



Concerning the Salmon Fishery in Greenland 2017

Last week, on Tuesday the 15th of August, the fishery for salmon in Greenland commenced. In accordance with the Multi-Annual Regulatory Measure for Fishing for Salmon at West Greenland for 2015, 2016 and 2017, WGC (15)21, the Ministry of Fisheries of Hunting would like to inform NASCO of the progress in relation to the Updated Plan for Implementation of Monitoring and Control Measures in the Salmon Fishery at West Greenland, WGC (15)20, and of the measures applying to the salmon fishery. In accordance with the West Greenland Sampling Agreement, 2017, WGC(17)18, the Government of Greenland and the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources are liaising with the sampling coordinator with regard to the options for implementing sampling in Nuuk during the 2017 fishery.

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Sags nr. 2016-20128
Akt nr.

Postboks 269
3900 Nuuk
Tlf. (+299) 34 50 00
Fax (+299) 34 63 55
E-mail: aalisa@nanoq.gl
www.naalakkersuisut.gl

The Sampling Program

The sampling program will continue in 2017 in the same manner as in 2016 and 2015. The sampling brochure will be distributed to large open air markets and to all professional fishermen. The samplers will also have copies of the brochure. Furthermore the Ministry of Fisheries and Hunting will make sure that the samplers are provided with a letter confirming their business in Greenland, and there will be a condition in the license stating that the fishermen must allow samplers to take samples from salmon they have caught.

The Fishery; conditions, monitoring and control

The Government of Greenland has decided as follows:

- There will be no export of wild Atlantic salmon or its products from Greenland.
- A quota of 45 tonnes will apply to the entire fishery, including professional and non-professional fishermen and for all of Greenland; West- and East Greenland.
- The salmon fishing season commenced on 15 August and will end when the quota is reached although no later than 31 October.
- Professional fishermen can fish for their own consumption and sell their catch to open air markets, schools and institutions etc.
- Only professional fishermen who had a license last year can obtain a license for 2017.
- Non-professional fishermen can only fish for their own consumption.
- All fishermen must report to the Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority (GFLK) every time they have tended their nets or have fished with rod to allow in-season monitoring of catches.
- Catches can be reported by e-mail or fax directly to GFLK.

Furthermore, the extensive information campaign on reporting, monitoring and control which was launched prior to the start of the fishery in 2015 and which continued in 2016 will also be carried out in 2017. In addition, GFLK will keep up the increased effort in monitoring and controlling the salmon fishery during the season.

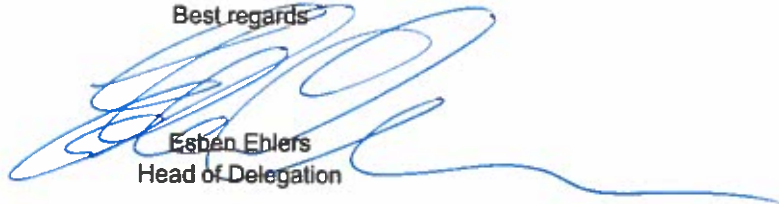
It will again be stressed that reporting could eventually constitute the basis for the issuance of licenses in the following year.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Hunting in cooperation with GFLK will again conduct telephone interviews after the closure of the fishery in order to assess the validity of catch reporting.

In addition to this, the Ministry of Fisheries and Hunting together with GFLK will monitor the fishery closely during the agreement period and evaluate and, where necessary, adjust the measures in place. Further GFLK will follow up on the reporting from the municipalities closely in order to avoid delays in the information handed over to the proper authorities – which is GFLK and the ministry.

The Government of Greenland continues to work to improve the management, monitoring and control of the salmon fishery at West Greenland following the evaluation conducted in 2014/15 using the six tenets. Greenland is looking forward to being informed of improvements to monitoring and control in the salmon fisheries of other West Greenland Commission Parties/jurisdictions in order to address short-comings identified during the six tenets self-assessments.

Best regards



Esben Ehlers
Head of Delegation