Not to be cited without permission of the authors 1

Canadian Atlantic Fisheries
Scientific Advisory Committee
CAFSAC Research Document 88/75

Ne pas citer sans autorisation des auteurs ${ }^{1}$

Comité scientifique consultatif des pêches canadiennes dans l'Atlantique

CSCPCA document de recherche 88/75

## Assessment of Atlantic Salmon, <br> (Salmo salar), in the Margaree River, 1988

by
R.R. Claytor, and G.J. Chaput, Department of Fisheries \& Dceans

Science Branch, Gulf Region
P.0. Box 5030, Moncton, NB E1C 9B6

| series documents | 1 Cette série documente |
| :---: | :---: |
| ientific basis for fisheries | entifiques des conseils de |
| management advice in Atlantic | gestion des pêches sur la côte |
| Canada. As such, it addresses the | at lantique du Canada. Comme telle, |
| ssues of the day in the time | elle couvre les problèmes actue |
| frames required and the Research | selon les échéanciers voulus et les |
| Documents it contains are not | Documents de recherche qu'elle |
| tended as definitive statements | contient ne doivent pas être |
| the subjects addressed but | sidérés comme des énoncés finals |
| ther as progress reports | sur les sujets traités mais plutôt |
| ongoing investigations. | comme des rapports d'étape sur les |
|  | études en cours |
| arch documents are produced | Les Documents de recherche sont |
| e official language in which they | publiés dans la langue officielle |
| vided to the Secretariat by | utilisée par les auteurs dans le |
| he author | it envoyé au secrétari |


#### Abstract

Sport catch of $15 W$ salmon in 1988 as estimated by DFO fisheries officers and Nova Scotia license stub returns exceeded the catch in 1987. DFO estimates were the greatest since 1947 with the exception of 1979 , 1981, and 1982. MSW salmon sport catch in 1988 as estimated by DFO fisheries officers and Nova Scotia license stub returns were greater than 1987.

A creel survey of Forks Pool suggested that DFO underestimated and stub returns overestimated 1SW sport catch as in 1987. DF0 and stub return estimates of MSW hooked and released were an over estimate of those which would correspond to historical catch/kill records. This result was opposite to that obtained in 1987.

DFO angling statistics adjusted by the creel survey ( $59515 W, 368$ MSW) were judged to be the most appropriate statistics to use in estimating spawning escapement by angling statistics. This conclusion was supported by population estimates and exploitation rates determined from a mark-recapture experiment. Total returns to the Margaree River in 1988 were estimated as 3673 1SW and 2996 MSW salmon. Exploitation rates were $16 \%$ for $15 W$ and $8 \%$ for MSW salmon returning in the fall. These numbers minus removals suggest that spawning requirements were met in 1988.

The contribution of hatchery $15 W$ and $M S W$ salmon to river returns was less in 1988 than 1987.

MSW salmon returns slightly above 1988 are forecast for 1989.


## RESUME

Selon les estimations des agents des pêches du MPO et les talons de permis de pêche de la Nouvelle-Ecosse qui ont été retournés, les prises sportives de saumons unibermarins en 1988 ont dépassé celles de l'année antérieure. En fait, les estimations du MPO étaient les plus élevées depuis 1947, si l'on fait exception de 1979, 1981 et 1982. Par ailleurs, selon les estimations du MPO et les talons des permis de pêche de la Nouvelle-Ecosse retournés, les prises sportives de saumons pluribermarins de 1988 ont également été supérieures à celles de 1987.

D'après les résultats d'un sondage des pêcheurs, effectué au trou à saumon Forks, il apparaît que le MPO a sous-estimé les prises sportives de saumons unibermarins tandis que les évaluations fondées sur les talons retournés les ont surestimées, comme en 1987. En ce qui concerne les pluribermarins capturés et libérés, les évaluations du MPO et celles fondées sur les talons retournés en ont aussi surestimé le nombre par rapport à celui qui correspondrait aux statistiques historiques de saumons capturés et conservés. Le résultat était ici l'inverse de celui de 1987.

Les statistiques de pêche à la ligne du MPO, modifées d'après les résultats du sondage des pêcheurs (595 unibermarins et 368 pluribermarins), sont apparues les plus adéquates pour l'estimation des échappées de reproducteurs. Cela a été confirmé par les estimations de population et les taux d'exploitation établis à partir d'une expérience de marquage-recapture. Dn a estimé à 3673 unibermarins et 2996 pluribermarins les remontées totales dans la rivière Margaree en 1988. Les taux d'exploitation étaient de $16 \%$ pour les unibermarins et de $8 \%$ pour les pluribermarins des remontées d'automne. Ces chiffres, diminués des retraits, permettent de conclure que les besoins de reproducteurs ont été satisfaits en 1988.

En 1988, l'apport des unibermarins et pluribermarins d'élevage dans les remontées a été inférieur à ce qu'il avait été l'année précédente.

On prévoit pour 1989 des remontées d'pluribermarins légèrement supérieures à celles de 1988.

## INTRODUCTION

## OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this paper is to provide an assessment of the Margaree River Atlantic salmon stock in 1988. Past assessments have relied exclusively on DFO angling statistics and fixed exploitation rates to determine spawning escapement and forecast returns (Claytor and Chadwick 1985; Claytor and Léger 1986). As a result, these assessment.s have raised several issues requiring additional information to resolve. These issues include, resolving the difference between angling catch statistics collected by DFO fisheries officers and those from Nova Scotia license stub returns, ensuring that hook-and-release estimates of MSW salmon can be interpreted relative to historical catch-kill records, evaluating the relative contribution of hatchery released salmon to river returns, and finding a reliable method of forecasting returns. In addition, recent information on size-at-age and previous spawners has been deficient for the Margaree River.

In 1988, three programs begun in 1987 were expanded to address the above concerns. Firstly, a creel survey at Forks Pool, the major angling pool, was conducted for the summer as well as fall season, and secondly, the number of voluntary angling logbooks was increased to provide a more representative sample of anglers than was obtained in 1987. Thirdly, a mark-recapture program to estimate fall population size, exploitation rate and biological characteristics using estuarine trapnets was conducted. The development of these programs and their use in resolving the above issues are described in the following sections.

## BACKGROUND

The Margaree River is located on Cape Breton Island, Inverness County, Nova Scotia. Two principal branches, the Northeast Margaree and Southwest Margaree, meet at Margaree Forks to form the Main Margaree which flows into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Most of the Atlantic salmon angling occurs in the Main Margaree and Northeast Margaree rivers. Margaree River salmon stocks are composed of two runs: the summer run enters the river up to the end of August; and the fall run, after September 1.

Since 1979, efforts to increase the summer component of the Atlantic salmon stock have consisted of regulatory restrictions and introduction of hatchery-reared progeny from early-run fish. Anglers have been required to release MSW salmon during the early-run (before September 1) since 1979. From 1985-1988, all MSW salmon were released regardless of date caught. In 1984, there was a reduction in the Salmon Fishing Area 18 commercial fishery from eight to three weeks. There was no Salmon Fishing Area 18 commercial fishery from 1985-1988.

## METHODS

## LANDINGS

Angling records from 1947-1988 were provided by fishery officers, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Margaree Forks, Nova Scotia. These records are subsequently referred to as DFO statistics. Sport catches for 1984-1986 were also obtained from Nova Scotia license stub returns (0'Neil et al. 1985, 1986, 1987). Final 1987, and preliminary 1988 as of November 7, Nova Scotia license stub returns were obtained from S. 0'Neil, DFO Halifax, Nova Scotia. Commercial landings for Salmon Fishing Area 18 (1967-1984) are also reported (Claytor and Chadwick 1985).

