



THE CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION N·E·W·S·L·E·T·T·E·R

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Kensington Hatchery Funding Restored to State Budget

Greg Sharp, Esq., Chairman, CT Fisheries Advisory Committee

Opposition from CRSA, TU, other angling organizations and key legislators has turned back two proposed budget cuts affecting the state's hatcheries in the past six months.

Most recently, the governor's Deficit Mitigation Proposal called for the elimination of all three of the state's hatcheries (Kensington, Burlington and Quinebaug) and the layoff of all 17 personnel assigned to them. No other funding was proposed to support stocking from private hatcheries, so the trout and salmon stocking programs would have ceased to exist on January 1, 2016, if the proposal were adopted.

The Office of Policy and Management ("OPM") pegged the savings to the taxpayers at \$1.1M of an estimated \$350M budget shortfall. The OPM numbers did not take into account the loss of revenues to the state from license sales to trout and salmon anglers, or the lost revenues to local businesses and the related sales taxes arising from sales of food and drink, gasoline, and fishing tackle, which are estimated conservatively to contribute approximately \$20M annually to the state's economy.

Fortunately, the legislature rejected this deficit mitigation proposal and, on December 8, in a special session called by the governor, the General Assembly voted a legislative package to address the \$350M deficit without targeting the hatcheries.

This victory followed the defeat of the administration's proposed elimination of \$195,000 in funding necessary to operate the Kensington Hatchery in last spring's biennial budget deliberations. The same coalition was able to restore the proposed cut to Kensington in the budget negotiated by the governor and the General Assembly earlier this year.

(See Kensington, page 9)



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CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION

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About Guest Artist James Prosek's Latest Work



Thanks to the CRSA 2016 Guest Artist, Connecticut's own James Prosek, for sharing his just completed painting "Atlantic Salmon" with us. "Atlantic Salmon" is painted on two wood panels totaling seven feet in length. The execution and detail James used to represent his subject are truly remarkable.

The CRSA hopes you are as inspired by it as we are - enjoy!

Greenland Fishery Focus of 2015 Annual NASCO Meeting

By Stephen Gephard, US Commissioner to NASCO

The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) meets annually in early June to promote conservation, wise management, and restoration of Atlantic salmon in the North Atlantic region. As one of the three US commissioners to NASCO, I attended the 2015 meeting in Goose Bay, Newfoundland, June 2-5. As with each year, there are many agenda items, some including 'housekeeping chores like the meeting of the Finance Committee and other spe-

cial efforts like re-defining the various classifications of the status of salmon runs. But this year, the main attention was on the Greenland fishery and the adoption of new regulatory measures.

To best understand the US position on this issue, it is good to remind ourselves of the status Atlantic salmon. Each year, a representative from the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), reports on the status of stocks of Atlantic salmon. It is a kind of report card for salmon, using the same parameters, year after year, to track the condition of the salmon populations. A few facts excerpted from the ICES report: (1) the 2014 catch of Atlantic salmon was the lowest ever recorded, (2) North American returns remain near historic lows, (3) for the next three years, there is zero probability that salmon runs in the six North American regions will meet or exceed the management objectives. The ICES report also comes with "catch advice." This reflects ICES' opinion on what level of harvest is appropriate for the various salmon management regions. For North America and West Greenland, ICES stated that are no harvests options for mixed stock fisheries that can be supported. Any fisheries that harvests salmon of mixed stock would put the weaker stocks at risk.

NASCO deals with harvest of salmon in international waters or fisheries known to harvest salmon from other nations. Two such mixed stock fisheries that receive most of the attention are the net fisheries off the Faroe Islands and off West Greenland. In the past, NASCO has adopted Regulatory Measures, which typically include a catch quota or limit (how many tons of salmon that can be caught). The Regulatory Measures are based on best scientific information, including the ICES catch advice. NASCO operates on a consensus basis, so all Parties have to agree. Since Denmark (in respect to Faroe Islands) has chosen to voluntarily set the catch limit at the Faroe Islands at zero in recent years and fewer North American fish are caught in that fishery, I will focus solely on the West Greenland fishery.

