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# Status of Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche River, 1987 

by
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#### Abstract

During 1987, about 10,500 1SW and 11,300 MSW salmon were estimated to have returned to the Restigouche River. Despite a larger proportion of 35 W salmon in the spawning run than in 1986, total returns of MSW salmon in 1987 were only about 50\% of the returns forecasted in the 1986 assessment (21,883 MSW salmon were forecasted). This discrepancy resulted from either a poor forecast methodology (the 1987 forecast was based on an extrapolation), or from significantly higher mortalities of MSW salmon at sea than usual (natural or fishing mortality). Egg deposition in 1987, based on angling data and field spawner counts, was estimated to be about 42.3 million eggs which was about $60 \%$ of spawning requirements for the Restigouche. Assuming average (1983 to 1987) returns to the Restigouche River in 1988, total returns could be about $12,900 \mathrm{MSW}$ salmon and $8,5001 \mathrm{SW}$ salmon. To improve the Restigouche assessment, research is critically needed to: 1. develop an alternate method of forecasting MSW salmon returns, and 2. estimate the angling exploitation rate for both 15 W and MSW salmon in recent years.


## RESUME

En 1987, on a estimé à, respectivement, 10500 et 11300 le nombre de saumons unibermarins (UBM) et pluribermarins (PBM) qui sont revenus dans la rivière Restigouche. En dépit d'une grande proportion de saumons tribermarin (TBM) dans la remontée, par rapport à 1986, la remontée totale de saumons PBM de 1987 ne correspondait qu'a environ $50 \%$ de la valeur prévue au cours de l'évaluation de 1986 (21 883 saumons PBM). Cet écart peut s'expliquer par une mauvaise méthode de prévision, la prévision pour 1987 reposant sur une extrapolation, ou par une mortalité en mer des saumons PBM, par pêche ou de causes naturelles, plus élevée que normale. La ponte de 1987 a été estimée, à partir des données de la pêche sportive et du dénombrement sur place des géniteurs, à 42,3 millions d'oeufs environ, ce qui correspond à environ $60 \%$ de l'objectif établi pour la Restigouche. Si l'on se base sur des remontées moyennes (1983 à 1987), la remontée totale dans la Restigouche devrait etre de 12900 saumons PBM et de 8500 saumons UBM environ en 1988. L'amélioration de l'évaluation des remontées dans la Restigouche exige que des recherches soient réalisées afin: 1) d'élaborer une autre méthode de prévision des remontées de saumons PBM et 2) d'estimer le taux d'exploitation de la pêche sportive des saumons UBM et PBM au cours des dernières années.

## INTRODUCTION

The objective of this report is to provide a biological assessment of Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) in Restigouche River for 1987. Landings of salmon from the Native and angling fisheries are summarized, escapement in 1987 is estimated from angling data, juvenile densities and spawner counts, and a forecast for salmon returns in 1988 is provided.

The management plan in the Restigouche River in 1987 was a continuation of a five-year conservation program initiated in 1984. Commercial fisheries in Baie des Chaleurs remained closed in both Québec and New Brunswick. Anglers in New Brunswick were required to release all multi-sea-winter (MSW) salmon ( $\geq 63 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) and catches of 15 W salmon were restricted by season, possession, and daily bag limits of ten, six and two fish, respectively. Québec anglers were allowed to land both 1 SW and MSW salmon, with a daily and seasonal limit of one and seven fish, respectively. Québec anglers fishing in Québec/New Brunswick boundary waters, however were required to release all MSW salmon. For both provinces, it was illegal to retain salmon caught by non-salmon commercial gear (by-catch).

Native fishermen at Restigouche, Québec were allocated a salmon quota of $6,995 \mathrm{~kg}$. Native fishermen at Eel River Bar, New Brunswick did not have a quota.

## METHODS

## 1. Angling and Native catch-and-effort data

Salmon catch-and-effort statistics for 1987 were available from essentially the same sources as in previous years. Angling data from Québec portions of the Restigouche River were provided by the Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche (MLCP). New Brunswick data were provided monthly by DFO fishery officers (mainly from camp logbooks), and Crown Reserve angling data were from the Department of Natural Resources and Energy (DNRE). Catches were identified as being 1 SW or MSW salmon ( $\geq 63 \mathrm{~cm}$ ). Effort was given in rod-days where one rod-day was one fisherman fishing a river for any portion of one day.

Numbers of MSW salmon caught and released by anglers in New Brunswick from 1984 to 1987 were estimated using three methods: (i) correlation between catch and release of salmon at four angling camps and total Restigouche catch, 1970 to 1983 (Table 1); (ii) correlation between Québec angling and New Brunswick angling catches, 1970 to 1983 (Table 2); and (iii) reported catch-and-release data from DFO fishery officers.

Native fishery landings from Restigouche, Québec, were provided by MLCP, and data for Eel River Bar, New Brunswick, were reported from the Band Council office to DFO on a weekly basis. Counts of salmon at the

Upsalquitch fish barrier, monitored since 1980, were provided by DNRE. Counts of salmon at two estuarial monitoring traps (1985 to 1987) were provided by MLCP.

Biological characteristics of Atlantic salmon entering Restigouche River in 1987 were obtained from samples collected at the Native fishery and/or the estuarial traps (Fig. 1). Salmon were measured (FL to nearest cm ) and aged.

## 2. Recruitment

Densities of juvenile salmon (ages $0^{+}$and $1+$ ) were estimated by electrofishing at 15 sites in the Restigouche River in 1987. Densities (number per 100 m 2 ) were calculated using the removal method (Zippin 1956) and $95 \%$ confidence intervals were calculated after individual site counts were transformed ( $\ln X+1$ ). To identify long-term trends, mean densities at the same 15 sites were compared from 1972 to 1987 . Densities of age $1+$ parr (year i) were used to estimate numbers of spawners (year i-2) from 1970 to 1985 (see Section 3, Method 2).

## 3. Spawning escapement in 1987

As in previous assessments, two methods were used to estimate spawning escapement in 1987:

Method 1: Spawning escapement was calculated as angling catch/angling exploitation, minus angling and broodstock removals. An angling exploitation rate of 0.2 was used (Chadwick and Randall 1983). Total returns were calculated as the sum of escapement, harvest and poaching and disease removals. Because spawner count data suggest angling exploitation may be substantially higher than 0.2 (Table 3) escapement was also estimated using exploitation rates of 0.3 and 0.4 for comparison.

Method 2: A ratio of spawner to angled fish of 0.70 was used (Table 4). This ratio differed from the 1986 value ( 0.87 ; Randall et al. 1987) because (1) 1987 parr densities were included (2) the standard 15 sites were used in all years rather than all sites and (3) the overall average ratio was calculated as the sum of spawners divided by sum of angled fish rather than the mean of individual year ratios. Annual egg depositions were back-calculated from small parr densities assuming 10\% survival (Elson 1957, 1974; Chadwick 1982), and a rearing area of $29,768,000 \mathrm{~m} 2$. Spawners were calculated by dividing egg deposition by the average number of eggs per MSW spawner (Randall 1984). Escapement in 1987 was estimated as the product of the spawner to angled fish ratio and angling catch (minus broodstock removals) in 1987.

Spawning surveys have been conducted on all major tributaries of the Restigouche River each autumn by DNRE and MLCP staff since 1982. Fishery staff canoe sections of the river and make visual counts of all salmon observed. Results of these surveys (including a preliminary 1987 count) are compared with spawner estimates from Methods 1 and 2 above.

In past assessments, mortalities due to poaching and disease were assumed to be 2000 MSW and $1000 \mathrm{1SW}$ salmon each year, regardless of run strength. For this assessment, an estimate of poaching and disease mortality rate was estimated from data collected at the NW Upsalquitch River barrier (Table 5). Mortalities of salmon within the enclosure were recorded and divided into furunculosis (determined by internal and external examinations for lesions) and other (fence related etc.) deaths. After the fish were released from the enclosure in late September and before spawning, spawner and/or redd counts were made to provide an estimate of survival to spawning. These results indicated a total poaching and disease mortality rate of 0.14 and 0.16 for $1 S W$ and $M S W$ salmon, respectively (Table 5). Potential biases in this mortality estimate are: 1. furunculosis mortality may be higher at the enclosure than elsewhere because the fish are held at a high density; 2. poaching mortalities may be higher elsewhere in the Restigouche because fish are exposed to poachers throughout the season, not just from time of release (late September) to spawning. Despite these biases, this estimate of mortality is probably more realistic than assuming the constant numbers of fish as in previous assessments.