## FORKS POOL CREEL SURVEY

A creel survey was conducted at Forks Pool (Fig. 1) from June 1 October 15 to estimate catch and effort for this portion of the sports fishery. Creel periods were stratified into AM (0600-1330) and PM (1330-2100) and weekday and weekend (including holidays) periods. Weekdays sampled were 63/94 available days ( $67 \%$ ) and $29 / 43$ ( $67 \%$ ) of the available weekend days. Each day within a weekday-weekend stratum was assigned a consecutive number and was selected for the creel using a random number table. Once these days were selected, a random number table was used to determine whether a day would be an AM or PM creel. An odd number selected $A M$ and even $P M$. Days and time periods are given in Fig. 2.

During the creel period numbers of 1 SW salmon kept, and 1 SW and MSW salmon hooked and released, as well as method of release were noted (Fig. 3). The release methods were defined as:

1) remove hook ( RH ), fish was handled by angler and hook removed by hand;
2) cut line (CL), fish was not handled but leader was intentionally cut or broken by angler;
3) lost (LO), fish took fly, but dislodged hook and broke line before it could be intentionally released.

As anglers left the pool they were interviewed to obtain the time they started and completed fishing, numbers and types of fish kept or released, and method of release. Forms used for interview are provided in Fig. 3. Sampling from all 1SW kept included fork length (nearest cm), scales, sex, and presence or absence of adipose clips and wire nose tags. Sex was determined internally from kept fish.

The observed catch and effort data from each stratum was used to estimate total catch and effort at Forks Pool from June 1 - October 15 in the following manner. Total effort at Forks Pool was estimated by calculating mean effort in hours/day and rod-days/day (rod-day is one angler
fishing for any portion of one day) and multiplying by the number of available days in each stratum. These estimates of effort were then multiplied by observed catch/effort to determine estimated catch in each stratum. Estimated catches were divided into $15 W$ and $M S W$ salmon on a proportional basis within each stratum. The estimated catches and efforts were then summed to determine the overall estimated catch/effort. Confidence limits were calculated using the method described by Jessop (1980). Estimates of 1 SW and MSW salmon catches for the entire Margaree River were calculated using the percentage of total summer and fall 15 W and MSW salmon catch taken at Forks Pool, based on DFO statistics, as an adjustment factor.

The Forks Pool creel provides two comparisons to DFO sport catch statistics, 1) estimates of total Forks Pool catch by creel and DFO, and 2) estimates of total river catch based on Forks Pool creel and DFO. In 1987 it was suggested that DFO underestimated sport catch (Claytor et al. 1988). The creel survey conducted in 1988, provides comparisons to DFO statistics for both summer and fall periods. This complete coverage of the angling season allows the consistency of the creel methodology to be tested.

## VOLUNTEER LOGBOOKS

Sixty anglers were contacted to keep a logbook of each fishing trip on the Margaree River. As of Nov. 3, 1988, 22 of these anglers had returned their logbooks. Anglers contacted were chosen randomly from groups fishing $<10$ rod-days, $10-30$ rod-days, and $>30$ rod-days as indicated by license stub returns in 1987. This method was used to try and obtain a representative sample of all anglers fishing the Margaree River. Anglers were requested to note the start and finish times for each fishing trip, pools fished, numbers kept, hooked and released, and method of release (Fig. 4). In addition, they collected scale samples, determined sex, and collected noses or heads from all hatchery fish kept for wire nose tag detection. It was assumed that catch is reported accurately and that tag returns are 100\% reported in this angling group.

## FALL POPULATION ESTIMATE (MARK-RECAPTURE)

Two trapnets were used in this experiment. The first was located 0.75 km upstream from the Margaree Harbour Bridge and was placed in the channel on the eastern side of the river. The first trap was a box trapnet with two leaders, one tied to shore $90 \mathrm{~m}\left(300^{\prime}\right)$ long, the second 30 m (100') long extended into the channel. The trap portion was 15.24 m (50') long $X 3.65 \mathrm{~m}$ (12') wide $X 3.65 \mathrm{~m}$ (12') deep with an apron in front extending to the bottom of the river. The trap portion was divided into two compartments the first 3 m (10') long and the second 12 m (40') long. The trap was made from $3.49 \mathrm{~cm}\left(13 / 8^{\prime \prime}\right)$ knotless nylon mesh and the leader was 7.62 cm (3") knotted nylon mesh. The trap and leader were supported by pickets. This trap was fished from September 2 - October 22, 1988.

The second trap was located in the channel 1.5 km upstream from the first with the leader tied to the western shore (Fig. 1). It was the same design as a commercial salmon Miramichi box trapnet. Its dimensions and materials have been described in Claytor et al. 1987, except this year a 5.72 cm ( $2 \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{\prime \prime}^{\prime \prime}$ ) knotless nylon mesh leader was used and it was 45 m (150') long. This trap was fished from August 30 - October 22, 1988.

A numbered carlin tag was attached to all fish captured in each trap with the exception of mortalities and weak fish. Fork length (nearest cm ) was measured and a scale sample removed from all fish captured. Sex was determined externally. All hatchery released fish have the adipose fin removed. Wild were distinguished from hatchery returns by the presence of the adipose fin.

A population estimate of salmon returning to the Margaree River was obtained using Schaefer's method for stratified populations (Ricker 1975) based on fish tagged in the lower net and tag recoveries and catch in the upper net. A second estimate using this method was made using tags applied at both nets and tag recoveries and catch from logbook anglers. Data from logbook anglers were used because it can be assumed that catch of these anglers is reported without bias and tag reporting would be 100\%. Catch from logbook anglers was determined from numbers reported for $15 W$ salmon kept and released by hand or cutting line and MSW salmon released by hand or cutting line.

Because tag returns from 1SW and MSW salmon were not sufficient for separate estimates, returns from these groups were combined. Numbers of 15W and MSW salmon were then determined using the proportion of each age group caught in the trapnets.

Tagging and recovery periods were divided into two equal strata covering the time period both nets were fishing. Smaller strata led to periods with zero recoveries. The period from September 2 - October 15 was divided in half producing two tagging periods from September 2 September 23 and September 24 - October 14. Recovery periods were lagged one day September 3 - September 24 and September 25 - October 15 because one day was the minimum time period between tagging and recovery from these fishing methods.

Removal of tags from those available to be recovered may occur from tag loss, mortality, or fish leaving the river system. An estimate of tag removal from the angling fishery was made by comparing the ratios of recaptures/total captures from the lower to upper net, and from lower net to logbook anglers. Because logbook anglers and trap recoveries have a 100\% reporting rate the ratio of these values should represent tags removed from those available to anglers. The calculation is described below:

| Tagging-Recovery Locations | Recaptures | Captures | $R / C$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lower-Upper Nets | 7 |  |  |
| Lower Net - Logbook Anglers | 3 | 133 | 0.053 |
| N | 77 | 0.039 |  |

Hence, $0.039 / 0.053=0.736,1-0.736=0.264$ or proportion of tags removed $=26 \%$.

If tag removals are assumed to be related to days available then the rates of the average number of days between tagging and recapture in the angling and upper trap can be used to provide a factor for tag removal between the lower and upper traps. The average length of time between tagging and recapture from the lower to upper trap was 8.7 days and 15.0 days from lower trap to anglers. Hence, $8.7 / 15=0.58 ; 26 \% \times 0.58=15.08$. Therefore the tag removal rate between lower to upper trap is $15 \%$.

A non-reporting rate for tags was calculated using tag returns during Forks Creel periods and those returned from Forks Pool when creels were not conducted. It is assumed that tags recovered during creel/observed creel catch $=$ total tags recovered forks pool/estimated forks catch. That is, $1 / 14=X / 43 ; X=43 / 14=3$. Two tags in total were returned. Therefore reporting rate is $2 / 3$ or $67 \%$ and non-reporting rate is $33 \%$.