At West Greenland, the regulatory measures have varied over the years and have been subject to a private buy-out. In 2006, there was no quota, per se, but there was an agreement that the fishery was restricted to internal consumption (i.e., no export, no factory sales). The catch was expected to be around 21 tons and it hovered around that for a number of years. It began to rise in 2010 and in 2012, Greenland unilaterally allowed the sale of salmon to factories and the catch jumped to 33 tons, then to 47 tons and in 2014, the report to ICES was 58 tons. This 2014 level was a 23% increase in harvest from the previous year, but recent adjustments suggest the total catch was actually 95 tons. These increasing catch levels were still under the regulatory measure in which the expectation was for a harvest of around 21 tons. This regulatory measure expired in 2015 and a major agenda item for the 2015 Annual Meeting was to agree to a new regulatory measure.

Another issue is the accuracy of the data and enforcement. By the standards of most Parties, the fishery is not tightly regulated and there is concern about how catch is monitored, how data are reported, how rules are communicated to fishers, and how fishing is terminated when catch limits are achieved. The political landscape for Greenland has changed. Greenland is a territory of Denmark but now has a Home Rule government and Denmark is stepping back on many fisheries issues. The Home Rule government supports the fishers, who have taken a harder line on Atlantic salmon than in past years. They claim there are more salmon in Greenlandic waters and that the decline in our runs are due to the fact that we have ruined our rivers (dams, pollution, etc.). After years of restricted catch, they want to catch more. The United States and other Parties point out that the scientific evidence does not support their contention that there are more salmon and that all Parties have been actively restoring salmon rivers since before the most recent dramatic declines in abundance. NASCO's regulatory measures are

(See NASCO, page 9)

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Bob Jones Honored with 2015 CRSA President's Award

By Jim Carroll, Secretary, CRSA

Tom Chrosniak at the CRSA Annual Banquet presented Bob Jones with the 2015 President's Award on January 31, 2015. In part, the award read:

"A valued director beginning in 1992 and President from 1998 to 2014. Robert Jones' leadership, wise counsel, extensive knowledge of Atlantic salmon and worldwide contacts in the field of Atlantic salmon have brought great credit to him and the CRSA."

Current CRSA director and past president David Egan presented Bob Jones with a framed proclamation from Governor Daniel P. Malloy honoring Bob for his service "with great distinction over 38 years to the Department of Environmental Protection," a special honor. While presenting the governor's proclamation, Egan said, in part, "I can't recall making any decision of substance regarding public support for the restoration program, developing a strategy to pass the interstate compact commission (Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission) and of course the Atlantic Salmon treaty (North Atlantic Conservation Organization) ... without first seeking the advice and counsel of Bob Jones."

A 1952 University of Connecticut biology graduate, Bob started as a fishery biologist in 1954. During his career, he served as the director of the Marine Region in the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Fisheries Division, and was Chief of the Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife for the state. He was the state representative to the New England Fisheries Management Council and during his service was elected chairman. He served as a commissioner to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and was appointed chairman during his tenure.

Bob was and is currently a commissioner representing Connecticut on the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission (CRASC), which was established by an act of Congress. CRASC has broad responsibilities for Connecticut River basin fish, fish passage, water management and environmental oversight through participation by the four basin states of CT, MA, NH and VT with the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. There are two commissioners from each state appointed by that state's governor and one each from USF&WLS and NOAA.

In 1983 an international treaty, the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), was signed by President Bush and ratified by Congress. Each country that is a signatory of the treaty has three commissioners. Bob was appointed by President Bush to represent the United States and served from 1994 to 2002. NASCO has been the major factor in managing wild Atlantic salmon stocks in the North Atlantic. Bob negotiated quotas with other countries, served on committees and made many other contributions while a NASCO commissioner.

