in 1969 and 1970, the estimated losses to the home-waters stocks and catches were correspondingly smaller. The catch of two-sea-winter salmon by the long-line fishing in 1971 was about 400 metric tons so the estimated loss to the home-water stocks of these fish was approximately of this magnitude and the loss to the home-water catch was within the range 200-300 metric tons. As in previous years, most of this loss would occur in the Norwegian home-waters fishery.

40. It must be emphasised that, as for the West Greenland fishery, these

assessments losses concern only the immediate direct effects of the long-line fishery; they take no account of any possible longer term effects from possible decreases in smolt production and salmon recruitment, resulting from a fishinginduced reduction in spawning stock. At present, too little is known of the relation between spawning stock size, smolt production and recruitment of grilse and salmon to the Norwegian stock for these effects to be estimated.

D. HOME-WATERS CATCHES

41. Catch statistics for the home-water fisheries are given in Table 10 and catch-per-unit-effort data are given (in greater detail than in previous years) in Table 11. Information on changes in catches in individual countries is summarised below.

The overall picture presented by the salmon and grilse 42. England and Wales catches for 1971 is that of a reduction from the 1970 level; due mainly to reduced net catches, the rod catches having remained steady at the low level experienced over the past four seasons compared to the previous six seasons. The total catch for 1971 by all methods was, however, still above the average for the period 1960-70. The major component in the overall catches has again been the catch made by the commercial net fishery in the northeast coastal area. Apart from this, the remainder of the net catch for England and Wales has remained steady over the period 1960 to 1971. Severe reductions in the rod catches of the early-running two-sea-winter fish have continued in many rivers, but not in all. A factor in this decline may be the incidence of salmon disease (UDN). The counts of early-running two-sea-winter salmon in the River Coquet (Northumberland) have shown an overall decline since 1968 (but a slight increase in 1971) and have formed a decreasing proportion of the total years' runs of salmon and grilse in that river. The data from the River Axe (Devon), where a count is also made, show a decline in two-sea-winter fish over the last three years.

43. France Though the catch cannot be given precisely, there are indications that the total catch of salmon and grilse has decreased in recent years, mainly due to a decrease in the salmon, particularly in the River Adour.

44. <u>Iceland</u> The catch of salmon and grilse combined in 1971 (205 metric tons) was the highest yet recorded. Since 1960, annual catches have generally

shown an upward trend, coinciding with a great increase in smolt rearing during that period.

45. <u>Ireland</u> The total catch (salmon plus grilse) in 1971 was similar to that of previous years. However, there was a sharp decline in the salmon catch compared with 1970, which was the first year in which a breakdown was available into salmon and grilse. Some long-term statistics are available for a number of the major river systems and from these it is evident that the decline in early-run fish, which was first noted in 1967, was much more marked in 1970 and 1971. There was a slight decrease in the grilse catch in 1971 but it was still well above the average for the decade in the major salmon rivers where a breakdown in statistics is available.

46. Northern Ireland The commercial catch of salmon plus grilse in 1971

(including 50% of the Foyle total) was 191 metric tons. This is a decrease of 36% from the previous year's catch and represents 58% of the average for the period 1967-70.

47. Norway Provisional figures for the salmon plus grilse catch in 1971 (1,185 metric tons) indicate that this was similar to the 1970 catch but that the catches in both years were below those of all previous years since the early nineteen fifties. On a weight basis, the 1971 catch consisted of about 36% grilse and 64% salmon. Compared with 1970, the proportion of grilse had increased slightly.

48. <u>Scotland</u> Provisional figures for the total Scottish catch (salmon plus grilse) for 1971 indicate that this was less than in 1970. The salmon catch was substantially lower than in any year since 1952 and only about 65% of the

1952-70 average. The grilse catch was similar to that in 1970 and, as in recent years it was well above the long-term (1952-70) average.

19. Canada The total home-water (salmon plus grilse) catch decreased by

260 metric tons in 1971 fr m the 1970 level. The Labrador portion of the catch increased by 180 metric tons, but there was a decrease of 440 metric tons in the other areas represented within the Canadian total catch. Landings from certain regions have shown major decreases, namely Quebec (57% of 1970 catch) and the Maritimes (48% of the 1970 catch). It will be noted that, since 1970, it has been possible to obtain more precise data on catch-per-unit-effort for the major Atlantic salmon fisheries in the Maritime provinces of Canada (Table 11). The Working Party noted the serious decline in the Maritime and Quebec commercial and angling catches for 1971. The reduced runs of large salmon in the Miramichi and the resulting loss in potential egg deposition has prompted the Canadian government to impose severe restrictions on the commercial and sport fishery for this river in 1972. Spawning escapement has been below that believed necessary for adequate seeding of the rivers since 1969 and the autumn portion of the Miramichi run, including both salmon and grilse, has virtually disappeared. 50. The total catch (salmon plus grilse) in 1971, was lower than in 1970 in all

the main salmon producing countries except Norway, where it was about the same and Iceland where it was slightly higher.

51. Separate statistics for salmon and grilse catches have generally only been available for recent years but the <u>salmon catches</u> for some European countries, for the years 1969-71, shum below, show a substantial decline in these years.

Country		<u>a Catch</u> (metr	ic tons)
	1969	1970	1971
England and Wales	264	31 3	298
Ireland	260	268	175
Norway	801	816	747
Scotland	987	802	664
	2312	21 99	1884

Further, in some countries (e.g. Ireland, Scotland) the decrease in the salmon catch has been most marked in the early spring runs. The Canadian <u>salmon</u> catch was also lower in 1970 than in 1969 (Table 10), but data for 1971 are not yet available.

52. It should be noted that the grilse catches for the European countries

listed above also decreased overall, in the years 1969-71, as shown below.

Country	Grilse Catch (metric tons)				
	1969	1.970	<u>1971</u>		
England and Wales	113	214	127		
Ireland	1470	1519	1460		
Norway	582	355	438		
Scotland	954	622	64.6		
	3119	2710	2671		

Between 1969 and 1970, however, the Canadian grilse catch increased substantially.

E. FUTURE RESEARCH

1. International Tagging Experiment at West Greenland

53. The Working Party considered the Second Report of the Planning Group for the International Tagging Experiment at West Greenland in 1972 (Appendix 3). It approved the proposed plans and budget for the experiment, and the arrangements proposed for its administration. They also approved the draft of the Guide Book and standard forms for research vessels and observers, participating in the experiment.

54. The Working Party examined and approved a draft publicity pamphlet for the experiment and agreed that suitable allocations of copies of it should be supplied for distribution in Greenland and in those European and North American countries with an interest in the West Greenland fishery. It was also agreed that individual countries could purchase additional copies of the pamphlet, provided that they informed the ICES Secretariat about their requirements before the printing order was despatched. The Working Party also stressed the importance of additional publicity within countries through especially the press,

radio and television.