Finally the estimate obtained from the Schaefer method was compared to a Peterson estimate (Ricker 1975) using trapnet and logbook returns.

## SPAWNING REQUIREMENTS

The required number of spawners was calculated using the method (Method 2) recommended by Randall (1985) for the Miramichi River. The number of spawners required to meet egg deposition requirements was calculated presuming that all egg deposition came from MSW salmon. The numbers of $15 W$ salmon required were calculated assuming that at least one male spawner was needed for each female MSW salmon.

The characteristics used to determine the spawning requirements were essentially those given by Gray and Chadwick (1984) and are repeated below:

| Egg deposition rate |  |  | $=$ | 2.4 eggs $/ \mathrm{m}^{2}$ (Elson 1975) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rearing area |  |  | $=$ | 2,797,600 m² Marshall 1982) |
| Fecundity | MSW |  | $=$ | 1,764 eggs/kg (Elson 1975) |
|  | 1SW |  | $=$ | 1,764 eggs/kg (Elson 1975) |
| Mean weight | t MSW |  | $=$ | 4.9 kg (Marshall 1982) |
|  | 1SW |  | $=$ | 1.7 kg (Marshall 1982) |
| Sex ratio male/female |  | MSW | $=$ | 25:75 (Marshall 1982) |
|  |  | 1SW | $=$ | 89:11 (Marshall 1982) |
| Eggs per | MSW |  | $=$ | 6,482 eggs $=1,764 \times 4.9 \times$ |
|  | 15W |  | $=$ | 330 eggs $=1,764 \times 1.7 \times$ |

## EGG DEPOSITION

In previous assessments (Claytor and Chadwick 1985; Claytor and Leger 1986; Claytor et al. 1987). Total egg deposition from 1SW and MSW salmon was calculated as described below:

| $\frac{\text { Sport catch (SC) }}{\text { Sport catch (SC) + Spawners }}$ | $=$ Exploitation rate (ER) |
| ---: | :--- |
| $\frac{S C(1-E R)}{E R}$ | $=$ Spawners |

Exploitation rates for 1SW and MSW salmon 20.6 and $37.9 \%$, were those determined by Hayes (1949).

For years in which there were hook-and-release regulations, 1979-1988, the MSW salmon caught and released were added to the number of spawners calculated as above. This factor assumes there is no mortality as a result of hook and release.

For all years, egg deposition was calculated as the number of 15 W or MSW spawners times the eggs per 1 SW or MSW fish (see above). The eggs obtained from broodstock collections were subtracted from the above egg deposition values.

In 1988, egg deposition can also be estimated from returns estimated from the mark-recapture experiment.

## HATCHERY RETURNS

Proportions of hatchery and wild fish returning to the Margaree River were determined from angler logbooks, Forks Pool creel, angler spot checks, broodstock collections (Hatchery and McKenzie pools, Fig. 1), and trapnet captures. All hatchery fish released to the Margaree River were adipose fin clipped, allowing hatchery or wild origin to be readily identified.

## FORECAST

The number of 1 SW and MSW salmon, both hatchery and wild, caught in the fall segment of the season since 1983 were used in an attempt to forecast returns in 1989. A regression of 1 SW year (i) against MSW year ( $i+1$ ) was attempted for this purpose. Considering years since 1983 has the advantage of using only data collected after the implementation of hook and release requirements to calculate forecasts. Data collected before 1983 indicated a significant correlation between 1 SW and MSW returns but the r-squared value was very low.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## LANDINGS

Commercial landings for Salmon Fishing Area 18 (1967-1984) are presented in Table 1, DF0 Sport catch statistics (1947-1988) in Table 2, and Nova Scotia license stubs (1984-1988) in Table 3. 1SW salmon sport catch based on license stub estimates was 1.5-2.5 times DFO statistics from 1984-1987. MSW salmon sport catch based on license stub estimates was 2.5-4.5 times DFO statistics from 1984-1987 (Tables 2, 3). 1SW salmon sport catch in 1988 (DFO) was the greatest since 1947, with the exceptions of 1979, 1981, and 1982. MSW salmon sport catch in 1988 (DFO) was the third highest since 1947 and $42 \%$ greater than 1987 (Table 2).

MSW salmon catch was equally divided between summer and fall. This high proportion of summer caught MSW salmon is unusual but has occurred previously (Chaput and Claytor 1988). Since 1947 the mean percentage of MSW salmon caught in the fall has been 64\% ranging from 27-99\% (Table 4). In contrast, the percentage of 1 SW salmon caught in the summer ( $66 \%$ ) is within the range reported since 1984, (Table 4).

Observed catch, effort and catch per unit effort used to calculate estimated values for Forks Pool are given in Table 5. In general catch per unit effort was slightly higher in the summer than fall as was catch of both 1SW and MSW salmon. Catch per unit effort in fall 1988 was half that of 1987 (Table 5).

Estimated catch, rod-days, and hours are provided in Table 6. The MSW:1SW ratio was very different in fall 1988 (0.59) compared to fall 1987 (7.87) (Table 6).

The percentages of total catch taken at Forks Pool, DFO statistics, (Table 7) were used to adjust Forks creel estimates to total river catches (Table 8).

The ratio of Forks Creel 1SW catch:DF0 Forks $15 W$ catch for the summer was $69 / 54=1.3: 1$, while for the fall it was $27 / 18=1.5: 1$ (Table 8). This 1988 fall value was similar to the fall 1987 Creel:DF0 1SW salmon ratio (1.2:1) (Claytor et al. 1987). The similarity among these ratios suggests that DFO is consistently underestimating 1 SW catch by a factor of 1.2-1.5.

The ratio of Forks Creel MSW:DFO Forks MSW catch was similar for summer 28/43 (0.65:1) and fall 16/26 (0.62:1) (Table 8). However, these values are very different from the 1987 fall ratio of 2:1 (Claytor et al. 1987). While the 1987 ratio suggested that DFO was underestimating MSW catch, the 1988 ratios suggests overestimation.

In 1988, 22 logbook anglers responded with completed forms. The catch per unit effort was greater in the fall than summer for these anglers. This catch per unit effort relationship was opposite to the Forks Pool Creel Survey (Tables 5, 9). These data may differ because logbook returns include reports from all areas of the river, rather than a single pool.

## ADJUSTMENTS TO SPORT CATCH

Ratios of MSW:1SW salmon caught from angling logbooks were used to adjust MSW catch reported on stub returns in 1987. This adjustment was made assuming 1 SW stub return catches were correct and that logbook anglers were representative of the sport fishery. We suggest that the logbook ratio was not the most appropriate. In 1987, the logbook ratio was 4:1. However the MSW: 1SW salmon ratio in the trapnet for the fall was 6.6:1 (Table 10). The closest catch ratio to the trap was that from the river creel estimate, 5.74:1 (Table 10). In 1988, the river creel estimate was also the nearest to the fall trap ratio (Table 10).

Assuming the trapnet catch is the most representative sample of MSW:1SW ratio entering the river, then the consistency in agreement of MSW:1SW between the trapnet and river creel estimates strongly suggest that the river creel estimate is the best ratio to use in adjusting catch by the MSW:1SW ratio method. This ratio can be applied to DFO 1SW salmon catch adjusted for underestimations and license stub returns taken at face value. MSW salmon catches adjusted by this ratio are given in Table 11.

These adjusted values can be compared with adjusted MSW catch values made by using the Forks creel adjustment value. For 1987 this was 2:1 and 1988 0.62:1 for fall and $0.65: 1$ for summer. These values are given in Table 11 and suggest close agreement between catches adjusted by creel correction factors and creel MSW: 1SW ratio.

As a result, DFO $15 W$ and MSW statistics adjusted by creel correction factors most accurately reflect 1SW removals, and MSW catch that most closely corresponds to historical catch/kill records. 1SW removals are 595 salmon and MSW catch equivalent to catch/kill records is 368 salmon. This conclusion is tested below using population estimates and exploitation rates determined from the mark-recapture experiment.