Bob currently represents the CRSA very ably on the CT Fishery Advisory Committee. ♦



Pictured above, Tom Chrosniak, right, presents the 2015 President's Award to Bob Jones.

Below, CRSA Director David Egan, right, presents a proclamation from Governor Dannel P. Malloy to Bob Jones.

[Photos: Thomas Hurlbut]



Putting the CRSA Dinner Prize to Work: Salmon Fishing in New Brunswick

By Ed Ahern, CRSA Director



Elizabeth Ahern with her new rod. [Photo: Ed Ahern]

Every so infrequently my wife, Elizabeth, and I win a prize at the Connecticut River Salmon Association annual dinner. 2015 was the year. We went home with a Thomas & Thomas 11'6", 7 weight DNA rod. Six months later the rod came with

us to Debbie and Dale Norton's lodge in New Brunswick. I rigged up the rod and gave it to my wife, assuming that she would try it out and revert to her almost antique Bruce & Walker of the same length.

Wrong. Under head guide Brett Silliker's excellent coaching, the woman not only cast a fine line but caught salmon. I was informed that she claimed the rod by right of possession and that I should find a good home for the Bruce & Walker. I would have complained more, but was also catching salmon. We fished the Sevogle, and the Northwest and Little Southwest Miramichi rivers, but hooked all five fish on the Sevogle.

The Upper Oxbow lodge has big city amenities like WiFi in a streamside environment, and we thoroughly enjoyed our stay. The Nortons cater to spring and summer salmon fishing, bird and big game hunting, and canoe excursions, and have the facilities to handle large meetings. Elizabeth and I have stayed there several times and hope to return.

I wonder if I can borrow my wife's new rod. ♦

CRSA 2015 DINNER DONORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Without the support of the following organizations and individuals, our fundraising dinner and many of our activities would not be possible. Our thanks to each for their contribution and their support of Atlantic salmon restoration.

Visit www.ctriversalsalmon.org for a preview of terrific auction items for 2016 from these and other generous donors!

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The CRSA “Salmon-in-Schools” Program

DEEP biologists document first wild salmon spawning sites since 1991!



Fisheries Technician David Ellis indicates the location of an Atlantic salmon redd in a Connecticut stream.
[Photo: CT DEEP Inland Fisheries Division]

An incredible discovery! This past November [2015], Inland Fisheries biologists discovered three redds (name for a “nest” in the streambed where trout or salmon lay their eggs) made by wild returning Atlantic salmon. This marks the first documented wild spawning of Atlantic salmon in Connecticut since 1991 (in the Salmon River) and before that around the time of state/federal restoration program from 1967 to 2013, when the program was terminated. During this time the returning adult salmon were captured and retained in order to produce millions of fry (juvenile fish) that were stocked into streams within the Connecticut River watershed. Connecticut has since shifted to a “legacy” program, in which relatively few fry are stocked in selected portions of the Salmon River and Farmington River. The goal is to keep this important native species part of our natural resource.

With the end of the restoration program in 2013, adult fish were no longer being retained but instead, tagged and released to continue their upstream migration. In 2015, three adult salmon were captured and tagged while two others were seen on video but eluded capture. All five fish continued their upstream migration, which culminated in some of them spawning successfully. We are very excited to announce confirmation of this milestone fisheries event. The termination of the restoration program is regrettable, but the fact that wild Atlantic salmon have once again spawned in our state gives us reason to celebrate and it underscores the value of our ongoing legacy program. — *Inland Fisheries Division, CT DEEP*

Smith STEM Joins Salmon-in-Schools

By Jim Carroll, CRSA Secretary

Florence E. Smith STEM School in West Hartford began its Salmon-in-Schools Program in three fourth grade classes thanks to their STEM Specialist, Sharon Zajack. Sharon, with teachers Bethany Carbone, Jeffrey Hall and Jackie Makarewicz, adapted the educational material from the CRSA Teachers Orientation to fit with the Smith STEM School curriculum objectives.