55. The Working Party endorsed arrangements drawn up by the Planning Group,

for handling and preliminary analysis of data from the Tagging Experiment. These were set out in the First Report of the Planning Group which formed an appendix to the report of the Joint Working Party in 1971, and may be summarised as follows:- Canada will be responsible for handling the research vessel catch and effort data, Denmark the tag return and the commercial fishery data and the United Kingdom the examination of all scale collections. It was also agreed that the ICES Hydrographer should be consulted about the analysis of hydrographic data collected during the tagging experiment.

56. It was agreed that if possible a film record of the experiment should be prepared and countries participating in the experiment were asked to examine this possibility.

2. Other Research

57. The Working Party drew attention to the importance of continuing studies on salmen stocks in home waters, in particular, to investigations of the exploitation rate in home waters, of the relationship between grilse and salmon and of the relationship between stock and recruitment and to the analysis of tag mecaptures on a river system basis.

F. FUTURE MEETING

58. The Working Party <u>recommended</u> that they should next meet in Copenhagen, for five days, during the week beginning 26 March 1973.

Table 1.

Catches at West Greenland, 1960-71, in metric tons and round fresh weight. (Based on data available at 31 March 1972).

Voam		Drif	t Net		Gill Net and Drift Net	m-+-1
Year	Norway	Faroes	Sweden	Denmark	Greenland d	Total
1960	0	0	0	0	60	60
1961	0	0	0	0	127	127
1962	0	0	0	0	214	244
1963	0	0	0	0	466	466
1864	0 _a	0	0	0	1539	1539
1965	EL.	36	0	0	825	861
1966	32	87	0	0	1251	1370
1967	78	15 5	0	85	1283	1601
1968	138	134	4	272	579	1127
1969	250	215	30	355	1360(385)	221Ò
1970	270	259	8	358	1244	2146°
1971 ^D	340	255	0	645	1375	2615

a - Figures not available, but catch is known to be less than Farces

b - Provisional

c - Including 7 metric tons caught on long-line by one of two Greenland vessels in the northern Labrador Sea early in 1970.

d - Up to 1968, gill net only, after 1968 gill net and drift net. The figures in brackets for the 1969 catch are an estimate of the minimum drift net catch. <u>Table 2.</u> Number of natural (wild) smolts tagged in the years 1963-1971 and recaptured in West Greenland and in other areas, including home-waters, up to March 1972. Figures in brackets are returns per thousand tagged.

<u>Country</u>		Number Tagged	<u>West</u> Greenland	<u>Norwegian</u> Sea and Farces	Recenture: <u>A</u> Grilse	<u>s</u> 11 Other Areas Salmon	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand</u> Total
Canada	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970	5,850 15,013 16,485 9,509 17,809 55,784 42,879 37,054 45,558	11 (1.9) 9 (0.6) 73 (4.4) 25 (2.6) 17 (1.0) 127 (2.3) 84 (2.0) 106 (2.9)	0000000	70 204 175 120 121 1,212 377 281	20 (3.4) 72 (4.8) 193 (11.7) 104 (10.9) 166 (9.3) 425 (7.6) 174 (4.1)	90 276 368 224 287 1,637 551 281	101 285 441 249 304 1,764 635 387
Scotland	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	10,998 9,200 9,239 15,406 21,002 15,695 15,958 32,071 20,706	10 (0.9) 6 (0.7) 10 (1.1) 30 (1.9) 23 (1.1) 15 (1.0) 53 (3.3) 109 (3.4)	00001000	172 110 74 281 169 127 219 564	92 (8.4) 66 (7.2) 49 (5.3) 39 (2.5) 72 (3.4) 32 (2.0) 57 (3.6)	264 176 123 320 241 159 276 564	274 182 133 350 265 174 329 673
England and Wales	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	9,485 17,129 5,873 3,219 4,118 5,790 8.611 7,320 5,619	8 (0.8) 10 (0.6) 12 (2.0) 5 (1.6) 10 (2.4) 20 (3.5) 47 (5.4) 16 (2.2)	000000	15 30 35 28 23 43 27 29	38 (4.0) 97 (5.7) 57 (9.7) 37 (11.5) 56 (13.6) 48 (8.3) 38 (4.4)	53 127 92 65 79 91 65 29	61 137 104 70 89 111 112 45
Norway	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	97 1,485 2,178 1,362 3,601 3,562 4,273 7,603 5,573	0 0 3 (0.7)	0 0 0 2 4 3 3 2 1	0 40 27 59 105 83 217	4 (41.2) 26 (17.5) 18 (8.3) 16 (11.7) 29 (8.0) 17 (4.8) 26 (6.1)	4 93 58 43 88 124 109 217	4 93 58 45 96* 131* 120* 222
Iceland	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970	63 63 83 154 59 15 16		0001111	200121	0 1 2 1 1 -	2 1 0 2 3 2 1	2 1 0 2 3 2 -
Ireland	1968 1969 1970	606 0 1,522	0 0 4	0	21 0 1	0	21 0 1	21 0 5
Sweden	1969	885	0	0	-	85	85	85
USSR	1969	500	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	1969 1970 1971	2,089 3,854 3,321	15 (7.1) 17 (4.4) -	-	00	4 (1.9) 3 (0.7)	4 - -	19 20

* Including some fish from unknown locality

<u>Table 3</u> Number of hatchery-reared smolts tagged in the years 1963-1971 and recaptured in West Creenland and in other areas, including home-waters, up to March 1972. Figures in brackets are returns per thousand tagged.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Year of</u> Tagging	Tarred	<u>West</u> Greenland	<u>Norwegian</u> Sea and Faroes	Recanture <u>A</u> Grilse	<u>s</u> 11 Other Areas Salmon	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand</u> Total
Canada	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	17,332 46,659 45,988 70,875 112,288 113,360 137,832 184,962 205,809	247 (1.8)		133 101 379 238 275 296 365 288	32 (4.4) 85 (1.8) 224 (4.9) 299 (4.2) 226 (2.0) 267 (2.4) 217 (1.6)	165 186 603 537 501 563 582 288	169 195 670 607 567 730 829 410
Scotland	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	6,750 3,000 8,000 4,451 5,335 3,694 7,836 5,247	0 0 1 (0.1) 0 6 (0.8)		3 7 19 13 1 4 1 33	3 (0.4) 7 (2.3) 5 (0.6) 1 (0.2) -	6 14 19 18 1 5 1 33	6 14 19 19 1 5 1 39
England and Wales	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	1,970 0 9,668 18,522 28,266 7,420 4,493 11,521	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 (0.5) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 (0.1) \\ 1 (0.1) \\ 2 (0.4) \end{array} $		0000440	0 0 1 (0.1) 1 (0.1) 5 (0.2)	0 0 1 1 9 4 -	1 0 1 1 3 5 2
Norway	1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	10,999 9,182 8,071 13,812 18,393 12,983 16,967 18,673 16,771	0 0 2 (0.1) 5 (0.3) 1 (0.5)	1 13 29 56 43 34 1	88 135 71 403 229 171 141 160	95 (8.6) 87 (9.5) 33 (4.1) 145 (10.5) 91 (5.0) 103 (7.9) 61 (3.6)	183 222 104 548 320 274 702 160	184 223 117 593* 404* 337* 248* 164*
Iceland	1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	8,367 10,061 9,985 7,586 10,014 11,087	1 (0.1) 0 0 0 0	1 (0.1) 0 0 0 -	66 24 45 246 1	14 (1.7) 6 (0.6) 0 10 -	80 30 45 256	82 30 45 256 1
Ireland	1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	15,000 5,000 222 7,194 3,787 2,381	0 1 (0.2) 2 (0.3) 0 -	0 0 0 1	0 1 21 11	0 0 1 0	0 1 22 11	0 2 1 24 12
Sweden	1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	11,181 4,999 4,798 7,381 6,000 4,997	7 (0.6) 1 (0.2) 1 (0.2) 0 0	1 4 1 0 -	690 364 586 514 268	193 (17.2) 62 (12.4) 37 9 -	883 426 623 523 268 -	891 431 625 523 268
USA	1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971	82,250 80,717 73,730 73,418 48,190 29,905	39 (0.4) 1 7 (0.1) 64 (0.8) 329 (6.8)		69 12 9 32 57	168 (2.0) 10 (0.1) 12 (0.2) 77 (1.0)	237 22 21 109 -	276 23 28 173 386