Mortalities from stress of catch-and-release of MSW salmon were estimated from observations at five angling camps. Camp managers provided data on the number of MSW salmon caught and released in their stretch of water, and an estimate of the total mortalities they observed that may have resulted from catch-and-release stress (i.e., no physical indication of furunculosis lesions on the fish). These estimates were made in 1985 and 1986 as well.

Egg deposition requirements for the total Restigouche River are 71,443,200 eggs (Randall 1984). About 12,200 MSW salmon are required to produce these eggs, and an additional $2,600 \mathrm{SW}$ salmon are required to ensure a 1:1 sex ratio at spawning.

## 4. Forecast

Returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River in 1988 were predicted using two methods: 1. from a significant correlation between 1 SW salmon at Kedgwick Lodge (year i) and total MSW returns (year i+1). This method has been used in previous assessments (Chadwick et al. 1984; 1985; Randall et al. 1985; 1986; 1987). 2. from historic (1983-1987) averages. Returns of 1 SW salmon were also predicted from previous five-year averages.

## RESULTS

## 1. Landings

Landings of MSW salmon in Québec portions of the Restigouche watershed decreased to 873 fish in 1987 from 1,418 fish in 1986, a decrease of $38 \%$ (Table 6). Effort (rod-days) was the same in both years. Québec catches in 1987 were 16\% below the long-term average (Table 2).

Estimates of numbers of MSW salmon caught and released in New Brunswick in 1987 are given below:

| Method | R2 | NB catch | Total catch minus camps | Total catch ( NB and PQ ) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Camps versus total angling | 0.87 | 3,980 | 4,157 | 4,853 |
| 2. $P Q$ vs $N B$ angling | 0.52 | 2,530 | --- | 3,403 |
| 3. Reported by DFO officers | --- | 3,228 | --- | 4,101 |

Method 1, which uses data from four angling camps to predict total numbers of MSW salmon caught and released in New Brunswick, was judged to be the best estimate, as in previous assessments (Randall et al. 1985; 1986; 1987). New Brunswick catch-and-release data from Method 1 indicated catches in 1987 decreased by $46 \%$ from 1986 ( 3,980 from 7,418; Table 2). Angling effort was similar in both years (Table 6). MSW salmon catches in New Brunswick in 1987 were above average (20\%); however, recent catch-and-release data (1984 to 1987) are probably not comparable to historic landing data because of the possibility of recaptures and the inclusion of releases that may not have been landed (i.e., catch and release data may give higher estimates of angling catch than actual landing data).

Landings of 1SW salmon in Québec increased in 1987 ( 591 fish) from 1986 (498 fish) by 19\% (Table 2). Landings in New Brunswick, however, decreased from 1986 ( 4,915 fish) to 1987 ( 4,477 fish), by $9 \%$. Landings of 1 SW salmon in both provinces were above long-term averages (Table 2). Returns of both 1SW and MSW salmon in 1987, judging from angling data, were above average (particularly 1 SW salmon).

Reported landings from Native fisheries at Eel River Bar indicated increased catches of both MSW salmon and in particular 1SW salmon from 1986
to 1987 (Table 6). However, effort increased between years, from 12 gill nets and one trap in 1986 to 12 gill nets and two traps in 1987. Native fishermen at Restigouche, Québec reported catching only 661 MSW and 3 MW salmon in 1987 ( $3,959 \mathrm{~kg}$, or $57 \%$ of the quota). However, two facts suggested that the quota was attained: 1. catches of MSW salmon at the lower estuarial trap were significantly higher during June in 1987 (Table 8 and Fig 3.)than 1986 when the quota was achieved and 2. the Band Council agreed to stop fishing on 30 June. Therefore, we assumed that 986 MSW and 5 1SW salmon were landed (Table 6); these estimates were calculated by dividing the quota ( $6,995 \mathrm{~kg}$ ) by the average weight of landed salmon ( $7.06 \mathrm{~kg} ; \mathrm{n}=408$ ), and using the $15 \mathrm{~W}: \mathrm{MSW}$ ratio in the reported landings. The duration of the fishery in 1987 was similar to 1986 but much shorter than in previous years (Fig. 2).

Total salmon landings in the Restigouche River from 1951 to 1987 are provided in Table 7.

Returns of 1 SW and MSW salmon to the Upsalquitch barrier were down in 1987 from 1986 by 11 and 15\%, respectively, but were substantially above the long term averages (Table 8). In contrast, catches of both 1SW and MSW salmon were greater at the lower estuary trap in 1987 compared to 1986 (15W salmon increased by 77\%; MSW salmon increased by 72\%). Salmon catches at the upper trap were not comparable between years because the trap location was changed.

Judging from catches at the lower estuarial trap, salmon returned slightly later in June in 1987 than in 1986 (see cummulative \% by 15 June, Fig. 3), but run-timing was generally similar in both years. Samples from the lower estuarial trap indicated 3SW salmon were larger than in 1986 (Table 9). Of the MSW salmon component of the run, age 35W salmon were relatively more abundant in 1987 than in 1986 (Table 9). Most (74\%) 1SW salmon were from the 1983 year-class ( 1982 spawners), 2 SW salmon were mainly from the 1982 year-class (70\%) and 3SW salmon were mainly from the 1981 year-class (78\%). In each case, these represent fish that smoltified at age 3.

## 2. Recruitment

Mean densities of juvenile salmon from 15 standard sites are compared to mean densities at all sites surveyed annually since 1972 in Table 10. Both age $0_{+}$and age $1+$ densities were significantly correlated between the two data sets (Table 10, lower). Mean densities of both $\mathrm{O}_{+}$and $1+$ salmon were above average in 1987 (Table 10; Fig. 4).

## 3. Spawning escapement

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For estimating spawning escapement in 1987, angling catches of 4,853 MSW salmon and 5,068 1SW salmon were used in Methods 1 and 2 (Table 2). The MSW salmon catch included fish landed in Québec and fish caught and released in New Brunswick. Mortality rate attributed to catch-and-release stress was estimated to be 5\% (as in 1986):

|  | Catch and release | Mortalities | Proportion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Camp 1 | 149 | 4 | 0.03 |
| Camp 2 | 65 | 10 | 0.15 |
| Camp 3 | 83 | 12 | 0.14 |
| Camp 4 | 339 | 10 | 0.03 |
| Camp 5 | 255 | 6 | 0.02 |
| Total | $\overline{891}$ | $\overline{42}$ | 0.05 |

Spawning escapements as estimated using Method 1 (angling exploition rate of 0.2 ) and Method 2 (spawner/angled fish ratio of 0.70 ) are given below:


Methods 1 and 2 indicated potential egg depositions of $137.4 \times 10^{6}$ eggs ( $193 \%$ of requirements) and $42.3 \times 10^{6}$ eggs (about $60 \%$ of requirements), respectively. Field surveys by DNRE wardens in 1987 resulted in spawner counts of $3,57815 \mathrm{~W}$ salmon and $7,124 \mathrm{MSW}$ salmon which were remarkably close to the estimates from Method 2. (Note that DNRE estimates of spawners are preliminary; A. Madden, pers. comm.). 1

Numbers of MSW salmon forecasted to return in 1987 were 21,883 fish (14,145-29,622) (Randall et al. 1987). Total returns from Method 2 in this assessment were therefore only 52\% of the forecast, and were outside of the confidence interval. Total returns of 1 SW salmon were $16 \%$ greater than forecasted ( 10,475 versus 9,060).

### 3.2 Spawners and total returns, 1970 to 1987

All indices of spawning escapement in Restigouche River from 1970 to 1987, including MSW salmon angling catches, parr densities and field spawner counts are summarized in Table 11. Regression analyses indicated that all indices were correlated except field spawner counts and resulting parr densities; however sample sizes in the latter comparisons were too small to be meaningful.