The acronym STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. This approach to education is designed to incorporate these subjects into the regular curriculum to help students gain the skills required to succeed in today’s challenging world.

Students researched their own questions about salmon development, the challenges salmon face, and the restoration efforts being done to overcome some of the obstacles. Students taught each other what they learned and used video and electronic media to share with the entire school. Having the responsibility of being environmental stewards for the salmon and collecting data made their research more authentic and meaningful.

In regard to the Salmon-in-School experience, Sharon said, “This program is an excellent fit with our curriculum objectives and vision for a STEM education. Many students have been quick to say that this was the best part of their fourth grade year.”



Pictured: Top, classroom study about salmon and its environment on the field trip to stock out the fry. Below (l-r), CRSA liaison Bob Hoffman with Smith STEM School faculty Jeffrey Hall, Sharon Zajack, Bethany Carbone and Jackie Makarewicz [Photos: Jim Carroll]

Salmon-in-Schools Awards

By Dick Bell, CRSA Education Chairman

Awards are given annually to those teachers and schools who have used our Salmon-in-Schools for 15 years. Seven awards were announced at the dinner: four to educators and three to schools.

Three honored teachers were guests at the January CRSA Annual Dinner. Individuals representing two of the schools also were present. The teachers were Paul Duva at Elizabeth Bennett Middle School, Rick Rossi at East Windsor Middle School and Caron Stebinger at Beecher Road School in Woodbridge.

The schools honored were The Adelbrook Learning Center in Cromwell, Nonnewaug High School and Tolland Middle School. Joanne Hadyka accepted the award for Tolland Middle School and Douglas Schaefer for the Adelbrook Learning Center.



George Lyman at Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury got a fifteen year educator award and his school principal, Andrew O'Brian, accepted the school's fifteen-year service award, which they received at the school. A double header! ♦



Pictured, clockwise from upper left: Paul Duva from Elizabeth Bennett Middle School receives his teacher award from Elizabeth Kendall; Joanne Hadyka accepts the award from Tom Chrosniak for Tolland Middle School; Douglas Schaefer accepts the award from Tom Chrosniak on behalf of Adelbrook Learning Center; George Lyman (right) and Andrew O'Brian of Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury accept the school's 15-year award; Caron Stebinger from Beecher Road School in Woodbridge accepts her teacher award from Tom Chrosniak; and Rick Rossi from East Windsor Middle School receives his teacher award from Tom Chrosniak.
[Photos: Jim Carroll]



Flies for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon Fishing: Part I, Conventional Flies

By Ben Bilello

When we are trout fishing during a heavy insect hatch, we assume that most of the rising fish are feeding on a particular insect and will take a natural looking and well presented artificial fly. We search for the right fly pattern to entice a particular trout. There are a few rogue trout who will take anything when the mood strikes, even if it doesn't look like the hatching insects, but those fish are in the minority. Though it can be challenging when trout are picky, overall, fly selection is logical and fairly straight forward.

When fishing for wild, sea run Atlantic salmon, we recognize that the fish are not actively feeding, but will take flies regardless. For new salmon anglers, this can be a tough concept to grasp. There are many theories why an Atlantic salmon takes a fly but, since we will never get an answer from a salmon, none can be proven. Although selecting a salmon fly seems like a much more abstract endeavor than choosing an effective trout fly, learning the basics of fly selection will help simplify the process.

It is debatable whether or not our broodstock Atlantic salmon feed while in the river. If they do, I don't believe they feed heavily. If they did, they would be much easier to catch. I choose flies for broodstock salmon using the same process I use when fishing for their wild brethren. I had fished for wild salmon before I began fishing for broodstock salmon and I use the same wet, dry and tube fly patterns for both. That does not mean that a selection of traditional Atlantic salmon flies is essential for salmon fishing in Connecticut, however, successful salmon flies catch many fish for a reason. They look and behave in ways that Atlantic salmon find appealing.