	Table 3	(Continued)
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Country	<u>Year of</u> <u>Taraing</u>	Contraction of the owner of the owner	<u>Nest</u> Greenland	<u>Norwegian</u> <u>Sea and</u> Farces	<u>Recapture</u> <u>A</u> <u>Grilse</u>	s 11 Other Areas Salmon	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand</u> Total
Denmark	1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970	1,880 4,270 2,696 5,173 3,837 1,376	0 0 1 (0.2) 0 0	0 3 1 1 0 0	1 19 13 36 5 0	2 (1.1) 47 (11.0) 10 (3.7) 0 -	3 66 23 36 5 0	3 69 24 38 5 0
USSR	1969	600	-	-	-	-	-	-

* Including some fish from unknown localities.

Table 4 Number of kelts tagred in the winters 1962/63 - 1971/72 and recallured in Greenland and in other areas, including home-waters, up to the end of 1970.

Country	<u>Winter of</u> <u>Tagging</u>	Number Tagged	Greenland	<u>Recaptures</u> Other Areas	<u>Total</u>
Canada ^a	1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1968-70 1969-70 1970-71 1971-72	653 1,518 1,995 7,169 7,510 3,710 3,707 4,539 5,412 5,012	2 0 1 0 1 2 4 10 16	65 91 141 653 688 395 163 208 333	67 91 142 653 689 397 167 218 349
England and Wales (River Axe only)	1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71	159 185 184 109b 178b 188 81 113 7	1 2 1 1 2 0 0 0 0	12 10 11 7 11 6 3 12 0	13 12 12 8 12 8 3 12 0
Faroes Iceland	1970-71 1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71	24 114 167 154 357 745 441 369 314 785		0 14 9 5 15 75 17 19 21 105	0 14 9 15 75 17 19 21 105
Ireland	1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71	2,264 2,351 2,695 2,972 3,175 1,034 498 1,088 477	2 2 1 0 0 0 0	31 70 34 40 77 24 10 28 36	33 72 36 41 77 24 10 28 36
Scotland	1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1969-70	413 134 233 1,376 901 117 152 153	1 0 4 3 0 0 0	2 2 6 19 18 3 ^c 1 ^d 1	3 2 23 21 3 1
USA	1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-69 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71 1971-72	151 123 160 146 578 340 218 315 400 240	1 1 2 5 5 1 0 1	13 10 23 16 75 56 16 8 8	14 11 23 18 80 61 17 8 9
USSR	1968 69 1969 70	566 1,147	0 0	10 0	10 0

a Ascending adults tagged during any year are included in the totals tagged for the corresponding winter (i.e. those tagged in 1962 are included under 1962-63, those tagged in 1963 under 1963-64 etc.), but recaptures of these adults in the year of tagging have not been included.

- b In addition, 180 kelts were tagged by the Dee and Clyde River Authority in 1965-66 and 291 kelts in 1966-67. No recaptures were reported from the first experiment and two (from 'Other Areas') from the second.
- c Includes 1 recapture at Farces
- d Recaptured at Faroes

<u>Year</u> Tagged	Number Tagged		Recaptures Days Absence	Number	Distant Recaptures Location
1965	223	3	1, 3, 26	1	Canada (SW Newfoundland)
1966	729	28	1-8 (24) 10-50 (4)	4	Canada (Miramichi - 1) Scotland (River Tweed - 2) (River Spey - 1)
196 7	375	6	1-2 (3) not known (3)	4	Canada (Labrador - 1) Ireland (River Slaney - 1) (River Barrow - 1) Scotland (River Tay - 1)
1968	47	4	1-3 (3) 1 month (1)	1	Canada (Labrador)
1969	444	14 30	4-35 days 340-398 days	13	Canada (Labrador - 1) (NE Newfoundland - 4 ^a) (Miramichi - 1) England (Taw & Torridge Estuary-1) (River Wye - 1) Ireland (Waterville - 1) (River Slaney - 1) Scotland (near Montrose - 1) Spain (River Ason -1) Wales (River Teify - 1)
1970	27°	0	••	3	Canada (Chaleur Bay - 1) (River St. Jean - 1) (Escuminac - 1)
	224	3	4-22 days	4	Canada (Labrador - 1) (Nova Scotia - 1) Ireland (Dunmore-East - 1) Scotland (Solway Firth - 1)
197 1	59 [°]	0	-	8	Canada (NE Newfoundland - 6) (Chaleur Bay - 2)
	226	4	1-ca30		-

a One recaptured in year of tagging

b Recaptured at Greenland in 1970

c Labrador Sea in spring

j.

Drift-net Fishery within Norwerian Fishery Limits			283 333 228 234 234 234 234 34	
	tal	of Catch	- a 408d 918d \$58d, f	
	To	Number of Vessels	2454255 2454555555555555555555555555555	
	iden	of Catch	126 126 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24	
	Swe	Number of Ca Vessels	0,0004	
۲.	Norway	Catch	900 4500 300 4750 4750 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 4 700 700	
Long-Line Fisher		Number of Vessels ^e	0. z z z z z	
Sorvegian Sea Lo	Gormany	Catch	0000415 9	
Norwegi		Number of Vessels	0000540	
	cs	Catch	٥٥٥مرمجية٥	
	Faroes	Nurber of Vessels	00004100	a Not known
	ark	Cetch	a'a' FF444	w
	Dennark	Number of Vessels	2 0 0 0 0 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	
Year			1965 1967 1968 1968 1970 1970	

}

- b Roughly 70% of catch taken in vicinity of Faroes.
- c All taken in vicinity of Faroes.
- d Estimated catch
- e Precise number unknown, but large numbers of small and medium-sized vessels participated.
- f Excluding catches discarded because undersized.
- Catches in the Norwegian Sea long-line fishery and in the drift-net fishery within Norwegian fishery limits, 1965-71. Metric tons, round fresh weight. Table 6.

<u>Table 7</u> Estimates of catch-per-unit-effort in the Norwegian Sea Long-line Fishery 1968-71.

