

Submission by the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization

Contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, as mandated by United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/72 of 9 December 2021, entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

Background

NASCO is a single-species (Atlantic salmon) organization, set up under the Convention for the Conservation of Salmon in the North Atlantic Ocean. Under the Convention, fishing for salmon is prohibited beyond 12 nautical miles from the baselines (with exceptions at West Greenland and the Faroe Islands), thus creating an enormous area in the North Atlantic free from any directed salmon fishing. Regulatory measures have been adopted for the distant-waters fisheries in most years since NASCO was established in 1984 and have resulted in major reductions in harvests. There have also been major restrictions on fisheries by States of Origin. Those salmon fisheries which do occur within the permitted areas have been assessed by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) as having 'no, or only minor, influence on the marine ecosystem'.

Adoption of Measures

At the Thirty-Ninth Annual Meeting of NASCO held in Edinburgh between 6 and 9 June 2022 the West Greenland Commission adopted the 'Multi-Annual Regulatory Measure for Fishing for Atlantic Salmon at West Greenland', [WGC\(22\)10](#). The fishery at West Greenland has experienced overharvests of established limits in recent years. To address this, the evidence-based regulatory measure adopted sets a precautionary upper limit that is well below the catch limit. ~~WGC(22)10 sets the fishery DVA to be closed where the applicable TAC is 000 (e) 5501032 T(a) 471 (e) 61452 (e) 10s T~~