1SW salmon statistics collected by DFO and stub returns represent kept fish. The relationship between creel estimates and DFO statistics was consistent for 1987 and 1988. Similarly, 1SW catch estimated from stub returns is similar to creel corrected removals. This consistency suggests that DFO statistics and license stub returns are good indices of abundance from year to year for kept fish. However, it should be noted that DFO statistics will consistently underestimate while stub returns overestimate actual abundance.

Thus historical catch/kill records or hooked and released values which are equivalent to these records may be used to determine returns if exploitation rates do not vary significantly among years. This assumption will be evaluated by an additional year of a mark-recapture experiment.

MSW salmon statistics, since 1984, represent hooked and released fish. The relationship between creel estimates and DFO statistics was inconsistent for 1987 and 1988. Similarily, license stub MSW hooked and released estimates were $80 \%$ above creel corrected catch/kill values. Thus, DFO and stub returns hooked and released statistics may not be a reliable index of abundance. However, DFO MSW statistics collected prior to 1984 are based on kept fish. Hence, this problem may only apply since the requirement to
release MSW salmon came into effect in 1984. An expanded creel design is necessary to obtain catch statistics for hooked and released MSW salmon which is equivalent to historical catch/kill records.

## POPULATION ESTIMATES, MARK-RECAPTURE

Fall population estimates based on Schaefers method applied to trapnet recaptures is 2797 fish. Peterson's estimate for trapnet data is 2529 (1405-7226;99\% C.I). Estimates based on recaptures by logbook anglers is 2560 with a Peterson estimate of 2440 (1303-7765;99\% C.I.) (Table 12). That fewer fish are estimated from angling returns than trapnet indicates that dilution of fish from summer season may be small.

Applying appropriate proportions of 1 SW:MSW salmon to these estimates provides a 1 SW estimate of 1359 and a MSW estimate of 1438 for the fall period (Table 13).

Applying appropriate tag loss rates to (26\%) angling fishery and non-reporting rate ( $33 \%$ ) to tags returned from non-logbook anglers indicates that exploitation rate on fish entering the river from August 30 October 14 varies from 3 to $29 \%$ for 1 SW and 1 to $21 \%$ for MSW salmon. Higher exploitation rates applied to those entering earliest in the fall. The overall exploitation rate for 15 W salmon is $16 \%$ and $8 \%$ for MSW salmon returning during the fall (Table 14,15).

In contrast exploitation rates for 15 W and MSW salmon calculated using these tag removal rates and non-reporting rates for 1987 were 19\% for each. Tag returns from 1987 included fish from the summer run and may account for the higher exploitation rate.

Applying 16\% exploitation rate to the 15 W salmon estimate would give a fall 1 SW angling catch of 217 ( $1359 \times 0.16$ ). Applying $8 \%$ to MSW salmon estimate would give a fall MSW angling catch of 115. Of all catch statistics available these figures are closest to DFO statistics adjusted by creel (Table 11).

DFO catches adjusted by creel are most similar to catches calculated from fall population estimates and exploitation rates from tag recaptures. This agreement provides further support for the acceptance of creel adjusted DFO statistics as catch figures for 1988. DFO statistics adjusted by creel correction factors rather than ratio are favored because they are derived independently and do not depend on MSW:1SW ratios.

A further check on these values can be made by calculating total returns based on proportions of DFO adjusted $15 W$ and MSW statistics by summer and fall periods and calculating exploitation rates.

Using adjusted DFO statistics to determine total MSW returns from the fall estimate produces a value of $1438 / 0.48=2996 \mathrm{MSW}$ salmon and 1SW total return of $1359 / 0.37=3673$. This method assumes equal exploitation rates for summer and fall runs. If exploitation rate on summer run is much higher than the fall, then the summer run could be over-estimated by this method.

Applying non-adjusted and adjusted DFO catches to these population estimates provides the following exploitation rates for the entire season.


Adjusted DFO catches provide exploitation rates more similar to those calculated from tag returns than non-adjusted DFO and stub return statistics.

## SPAWNING REQUIREMENTS

Spawning requirements for the Margaree River were found to be 1,036 MSW and 579 1SW salmon. These figures were derived as given below:

$$
\begin{aligned}
&(1) \quad \begin{aligned}
\text { egg requirements } & =2.4 \text { eggs } \mathrm{m}^{-2} \times 2,797,600 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \\
& =6,714,600 \mathrm{eggs}
\end{aligned} \\
& \\
& \text { (2) eggs/MSW salmon }=8,643 \text { eggs/MSW } \times .75 \text { (females) } \\
&=\begin{aligned}
& 6,482 \\
&=6,714,600 \div 6,482 \\
&=1,036 \\
&=1,036 \times .75 \\
&=776 \\
&=260=1,036-776 \\
& \text { number of female MSW } \\
&=516=776-260 \\
& \text { number of male MSW } \\
& \text { number of male } 1 S W
\end{aligned} \\
& \text { number of } 1 S W
\end{aligned}
$$

Using these values, MSW salmon account for $100 \%$ of the egg deposition requirements and $97 \%$ of the total egg deposition.

## SPAWNING ESCAPEMENT, EGG DEPOSITION AND EXPLOITATIDN RATE

In 1987, DFO catch was adjusted by a creel factor of 2.0. This factor was applied to years since hook and release was implemented in 1984. This factor is now shown to be inadequate for application each year. Hence adjustements to catches applied to $1984-1986$ are not valid. Determinations of egg deposition are presented using non-adjusted DFO statistics for all years and adjusted DFO statistics by creel for 1987 and 1988. Because
exploitation rate for the entire season based on tag returns in 1987 was 19\% and is similar to Hayes (1949) 20\%, only 20 and $40 \%$ will be used here (Table 16).

Egg deposition may also be calculated from total salmon returns estimated by mark-recapture experiment weighted by seasonal angling catches, as above, minus removals.

| 1SW |  | MSW |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NON-ADJUSTED <br> CATCH | ADJUSTED <br> CATCH | NON-ADJUSTED <br> CATCH | ADJUSTED <br> CATCH |
| 3673 | 3673 | 2996 | 2996 |
| 435 | 595 | $29 *$ | $29 *$ |
| 10 | 10 | 62 | 62 |
| 3228 | 3068 | 2905 | 2915 |
| and | release | mortality | 5\% |

These figures based on mark-recapture experiment are likely the most accurate reflection of egg deposition in the Margaree River for 1988. The egg deposition from these figures is shown in Table 16 and suggest that egg deposition exceeds spawning requirements by nearly 3 times.

## FORECAST

The fall MSW salmon angling catch (DFO) was predicted using fall 1SW angling catch (DFO) from the previous year since 1983 (Fig. 5). This relationship predicted a fall catch of 273 for 1988, actual DFO catch was 287. For 1989 a fall MSW catch of 518 is predicted. If this figure accounted for $60 \%$ the catch as in 1988, the total catch would be 863 MSW salmon. Adjusting by creel factors 0.62 and 2.0 (determined over the past two years), and an exploitation rate of $20 \%$ (as indicated by the upper range of tag returns) produces a total MSW return between 2658 and 8630. Either of these numbers would satisfy spawning requirements.

It should be noted that this relationship is based on non-adjusted DFD statistics. Because DFO estimates of MSW hooked and released salmon may not reflect historical catch/kill records, this relationship may not be applicable in 1989.