Year	Country		No. of salmon					
		February	March	April	May	June	Total season	sampled
1968	Denmark			92	100			5,539
1969	Denmark Germany Faroe		43	57 50 79 ^a	44 46	29 23	39 42	2 5,891 5,459
1970	Denmark Germany Faroe	42	50	67 66 40 ^a	35 35	27 16	4 9 46	72,000 6,313 366
1971	Denmark		72 [°]		42 ^b	25 ^b		31,105
	Germany Faroe		82ª	39 ^a			60 ^a	499

a - Research catch, 20-80 nautical miles NE of Faroe Islands.

b - Including catches discarded because undersized.

c - Research catch.

Table 8Recaptures of salmon tagged in the long-line fishery in the
Norwegian Sea (to March 1972).

Year Tagged	<u>Number</u> Tagged	<u>Year</u> Recaptured	Norwegian Sea	Recapture Home Norway		Total
1968	238	1968 1969	0 0	5 0	0 .1	5 1
		Total	0	5	1	6
1969	932	1969 1970 1971	5 2 0	49 13 2	6 2 0	60 17 2
		Total	7	64	8	79
1970	1,118	1970 1971	10 2	117 10	8 3	135 15
		Total	12	127	11	150
1971	1,937	1971	5	138	18	161

Table 9 Recaptures of fish tagged in Farce waters.

Year	Number						
Tagged	Tagged	Norway	England	Scotland	Ireland	Russia	Greenland
1969	74	43	900	2	-	-	
1970	233	2	1	5	3	1	1
1971	359	3	610	8	2		1

4.2	USA		< 2 <	< 2 <	< 2 <	<2 ◆2	<2 <	~ 2	01 ∧	₹2	25 2	27 V	∾ ¥	< <	Inc.
ound fresh weigh	Canada	ନା ତା ତା	1635	1580	- 1717 -	1848	2066	2113	2356	2859	2104	411	1468 629 2097	1	Not Inc. ^d
tons, r	USSR		1100	790	710	480	590	590	570	883	827	360	64	ç.,	Inc.
n metric	Sweden		40	27	15	16	16	11	17	23	14	5	~	56	Not Inc.
shown separately) in metric tons, round fresh weight	Scotland	ମ ମ ମ	960 476 1436	376	725	412	698		555	888	543	954	622	646	Inc.
except where shown	Norvay	E J J	$ 1659_{r}^{I}$	1533	1935 ¹	$ 1786_{5}$	$ 2147^{1}$	2000 ¹	1791	1960	1514	582	355	747 438 1185	Inc.
lse	Northern ^b Ireland		139	132	356	306	377	281	287	449	312	267	297	191	Inc.
mon plus	۵.	E-1	743	LoL	1459	1458	1617	1457	1238	1463	1413	£ 1730	17871	1635	
Catches in home waters, 1960-71 (salmon plus gri	<u>Ireland</u>	ل ال	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$(260)^{\mathbb{S}}(1470)$	268 1519	175 1460	Inc.
waters,	Iceland		100	127	125	145	135	133	106	146				204	Inc.
s in home	France		50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	50-100	Inc.
	<u>England</u> and <i>Wales</i>	S S	283	232	318	325	307	320	387	420	282	133	313 214 527	127	Included
Table 10	Year		1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968			1971 ^a 2	Angling Catch

)

T - Total (Salmon plus Grilse) S - Balmon; G - Grilse;

a - Provisional
b - Catch in River Poyle allocated on basis of 50% Ireland and 50% Northern Ireland
c - West Coast catch only, from Bulletin Statistique.
d - Angling catches (mainly grilse) about 10% additional (by weight)

e - Nainly salmon

f - Including sea trout and sea char catches; less than 5% of total. g - Estimated on basis of 1970 catches.

end end Grilge	77.4 61.4 61.4 62.3 62.3 792.6 104.0 104.0 137.5 7 137.5
end (Met and Coble) ¹ (numbers) Salwon (fri	88 88 99 99 99 98 98 99 99 99 99 99 99 9
Fired Etred Tines) mbers) m Grilse Sa	29.65 29.66 29.66 29.66 29.66 29.66 20.66
(Fired Engines) (numbers Salmon Gr	2122 24122 25122 2522 2522 2522 2522 252
ngland and Wales Drift Nets N.E. Areas (numbers) almon Grilse	79.8 75.5 78.9 75.5 78.9 75.5 76.5 76.5 76.5 76.5 76.5 76.5 76.5
England and Drift Ne N.E. Are (numbers Salmon	84.85 86.95 86.95 86.95 86.65 86.55
<u>Norway</u> (<u>Bag Nets</u>) (<u>Kg</u>)	172 158 177 154 177 137 129 123
Foyle Area Estuary Drift Nets) (numbers)	104 332 375 375 375 375 375 375 375 375 375 375
and (Licences) ^c (<u>1bs</u>)	950 2210 1720 1720 1650 1650 1683 1683
<u>(Open Sea</u> b (I Drift Nets) b (I (numbers)	222 224 225 225 225 225 225 225 225 225
Drift Nets ^h	65 • 9 50•2
<u>Canada</u> ts <u>Trap</u>) ^a <u>Nets</u> n	13. 4.8 4.
(Drift Nets and Traps) ^a 1bs	266 266 266 266 266 266 266 27 266 266 2
Year	1961 1961 1965 1965 1966 1968 1970

Estimates of catches per unit effort for some home-water fisheries.

Table 11

)

- Miramichi area, salmon only. Average of mean monthly catch/unit effort for both types of fear throughout open seasons for wach type. Units of effort taken as 1 trap net or 200 fathoms of drift net, as defined in FRB Tech. Rept. No. 29. ą

- b Salmon and grilse per drift net
- c Pounds salmon and grilse per licence
- d Salmon and grilse per bag net
- e Catch per net per month
- f Catch per crew per month
- g Catch per net licence issued
- h Miramichi area, salmon only, pounds/unit day

H. APPENDICES

1. <u>Resolution adopted at the ICNAF Meeting in 1970 concerning</u> <u>Regulation of Salmon Fishing</u>

<u>Recognizing</u> that the proposal adopted at the 1969 Annual Meeting for the prohibition of the fishery for salmon outside national fishery limits, not having been accepted by all Contracting Governments, has not been fully effective;

<u>Considering</u> that interim measures are desirable in order to avoid the escalation of fishing for salmon throughout the Convention Area pending a more accurate assessment of its effects on coastal and river fisheries and on the stocks; and

Noting that Contracting Governments which have not participated in the fishery have no present intention of so doing;

The Commission also proposes that:

1. That each Contracting Government which has participated in the fishery for Atlantic salmon, <u>Salmo salar</u> L., take appropriate action to limit the aggregate tonnage of vessels employed or catch taken by its nationals in the fishery in the Convention Area to a level not exceeding the aggregate tonnage of vessels so employed or catch so taken in 1969;

2. That Contracting Governments which have not accepted the prohibition on fishing for Atlantic salmon outside national fishery limits take appropriate action to prohibit fishing for Atlantic salmon outside national fishery limits in the Convention Area before 31 July and after 30 November.

