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SITAIUS OF AILANHIC SALMDN IN THE RESTIGOUCHE RIVER IN 1989
by

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ABSIRACT

During 1989, about 3,655 1SW and 1,033 MSW salmon were landed by anglers in the Restigouche River (MSW salmon were harvested in Québec tributaries only). Catches of MSW salmon in 1989 were similar to 1988, but catches of 1SW salmon were only about $50 \%$ of catches in 1988. Based on angling data, returns of Atlantic salmon to the Restigouche River during 1989 were estimated to be about 7,400 1SW and 11,100 MSW salmon. Total returns of 1SW salmon in 1989 were about $29 \%$ less than the previous five year average, while MSW salmon returns in 1989 were the same as the previous five year average. In the Restigouche River most egg deposition comes from MSW salmon (> 95\%). Spawning escapement as estimated by the spawner to angled fish ratio, the method traditionally used for the Restigouche River, was 6,569 MSW salmon and 2,559 1SW salmon. These spawners would result in a total egg deposition of 39.2 million eggs ( $55 \%$ of requirements). Estimates of egg deposition in 1989 based on field spawner counts and angling exploitation rates were higher ( $86-119 \%$ of requirements). Electrofishing surveys have indicated that densities of juvenile salmon have been consistently above average in recent years, indicating spawning escapements have increased since the introduction of the 1984 management plan.

Assuming average (1985 to 1989) returns of MSW and 1SW salmon in 1990, total returns could be about 11,600 MSW and 9,700 1SW salmon.


#### Abstract

Résumé En 1989, les pêcheurs à la ligne ont capturé environ 3655 saumons unibermarins et 1033 redibermarins dans la rivière Restigouche (les redibermarins ont été péchés uniquement dans les affluents situés au québec). Ces prises sont comparables à celles de 1988 pour ce qui est des redibermarins, mais inférieures de $50 \%$ aux captures d'unibermarins de cette année-la. En se fondant sur les données de la pêche a la ligne, on chiffrait à 7400 unibermarins et 11100 redibermarins les remontées estimées de saumon de l'Atlantique dans la rivière Restigouche en 1989. Les remontées totales des premiers ont été inférieures de 29 \% à la moyenne des cing années antérieures, tandis que les remontées de redibermarins lui étaient comparables. La plupart des oeufs déposés dans la rivière Restigouche proviennent des redibermarins ( $>95 \%$ ). Les échappées de géniteurs, estimées d'après le taux de géniteurs dans les poissons capturés par les pêcheurs à la ligne (méthode traditionnelle d'évaluation pour la rivière Restigouche) étaient de 6569 redibermarins et 2559 unibermarins. Si l'on se fonde sur ces chiffres, la ponte serait de 39,2 millions d'oeufs, soit 55 \% des besoins. En revanche, les estimations de ponte obtenues d'après le dénombrement des géniteurs sur le terrain et les taux d'exploitation de la peche à la ligne sont plus élevées (de 86 à $119 \%$ des besoins). Les études réalisées par électro-pêche ont révélé que les densités de saumon juvénile se sont maintenues au-dessus de la moyenne au cours des dernières années, ce qui indique que les échappées de reproducteurs ont augmenté depuis la mise en oeuvre du plan de gestion de 1984.

En tablant sur des remontées d'unibermarins et de redibermarins comparables à la moyenne de 1985 a 1989 , celles-ci s'établiraient à 11600 et 9700 saumons respectivement en 1990.


## INIPODUCIION

During 1989, two user groups exploited Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche River, anglers and native fishermen. Regulations controlling the harvest of salmon in 1989 were similar to regulations in 1988. Anglers in New Brunswick tributaries were obligated to release all MSW salmon ( $\geq 63 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) back into the river. Catches of $15 W$ salmon were restricted by season, possession and daily bag limits of ten, six and two fish respectively. In quebec tributaries, anglers were allowed to retain both 1SW and MSW salmon but with daily and seasonal bag limits of one and seven fish, respectively. Quebec/New Brunswick boundary waters were regulated by the catch and release policy for MSW salmon as in New Brunswick. Native fishermen at Restigouche, quebec, were allocated a quota of 6995 kg . Native fishermen at Eel River Bar, New Brunswick, were not regulated by quota. Commercial fisheries in Baie des Chaleurs were closed in both Quebec and New Brunswick in 1989. For both provinces, fishermen were prohibited from landing salmon caught in non-salmon fishing gear (by-catch).