## HATCHERY CONTRIBUTION

The proportion of hatchery and wild 15 W and MSW salmon in the Margaree River are indicated in Tables 17,18. The proportion of hatchery return 15W and MSW salmon in the summer is approximately $30 \%$. This percentage is much
lower than in 1987. The proportion of wild $15 W$ salmon in the fall is $97 \%$ compared to 69\% in 1987. The proportion of wild MSW salmon in the fall is greater than $95 \%$ as it was in 1987 (Table 18). This change in proportion of early run 1 SW hatchery released fish may have resulted from the decision not to use Rocky Brook, Miramichi progency as an egg source (Table 19).

## BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The average $15 W$ salmon fork length in 1988 was 55.4 cm compared to 54.4 cm in 1987. While 1988 scales have not yet been aged, data from 1987 indicate that $65 \%$ of wild 15 W salmon were $2+$ smolts, and $71 \%$ of wild MSW salmon were $2+$ smolts. Repeat spawners accounted for $1.7 \%$ of 15 W and $5 \%$ of MSW samples in 1987 (Tables 20, 21, 22).

## DISTANT FISHERIES

Fish tagged since 1986 as part of Margaree assessment and enhancement projects have been recovered in distant fisheries in Quebec, Labrador, Newfoundland and Greenland (Table 23).

## REFERENCES

Chaput, G.J. and R.R. Claytor. 1988. Sport catch of Atlantic salmon from Margaree River, Nova Scotia, 1947 to 1987. Can. Data Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. No. 678. iv +50 p .

Claytor, R.R. and E.M.P. Chadwick. 1985. Assessment of Atlantic Salmon, Salmo salar, in the Margaree River, Nova Scotia, 1985. CAFSAC Research Document 85/103. 25 pp.

Claytor, R.R. and C. Léger. 1986. Assessment of Atlantic salmon, Salmo salar, in the Margaree River, Nova Scotia, 1986. CAFSAC Res. Doc. 86/93. 21 p.

Claytor, R.R., G.J. Chaput, and T.G. Lutzac. 1987. Assessment of Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar), in the Margaree River, 1987. CAFSAC Res. Doc. 87/105. 36p.

Elson, P.F. 1975. Atlantic salmon rivers. Smolt production and optimal spawning - an overview of natural production. Int. Atlantic Sal. Found. Spec. Public Ser. 6:96-119.

Gray, R.W. and E.M.P. Chadwick. 1984. Assessment of Margaree River salmon stocks in 1983. CAFSAC Research Document 84/36. 11 pp.

Hayes, F.R. 1949. Report of the Director of Fisheries. App. 1, pt. II. Margaree River Ann. Rept. Dep. Trade and Industry, Nova Scotia. pp. 119-130.

Jessop, B.M. 1980. Creel survey and biological study of the striped bass fishery of the Annapolis River, 1978. Can. Man. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci No. 1566. ix +20 p .

Marshall, T.L. 1982. Background and management alternatives for salmon of the Margaree River: a working document for the selection of stock enhancement strategies. Fisheries and Oceans, Halifax N.S. Mimeo. 117 pp.

O'Neil, S.F., M. Bernard, P. Gallop and R. Pickard. 1987. 1986 Atlantic salmon sport catch statistics, Maritime Provinces. Can. Data Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. No. 663. v +69 p.

D'Neil, S.F., M. Bernard and J. Singer. 1985. 1984 Atlantic salmon sport catch statistics, Maritime Provinces (Redbook). Can. Data Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. No. 530. v +71 p.

O'Neil, S.F., M. Bernard and J. Singer. 1986. 1985 Atlantic salmon sport catch statistics, Maritime Provinces. Can. Data Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. No. 600. v +71 p .

Randall, R.G. 1985. Spawning potential and spawning requirements of Atlantic salmon in the Miramichi River, New Brunswick. CAFSAC Res. Doc. 85/68. 19 pp.

Ricker, W.E. 1975. Computation and interpretation of biological statistics of fish populations. Bull. Fish. Res. Board Can. No. 191. 382 p.
Table 1. Commercial salmon landings for Salmon Fishing Area 18 (1967-1984) in kg.

| Year | Northumberland Strait-NS Fisheries Statistical District |  |  |  | Gulf Cape Breton-NS |  |  | Gulf NS <br> Zone 6 total (kg) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 11 | 12 | 13 | Subtotal | 2 | 3 | Subtotal |  |
| 1967 |  | 10,503 | 29,885 | 40,388 | 10,728 | 2,124 | 12,852 | 53,240 |
| 1968 | 1,175 | 9,495 | 14,949 | 25,619 | 10,480 | 2,057 | 12,537 | 38,156 |
| 1969 |  | 9,968 | 11,050 | 21,018 | 7,831 | 1,598 | 9,429 | 30,447 |
| 1970 |  | 4,605 | 13,015 | 17,620 | 12,760 | 114 | 12,874 | 30,494 |
| 1971 |  | 1,689 | 5,597 | 7,286 | 4,485 | 255 | 4,740 | 12,026 |
| 1972 |  | 5,155 | 18,714 | 23,869 | 7,026 | 996 | 8,022 | 31,891 |
| 1973 |  | 2,562 | 15,788 | 18,350 | 8,043 | 1,297 | 9,340 | 27,690 |
| 1974 |  | 5,742 | 17,437 | 23,179 | 11,213 | 3,045 | 14,258 | 37,437 |
| 1975 |  | 2,080 | 9,824 | 11,904 | 10,670 | 1,057 | 11,727 | 23,631 |
| 1976 |  | 1,606 | 5,845 | 7,451 | 9,954 | 956 | 10,910 | 18,361 |
| 1977 |  | 4,137 | 9,171 | 13,308 | 11,490 | 1,423 | 12,913 | 26,221 |
| 1978 |  | 2,940 | 15,907 | 18,847 | 10,691 | 678 | 11,369 | 30,216 |
| 1979 |  | 169 | 4,549 | 4,718 | 3,117 | 82 | 3,199 | 7,917 |
| 1980 |  | 2,534 | 11,932 | 14,466 | 9,088 | 858 | 9,946 | 24,412 |
| 1981 |  | 1,822 | 8,283 | 10,105 | 4,978 | 479 | 5,457 | 15,562 |
| 1982 |  | 2,805 | 13,680 | 16,485 | 8,704 | 1,475 | 10,179 | 26,664 |
| 1983 |  | 1,863 | 9,770 | 11,633 | 11,621 | 1,026 | 12,647 | 24,280 |
| 1984 |  | 1,097 | 7,850 | 8,947 | 5,291 | 902 | 6,193 | 15,140 |



2 Information regarding 1SW and MSW salmon for 1958-1960 are not available.
-18-
Table 3. Salmon angling catch on Margaree River, 1984-1988, based on Nova Scotia license stubs.

|  | No. of Anglers | 1SW |  |  | MSW |  |  | Unknown | Effort |  | Percentage |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Roddays ${ }^{1}$ | CUE |  |  |  |
|  |  | Retain | Release | Total |  |  | Retain |  | Release | Total | 1SW | MSW |
| 1984 | 678 | 184 | 48 | 232 | 9 | 285 | 294 | 4 | 5,956 | 0.089 |  |  |
|  |  | 191 | 50 | 241 | 9 | 294 | 303 | 4 | 6,669 | 0.082 | 44\% | 56\% |
| 1985 | 793 | 371 | 102 | 473 | 0 | 1,130 | 1,130 | 3 | 7,324 | 0.219 |  |  |
|  |  | 399 | 110 | 509 | 0 | 1,215 | 1,215 | 3 | 7,824 | 0.221 | 30\% | 70\% |
| 1986 | 1,131 | 622 | 126 | 748 | 0 | 2,522 | 2,522 | 2 | 9,724 | 0.336 |  |  |
|  |  | 650 | 132 | 782 | 0 | 2,636 | 2,636 | 2 | 10,232 | 0.334 | 23\% | 77\% |
| 1987 Est | 1,441 | 826 | 151 | 977 | 0 | 1,857 | 1,857 | 0 | 12,887 | 0.220 | 34\% | 66\% |
| 1988 Est | $N / A$ | 704 | N/A | N/A | 0 | 1,746 | 1,746 | $N / A$ | 15,080 | 0.163 | 29\% | 71\% |