3. That the use for salmon fishing of any trawl net, any monofilament net or any troll be prohibited throughout the Convention Area provided that Contracting Governments may authorize the continued use of monofilament nets acquired before 1 July 1970.

4. That these measures be in force for the year 1971 subject to review within that period, in the event of substantial changes in the catches of Atlantic salmon in the Convention Area or in home waters or in the fish stocks.

2. <u>Resolution adopted at the NEAFC Meeting in 1970 concerning</u> <u>Regulation of Salmon Fishing</u>

"Fishing for salmon shall be regulated by the following measures as provided for in Article 7(1) of the Convention.

1. <u>Closed Season Art. 7(1)(c</u>)

In regions 1 and 2 of the Convention Area, outside national fishery limits, fishing for salmon shall be prohibited from July 1st to May 5th, both dates inclusive.

Where salmon occurs within the national fishery limits of Contracting States, those States shall prescribe annual closed seasons during which fishing for salmon shall be prohibited.

2. Minimum size for salmon Art. 7(1)(b)

No salmon of a size less than 60 cm, measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail fin shall be retained on board, but shall be returned immediately to the sea.

3. Mesh of Nets Art. 7(1)(a)

Drift nets, anchored nets and seines used for fishing of salmon shall have a minimum mesh size of 160 mm. The mesh size is to be measured in accordance with the mesh regulations already in force under Recommendation (1).

- 4. Other Measures for the Regulation of Fishing Gear Art. 7(1)(e)
 In the fishery for salmon
 - a) any hooks used shall have a gape of not less than 1.9 cm;
 - b) the leader attaching the hook to the line shall have a minimum strength comparable to 0.6 monofil nylon;

c) the contrast of any trawl net, any monofilament net, or any troll shall be prohibited.

5. <u>Closed Areas Art. 7(1)(d)</u>

Fishing for salmon in the Convention Area, outside national fishery limits, shall be prohibited.

a) between latitudes 63° and $68^{\circ}N$ and east of longitude 0°

b) east of longitude 22°.

The regulations under 2, 3 and 4 shall apply within the whole Convention Area, but outside national fishery limits.

This regulation for salmon fisheries shall enter into force on 1st January 1971 and shall be subject to review by the Commission after two years or in any case if substantial changes occur in the catches of salmon on the high seas or in home waters, or in the fish stocks.

In addition to making this Recommendation, the Commission agreed to urge all Contracting States fishing for salmon on the high seas only to participate in the planting of smolts."

3. SECOND REPORT OF THE PLANNING GROUP FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TAGGING EXPERIMENT AT WEST GREENLAND IN 1972

This Group held their second meeting at Copenhagen from 18th to 20th January, 1972. Those present were:

O. Christensen	Donmark
Sv. Aa. Horsted	Denmark
A. W. May (Chairman)	Canada
A. L. Meister	U.S.A.
B. Milton-Hansen	Denmark
J. Møller-Christensen	ICES
J. Moller-Jensen	Denmark
W. R. Munro (Rapporteur)	Scotland
G. J. Ridgway	U.S.A.
L. Rosseland	Norway
A. Swain	England & Wales
H. Tambs-Lyche	ICES
R. Vibert	France

The Group began by reviewing, briefly, the results of the Danish/U.K. and Canadian salmon work at Greenland in 1971, with particular reference to the decisions which they had to take in relation to the plans for the 1972 tagging experiment.

They then went on to reconsider, and to expand, the plans for the 1972 experiment, which were outlined in their first report (Appendix H to C.M. 1971/M:2). They also discussed in detail the drafts of the 'Guide Book for Participants in the ICES/ICNAF Salmon Tagging Programme at Greenland, 1972' prepared by Dr. May and Mr. Horsted.

Nany of the Group's decisions have been fully incorporated in the draft of the Guide Book, which will be submitted to the Joint Working Party at their meeting in Dublin in March 1972. The comments which follow, set out under the headings adopted as the agenda for this meeting, are intended only to cover those decisions which were not relevant to the Guide Book and, where considered necessary, to explain the reasons for some of the points incorporated in it. For a full appreciation of the results of this meeting, this report should be read in conjunction with the draft of the Guide Book.

Review of the Objectives of the Experiment

The Group considered that the objectives of this experiment, as set out on Page 1 of their previous report, still held good and that these were adequately, if more briefly described in the Guide Book (Section 1). Research Vessel and Scientific Staff Participation and Scheduling

Up-dated information on the availability of research vessels for this experiment is given in the Guide Book (Section 2.1), together with an amended programme of research vessel distribution throughout the experiment, based on this latest information. Those organisations sending research vessels are asked to provide copies of their programme to other participants as soon as they are available and well in advance of their vessel's arrival in Greenland.

Apart from the scientific staff allocated by those organisations which are providing research vessels, the U.S.A. offered to provide scientific assistance up to a total of 24 man/weaks (probably as two teams of two scientists). It was also understood that, as recorded in the previous report, Ireland might be able to provide one scientist for six weeks.

It seemed unlikely that outside scientific assistance would be required on the Danish or U.K. research vessels, but help from one or two U.S. scientists would be appreciated on the 'A.T. Cameron'. The French vessel could provide accommodation for two foreign scientists but, if these places were not required, they would be filled from their own staff. It seemed probable that some accommodation would be available on the U.K. vessels, which could be utilised by scientists with specialist interests, if required. It was agreed that details of these arrangements should be finalised at the March meeting of the Joint Working Party in Dublin and that any organisation wishing to avail themselves of the U.S. offer should contact Dr. Ridgeway directly.

The Group received, through Dr. May, a request from the University of Moncton for facilities to continue their PIROP seabird scheme by placing observers on research vessels taking part in the tagging programme. This

programme is concerned with studying the biology of seabirds while they are at sea and, particularly, with the effects of drift-netting on Brunnich's guillemot. In recent years PIROP observers have been placed on Canadian and French vessels operating in this area. Observers would not necessarily be Canadian, but might be recruited from appropriate organisations in the research vessel's own country.

With the exception of the Danish vessel, on which accommodation was very limited, it was agreed, in principle, that accommodation could be made available for a PIROP observer on each research vessel and that this organisation should contact participating organisations directly regarding the placing of their observers.

Selection of Fixed Fishing Stations

At their first meeting the Group proposed that a set of fixed stations should be fished periodically throughout the experiment to provide information on the distribution of salmon throughout the fishing season. At this meeting the Group accepted the pattern of fixed stations suggested by Mr. Horsted (see Guide Book, Section 4.1.3). In their first report the Group had proposed that these stations should be fished overnight but, after considerable discussion, it was decided that these should be fished during daylight, in exactly the same way as during the rest of the experiment (Guide Book, Section 4.4). It was felt that such an errangement would provide catch data which would be directly comparable with the more extensive records which would be available from the ordinary fishing programme and would also provide the best opportunity of maintaining progress towards the tagging target.

The programme for fishing these standard stations is set out in Section 4.1.2 of the Guide Book.