The objective of this report is to provide a preliminary evaluation of the status of Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche for 1989. Angling and native catch and effort data are summarized. Numbers of spawners are estimated from angling data, spawner counts, and juvenile salmon densities. Projections of adult salmon returns in 1990 are also given.

## MESHODS

## 1. Angling catch and effort data.

Angling data from Quebec tributaries of the Restigouche River in 1989 were provided by the Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche (MLCP); most estimates come directly from angling camp logbooks. Angling data from New Brunswick were provided by DFO fishery officers and by the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy (DNRE). DFO fishery officers collect angling data directly from angling camps (daily logbooks) on a monthly basis. In the New Brunswick portion of the Restigouche system, most angling ( $70 \%$ of 1988 catch) occurs at private or government camps who keep individual records of angling catches. Angling catches in crown open water (only 4\% of the 1988 catch) are rough estimates based on personal observations and interviews by the Officers. Finally crown reserve data ( $26 \%$ of the 1988 catch) are summarized from data records which are returned by each angling party. At the time of this assessment, only $32 \%$ of the potential 1989 crown reserve anglers had reported their catches. Final Crown Reserve estimates were therefore increased accordingly.

For both Quebec and New Brunswick, angling catches were identified as being either $15 W$ or MSW salmon ( $\geq 63 \mathrm{~cm}$ ). Effort was in rod-days, where one rod-day was one fisherman fishing a river for any portion of one day.

## 2. Native landings.

Landings of Atlantic salmon at Restigouche, Quebec (Fig. 1) are reported on a weekly basis by the Band Office to MLCP. Landings of salmon at Eel River Bar, are reported on a weekly basis, by individual gear types (gill nets vs traps) to DFO fishery officers. Based on personal observations of the Eel River fishery, fishery officers adjusted nominal landings upwards by $15 \%$ to account for underreporting. This adjustment has been made since 1987.

## 3. Within-river mortalities.

Poaching and disease mortality rate was assumed to be 0.14 for 1SW salmon and 0.16 for MSW salmon, as in previous assessments. These mortality rates were estimated from the Upsalquitch River, where mortalities were monitored at a barrier protection pool (Fig. 1), and poaching losses were estimated from spawner counts above the barrier (Randall et al. 1988). Poaching and disease mortality rates were applied to total river returns, before angling exploitation occurred.

During July and August 1989, salmon mortalities in the Main Restigouche River were enumerated and removed on a daily basis by DNRE staff and riparian wardens. Estimates of the total number of mortalities observed are therefore available for the main river.

Mortalities from stress of catch-and-release of MSW salmon in New Brunswick
waters was 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 their wardens and guides observed that may have resulted from catch and release stress (i.e., no physical indication of furunculosis lesions on the fish). Similar estimates have been made since 1985. Iocations of the index angling camps on the Restigouche River are indicated in Figure 1.

## 4. Spawning escapement in 1989.

Three methods were used to estimate spawning escapement:

## Method 1:

Spawning escapement was calculated as angling catch divided by angling exploitation rate, minus angling and broodstock removals. Because of the uncertainty of the exploitation rate on the Restigouche River (see Discussion), three rates were used: 0.20 .3 and 0.4. Total returns were calculated as the sum of spawning escapement, harvest, and poaching and disease removals.

Method 2:
Escapement in 1989 was estimated as the product of the spawner to angled fish ratio ( 0.70 ) and angling catch minus broodstock removal. This ratio was based on 16 years of data (1970-1985) (Randall et al. 1988). Annual egg depositions were back-calculated from small parr (age 1) 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 salmon (Randall 1984).

## Method 3:

Spawning escapement was estimated from visual counts of spawners obtained during canoe surveys in all major tributaries by DNRE and MLCP staff. Spawners were visually counted from canoes; $85 \%$ of all habitat was surveyed. Spawner counts provide the only estimate from the Restigouche system independent of angling data. Spawner surveys have been conducted on the Restigouche River since 1982. Preliminary observations were made on variances and potential biases of these field estimates. Numbers of salmon were estimated by visual counts from canoes in enclosures where the numbers of fish present were known (Appendix 1). For this assessment, results of this preliminary observation are reported, but spawner counts are presented without adjustments, for comparative purposes only.