Spawning escapement and total returns of MSW salmon for the period 1970 to 1987 were calculated using Methods 1 and 2. For comparative purposes, three angling exploitations were used in Method $1(0.2,0.3 \text { and } 0.4)^{2}$, and three different sets of spawner/angled fish ratios were used in Method 2 (annual ratios for all sites, for 15 standard sites (Table 4), and an average ratio of 0.70 ). Estimated spawners and total returns from the three sets of ratios in Method 2 were similar (Table 12); an average ratio of 0.70 was judged to be the most suitable because it was not influenced by year to year variability in angling catches and parr densities, both of which may be affected by environmental conditions such as water levels. Spawning escapements estimated using the 0.70 spawner/angled fish ratio were remarkably close to field survey estimates for the period 1982 to 1987 (Table 12). Spawning escapement and total returns as estimated from the lower angling exploitation rates exceeded the ratio estimates considerably (Table 12). However, a higher exploitation rate ( 0.4 ) indicated spawning levels and returns that were more comparable to both the ratio estimates and the field surveys.

Estimated spawners and total returns of 1 SW salmon to Restigouche River, 1970 to 1987, are calculated in Table 13 (using a spawner/angled fish ratio of 0.70). Numbers of spawners observed during field surveys from 1982 to 1987 were similar to these estimates in all years.

1 Updated information indicated total spawner counts of 3930 1SW salmon and 8535 MSW salmon.
2 These exploitation rates are for river returns after mortalities for poaching and disease (PAD) are subtracted. For MSW salmon, with a PAD rate of 0.16 , corresponding exploitation rates on total returns would be less, i.e., 0.17, 0.25 and 0.34 .

## 4. Forecast for 1988

MSW salmon returns in 1988 were predicted using the correlation between 1SW salmon catch at Kedgwick Lodge (year i) and total MSW salmon returns (year $i+1$ ). The regression equation was:

$$
y=9,214.48+41.3 x \quad R^{2}=0.29 ; d f=16 ; P=0.022
$$

where $y=M S W$ salmon returns (year i+1)
$x=1 S W$ salmon catch, Kedgwick Lodge (year i)

$$
y(1988)=19,046(9,474-28,619)
$$

Data for this regression are given in Table 14. Note that this forecast for 1988 should be used with caution for the following reasons: 1. the correlation is highly dependant on the 1969-70 data point (Table 14), and 2. the 19871 SW salmon catch at Kedgwick Lodge was the highest of all preceding years. The forecast for 1988 is therefore based on an extrapolation.

Assuming average (1983-1987) returns to the Restigouche River in 1988, total returns could be about $12,900 \mathrm{MSW}$ salmon and $8,5001 \mathrm{SW}$ salmon. After losses to poaching and disease, 1988 MSW returns would potentially be 1,400 fish short of the target spawning requirement; 198815 S returns could be 4,700 fish in excess of spawning requirements.

## DISCUSSION

Returns of 1SW salmon were apparently similar in 1987 to 1986 in the Restigouche River. Returns of MSW salmon, however, were less than in 1986 and significantly less than forecasted in the 1986 assessement. Judging from angling catches and a calculated spawner/angled fish ratio of 0.7 , total returns were estimated to be about 11,300 salmon, compared to a forecast of $21,900(14,100-29,600)$. These results indicate the method of forecasting MSW salmon in the Restigouche is unreliable, at least in some years. Catches of 1SW salmon at Kedgwick Lodge in 1986 (on which the 1987 forecast of MSW salmon returns was based) were greater than in previous years (Table 14) and thus the 1987 prediction was an extrapolation. Kedgwick Lodge catches in 1987 were high, and the forecast of MSW salmon returns in 1988 is also an extrapolation and therefore should be used with caution. The methodology for forecasting salmon returns to Restigouche River is presently being reviewed in detail. It should also be noted however that returns of MSW salmon were significantly less than forecasted in the Miramichi and Saint John rivers in 1987 (ACFF Subcommittee Report 87/14), suggesting marine mortality outside of home waters (natural or fishing mortality) may have been higher than usual for several New Brunswick stocks.

Despite poorer MSW salmon returns in 1987 than expected, the management plan in effect potentially allowed a high proportion of returns to
survive to spawn in 1987 ( $63 \%$; Table 13). Both the spawner to angled fish ratio and preliminary data from field surveys indicated about 7,000 MSW salmon spawned, suggesting about $60 \%$ of egg deposition requirements were met.

Both Methods 1 and 2 in this assessment utilize angling catches to estimate total returns and spawning escapement of salmon. We accepted Method 2 as being the best method because numbers of estimated spawners from Method 2 were about equal to estimates of spawners (both 1SW and MSW salmon) from field surveys. Accepting a spawner/angled fish ratio of 0.70 , and a poaching and disease mortality rate of 0.16 implies an angling exploitation rate of $>0.40$ for MSW salmon. This relationship can be seen when comparing spawners and returns from Method 2 and Method 1 using different angling exploitation rates (Table 12). As exploitation increases, estimates of spawners from the two Methods converge. Whether or not an angling exploitation rate of $>0.40$ is reasonable for Restigouche salmon, however, needs to be confirmed. Exploitation is potentially high because of the characteristics of the river: salmon return early in the season and thus are exposed to anglers during the entire angling season, and the water is clear and many anglers only fish where they can see fish. Nevertheless, an independent estimate of exploitation rate is required for Restigouche salmon.

Because Method 2 is dependent on angling catches, the estimates of spawners in 1987 may be an underestimate. Water levels were unusually low during the angling season (Fig. 5), and angling catches tend to be lower in low water years in the Restigouche River (Randall unpublished data). Indices of salmon returns that were independant of angling catches (e.g., trap and barrier counts) indicated salmon returns similar to or higher than in 1986. These discrepancies emphasize the need for a permanent counting facility on the Restigouche River that can be used to monitor salmon returns each year independently of the angling and Native fisheries.

Assuming average returns of salmon in 1988, 1SW returns could be about 8,500 fish and MSW salmon returns could be about 12,900 fish. After mortalities from poaching and disease ( 0.14 for 1 SW and 0.16 for MSW salmon), these returns would result in a deficit of about 1400 MSW salmon and a surplus of 47001 SW salmon to spawning requirements.

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Table 1. Catch of MSW salmon at four index angling camps (Chadwick et al. 1984) and total catch in the Restigouche River.

| Year | Angling camps | Total catch minus camps |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1970 | 277 | 1,765 |
| 1971 | 194 | 822 |
| 1972 | 601 | 4,440 |
| 1973 | 571 | 4,321 |
| 1974 | 959 | 4,989 |
| 1975 | 494 | 2,407 |
| 1976 |  |  |
| 1977 | 909 | 5,798 |
| 1978 | 615 | 4,410 |
| 1979 | 353 | 1,470 |
| 1980 | 905 | 5,252 |
| 1981 | 602 | 3,638 |
| 1982 | 453 | 2,129 |
| 1983 | 409 | 1,659 |
| 1984 | 490 | $(2,836) 1$ |
| 1985 | 859 | $(5,203)^{1}$ |
| 1986 | 1,233 | $(7,603) 1$ |
| 1987 | 696 | $(4,157)^{1}$ |

1 Total catches from 1984 to 1987 were estimated from the correlation between catch at the angling camps ( $x$ ) and total catch ( $y$ ) 1970 to 1983; $y=-308.7+6.4(x) ; R 2=0.87, P<0.01$.