It was appreciated that scientists in charge of research vessels might have to modify their programmes depending on circumstances at the time, particularly if the numbers of fish which they had been able to tag proved disappointing.

Gear and Fishing Technique

The Group considered available information on the efficiency of various mesh sizes of net, including that obtained by the 'Adolf Jensen' and 'A. T. Cameron' in 1971, using 120 mm mesh nets. They concluded that there was no particular advantage in fishing the latter and that, overall, 130 mm nets seemed to give the best results. However, after considering evidence that there were differences in the size distribution of salmon in various areas off Greenland, and through the fishing season, it was decided that two meshes should be used and that these should be 130 mm and 150 mm stretched mesh.

In view of the increasing evidence from both commercial and research vessels that monofilament nets were more effective, particularly in daylight, it was decided that only monofilament nets should be used during the experiment. It was also felt that this decision would simplify the provision of spare nets to replace any which were lost or damaged.

Details of the standard design for these nets and the composition of the fleet of nets to be used are set out in the Guide Book in Sections 4.3 and 4.4, respectively. It was noted that the 'Adolf Jensen', because of the limited space on board, would be unable to fish more than 80 nets.

Scheduling and Programme for Observers

From information provided at the meeting, it seemed likely that the requirement for placing observers on six commercial vessels could be met, as two Norwegian vessels were willing to carry observers and it seemed probable that three Farcese and two Danish vessels would also accept observers.

The situation with regard to the provision of observers was not finalised but Norway could probably provide two trained observers and Denmark two or three. In addition, three Faroese observers, who would not be members of the Faroese research staff, would be available for duty on Faroese vessels. It was hoped that further details would be available in Dublin in March.

It was agreed that the primary function of observers on commercial vessels would be to ensure the recovery of all tags and to tag suitable fish from the catch. Since it was considered that this would leave them little or no time for other duties it was decided that they should not be asked to carry out any other, more specialised tasks.

If it should prove impossible to implement the full programme of observer participation, it was suggested that the available effort should be concentrated towards the later part of the season, when it was hoped that substantial numbers of tagged fish would have been liberated.

Tags, Tagging Technique, Data from Tagged Fish

The tags to be used will be, basically, as described in the Group's first report (see also Guide Book, Section 4.5.1), but Dr. May undertook to investigate the possibility of using a heavier gauge wire for attachment.

A total of 10,000 tags would be ordered and these would be issued to appropriate organisations by the end of June (1000 each to research vessels and 5,000 divided among observers). Tagging equipment, as specified in Section 4.5.1 of the Guide Book, would be supplied to both observers and research vessels, on request to the Biological Station at St. John's, Newfoundland.

Full instructions on tagging are given in the Guide Book (Sections 4.5.2 and 4.5.3).

Other Biological Data and Specimens, Disposition of Fish

Research vessels would be prepared to collect on request, biological date and material other than that set out in Section 4.5.4.1. of the Guide Book. Individuals or organisations requiring such facilities should make their own arrangements with the relevant organisation and should provide any necessary equipment.

The Group confirmed their previous decision that no fish caught by research vessels should be sold.

Communication during Emportment

The Group reiterated their view that good communications were vital to the success of the experiment. Full details of their proposals for communication during the experiment are set out in Section 2.3 of the Guide Book. All participating organisations were asked to provide, as soon as possible, details of the radio facilities available on their vessels, for inclusion in Section 2.3.2.

It was realised that regular contact with observers might be difficult to achieve and that commercial vessels might be reluctant to reveal details of their position and catch over the radio, but it was recommended that observers should attempt to contact the 'Adolf Jensen' daily and report the general area in which they were operating; the number of fish tagged; the number of receptures recorded (1972 experiment tags and others, separately) and the probable time of their next contact. It was suggested that 1500 hours (local time) might be a suitable time for observers to report.

Recording, Reporting and Exchanging Data

Details of the standard records to be maintained by research vessels and observers are provided in Section 4.5.4.1 of the Guide Book and arrangements for subsequent handling of the data are given in the following section.

ICES undertook to produce the three standard forms required for data recording and to investigate, and report in March, on the possibility of producing appropriate scale envelopes for the experiment, as illustrated in the Guide Book.

Data Analysis

This item was not discussed in dotail but it was agreed that those arrangements set out on Page 27 of the Group's first report should be accepted. <u>Publicity</u>

The draft text of a publicity pemphlot (see Appendix), submitted by Dr. May, was considered and accepted and ICES undertock to investigate the provision of a pamphlet in four languages, for which Dr. May also submitted a

preliminary design.

It was agreed that a Norwegian text would not be needed if a Danish one was provided and that the pamphlet should, therefore carry the text in Danish, Greenlandic, French and English. A first estimate of the likely requirement for this pamphlet was 20,000 copies, but this figure should be reviewed in March.

The possibility of producing a film record of the experiment was discussed briefly and it was suggested that this topic should be raised again in March, with a view to standardizing technique on the various research vessels.

Eudget and Financing

Although no formal promises of contributions to the Special Fund for this experiment had yet been received by ICES, it was understood that the following countries had provisionally indicated their willingness to subscribe, as follows:

United Kingdom	£	8,000
Ireland		
Canada	ß	15,000
U.S.A	/3	10,000
approximately	£	21,000

Since considerable expenditure would arise prior to the beginning of the experiment, it was recommended that contributors should be asked to pay their contributions to ICES before 1st July. Because of administrative difficulties, U.S.A. would not be able to make a contribution in advance but other arrangements would be made by them with ICES.

It was agreed that it would be simplest if ICES did not open a separate bank account for the "ICES/ICNAF Salmon Tagging Experiment Fund", but that they would, of course, keep separate accounts for the Fund. Office expenses incurred by ICES would not be charged to the Fund but these might be offset by any bank interest accruing from the Fund.

It was also agreed that savings on some of the items specified in the budget could be spent on other items, with the agreement of the Chairman of the Joint Working Party and, similarly, that expenditures from the contingency item in the budget, other than those mentioned specifically, should be made only on the same authority.

The Group reconsidered the estimates of expenditure given in their first report and amended these in the light of such more recent information as was available. Details of these amended estimates are given below and are followed by comments on the changes made in some items.

		1997 - E. 1997 -	£
1)	Tags, tag preparation, tagging equipment and scale packets.		650
2)	Travel for observers including subsistence on shore at Greenland (12 round trips at £250). ^a	£3000	
	Subsistence on board commercial vessels (90 days for 6 observers at 25 D.kr/day + 6 x £50) ^b .	£1100	4100
3)	Clothing allowance for specially-recruited observers (6 x 400 D.kr). ^C		150
4)	Salaries of specially-recruited observers (5 observers for 4 months at £250/month).ª		5000
5)	Payment for fish tagged on commercial vessels (1800 fish at an average of £5/fish). ⁰		9000
6)	Equipment for observers on commercial vessels (Tanks, measuring boards etc).		400
7)	Publicity (printed pamphlet) ²		350
8)	Contingencies, including:		
	a) Expenses incurred in the attendance of an ICES representative at the Joint Working Party meeting in Dublin in March, 1972.		
	b) The shipment of materials and specimens. ⁶		1350
		£	21000

Notes

a. The cost of travel per observer was increased from £200, as given in the last report, to £250. The present estimate for this item was thought to be a realistic over-estimate since some of the Farcese observers seem likely to travel at least one way on commercial vessels.
b. The revised estimate for this item was based on a figure of 25 D.kr/day, together with a 'good will' payment of £50 to each vessel.

c. It was agreed that this provision should be applicable to specially-recruited observers only and that it should be at the rate of 400 D.kr/observer. Employing organisations should reclaim expenditure under this item from ICES.

d. The exact number of such observers could not be established at the meeting but the estimate given is based on the assumption that funds would probably be required for three Farcese and two Danish observers only, for a period of four months (including travel to and from Greenland).