A good salmon fly box has a range of sizes, colors, and shapes (and weights, in the case of tube flies). That fly box should have a mix of dark colored, neutral, and light colored flies, as well as flies with tinsel bodies. The box should have both short and long flies, flies that fish near or on the surface, and flies that fish deeper. A good fly box will have flies tied to stand up to strong currents and flies tied to move in slower currents. During a normal season, I use a pretty even mix of conventional flies and tube flies.

Below are my top five conventional flies for broodstock salmon fishing, along with information on when and where to use them.

1. **Mickey Finn:** The Mickey Finn is the most familiar of the bunch and needs no introduction. I fish the Mickey Finn in sizes #2-#8, with #6 being the most effective size, year in and year out. I use this fly primarily on bright, sunny days. It is equally effective stripped or fished on the swing. When a salmon has risen to my fly but doesn't take, often times a stripped Mickey Finn will win him over.

2. **Same Thing Murray:** This hairwing wet fly is staple on the Miramichi River. It's a predominantly dark fly, but has bright green, red, and orange accents. In my experi-



Connecticut salmon caught by George Baldwin of the Sound School in New Haven. [Photo: George Baldwin]

ence, this fly is a close second to the Mickey Finn. I fish it mainly on dark days and just under the surface. I tie mine in sizes #2-#12 and with a moose hair wing (instead of the prescribed black bear).

3. **Green Machine (w/white tail):** The Green Machine is another staple of Miramichi anglers. The style of fly is referred to as a "Buck Bug." It looks like a small deer hair Bomber, but it's not a dry fly like the Bomber. I've heard it called a "commotion fly." It doesn't float, but fishes very high in the water column. Buck Bugs are great broodstock salmon flies when the water is on the low side of normal. When they are in an aggressive mood, salmon will clobber these flies, often making a quite a display on the surface.

4. **Sugerman Shrimp:** My all-time favorite Atlantic salmon fly is the Sugerman Shrimp. Tied in size #10, the Sugerman Shrimp is especially deadly in pools with a slow flow. When the water is up, a size #2 Sugerman can be the ticket. The Sugerman Shrimp was my top fly from fall 2014 to spring 2015.

5. **Small Wet Flies:** By "small," I mean hairwing wet flies in sizes #10 and #12. I use small flies during periods of low water and in pools with a gentle current. They are also effective when a salmon has risen to a larger fly but won't take it. On sunny days, my most effective small fly is the M1 Killer. It has a silver body and pearl flash and, despite its black wing, is considered a bright fly. Dark, drab flies work well on both sunny and dark days. I like a small, predominantly black fly called the "Almost."

Some of the flies listed above might be familiar to local anglers, though most probably are not. I'm sure other flies would work well if they are used in a similarly to the flies I listed above. In Part II of this series, I will list my five most effective tube flies and some strategies on how and when to use them.

For more information, please visit benbilello.com/salmonflies and theleaper.blogspot.com. ♦

ASF River Notes

By Jim Carroll, Secretary, CRSA

Perhaps the best worldwide source of information about wild Atlantic salmon is The Atlantic Salmon Federation's *River Notes*, which can be found at their website. You will see information about Atlantic salmon matters in the United States, Canada, Europe, Greenland and Iceland. The able website editor is ASF's Tom Moffat, who has contacts all over the North Atlantic feeding him news, data, environmental information, salmon return data, catch information and the like.

ASF now regularly runs three blogs: *ASF River Notes*, *Research in the Field*, and *News from the Regions*. To receive a weekly email alert on these and other updates in the salmon world, email Tom Moffat, Educator at ASF, at asfweb@nbnet.nb.ca—you can unsubscribe or resubscribe at any time. It is by far the best way to keep up-to-date on the world of wild Atlantic salmon for anglers, educators, students, researchers and others. The blogs are at

River Notes

<http://atlanticsalmonfederation.org/rivernotes/>

News from the ASF Regions

<http://asf.ca/news-from-the-regions.html>

Research in the Field

<http://asf.ca/research-in-the-field.html>

Annual Meeting to Precede Dinner

By Jim Carroll, Secretary, CRSA

By December 17 an Annual Meeting Notice and a proxy will be mailed to all CRSA members in good standing. The CRSA by-laws require that the members of the board be elected each year by a vote of the membership.