Table 2. Estimated angling catches of salmon in the Restigouche River, 1970 to 1987.

| Year | MSW |  |  | 15W |  |  | Proportion MSW |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PQ | NB | Total | $P Q$ | NB | Total |  |
| 1970 | 326 | 1,716 | 2,042 | 166 | 1,340 | 1,506 | 0.58 |
| 1971 | 259 | 757 | 1,016 | 173 | 999 | 1,172 | 0.46 |
| 1972 | 1,171 | 3,870 | 5,041 | 111 | 978 | 1,089 | 0.82 |
| 1973 | 1,146 | 3,746 | 4,892 | 147 | 1,423 | 1,570 | 0.76 |
| 1974 | 1,163 | 4,785 | 5,948 | 129 | 1,038 | 1,167 | 0.84 |
| 1975 | 741 | 2,160 | 2,901 | 149 | 1,130 | 1,279 | 0.69 |
| 1976 | 1,029 | 4,481 | 5,510 | 377 | 2,345 | 2,722 | 0.67 |
| 1977 | 1,579 | 5,128 | 6,707 | 459 | 2,333 | 2,792 | 0.71 |
| 1978 | 1,652 | 3,373 | 5,025 | 282 | 1,322 | 1,604 | 0.76 |
| 1979 | 826 | 997 | 1,823 | 556 | 1,990 | 2,546 | 0.42 |
| 1980 | 2,059 | 4,098 | 6,157 | 409 | 2,833 | 3,242 | 0.66 |
| 1981 | 1,408 | 2,832 | 4,240 | 635 | 3,010 | 3,645 | 0.54 |
| 1982 | 962 | 1,620 | 2,582 | 402 | 2,449 | 2,851 | 0.48 |
| 1983 | 587 | 1,481 | 2,068 | 181 | 715 | 896 | 0.70 |
| 1984 | 570 | [2,756] ${ }^{1}$ | $[3,326]$ | 348 | 1,474 | 1,822 | 0.65 |
| 1985 | 752 | [ 5,310$]$ | [6,062] | 259 | 3,258 | 3,517 | 0.63 |
| 1986 | 1,418 | [7,418] | [8,836] | 498 | 4,915 | 5,413 | 0.62 |
| Mean (70-86) | 1,038 | 3,325 | 4,363 | 311 | 1,974 | 2,284 | 0.652 |
| 1987 | 873 | [3,980] | $[4,853]$ | 591 | 4,477 | 5,068 | 0.49 |

1 Estimates in parenthesis [ ] include MSW salmon released in New Brunswick. New Brunswick catch-and-release data (1984 to 1987) were estimated from a correlation between four angling camps and total angling catch (Table 1).

2 Mean proportion MSM calculated after arcsine transformation.

Table 3. Estimated angling exploitation rates (U) in Restigouche River, 1982 to 1987. Numbers of spawners were estimated from field surveys and returns were estimated assuming a poaching and disease rate of 0.16 for MSW and 0.14 for $15 W$ salmon.

| Yr | 1SW |  |  |  | MSW salmon |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Angling | Spawners | Returns | $u$ | Angling | Landings | Spawners | Returns | $u$ |
| 1982 | 2,851 | 1,577 | 5,149 | 0.55 | 2,582 | 2,582 | 3,563 | 7,315 | 0.35 |
| 1983 | 896 | 986 | 2,188 | 0.41 | 2,068 | 2,068 | 2,397 | 5,315 | 0.39 |
| 1984 | 1,822 | 1,374 | 3,716 | 0.49 | 3,326 | 708 | 5,233 | 7,073 | (0.10) |
| 1985 | 3,517 | 2,111 | 6,544 | 0.54 | 6,062 | 1,177 | 7,898 | 10,804 | (0.11) |
| 1986 | 5,413 | 5,190 | 12,329 | 0.44 | 8,836 | 1,789 | 9,542 | 13,489 | (0.13) |
| 1987 | 5,068 | 3,578 | 10,053 | 0. 50 | 4,853 | 1,072 | 7,124 | 9,757 | (0.11) |

( ) catch-and-release of MSW salmon in New Brunswick.

Table 4. Ratios of spamers per angled fish in Restigouche River, 1970 to 1985. Spamers were calculated from parr densities from all sites (Colums 2. and 6.) and from 15 standard sites (Columns 3. and 7.).

Table 5. Counts of salmon at Upsalquitch barrier, 1982 to 1986, and estimated survival at spawning.

| Year | Acrivals at barrier |  | Mortalities at barrier |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Proportion lost |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Furunculosis |  | Dther |  | Poaching mortalities above barrier |  | Spanners |  | Furunculosis at barrier |  | Poaching above the barrier |  | Furunculosis \& above barrier |  |
|  | 15W | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 15W | MSW | 15W | MSW | 15W | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 15W | MSW |
| 1982 | 819 | 622 | 16 | 46 | 6 | 1 | 203 | 127 | 594 | 448 | . 02 | . 07 | . 25 | . 20 | . 27 | . 28 |
| 1983 | 430 | 301 | 18 | 18 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 410 | 282 | . 04 | . 06 | . 00 | . 00 | . 04 | . 06 |
| 1984 | 518 | 642 | 7 | 40 | 5 | 2 | 131 | 174 | 375 | 426 | . 01 | . 06 | . 25 | . 27 | . 27 | . 33 |
| 1985 | 748 | 517 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 105 | 83 | 634 | 431 | . 01 | . 00 | . 14 | . 16 | . 15 | . 16 |
| 1986 | 1,738 | 1,166 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 86 | 55 | 1,640 | 1,100 | . 01 | . 01 | . 05 | . 05 | . 06 | . 05 |
| Mean (82-86) ${ }^{1}$ | 851 | 650 | 11 | 23 | 4 | 2 | 105 | 88 | 731 | 537 | . 02 | . 03 | . 11 | . 10 | . 14 | . 16 |
| 1987 | 1,544 | 988 | 18 | 48 | 2 | 0 |  |  |  |  | . 01 | . 05 |  |  |  |  |

1 Mean proportions calculated after arcsine transformation.

| Fishery | 1987 |  |  | 1986 |  |  | 1985 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | MSW | 15W | Effort | MSW | 1SW | Effort | MSW | 1SW | Effort |


| Native |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N.B. | 501 | 451 |  | 431 | 26 |  | 241 | 0 |  |
| P.Q. | 986 | 5 |  | 1,145 | 4 |  | 976 | 35 |  |
| Angling |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N.B. | ---- | 4,477 | 10,217 | ---- | 4,915 | 10,098 | ---- | 3,258 | 10,499 |
| P.Q. | 873 | 591 | 7,805 | 1,418 | 498 | 7,811 | 752 | 259 | 5,759 |
| Total | 2,360 | 5,524 |  | 2,994 | 5,443 |  | 1,969 | 3,552 |  |

Table 7. Commercial, angling and Native salmon landings from Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River, 1951 to 1987. Data sources given in Appendices 1 to 4.

| Year | Commercial |  | Angling |  | Native |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 15W | MSW |  |
| 1951 |  | 42,453 |  |  |  |  | $(46,149)^{1}$ |
| 1952 |  | 39,619 |  |  |  |  | $(45,758)$ |
| 1953 |  | 31,893 |  |  |  |  | $(35,042)$ |
| 1954 |  | 31,327 |  |  |  |  | $(34,683)$ |
| 1955 |  | 18,356 |  |  |  |  | $(20,705)$ |
| 1956 |  | 15,167 |  |  |  |  | $(17,829)$ |
| 1957 |  | 19,916 |  |  |  |  | $(23,686)$ |
| 1958 |  | 26,791 |  |  |  |  | $(36,496)$ |
| 1959 |  | 32,035 |  |  |  |  | $(35,513)$ |
| 1960 |  | 30,618 | 627 | 2,427 |  |  | 33,672 |
| 1961 |  | 21,970 | 125 | 3,135 |  |  | 25,230 |
| 1962 |  | 27,428 | 203 | 3,236 |  |  | 30,867 |
| 1963 |  | 24,097 | 1,621 | 5,793 |  |  | 31,511 |
| 1964 |  | 28,775 | 136 | 6,788 |  |  | 35,699 |
| 1965 |  | 39,547 | 4,071 | 3,526 |  |  | 47,144 |
| 1966 |  | 33,310 | 1,909 | 2,138 |  |  | 37,357 |
| 1967 |  | 34,728 | 1,341 | 3,020 |  |  | 39,089 |
| 1968 |  | 26,719 | 465 | 745 |  |  | 27,929 |
| 1969 |  | 18,356 | 1,489 | 1,512 |  |  | 21,357 |
| 1970 |  | 18,180 | 1,506 | 2,042 |  |  | 21,728 |
| 1971 |  | 8,967 | 1,172 | 1,016 |  |  | 11,155 |
| 1972 | 36 | 23 | 1,089 | 5,041 |  |  | 6,189 |
| 1973 | 1,272 | 295 | 1,570 | 4,892 |  |  | 8,029 |
| 1974 | 132 | 68 | 1,167 | 5,948 |  |  | 7,315 |
| 1975 | 163 | 1,026 | 1,279 | 2,901 | 3 | 132 | 5,504 |
| 1976 | 5,107 | 225 | 2,722 | 5,510 | 13 | 1,641 | 15,218 |
| 1977 | 1,134 | 168 | 2,792 | 6,707 | 19 | 2,950 | 13,770 |
| 1978 | 1,522 | 156 | 1,604 | 5,025 | 23 | 129 | 8,459 |
| 1979 | 83 | 671 | 2,546 | 1,823 | 169 | 896 | 6,188 |
| 1980 | 1,986 | 9 | 3,242 | 6,157 | 58 | 1,827 | 13,279 |
| 1981 | 3,045 | 3,534 | 3,645 | 4,240 |  |  | 14,464 |
| 1982 | 2,202 | 4,437 | 2,851 | 2,582 | 148 | 1,521 | 13,741 |
| 1983 | 1,552 | 4,569 | 896 | 2,068 | 32 | 1,476 | 10,593 |
| 1984 | 7,161 | 2,026 | 1,822 | 570 | 178 | 1,283 | 13,040 |
| 1985 | 0 | 0 | 3,517 | 752 | 35 | 1,217 | 5,521 |
| 1986 | 0 | 0 | 5,413 | 1,418 | 30 | 1,576 | 8,437 |
| 1987 | 0 | 0 | 5,068 | 873 | 456 | 1,487 | 7,884 |