The problems which could arise in relation to accident insurance, health benefits etc, if observers were employed directly by ICES, were discussed. The Group agreed that such an arrangement should be avoided and suggested that observers might be recruited as temporary employees of the appropriate Government organisation or that they might be employed and paid by the captain of the commercial vessel, who would be reimpursed by ICES.

e. It was agreed that the price paid for tagged fish would have to vary according to the size of the fish, in order to avoid selection of only the smaller fish for tagging. It was suggested that this should be on the basis of a price/length curve, since accurate weights would not be available for tagged fish. If captains of commercial vessels agreed to this arrangement, payment would be made to them by ICES on presentation of a bill countersigned by the appropriate observer.

Danish and Norwegian representatives provided details of 1971 selmon prices in relation to weight and the estimate of the cost of this item was calculated on the basis that the payment for an average Greenland-caught salmon would be £5 (3.5 kg at 20 D.kr/kg + 20 D.kr).

Members were asked to bring to the Dublin meeting of the Joint Working Party, any relevant data which they had on the total length/ gutted weight relationship for salmon caught at Greenland. f. ICES obtained a very preliminary estimate of 5,200 D.kr (£289) as the cost of producing 20,000 two-colour pamphlets. g. This item, which was shown separately in the estimates in the first report, was transferred to 'contingencies'.

In addition to the items mentioned above, the question of training observers was discussed. It was decided that it was not practicable to make special arrangements for training observers and that arrangements for a simple form of training should be left to employing organisations (a demonstration of tagging techniques for representatives of organisations employing observers, would be arranged at the Dublin meeting). This item was, therefore, deleted from the estimates.

ICES Administrative Functions

Most of these have already been dealt with elsewhere in this report. However, arrangements for dealing with tag recaptures through ICES, as suggested in the Group's first report, were also reviewed. The possibility that tag rewards should be paid from the Fund was discussed and it was agreed that such an arrangement would raise serious problems because of the differing levels of reward paid in the various countries. It was, therefore, agreed that organisations should pay for the rewards for recaptures made in their own territories, in accordence with the arrangements set out in the previous report.

Other Items

a) Index maps of Danish charts for Greenland waters, English translations of 'Harbour Regulations for Greenland' and copies of relevant parts of the first draft of the 'Guide Book' were issued for onwerd transmission to research vessel captains.

b) The problem of co-ordinating research vessel programmes and controlling the activities of observers was discussed. With the agreement of Kr. Horsted, it was decided that the senior scientist on board the 'Adolf Jensen', as the person who would have the most comprehensive knowledge of day-to-day events, should have overall responsibility for the co-ordination of the programme. He would, therefore, have responsibility for, (a) co-ordinating and advising on research vessel movements and, (b) controlling the work of observers, with particular reference to the avoidance of excessive expenditure or unwise expenditure on fish bought for tagging.

c) The Group considered that it was essential that a representative from ICES should be present at the meeting of the Joint Working Party in Dublin and recommended that the expenses of such a representative should be borne by the Fund (see 'contingencies').

d) The future of the Group was not discussed but it was recommended that the Joint Working Party should consider this question at their Dublin meeting.

APPENDIX

Research vessels from Canada, Denmark, England, France and Scotland will take part in salmon tagging at Greenland in 1972. Scientists will also be present from other countries. Some of these will be working on fishing vessels. Fishermen at Greenland and in other countries are being asked to co-operate in this experiment by returning tags and capture information quickly.

Salmon from many countries on both sides of the Atlantic spend part of their lives in the sea near Greenland. Many thousands of salmon have been tagged when leaving the rivers as young fish and many hundreds of these tags have been returned from the Greenland fisheries. Smaller numbers of salmon have been tagged at Greenland, and some of these tags have been returned from coastal areas and rivers of Europe and North America.

All the countries which produce and fish for Atlantic salmon have agreed that a large tagging experiment at Greenland is needed to determine the facts necessary to manage the Atlantic salmon resource for the best interests of all concerned. Very little is known about the life of salmon in the sea, and information is needed on distribution, abundance, origins of fish, survival in the sea, and the numbers of salmon that can safely be harvested without causing a decrease in abundance. Tagging at Greenland, combined with other studies of salmon at sea and in fresh water, and cooperation of fishermen all over the North Atlantic, will provide the information needed.

Tags are of yellow plastic, are printed with the letter X followed by a number, and are attached below the large fin on the back. <u>Most of the salmon</u> <u>bearing these tags should be taken in 1972 at Greenland and in 1973 in other</u> <u>countries</u>, but some may also be expected in 1973 at Greenland and 1974 in other countries. In addition to this special experiment, salmon tagging will also be done in other areas. It is of course just as important to return all these tags as well.

Tags may be returned to any biologist or fisheries official in the countries where they are taken, or mailed directly to the address on the tag (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, Charlottenlund, Denmark). Reward payments will be made by the various countries taking part in the experiment. Every fisherman who returns a tag will also be sent information on the time and place of tagging of the individual salmon.