1 Rod-days are defined as one angler fishing for any portion of one day.
2 Preliminary

Table 4. Number of 1 SW and MSW salmon caught in summer and fall components of the Margaree River sports fishery (DFO statistics). 1

| Year | Summer | Fall | Total | \% Summer |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1947-1978 |  |  |  |  |
| Mean MSW | 87 | 137 | 223 | 39 |
| 1SW | 37 | 35 | 71 | 51 |
| \%MSW | 70 | 80 | 76 |  |
| 1979-1983 |  |  |  |  |
| Mean MSW | 32 | 105 | 137 | 23 |
| 15W | 400 | 422 | 822 | 49 |
| \%MSW | 7 | 20 | 14 |  |
| 1984 | 27 | 94 | 121 | 22 |
|  | 81 | 67 | 148 | 55 |
|  | 25 | 58 | 45 |  |
| 1985 | 144 | 168 | 312 | 46 |
|  | 116 | 107 | 223 | 52 |
|  | 55 | 61 | 58 |  |
| 1986 | 297 | 457 | 754 | 39 |
|  | 196 | 99 | 295 | 66 |
|  | 58 | 81 | 72 |  |
| 1987 | 123 | 285 | 408 | 30 |
|  | 268 | 85 | 353 | 76 |
|  | 32 | 77 | 54 |  |
| 1988 | 293 | 287 | 580 | 51 |
|  | 287 | 148 | 435 | 66 |
| \%MSW | 51 | 66 | 57 |  |

1 Detail for all years may be found in Chaput and Claytor (1988).
-20-


Table 6. Estimated effort and salmon catch at Forks Pool, June 1 - October 15, 1988 using creel data (Table 5). Number in parentheses indicates 95\% confidence interval.

| Season | ESTIMATED |  | Catch |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Effort |  | MSW |  |  |
|  | Rod-days | Hours | Kept | RH | LO |

SUMMER
June 1 - August 31

| Weekday | AM | $541($ | $539-1,543)$ | $344(1,335-1,353)$ | 13 | 10 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
|  | $P M$ | $603($ | $600-1,606)$ | $487(1,479-1,495)$ | 40 | 12 | 18 |


| Weekend | AM | $266($ | $261-$ | $271)$ | $630($ | $614-$ | $646)$ | 8 | 6 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | PM | $221($ | $217-$ | $225)$ | $694($ | $675-$ | $713)$ | 8 | 0 | 0 |

Summer Total 1,631(1,630-1,632) 4,155(4,150-4,160) 69 $28 \quad 21$
FALL
September 1 - October 15

| Weekday | AM | 3331 | 330- | 336) | 897( | 888- | 906) | 13 | 3 | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PM | 218( | 214- | 222) | 592( | 581- | 603) | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Weekend | AM | $319($ | 311- | 327) | 829( | 818- | 840) | 11 | 7 | 11 |
|  | PM | 162( | 149- | 175) | 387 ( | 359- | 415) | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Fall Total |  | 1,032 ( | ,029-1 | ,035) | 2,705 (2 | ,698-2 | ,712) | 27 | 16 | 17 |
| 1987 FALL |  | 887 |  |  | 2,086 |  |  | 8 | 63 | 44 |

Table 7. Contribution of Forks Pool to total summer and fall river catch from 1947-1988. Based on DFO statistics. Numbers in parentheses indicate range.

| YEAR | 15W |  | MSW |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Summer | Fall | Summer | Fall |
| 11947-1983 | 26.0(6.3-69.8) | 18.7(4.3-50.0) | 21.7(0.0-66.7) | 14.3(3.8-31.6) |
| 1984 | 12.3 | 3.0 | 33.3 | 0.0 |
| 1985 | 18.1 | 2.8 | 27.1 | 3.6 |
| 1986 | 15.3 | 7.1 | 17.5 | 11.6 |
| 1987 | 17.2 | 8.2 | 30.1 | 11.2 |
| 1988 | 18.8 | 12.2 | 14.7 | 9.1 |
| Mean |  |  |  |  |
| 1984-1988 | 16.3 | 6.7 | 24.5 | 7.1 |

-23-

Table 9. Observed salmon catch, effort, and catch per unit effort for anglers returning logbooks. RH, removed hook by hand; cL, cut line release; LO, fish was lost. K/RH, CL catch is sum of kept 1 SW and MSW released by removing hook by hand and cutting
line. K/ALL, catch is sum of kept $15 W$ and MSW released by all methods including lost.


| Date | Anglers Responding | Effort |  | 15W |  |  | MSW |  |  | Unk | Fish/Rod-day |  | Fish/Hour |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Rod-days | Hours | Kept | RH | L0 | RH | CL | L0 |  | K/RH,CL | K/ALL | K/RH,CL | K/ALL |
| June 1 - Aug. 31 | 16 | 308 | 1566 | 27 | 5 | 14 | 55 | 5 | 21 | 2 | 0.300 | 0.419 | 0.059 | 0.082 |
| Sept. 1 - Oct. 15 | 17 | 205 | 1023 | 16 | 7 | 4 | 47 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0.341 | 0.439 | 0.068 | 0.088 |
| Total | 22 | 513 | 2589 | 43 | 12 | 18 | 102 | 5 | 35 | 2 | 0.316 | 0.427 | 0.063 | 0.085 |

Table 10. Summary of ratios and creel correction factors used in adjusting DFO and Nova Scotia license stub return 1SW and MSW catch statistics. N/D: Trapnet not operated in summer 1988.

|  | 15W | MSW |  |  | TRAPNET |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Creel:DFO correction factor | Logbook MSW: 1SW | Creel river MSW: 1SW | Creel:DFO correction factor | MSW: 1SW |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summer | 1.30 | 2.22 | 0.52 | 0.765 | N/0 |
| Fall | 1.50 | 2.94 | 0.80 | 0.62 | 1.00 |
| 1987 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fall | 1.20 | 4.00 | 5.74 | 2.00 | 6.60 |

Table 11. Adjusted DFO and Nova Scotia license stub (STUB) return 1SW and MSW catch statistics. Values given in Table 10 have been applied to catch estimates. 1SW creel DFO: correction, logbook MSW:1SW, and Creel river MSW:1SW have been applied to 1SW catch estimates; MSW creel:DFO correction has been applied to DFO MSW catch estimates Stub values for 1988 are preliminary. Stub summer and fall catches calculated using proportions caught in summer and fall using DFO statistics.

| Season | 1SW |  | MSW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Catch estimate | Adjusted Creel:DFO correction factor | Adjusted <br> Logbook <br> MSW: 1SW | Adjusted Creel river MSW: 1SW | Adjusted <br> Creel:DF0 <br> correction <br> factor | Catch estimate |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DFO | 287 | 3731 | 828 | 194 | 1901 | 293 |
| STUB | 465 | N/A | 1,032 | 242 | N/A | 890 |
| Fall |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DFO | 148 | 2221 | 653 | 178 | 1781 | 287 |
| STUB | 239 | N/A | 703 | 191 | N/A | 856 |
| 1987 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fall |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DFO | 98 | 118 | 472 | 677 | 570 | 285 |
| STUB | 198 | N/A | 792 | 1,137 | N/A | 1,300 |

1 Adjusted sport catch determined to be most reliable.
Table 12. Schaefer and Peterson estimates from trapnet and angling data. A $15 \%$ tag removal factor was used to reduce tags available in trapnet estimate and a 26\% factor was used in angling estimate.

Table 13. Nembers of 15 W and MSW salmon determined from MSW and 1SW percentages in trapnet; for each tagging period. Numbers in parentheses are percentages of 1 TW and MSW salmon for each tagging period.