A Nominating Committee offers the board a slate of potential directors and if approved, the names are listed on the Annual Meeting Notice. Other candidates can be proposed by members but the names should be submitted two weeks before the Annual Meeting to James Carroll, 23 Brenway Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117 with appropriate biographical information about the candidate.

Quarterly meetings of the board are held every year. The new board annually elects the officers for the year at the March board meeting. In March 2015, Thomas Chrosniak was elected president; Richard Bell, vice president; Lawrence Rappaport, treasurer; and James Carroll, secretary. Committee chairs are selected by the president, and the chairs in turn pick committee members. Committee members do have to be directors and, in fact, the CRSA board wants to encourage participation on committees by any volunteers. Volunteers are welcome. I urge all members to come to the Annual Dinner on January 16, and participate in the election of directors or make sure you mail in your proxy. Your voice and your vote matters!

Kensington (from page 1)

Kensington is the only facility in the state maintaining a population of fish carrying the legacy Connecticut River Salmon gene pool, and it is also the only facility that provides eyed eggs for CRSA's popular and successful Salmon-in-Schools program and TU's Trout in the Classroom Program. This is the third consecutive two-year budget proposed by the Office of Policy and Management that sought elimination of the money necessary to run the hatchery.

Stakeholders will need to continue to focus on the issue of hatchery funding going forward, as the state's economy does not seem to be bouncing back as fast as many would like. It has become obvious that Kensington, in particular, and the hatcheries, in general, have become a favorite target of OPM's to try to find savings.

The problem with hatchery funding is clearly one that the legislature is aware of and State Representative William Tong of Stamford had introduced a bill in the past session to provide sustainable, dedicated funding to keep all three of the state's hatcheries operating to avoid the roller coaster of the biannual budget process. Unfortunately, Representative Tong's bill died on the Senate calendar. Whether a similar bill will be resurrected in the next session is presently unclear.

Special thanks go out to all who contacted their legislators during these two battles, and particularly to Fisheries Advisory Council members Vin Ringrose, Jim Carroll, Alicea Charamut, Bruce Rich, and Dick Weisberg and Connecticut Fund for the Environment's Tyler Archer for their dedicated efforts in the fight to first save Kensington, and then to save the entire hatchery system. Thanks also to former Bureau of Natural Resources Chief Ed Parker for coordinating meetings with leadership during the previous session concerning the Kensington closure.

The effort to restore the Kensington funding would not have succeeded without the critical support of Senator Beth Bye, Co-chair of the Appropriations Committee, who led the fight to put the money back in the budget, Representative Joe Aresimowicz, who was a staunch supporter in the Democratic House leadership, Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr., Co-chair of the Environment Committee, and Representative Craig Miner of Litchfield and Senator Clark Chapin of New Milford, members of the legislature's Sportsmen's Caucus.

Although the Deficit Mitigation negotiations were held in secret, it would be reasonable to assume the same legislators fought to keep the hatcheries open. ♦

Get your CRSA newsletter via email!

If you are not a member of CRSA, then you are receiving this complimentary copy of our newsletter in the hopes that you will consider joining our organization. If you ARE a member already, thank you! Please consider helping us keep costs in check by receiving this newsletter via email. Just send us an email at newsletter@ctriversalsalmon.org with "Email Newsletter" in the subject line.

When People Care, A Community Can Restore a Salmon Stream

By Don Ivany, ASF Director of Programs for Newfoundland and Labrador

[Editor's Note: Corner Brook Stream is a small stream running through the centre of Corner Brook, largest city in western Newfoundland.]