4. List of Working Papers

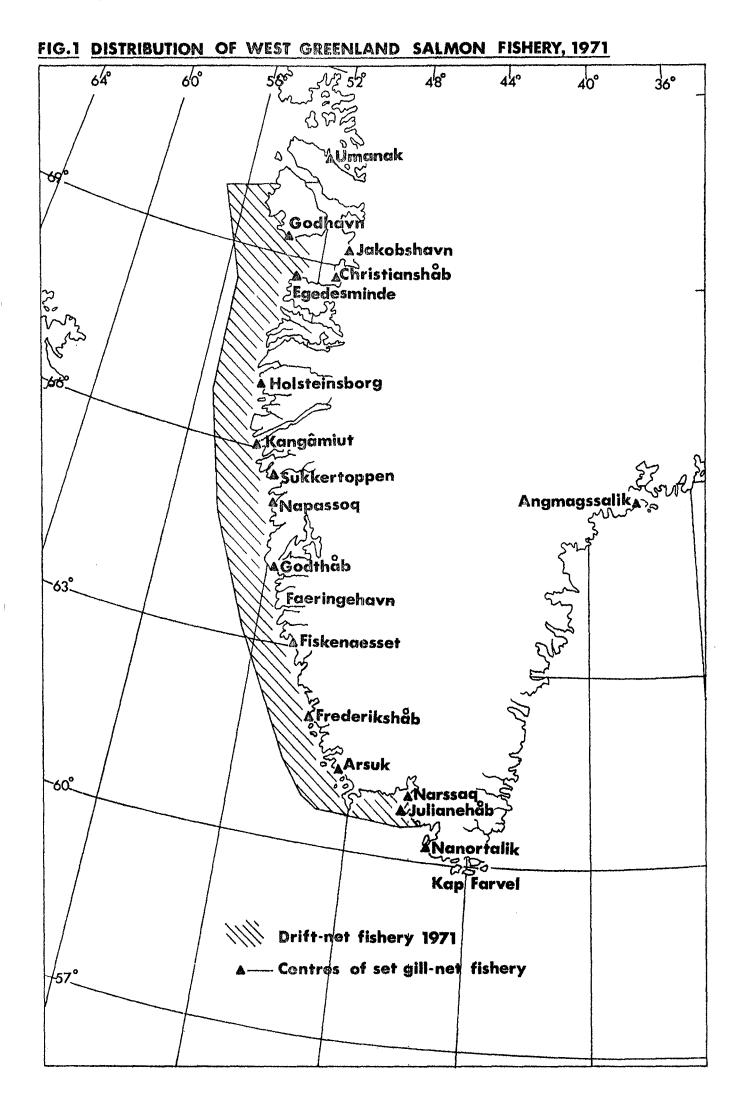
- <u>Note</u> In this list, reference numbers are only quoted for three papers to be circulated to the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.
- 1. A report on the 1971 salmon long-lining cruise off the Faroes, by G. Struthers.
- 2. Scottish salmon tagging data 1963-1971, by D.A.F.S. Pitlochry.
- 3. Greenland salmon research programme, 1971 'Adolf Jensen', by W. R. Munro. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 4. Scottish salmon catch statistics, by W. R. Munro. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- Sex ratios of North Esk salmon in relation to age, by W. M. Shearer.
 (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 6. The length, weight and age composition of commercial catches taken on the Rivers Tweed, Tay and Spey in 1971, by W. R. Munro and I. J. R. Hynd.
- 7. The length, weight and age composition of the salmon catch of the North Esk (Scotland) in 1971, by W. M. Shearer.
- 8. Summary of salmon parasite investigations 1970-71, by J. H. C. Pippy.
 (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 9. First estimates of "salmon" versus grilse quantities in Canadian commercial catches, 1969 and 1970, by A. W. May and W. H. Lear. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 10. Gutted weight versus total length of Atlantic salmon at West Greenland, by A. W. May and W. H. Lear.
- 11. Preliminary observations on differences in fishery contributions of hatcheryreared Atlantic salmon (<u>Salmo salar</u>) smolts related to stock selection and release location, by J. A. Ritter and D. B. Lister (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- Exploitation of Miramichi Atlantic salmon based on smolts tagged in 1968,
 1969 and 1970, by G. E. Turner. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)

 A series of graphs prepared for discussion purposes for the March 1972 Joint ICES/ICNAF Working Party on North Atlantic salmon.

14. German long-line fishery off Norway 1971.

- 15. Research vessel fishing on salmon off Norway (catch, gear behaviour, age, tagging), by F. Thurow.
- 16. Data from counting installations on the Rivers Coquet and Axe, by M.A.F.F. London.
- 17. Salmon and grilse catches, by M.A.F.F. London.
- 18. Percentage of female salmon in the upstream migrations on the River Axe,Devon, by M.A.F.F. London (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 19. Salmon tagging data for England and Wales, by A. Swain.
- 20. Salmon catches for England and Wales, by A. Swain. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 21. The derivation by analysis of covariance of indices of total migrant population size from angling catch returns from the River Wye, by
 A. S. Champion. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 22. The Danish salmon fishery in the Norwegian Sea in 1971, by O. Christensen.
- 23. Geographical and seasonal distribution of the Danish offshore salmon fishery at West Greenland in 1971, by O. Christensen. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 24. The Faroese offshore fishery for salmon at West Greenland 1971, by A. Reinert. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 25. The size composition and growth rate of salmon landed in West Greenland during the autumn, 1970, by J. Møller Jensen. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 26. Grilse salmon relationship in two Irish rivers, by Eileen Twomey. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 27. Catches in 1971 and their seasonal break-down, by Eileen Twomey. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)

- 28. Rates of exploitation in Irish waters, by Eileen Twomey. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 29. Use of scales to determine mainland origin of Atlantic salmon caught in offshore waters, by K. H. Mosher. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 30. Second report of the Planning Group for the International Tagging Experiment at West Greenland in 1972.
- 31. A Guide Book for participants in the ICES/ICNAF salmon tagging programme at Greenland, 1972.
- 32. Canadian tagging data.
- 33. Preliminary report of salmon tags of Maine (USA) origin recovered from fisheries in the ICNAF Convention area during 1971, by A. L. Meister.
- 34. Norway, salmon catches.
- 35. Salmon tagging in the Norwegian Sea 1969-1971, by L. Rosseland.
- 36. Norwegian salmon tagging data.
- 37. Distant and local exploitation of a Labrador Atlantic salmon population by commercial fisheries, by R. F. Peet and J. D. Pratt. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 38. Norwegian salmon tagging data.
- 39. Canadian catches of Atlantic salmon 1960-1970 (graph only).
- 40. Overfishing and depleted stocks of Northwest Miramichi salmon, by P. F. Elson. (ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.)
- 41. Sex ratios of salmon and grilse, by P. F. Elson.



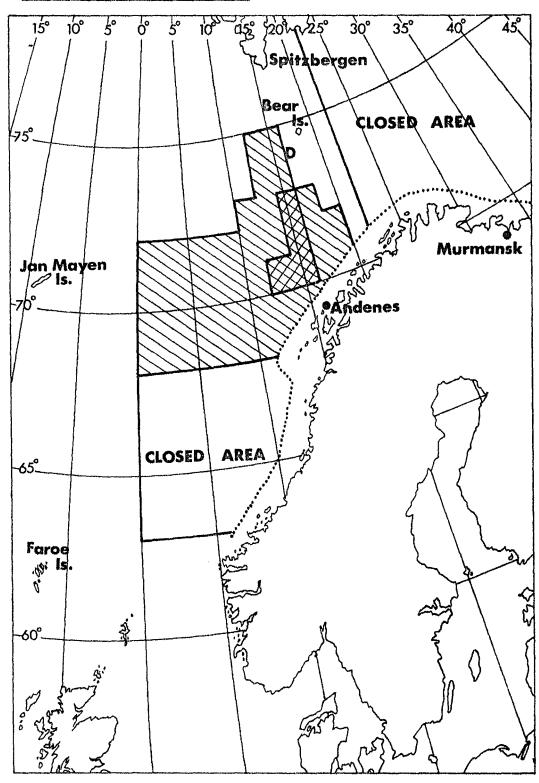


FIG. 2 DISTRIBUTION OF THE DANISH SALMON FISHERY IN THE NORWEGIAN SEA IN 1971



Maximum extent of the Danish fishery

Area within which 43% of the fishery took place