1Totals from 1951 to 1959 include angling landings for which the 1SW to MSW ratio was unknown.

Table 8. Counts of salmon at a fish barrier on NW Upsalquitch River, 1980 to 1987, and in two estuarial traps, 1985 to 1987.

| Year | 1SW | MSW | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Upsalquitch barrier |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 843 | 887 | 1,730 |
| 1981 | 789 | 481 | 1,270 |
| 1982 | 819 | 622 | 1,441 |
| 1983 | 430 | 301 | 731 |
| 1984 | 518 | 642 | 1,160 |
| 1985 | 748 | 517 | 1,265 |
| 1986 | 1,738 | 1,166 | 2,904 |
| Mean (80-86) | 841 | 659 | 1,500 |
| 1987 | 1,544 | 988 | 2,532 |
| Estuarial traps |  |  |  |
| Lower |  |  |  |
| 1985 | 16 | 52 | 68 |
| 1986 | 64 | 109 | 173 |
| 1987 | 113 | 188 | 301 |
| Upper |  |  |  |
| 1985 | 34 | 34 | 68 |
| 1986 | 109 | 59 | 168 |
| 1987 | 468 | 254 | 722 |

Table 9. Biological characteristics of salmon in Restigouche River. Data for 1985 to 1987 from salmon sampled at the Native fishery and/or estuarial traps (Fig. 1). For comparison, data for 1972 to 1980 (Dalhousie trap; Peppar 1983) are also given. Fork length and sea age data includes previous spamers; smolt age composition is for virgin salmon. ( $\mathrm{PS}=$ previous spaners; $\mathrm{y}-\mathrm{c}=$ year class).


1. Fork length

|  | 1SW |  |  | 2SW |  |  | 3SW |  |  | PS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $n$ | x | SD | ก | X | SD | $n$ | X | SD | $n$ | X | SD |
| 1972-1980 | 1,488 | 53.2 | 2.7 | 699 | 76.5 | 4.8 | 291 | 92.0 | 4.2 | 46 | 95.0 | 11.1 |
| 1985 | 48 | 53.2 | 3.7 | 45 | 75.7 | 4.7 | 29 | 92.0 | 4.3 | 9 | 91.9 | 14.7 |
| 1986 | 170 | 56.3 | 3.1 | 136 | 77.2 | 4.2 | 14 | 91.4 | 4.2 | 13 | 98.5 | 10.5 |
| 1987 | 552 | 55.1 | 3.1 | 273 | 78.6 | 4.4 | 97 | 93.4 | 3.3 | 57 | 96.6 | 8.7 |

2. Smolt age, 1987

| - | 1SW |  |  | 2SW |  |  | 35W |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $n$ | $\%$ | $y-c$ | n | $\%$ | $y-c$ | $n$ | \% | $y-c$ |
| 2 | 114 | 22 | 1984 | 112 | 22 | 1983 | 26 | 17 | 1982 |
| 3 | 382 | 74 | 1983 | 354 | 70 | 1982 | 116 | 78 | 1981 |
| 4 | 22 | 4 | 1982 | 43 | 8 | 1981 | 7 | 5 | 1980 |

3. Sea age, \%

|  | 1SW | 2SW | 3SW | PS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1972-1980 | 39 | 43 (70) ${ }^{1}$ | 15 | 3 |
| 1985 | 24 | 38 (50) 1 | 30 | 8 |
| 1986 | 38 | 50 (81) 1 | 7 | 5 |
| 1987 | 38 | 39 (63)1 | 16 | 7 |

[^1]Table 10. Juvenile salmon densities (number per $100 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ ) in the Restigouche River, 1972 to 1987. ( $n=$ number of sites).

| Year | 2 | ${ }^{3}$ All Sites ${ }^{4}$ |  | 5 | 6Standard Sites |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Age $0+$ | Age 1+ | $n$ | Age $0+$ | Age 1+ |
| 1972 | 21 | 4.8 | 2.1 | 15 | 5.2 | 2.5 |
| 1973 | 25 | 18.0 | 2.5 | 15 | 22.0 | 2.8 |
| 1974 | 26 | 12.9 | 6.8 | 15 | 13.1 | 6.1 |
| 1975 | 31 | 32.6 | 9.9 | 15 | 28.6 | 4.8 |
| 1976 | 29 | 14.7 | 8.5 | 15 | 13.3 | 6.9 |
| 1977 | 34 | 17.2 | 4.3 | 15 | 14.7 | 3.9 |
| 1978 | 38 | 23.8 | 8.1 | 15 | 19.5 | 6.3 |
| 1979 | 40 | 10.4 | 7.1 | 15 | 6.1 | 5.9 |
| 1980 | 42 | 10.5 | 3.9 | 15 | 9.3 | 3.8 |
| 1981 | 45 | 16.3 | 3.5 | 15 | 18.9 | 2.4 |
| 1982 | 47 | 8.4 | 4.1 | 15 | 11.2 | 3.3 |
| 1983 | 51 | 23.9 | 6.8 | 15 | 25.4 | 7.8 |
| 1984 | 51 | 25.1 | 5.0 | 15 | 25.1 | 7.3 |
| 1985 | 45 | 23.0 | 10.0 | 15 | 25.2 | 10.4 |
| 1986 | 30 | 24.2 | 6.6 | 15 | 23.9 | 7.5 |
| 1972-86 mean |  | 17.7 | 5.9 |  | 17.4 | 5.5 |
| 1987 | -- | ---- | --- | 15 | 42.0 | 9.4 |

Correlations:

| 3 with 6 | 0.94 | 0.001 | 15 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 with 7 |  | 0.77 | 0.001 | 15 |
| 3 with 4 (lagged 1 yr ) | 0.55 | 0.043 | 14 |  |
| 6 with 7 (lagged 1 yr) | 0.71 | 0.003 | 15 |  |

Table 11. Summary of indices of spawning escapement in the Restigouche River, 1970 to 1987. Indices include angling catches in New Brunswick as estimated by DNRE and DFO, catches from Québec (PQ), parr densities in New Brunswick ( 15 sites), and spawner counts from field surveys.