Table 14. Tags returned from non-logbook and logbook anglers on Margaree River, 1988.

|  | Non-logbook anglers 67\% reported |  | Adjusted tag returns from others |  | Logbook anglers 100\% reported |  | ```Total estimated tags returned``` |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | 1SW | MSW | 15W | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW |
| 830-913 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 13 | 3 | 16 | 4 |
| 914-929 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 930-1014 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

Table 15. Numbers of 1 SW and MSW salmon tagged in three tagging periods. Exploitation rate determined using adjusted tags/total estimated tags returned (Table 14).

| Tagging Period | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fish } \\ & \text { tagged } \end{aligned}$ |  | Adjusted tags (26\%) 1 |  | Exploitation rate (\%) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15W | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 15W | MSW | ALL |
| 830-913 | 74 | 26 | 55 | 19 | 29 | 21 | 27 |
| 914-929 | 52 | 38 | 38 | 28 | 11 | 14 | 12 |
| 930-1014 | 47 | 91 | 35 | 67 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 173 | 155 | 128 | 114 | 16 | 8 | 12 |

1 (26\%) refers to estimate of tags lost prior to recapture in angling fishery.

Table 16. Estimated Atlantic salmon egg deposition in the Margaree River A) from 1947-1988 using non-adjusted DFO statistics and from 1987-9188 for adjusted DFO statistics. Section B provides egg deposition based on spawners calculated from mark-recapture experiment. Exploitation rates (20.6 and $37.9 \%$ ) used in past assessments have been used to estimate potential MSW and 1SW salmon spawners. Fecundity rates used to calculate egg deposition were $6,482 \mathrm{eggs} / \mathrm{MSW}$ and 330 eggs/1SW. Egg deposition requirements are $6,714,600$ eggs. $*$ indicates years in which spawning requirements have been met. $N / C$, no collection made; $N / A$, data not available.
A)

| Year | Eggs $\times 10^{6}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Collected for hatchery | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MSW } \\ & (20.6) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 W \\ (20.6) \end{gathered}$ | Total | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MSW } \\ & (37.9) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 W \\ (37.9) \end{gathered}$ | Total |
| 1947 | 5.00 | 9.07 | 0.05 | 4.12 | 3.86 | 0.02 | - |
| 1948 | 4.50 | 17.58 | 0.13 | 13.21* | 7.48 | 0.06 | 3.04 |
| 1949 | 2.80 | 8.30 | 0.64 | 6.14 | 3.58 | 0.03 | 0.76 |
| 1950 | N/C | 7.99 | 0.15 | 8.14* | 3.40 | 0.06 | 3.46 |
| 1951 | N/C | 10.59 | 0.58 | 11.17* | 4.50 | 0.02 | 4.52 |
| 1952 | N/C | 5.09 | 0.11 | 5.20 | 2.16 | 0.05 | 2.21 |
| 1953 | N/C | 7.27 | 0.73 | 8.00* | 3.09 | 0.03 | 3.12 |
| 1954 | N/C | 7.45 | 0.99 | 8.44* | 3.16 | 0.04 | 3.20 |
| 1955 | 0.50 | 6.44 | 0.67 | 6.61 | 2.74 | 0.03 | 2.27 |
| 1956 | 3.50 | 2.25 | 0.76 | - | 0.95 | 0.02 | - |
| 1957 | 0.90 | 3.40 | 0.46 | 2.96 | 1.45 | 0.02 | 0.50 |
| 1958 | 1.00 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 1959 | 0.50 | $N / A$ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 1960 | 1.50 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 1961 | 2.00 | 1.23 | 0.51 | N | 0.52 | 0.02 | - |
| 1962 | 0.30 | 10.24 | 0.51 | 10.45* | 4.36 | 0.02 | 4.08 |
| 1963 | 1.10 | 5.30 | 0.11 | 4.31 | 2.25 | 0.05 | 1.20 |
| 1964 | 0.40 | 7.22 | 0.15 | 6.97* | 3.07 | 0.07 | 2.74 |
| 1965 | 0.60 | 6.35 | 0.11 | 5.86 | 2.70 | 0.05 | 2.15 |
| 1966 | 0.40 | 4.12 | 0.12 | 3.84 | 1.75 | 0.05 | 1.40 |
| 1967 | 0.20 | 5.24 | 0.12 | 5.16 | 2.23 | 0.05 | 2.08 |
| 1968 | 0.40 | 4.92 | 0.08 | 4.60 | 2.09 | 0.03 | 1.72 |
| 1969 | 0.35 | 3.40 | 0.26 | 3.31 | 1.45 | 0.11 | 1.21 |
| 1970 | 0.20 | 5.35 | 0.11 | 5.26 | 2.28 | 0.05 | 2.13 |
| 1971 | 0.05 | 2.30 | 0.03 | 2.28 | 0.98 | 0.01 | 0.94 |
| 1972 | 0.10 | 2.65 | 0.05 | 2.60 | 1.13 | 0.02 | 1.05 |
| 1973 | 0.10 | 2.90 | 0.21 | 3.01 | 1.23 | 0.09 | 1.22 |
| 1974 | N/C | 2.67 | 0.07 | 2.74 | 1.13 | 0.03 | 1.16 |
| 1975 | 0.05 | 1.60 | 0.05 | 1.60 | 0.68 | 0.02 | 0.65 |
| 1976 | N/C | 2.05 | 0.12 | 2.17 | 0.87 | 0.05 | 0.92 |
| 1977 | N/C | 3.50 | 0.09 | 3.59 | 1.48 | 0.04 | 1.52 |
| 1978 | 0.10 | 3.95 | 0.03 | 3.88 | 1.68 | 0.01 | 1.59 |
| 1979 | N/C | 2.15 | 0.77 | 2.92 | 0.99 | 0.33 | 1.32 |
| 1980 | 0.10 | 3.51 | 0.21 | 3.62 | 1.50 | 0.09 | 1.49 |
| 1981 | 0.05 | 3.69 | 1.14 | 4.78 | 1.70 | 0.50 | 2.15 |
| 1982 | 0.20 | 4.97 | 0.88 | 5.65 | 2.39 | 0.37 | 2.56 |
| 1983 | 0.10 | 4.00 | 0.09 | 3.99 | 1.86 | 0.04 | 1.80 |

Table 16 (continued)

| Year | Eggs $\times 10^{6}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Collected for hatchery | $\begin{gathered} \text { MSW } \\ (20.6) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 W \\ (20.6) \end{gathered}$ | Total | $\begin{gathered} \text { MSW } \\ (37.9) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 W \\ (37.9) \end{gathered}$ | Total |
| 1984 | 0.10 | 3.73 | 0.19 | 3.82 | 1.99 | 0.08 | 1.97 |
| 1985 | 0.15 | 9.82 | 0.28 | 9.95* | 5.34 | 0.12 | 5.31 |
| 1986 | 0.15 | 23.73 | 0.38 | 23.96* | 12.89 | 0.15 | 12.89* |
| 1987 | 0.15 | 12.84 | 0.45 | 13.14* | 6.98 | 0.19 | 7.02* |
| 1988 | 0.30 | 18.25 | 0.55 | 18.50* | 9.92 | 0.10 | 9.72* |
| Adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1987 | 0.15 | 25.68 | 0.53 | 26.06* | 13.96 | 0.23 | 14.04* |
| 1988 | 0.30 | 11.61 | 0.76 | 12.07* | 6.31 | 0.32 | 6.33 |
| Mark-Recapture Spawners |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MSW |  |  | 15W |  |  | total |  |
| 19881 | 18.83 |  | 1.07 |  |  | 19.90 |  |
| 19882 | 18.90 |  | 1.01 |  |  | 19.91 |  |