**“Salmon Can Return.
When People Care.
When a Community Cares.”**

A quarter century ago, DFO (Fisheries and Oceans Canada) declared that Corner Brook Stream, cascading down through the city of Corner Brook in Newfoundland, had no Atlantic salmon left. But with Atlantic Salmon Federation (ASF) and community groups working together, it was cleaned up and sources of pollution stopped. One thing was still missing—Atlantic salmon.

But then there was ASF's “Fish Friends” program, with students raising a small number of eggs to fry stage in their classrooms. Could these be part of the rebirth of Corner Brook Stream? With a fair bit of effort, I was able to work through a bunch of red tape and finally convinced DFO to allow these schools to release their young salmon fry into Corner Brook Stream. And so, over the

next eight years, and with volunteer help from our local affiliate, SPAWN (the Salmon Preservation Association for the Waters of Newfoundland), we were able to coordinate the students involved in our “Fish Friends” program in the area to individually release all the salmon fry they raised in their classrooms into Corner Brook Stream.

SPAWN continues to work on the stream, but now something is different.

The salmon grew, and went to sea. And then they returned. In recent years the returns have been increasing. In 2015, 74 grilse and 29 large adult Atlantic salmon ascended the fish ladder—some of them in excess of 20 pounds!

Does it get any better than that?



Corner Brook Fish Trap Check. [Photo: Don Ivany]

ASF and SPAWN were recognized by the City of Corner Brook last year and awarded their Annual Environmental Award of Excellence.

Recognition is always appreciated, but the real story is coming up that fish ladder. A stream can be brought back from oblivion.

Salmon can return. When people care. When a community cares. ♦

NASCO 2014 (from page 2)

intended to be science-based and the advice from ICES based on NASCO's objectives is that there should be no harvest. Meanwhile, salmon from the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment (a stock designation) that is listed as endangered under the US Endangered Species Act are vulnerable to harvest at Greenland. The US government, as represented by the US delegation to NASCO, cannot approve any harvest of listed species. NASCO operates by consensus. How do we move forward?

There were very frank, direct, and difficult negotiations between Denmark (in respect to Greenland), the United States, the EU, and Canada. The new regulatory measure that was adopted included a prohibition on export of salmon and a commitment by

Greenland to increase and improve monitoring, control, and surveillance of the fishery. The other Parties have pledged their support and assistance for this. But the regulatory measure did not include an agreement of the total catch limit—because the Parties could not agree. Denmark (in respect to Greenland) unilaterally committed to a total catch limit of 45 tons for the years 2015–2017. The United States immediately invoked a clause that requires a meeting sometime during the next year to reconsider this regulatory measure, but the 45 ton catch limit is what the 2015 fishery will use.

The 45 tons is about twice what we thought was the catch limit under the last regulatory measure, but if adhered to, is less than the actual 2014 harvest. The 2015 fishery is taking place as I

write this. It began 15 days later than normal and the Home Rule government had not authorized factory landings as of my last information (that may have changed since then).

Meanwhile, there are lots of things going on behind the scenes. The Greenland Prime Minister was removed and the Home Rule government is in transition. The United States is continuing to work behind the scenes on this issue with consultations and discussions with others.

The unilateral catch limit is not a good development for the sound management of Atlantic salmon, especially US salmon. However, the United States and its delegation remain fully engaged in NASCO and are hopeful that progress can be made to reduce harvest. ♦

Support our friends! Partner fishery organizations have these upcoming events:

CFFA Annual Expo & Banquet • February 6, 2016 • Maneely's Banquest Facility • 65 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT
Reservations: Kurt Jagielow (203)314-5871

Farmington Valley Trout Unlimited Annual Dinner • March 18, 2016 • Chowder Pot IV • 165 Brainard Road, Hartford, CT

Farmington River Anglers Association • March 5, 2016 • Elks Club, Torrington, CT

For reservations: Tom Karpeichik • 170 Ramstein Road • New Hartford, CT 06057 (860) 309-5510 • tkarpeichik@charter.net

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