| 1 | MSW angling catch |  |  |  | $\stackrel{6}{\text { Parr }}$ | $\stackrel{7}{\text { sities }}$ | 8 <br> Spawners |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | DNRE | DFO | PQ | Total | $0+$ | 1+ |  |
| 1970 | 746 | 1,716 | 326 | 2,042 | ---- | 2.5 | ----- |
| 1971 | 560 | 757 | 259 | 1,016 | 5.2 | 2.8 | ----- |
| 1972 | 2,291 | 3,870 | 1,171 | 5,041 | 22.0 | 6.1 | ----- |
| 1973 | 2,528 | 3,746 | 1,146 | 4,892 | 13.1 | 4.8 | ----- |
| 1974 | 3,600 | 4,785 | 1,163 | 5,948 | 28.6 | 6.9 | ----- |
| 1975 | 1,671 | 2,160 | 741 | 2,901 | 13.3 | 3.9 | ------ |
| 1976 | 1,874 | 4,481 | 1,029 | 5,510 | 14.7 | 6.3 | ----- |
| 1977 | 2,599 | 5,128 | 1,579 | 6,707 | 19.5 | 5.9 | ----- |
| 1978 | 2,167 | 3,373 | 1,652 | 5,025 | 6.1 | 3.8 | ----- |
| 1979 | 661 | 997 | 826 | 1,823 | 9.3 | 2.4 | ----- |
| 1980 | 3,419 | 4,098 | 2,059 | 6,157 | 18.9 | 3.3 | ----- |
| 1981 | 2,780 | 2,832 | 1,408 | 4,240 | 11.2 | 7.8 | ----- |
| 1982 | 1,269 | 1,620 | 962 | 2,582 | 25.4 | 7.3 | 3,563 |
| 1983 | 710 | 1,481 | 587 | 2,068 | 25.1 | 10.4 | 2,397 |
| 1984 | 1,401 | 2,756 | 570 | 3,326 | 25.2 | 7.5 | 5,233 |
| 1985 | 3,214 | 5,310 | 752 | 6,062 | 23.9 | 9.4 | 7,898 |
| 1986 | 4,372 | 7,418 | 1,418 | 8,836 | 42.0 | ---- | 9,542 |
| 1987 | ---- | 3,980 | 873 | 4,853 | ---- | ---- | 7,124 |

10NRE angling catch for 1984 as adjusted by S. O'Neil (pers. comm.)
Correlations:

|  | г | P | n |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 with 3 | 0.90 | 0.001 | 17 |  |
| 2 with 4 | 0.71 | 0.001 | 17 |  |
| 3 with 4 | 0.57 | 0.014 | 18 |  |
| 3 with 6 | 0.60 | 0.014 | 16 |  |
| 3 with 7 | 0.31 | NS | 16 |  |
| 3 with 6 | 0.69 | 0.004 | 15 | (1983 excluded) |
| 3 with 7 | 0.55 | 0.035 | 15 | (1983 excluded) |
| 5 with 8 | 0.96 | 0.003 | 6 |  |
| 8 with 6 | 0.67 | NS | 5 |  |
| 8 with 7 | -0.07 | NS | 4 |  |

Table 12. Estimated spawners (S, upper) and returns ( $R$, lower) of MSW salmon to Restigouche River, 1970 - 1987. Spawners and returns were estimated using three angling exploitation rates (Method 1) and three sets of spawner/angled fish ratios (see text). Spawners as estimated from field surveys also given (1982-1987).

|  | Method 1 |  |  | Method 2 |  |  | Field Surveys |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | $\overline{\text { All Si }}$ | 5 | 70 |  |
| Year | S1 | 52 | 53 | 54 | S5 | 56 |  |

Spawners

| 1970 | 8,168 | 4,765 | 3,063 | 1,062 | 1,246 | 1,429 | ----- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1971 | 4,064 | 2,371 | 1,524 | 1,250 | 1,402 | 711 |  |
| 1972 | 20,164 | 11,762 | 7,561 | 3,579 | 3,226 | 3,529 |  |
| 1973 | 19,568 | 11,415 | 7,338 | 4,696 | 2,299 | 3,424 | ----- |
| 1974 | 23,792 | 13,879 | 8,922 | 4,164 | 3,390 | 4,164 | ----- |
| 1975 | 11,604 | 6,769 | 4,351 | 1,944 | 1,770 | 2,031 | ----- |
| 1976 | 22,040 | 12,857 | 8,265 | 3,747 | 2,920 | 3,857 |  |
| 1977 | 26,828 | 15,650 | 10,060 | 3,890 | 3,219 | 4,695 |  |
| 1978 | 20,100 | 11,725 | 7,537 | 1,909 | 1,859 | 3,517 |  |
| 1979 | 7,292 | 4,254 | 2,734 | 1,695 | 1,167 | 1,276 | ----- |
| 1980 | 24,628 | 14,366 | 9,235 | 2,586 | 2,093 | 4,310 | ----- |
| 1981 | 16,960 | 9,893 | 6,360 | 3,392 | 3,901 | 2,968 |  |
| 1982 | 10,328 | 6,025 | 3,873 | 2,505 | 3,666 | 1,807 | 3,563 |
| 1983 | 8,272 | 4,825 | 3,102 | 5,025 | 5,211 | 1,448 | 2,397 |
| 1984 | 15,888 | 10,345 | 7,573 | 5,910 | 6,342 | 4,912 | 5,233 |
| 1985 | 29,096 | 18,993 | 13,941 | 9,576 | 9,576 | 9,091 | 7,898 |
| 1986 | 42,354 | 27,627 | 20,264 | 13,725 | 13,195 | 13,195 | 9,542 |
| 1987 | 23,153 | 15,065 | 11,020 | 7,429 | 7,138 | 7,138 | 7,124 |
| Returns Year | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 |  |
| 1970 | 30,335 | 26,283 | 24,258 | 21,875 | 22,094 | 22,313 |  |
| 1971 | 15,015 | 12,999 | 11,991 | 11,664 | 11,846 | 11,023 |  |
| 1972 | 30,030 | 20,027 | 15,026 | 10,285 | 9,865 | 10,225 |  |
| 1973 | 29,415 | 19,708 | 14,855 | 11,710 | 8,856 | 10,196 |  |
| 1974 | 35,473 | 23,672 | 17,771 | 12,106 | 11,185 | 12,106 |  |
| 1975 | 18,426 | 12,670 | 9,792 | 6,926 | 6,718 | 7,029 |  |
| 1976 | 34,664 | 23,732 | 18,265 | 12,886 | 11,902 | 13,017 |  |
| 1977 | 43,041 | 29,734 | 23,080 | 15,734 | 14,935 | 16,692 |  |
| 1978 | 30,196 | 20,226 | 15,241 | 8,541 | 8,481 | 10,455 |  |
| 1979 | 12,418 | 8,801 | 6,993 | 5,756 | 5,126 | 5,256 |  |
| 1980 | 38,486 | 26,269 | 20,161 | 12,244 | 11,658 | 14,297 |  |
| 1981 | 28,773 | 20, 360 | 16,153 | 12,620 | 13,226 | 12,115 |  |
| 1982 | 21,327 | 16,204 | 13,643 | 12,014 | 13,397 | 11,184 |  |
| 1983 | 18,355 | 14,252 | 12,200 | 14,490 | 14,711 | 10,230 |  |
| 1984 | 23,107 | 16,508 | 13,208 | 11,228 | 11,743 | 10,040 |  |
| 1985 | 37,301 | 25,273 | 19,259 | 14,063 | 14,063 | 13,486 |  |
| 1986 | 54,172 | 36,640 | 27,874 | 20,090 | 19,459 | 19,459 |  |
| 1987 | 30,374 | 20,745 | 15,931 | 11,655 | 11,309 | 11,309 |  |

Table 13. Estimated spawners and total returns of MSW salmon (upper) and 1SW salmon (lower) in Restigouche River, 1970-1987. Spawners were estimated using a spawner/angled fish ratio of 0.7 .