[^0]Table 17. Numbers of wild and hatchery salmon from summer and fall sampling on Margaree River in 1988. Numbers in parentheses indicate percentages of wild and hatchery fish for each category.

| Season | 1SW |  | MSW |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Wild | Hatchery | Wild | Hatchery |
| SUMMER |  |  |  |  |
| June 1 - Aug. 31 |  |  |  |  |
| Angling | 44 | 19 | 33 | 17 |
| Broodstock | 5 | 5 | 44 | 18 |
| Trapnets | 18 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Summer Total | 67 | 24 | 79 | 36 |
| FALL |  |  |  |  |
| Sept. 1 - Oct. 21 |  |  |  |  |
| Angling | 18 | 4 | 36 | 4 |
| Trapnets | 178 | 2 | 170 | 1 |
| Fall Total | 196 | 6 | 206 | 5 |

Table 18. Percentage of wild and hatchery fish returning to Margaree River in 1987 and 1988. Percentages are based on angling, broodstock, and trapnet samples.

|  | 15W |  | MSW |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Season | Wild | Hatchery | Wild | Hatchery |

1987

| SUMMER | 37 | 63 | 60 | 40 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FALL | 69 | 31 | 96 | 4 |
| TOTAL1 | 45 | 55 | 85 | 15 |

1988

| SUMMER | 74 | 26 | 69 | 31 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FALL | 97 | 3 | 98 | 2 |
| TOTAL1 | 82 | 18 | 83 | 17 |

1 Total percentages calculated from angling catches in Table 4.
 Parr

1 Millbank broodstock
2 Rocky Brook $\times$ Margaree broodstock

Table 20. Mean lengths and age for virgin 1SW salmon sampled on Margaree River 1986-1988. Parentheses indicate number of wild fish sampled. 1988 samples have not yet been aged.

| Season | Year |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1988 | 1987 |  |  | 1986 |  |  |
|  |  |  | Smolt age |  |  | Smolt age |  |  |
|  |  | Smolt Age ALL | 2 | 3 | ALL | 2 | 3 | ALL |
| June 1 - Aug. 31 | $N$ | 108 | 45(14) | 21 (15) | 98 | --- | 1 | --- |
|  | MEAN | 54.4 | 54.3 | 54.4 | 54.2 | --- | 56.0 | --- |
|  | STD | 2.75 | 2.96 | 3.61 | 3.26 | --- | --- | --- |
| Sept. 1 - Oct. 30 | N | 195 | 14(12) | 6(5) | 20 | 3 | --- | --- |
|  | MEAN | 56.0 | 55.0 | 55.5 | 55.2 | 59.0 | --- | --- |
|  | STD | 3.01 | 2.54 | 4.09 | 2.98 | 2.65 | --- | --- |
| Total | N | 303 | 59 (26) | 27(20) | 118 | --- | --- | 4 |
|  | MEAN | 55.4 | 54.4 | 54.6 | 54.4 | --- | -- | 58.3 |
|  | STD | 3.01 | 2.86 | 3.67 | 3.22 | --- | - | 2.63 |



| Season |  | 1988 | 1987 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1986 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Sea Age |  |  |  |  |  |  | Sea Age |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  | 3 |  |  | 2 |  |  | 3 |  |
|  |  |  | Smolt Age |  |  |  | Smolt Age |  |  | Smolt Age |  |  | Smolt Age |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | 3 | 4 | ALL | 2 | 3 | ALL | 2 | 3 | ALL | 2 | ALL |
| June 1 - Aug. 31 | $N$ | 21 | 32(25) | 8( 6) | --- | 45 | (3) | --- | 3 | 19(4) | 12(11) | 34 | (2) | 2 |
|  | MEAN | 80.3 | 75.0 | 74.1 | - | 74.6 | 84.3 | --- | 84.3 | 76.7 | 76.1 | 76.5 | 79.0 | 79.0 |
|  | STD | 8.88 | 3.79 | 3.31 | - | 3.51 | 8.96 | --- | 8.96 | 3.27 | 3.03 | 3.05 | 12.73 | 12.73 |
| Sept. 1 - Oct. 30 | $N$ | 171 | 49(47) | 24(23) | (1) | 87 | (3) | (2) | 9 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | MEAN | 79.2 | 76.2 | 76.9 | 71.0 | 76.5 | 93.3 | 90.0 | 90.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | STD | 8.38 | 3.84 | 4.71 | --- | 4.11 | 4.51 | 14.14 | 5.92 | --- | --- | - | --- | -- |
| Total | $N$ | 192 | 81 (72) | 32 (29) | (1) | 132 | (6) | (2) | 12 | 19 | 12 | 34 | 2 | 2 |
|  | MEAN | 79.3 | 75.7 | 76.2 | 71.0 | 75.9 | 88.8 | 90.0 | 89.1 | 76.7 | 76.1 | 76.5 | 79.0 | 79.0 |
|  | STD | 8.42 | 3.84 | 4.52 | --- | 4.00 | 8.04 | 14.14 | 6.95 | 3.27 | 3.03 | 3.05 | 12.73 | 12.73 |

-37-

Table 23. Tagged fish from Margaree system recovered in distant fisheries from 1986-1988.

| Stock | Stage | Number tagged | Release date | Recovery date | Recovery location | Ave. <br> FL(cm) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Wt. } \\ & \text { (kg) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sex } \\ & M: F \end{aligned}$ | Number recovered |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rocky Brook (h) | 2+ smolt | 13,279 | May 1986 | June 25,26, 1987 | Twillingate, nfld. | 53.0 | 1.85 | 1:0 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 31 \text { - Sept. } 1 \\ & 1987 \end{aligned}$ | Sisimiut 1B, Greenland | ---- | ---- | --- | 3 |
|  |  |  |  | Sept. 2,4, 1987 | Nuuk 1D, Greenland | ---- | ---- | --- | 3 |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 29 \text {, Sept. } 2 \\ & 1987 \end{aligned}$ | Paamiut 1E, Greenland | 66.0 | 2.99 | --- | 3 |
|  |  |  |  | Aug. 29, 1987 | Narssaqif $1 F$, Greenland | 66.0 | 3.18 | --- | 1 |
|  |  |  |  | Aug. 25, 1987 | Makkovik, Labrador | 67.0 | 2.72 | --- | 1 |
| Margaree | 2+ smolt | 900 | May 1988 | Aug. 29, 1987 | Sisimiut 1 B , Greenland | 62.0 | 1.9 | --- | 1 |
| Margaree | 2SW bright | 116 | 0ct. 1987 | June 25, 1988 | Bull Cove, PQ | ---- | ---- | --- | 1 |
|  |  |  |  | Aug. 8, 1988 | St. Augustine, | PQ -- | ---- | --- | 1 |
|  |  |  |  | June 28, 1988 | St. Juliens Nfld. | ---- | ---- | --- | 1 |
|  |  |  |  | Aug. 8, 1988 | Cook's Harbour Nfld. | ---- | ---- | --- | 1 |



Fig. 1. Location of trapnets, Forks Pool creel, and broodstock collection sites (Hatchery and McKenzie Pools), Margaree River, 1988. Trapnet L; Lower net. Trapnet U; Upper net.


Fig. 2. Days and time periods for Forks Pool creel. Upper triangle denotes AM and lower triangle PM creel.


Fig. 3. Angler interview form used in Forks Pool creel, 1988.

## volunteer angi ing lograox



Fig. 4. Volunteer angling forms used on Margaree River, 1988.


Fig. 5. Forecast of Fall 1989 MSW DFO sport catch. MSW salmon $(i+1)=3.82 \times 1 \mathrm{SW}$ salmon (i) $-47.58, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.88, \mathrm{p}=0.0178$.


[^0]:    1 Angling removals based on non-adjusted DFO catch.
    2 Angling removals based on adjusted DFO catch.