MSW Salmon

| 1970 | 18,180 | 2,042 | ----- | 661 | 1,429 |  | 22,313 | 0.06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1971 | 8,967 | 1,016 | ----- | 329 | 711 |  | 11,023 | 0.06 |
| 1972 | 23 | 5,041 | ----- | 1,633 | 3,529 |  | 10,225 | 0.35 |
| 1973 | 295 | 4,892 | ----- | 1,584 | 3,424 |  | 10,196 | 0.34 |
| 1974 | 68 | 5,948 | ------ | 1,926 | 4,164 |  | 12,106 | 0.34 |
| 1975 | 1,158 | 2,901 | ----- | 939 | 2,031 |  | 7,029 | 0.29 |
| 1976 | 1,866 | 5,510 | ----- | 1,784 | 3,857 |  | 13,017 | 0.30 |
| 1977 | 3,118 | 6,707 | ----- | 2,172 | 4,695 |  | 16,692 | 0.28 |
| 1978 | 285 | 5,025 | ----- | 1,627 | 3,517 |  | 10,455 | 0.34 |
| 1979 | 1,567 | 1,823 | ----- | 590 | 1,276 |  | 5,256 | 0.24 |
| 1980 | 1,836 | 6,157 | ----- | 1,994 | 4,310 |  | 14,297 | 0.30 |
| 1981 | 3,534 | 4,240 | ----- | 1,373 | 2,968 |  | 12,115 | 0.24 |
| 1982 | 5,958 | 2,582 | ------ | 836 | 1,807 | $(3,563) 1$ | 11,184 | 0.16 |
| 1983 | 6,045 | 2,068 |  | 670 | 1,448 | $(2,397)$ | 10,230 | 0.14 |
| 1984 | 3,309 | $742^{2}$ | 3,326 | 1,077 | 4,912 | $(5,233)$ | 10,040 | 0.49 |
| 1985 | 1,217 | 1,2142 | 6,062 | 1,963 | 9,091 | $(7,898)$ | 13,486 | 0.67 |
| 1986 | 1,576 | 1,8262 | 8,836 | 2,862 | 13,195 | $(9,542)$ | 19,459 | 0.68 |
| 1987 | 1,487 | 1,1122 | 4,853 | 1,572 | 7,138 | $(7,124)$ | 11,309 | 0.63 |

1SW Salmon

| 1970 | 0 | 1,506 | 417 | 1,054 | 2,977 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1971 | 0 | 1,172 | 324 | 820 | 2,317 |
| 1972 | 36 | 1,089 | 301 | 762 | 2,189 |
| 1973 | 1,272 | 1,570 | 435 | 1,099 | 4,376 |
| 1974 | 132 | 1,167 | 323 | 817 | 2,439 |
| 1975 | 166 | 1,279 | 354 | 895 | 2,694 |
| 1976 | 5,120 | 2,722 | 753 | 1,905 | 10,501 |
| 1977 | 1,153 | 2,792 | 773 | 1,954 | 6,672 |
| 1978 | 1,545 | 1,604 | 444 | 1,123 | 4,716 |
| 1979 | 252 | 2,546 | 705 | 1,782 | 5,285 |
| 1980 | 2,044 | 3,242 | 897 | 2,269 | 8,453 |
| 1981 | 3,045 | 3,645 | 1,009 | 2,551 | 10,250 |
| 1982 | 2,350 | 2,851 | 789 | $1,996(1,577)$ | 7,986 |
| 1983 | 1,584 | 896 | 248 | 627 | $986)$ |
| 1984 | 7,339 | 1,822 | 504 | $1,275(1,374)$ | 10,955 |
| 1985 | 35 | 3,517 | 973 | $2,462(2,111)$ | 6,987 |
| 1986 | 30 | 5,413 | 1,498 | $3,789(5,190)$ | 10,730 |
| 1987 | 456 | 5,068 | 1,403 | $3,548(3,578)$ | 10,474 |

[^2]Table 14. Total returns of MSW salmon to Restigouche River and catch of 15 W salmon at Kedgwick Lodge in the previous year (1969-87). Total returns are calculated in Table 13. Returns of MSW salmon predicted for 1988 are given in parenthesis.

| Year (i) | Kedgwick Lodge 1SW salmon catch (year i) | Total returns of MSW salmon to Restigouche (year $i+1$ ) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1969 | 174 | 22,313 |
| 1970 | 124 | 11,023 |
| 1971 | 72 | 10,225 |
| 1972 | 36 | 10,196 |
| 1973 | 30 | 12,106 |
| 1974 | 27 | 7,029 |
| 1975 | 33 | 13,017 |
| 1976 | 71 | 16,692 |
| 1977 | 37 | 10,455 |
| 1978 | 25 | 5,256 |
| 1979 | 128 | 14,297 |
| 1980 | 26 | 12,115 |
| 1981 | 45 | 11,184 |
| 1982 | 69 | 10,230 |
| 1983 | 44 | 10,040 |
| 1984 | 83 | 13,486 |
| 1985 | 98 | 19,459 |
| 1986 | 199 | 11,309 |
| 1987 | 238 | $(19,046)$ |




Fig. 2. Semi-monthy cumiative atch of of tiv and mow salman the tative fishery at
 Total cath each yar is indicated.



 in the lower stuarial trap, festigoume




Fig. 4. Mean densities (per $100 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ ) of juvenile Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche Biver, 1972-87. (95\% confidence intervals are
indicated). indicated).

## Percent of median



Fig. 5. Mean monthly discharge, cubic meters per sec, of surface water in the Upsalquitch River, 1987, expressed as a percent of the long term median

## APPENDIX 1

Commercial salmon landings from Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River, 1951 to 1987. Data sources given in Appendix 4.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  |  | Québec |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | TOTAL | 15W | MSW | TOTAL |  |
| 1951 |  | 17,718 | 17,718 |  | 24,735 | 24,735 | 42,453 |
| 1952 |  | 19,207 | 19,207 |  | 20,412 | 20,412 | 39,619 |
| 1953 |  | 16,868 | 16,868 |  | 15,025 | 15,025 | 31,893 |
| 1954 |  | 17,081 | 17,081 |  | 14,246 | 14,246 | 31,327 |
| 1955 |  | 8,221 | 8,221 |  | 10,135 | 10,135 | 18,356 |
| 1956 |  | 7,513 | 7,513 |  | 7,654 | 7,654 | 15,167 |
| 1957 |  | 9,639 | 9,639 |  | 10,277 | 10,277 | 19,916 |
| 1958 |  | 15,380 | 15,380 |  | 11,411 | 11,211 | 26,791 |
| 1959 |  | 16,159 | 16,159 |  | 15,876 | 15,876 | 32,035 |
| 1960 |  | 13,537 | 13,537 |  | 17,081 | 17,081 | 30,618 |
| 1961 |  | 12,119 | 12,119 |  | 9,851 | 9,851 | 21,970 |
| 1962 |  | 16,443 | 16,443 |  | 10,985 | 10,985 | 27,428 |
| 1963 |  | 13,820 | 13,820 |  | 10,277 | 10,277 | 24,097 |
| 1964 |  | 15,876 | 15,876 |  | 12,899 | 12,899 | 28,775 |
| 1965 |  | 22,750 | 22,750 |  | 16,797 | 16,797 | 39,547 |
| 1966 |  | 17,789 | 17,789 |  | 15,521 | 15,521 | 33,310 |
| 1967 |  | 21,404 | 21,404 |  | 13,324 | 13,324 | 34,728 |
| 1968 |  | 15,734 | 15,734 |  | 10,985 | 10,985 | 26,719 |
| 1969 |  | 10,206 | 10,206 |  | 8,150 | 8,150 | 18,356 |
| 1970 |  | 9,100 | 9,100 |  | 9,080 | 9,080 | 18,180 |
| 1971 |  | 3,949 | 3,949 |  | 5,018 | 5,018 | 8,967 |
| 1972 | 36 | 23 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 59 |
| 1973 | 723 | 168 | 891 | 549 | 127 | 676 | 1,567 |
| 1974 | 31 | 16 | 47 | 101 | 52 | 153 | 200 |
| 1975 | 144 | 906 | 1,050 | 19 | 120 | 139 | 1,189 |
| 1976 | 3,674 | 162 | 3,836 | 1,433 | 63 | 1,496 | 5,332 |
| 1977 | 1,134 | 168 | 1,302 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,302 |
| 1978 | 1,522 | 156 | 1,678 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,678 |
| 1979 | 83 | 671 | 754 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 754 |
| 1980 | 1,986 | 9 | 1,995 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,995 |
| 1981 | 3,045 | 3,534 | 6,579 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6,579 |
| 1982 | 2,118 | 2,545 | 4,663 | 84 | 1,892 | 1,976 | 6,639 |
| 1983 | 1,467 | 2,227 | 3,694 | 85 | 2,342 | 2,427 | 6,121 |
| 1984 | 7,161 | 2,026 | 9,187 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9,187 |
| 1985 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1986 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1987 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## APPENDIX 2

Angling salmon landings from Restigouche River, 1951 to 1987. Data sources given in Appendix 4.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  | Québec |  |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | TOTAL | 1SW | MSW | TOTAL |  |
| 1951 |  |  | 3,511 | 25 | 160 | 185 | 3,696 |
| 1952 |  |  | 5,662 | 104 | 373 | 477 | 6,139 |
| 1953 |  |  | 2,963 | 75 | 111 | 186 | 3,149 |
| 1954 |  |  | 2,855 | 127 | 374 | 501 | 3,356 |
| 1955 |  |  | 2,018 | 99 | 232 | 331 | 2,349 |
| 1956 |  |  | 2,328 | 107 | 227 | 334 | 2,662 |
| 1957 |  |  | 3,387 | 124 | 259 | 383 | 3,770 |
| 1958 |  |  | 9,135 | 220 | 350 | 570 | 9,705 |
| 1959 |  |  | 3,161 | 108 | 209 | 317 | 3,478 |
| 1960 | 621 | 2,406 | 3,027 | 6 | 21 | 27 | 3,054 |
| 1961 | 117 | 3,103 | 3,220 | 8 | 32 | 40 | 3,260 |
| 1962 | 202 | 3,236 | 3,438 | 1 | 0 |  | 3,439 |
| 1963 | 1,617 | 5,788 | 7,405 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7,414 |
| 1964 | 0 | 6,480 | 6,480 | 136 | 308 | 444 | 6,924 |
| 1965 | 3,860 | 3,050 | 6,910 | 211 | 476 | 687 | 7,597 |
| 1966 | 1,710 | 1,687 | 3,397 | 199 | 451 | 650 | 4,047 |
| 1967 | 1,084 | 2,440 | 3,524 | 257 | 580 | 837 | 4,361 |
| 1968 | 408 | 617 | 1,025 | 57 | 128 | 185 | 1,210 |
| 1969 | 1,352 | 1,200 | 2,552 | 137 | 312 | 449 | 3,001 |
| 1970 | 1,340 | 1,716 | 3,056 | 166 | 326 | 492 | 3,548 |
| 1971 | 999 | 757 | 1,756 | 173 | 259 | 432 | 2,188 |
| 1972 | 978 | 3,870 | 4,848 | 111 | 1,171 | 1,282 | 6,130 |
| 1973 | 1,423 | 3,746 | 5,169 | 147 | 1,146 | 1,293 | 6,462 |
| 1974 | 1,038 | 4,785 | 5,823 | 129 | 1,163 | 1,292 | 7,115 |
| 1975 | 1,130 | 2,160 | 3,290 | 149 | 741 | 890 | 4,180 |
| 1976 | 2,345 | 4,481 | 6,826 | 377 | 1,029 | 1,406 | 8,232 |
| 1977 | 2,333 | 5,128 | 7,461 | 459 | 1,579 | 2,038 | 9,499 |
| 1978 | 1,322 | 3,373 | 4,695 | 282 | 1,652 | 1,934 | 6,629 |
| 1979 | 1,990 | 997 | 2,987 | 556 | 826 | 1,382 | 4,369 |
| 1980 | 2,833 | 4,098 | 6,931 | 409 | 2,059 | 2,468 | 9,399 |
| 1981 | 3,010 | 2,832 | 5,842 | 635 | 1,408 | 2,043 | 7,885 |
| 1982 | 2,449 | 1,620 | 4,069 | 402 | 962 | 1,364 | 5,433 |
| 1983 | 715 | 1,481 | 2,196 | 181 | 587 | 768 | 2,964 |
| 1984 | 1,474 | 0 | 1,474 | 348 | 570 | 918 | 2,392 |
| 1985 | 3,258 | 0 | 3,258 | 259 | 752 | 1,011 | 4,269 |
| 1986 | 4,915 | 0 | 4,915 | 498 | 1,418 | 1,916 | 6,831 |
| 1987 | 4,477 | 0 | 4,477 | 591 | 873 | 1,464 | 5,941 |

## APPENDIX 3

Native salmon landings from Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River, 1975 to 1987. Data sources given in Appendix 4.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  | 1SW | Québec |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15W | MSW | TOTAL |  | MSW | TOTAL |  |
| 1975 | 3 | 132 | 135 |  |  |  | 135 |
| 1976 | 13 | 124 | 137 | 0 | 1,517 | 1,517 | 1,654 |
| 1977 | 19 | 212 | 231 | 0 | 2,738 | 2,738 | 2,969 |
| 1978 | 23 | 129 | 152 |  |  |  | 152 |
| 1979 | 84 | 148 | 232 | 85 | 748 | 833 | 1,065 |
| 1980 | 34 | 264 | 298 | 24 | 1,563 | 1,587 | 1,885 |
| 1981 ( 19 , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1982 |  |  |  | 148 | 1,521 | 1,669 | 1,669 |
| 1983 | 0 | 260 | 260 | 32 | 1,216 | 1,248 | 1,508 |
| 1984 | 1 | 213 | 214 | 177 | 1,070 | 1,247 | 1,461 |
| 1985 | 0 | 241 | 241 | 35 | 976 | 1,011 | 1,252 |
| 1986 | 26 | 431 | 457 | 4 | 1,145 | 1,149 | 1,606 |
| 1987 | 451 | 501 | 952 | 5 | 986 | 991 | 1,943 |

## APPENDIX 4

Salmon landings for Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River given in Appendices 1 to 3 are from the following sources:

## 1. Commercial data

New Brunswick: Districts 63, 64 and 65 Québec: Districts 12, 13, 14 and 15

New Brunswick and Québec commercial data for 1951 to 1969 from May and Lear (1971) and assume salmon average 6.4 kg .

New Brunswick commercial for 1970 to 1984 from Redbooks (compiled by Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Science Branch, Halifax).

Québec commercial for 1970 to 1981 from Bureau de la Statistique du Québec (G. Ouellet and J.P. Lebel, pers. comm.), and assume average weight and MSW/1SW ratio same as calculated from Redbooks.

Québec commercial for 1982 to 1983 from Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche, Québec (G. Ouellet and G. Landry, pers. comm.).

## 2. Angling data

New Brunswick angling data for 1951 to 1959 from Smith (1981); 1960 to 1969 from Swetnam and O'Neil (1985); 1970 to 1979 from O'Neil and Swetnam (1984); 1980 to 1983 from Swetnam and $\mathrm{O}^{\prime}$ Neil (1984); 1984 from $0^{\prime}$ 'Neil et al. (1985); 1985 from O'Neil et al. (1986); and 1986 from 0 'Neil et al. (1987).

Québec angling from 1951 to 1969 from New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy files (A. Madden, pers. comm.). Angling data for 1970 to 1986 from Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche, Québec (G. Ouellet, J.P. Lebel and G. Landry, pers. comm.).
3. Native data

New Brunswick Native data for 1975 to 1982 from Department of Fisheries and Dceans, Protection and Regulations Branch files (R. Roy and M. Sullivan, pers. comm.); 1983 to 1986 from Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Resource Allocation and Development Branch, (K. Atwin, pers. comm.).

Québec Native data for 1976 to 1984 from Gaudreault (1984); 1985 and 1986 from Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche, Québec (G. Landry, pers. comm.).
4. All 1987 data are preliminary as described in text.


[^0]:    1This series documents the 1Cette série documente les bases scientific basis for fisheries scientifiques des conseils de management advice in Atlantic gestion des pêches sur la côte Canada. As such, it addresses the atlantique du Canada. Comme telle, issues of the day in the time frames required and the Research Documents it contains are not intended as definitive statements on the subjects addressed but rather as progress reports on ongoing investigations.

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[^1]:    $1 \%$ of MSW salmon which were 2 SW.

[^2]:    1 (Spawner counts from field surveys.)
    2River harvests from 1984 to 1987 include catch and release mortalities of 138, 425, 371 and 199 MSW salmon, respectively, and broodstock removals of 34,37,37 and 40 MSW salmon, respectively.