## 5. Target egg depositions and required spawners.

Egg deposition requirements for the Restigouche River, to provide a deposition rate of 2.4 eggs per square metre, are 71,443,200 eggs (Randall 1984). About $12,200 \mathrm{MSW}$ salmon are required to produce these eggs, and an additional $2,60015 W$ salmon are required to ensure a $1: 1$ sex ratio at spawning.

## 6. Recruitment.

Densities of juvenile Atlantic salmon in headwater tributaries of the Restigouche River were determined by electrofishing surveys at 15 sites during August 1989. Densities were calculated by the removal method (Zippin 1956) ; 95\% confidence intervals in mean densities among the 15 sites were calculated after individual site counts were transformed (natural logarithms). Densities of salmon fry and parr have been estimated at the same 15 sites each year since 1972.

## 7. Forecast.

Returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River in 1990 were predicted using a significant but weak correlation between 1SW salmon at Kedgwick Lodge (year i) and total MSW returns (year i+1). This regression has been used in previous assessments. Returns of MSW salmon and 1SW salmon were also predicted from previous 5 year averages. Indices of spawning levels (age 1 parr) in years that will contribute to 1SW and MSW salmon returns in 1990 were also considered.

## RESULIS

## 1. Catch and effort.

## Commercial fisheries

There was no commercial salmon fishery in 1989. Commercial landings for the years 1951 to 1989 are summarized in Appendix 2.

Angling fisheries
Angling catches for the years 1951 to 1989 in the Restigouche River are summarized in Appendices 3 and 4.

In Quebec tributaries of the Restigouche River (Matapedia, Patapedia and the upper Kedgwick River), angling catches of MSW salmon in 1989 were 1033 fish, which was very similar to the catch in 1988 (1007 fish) (Table 1). Effort (roddays) and catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) were similar in the two years (Table 2).

The numbers of MSW salmon estimated to have been caught and released in New Brunswick waters in 1989 were 3641 fish, a $20 \%$ decrease from the 1988 catches (Table 1). Effort decreased slightly from 1988 to 1989 from 11076 to 9820 roddays (decrease of 11\%). CPUE for MSW salmon also decreased slightly from 1988 to 1989 (10\%). The total catch of MSW salmon in 1989 (Quebec and New Brunswick) was 4674 fish; this was a decrease in total catch of $16 \%$ from 1988, but was higher than the long term (1970 to 1988) average by 13\% (Table 1).

Landings of 1SW salmon in Quebec tributaries in 1989 decreased slightly from 1988, from 692 fish to 662 fish (decrease of only 4\%) (Table 1). As with the MSW salmon in Quebec, CPUE was the same in both years. Total catches of 1SW salmon in Quebec were however about 92\% above the long term average. Landings of 1SW salmon in New Brunswick decreased substantially in 1989 from 1988, from 6084 to 2993 fish (decrease of $51 \%$; Table 1). While angling effort was similar, CPUE for 1SW salmon in New Brunswick waters decreased by 45\% from 1988 to 1989. The total catch of 1SW salmon in the Restigouche River in 1989 was 3655 fish, which was $46 \%$ below the 1988 catches but $37 \%$ above the long term average (Table 1).

## Native fisheries

Native landings from Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River for the years 1975 to 1989 are presented in Appendix 5. Operating dates of these fisheries, 1979 to 1989, are summarized in Appendix 6 (Data sources for Appendices 2-6 are given in Appendix 7).

Native fishermen at Restigouche, Quebec reported catching 1079 MSW salmon and 12 1SW salmon in 1989 (Table 3). In terms of weight, a total of 6894 kg were reported landed, with an average weight per fish of 6.32 kg . The fishing season lasted from late May to 30 June, but most landings ( $74 \%$ ) were reported from the period 15 June to 30 June. A quota for the Restigouche native fishery ( 6995 kg ) was not formally negotiated until 15 June in 1989. Native wardens estimated that about 1814 kg were landed prior to 15 June.

Nominal landings by native fishermen at Eel River Bar, New Brunswick, were 568 MSW salmon and 151 1SW salmon (Table 3).

Total nominal landings of Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche River from all fisheries in 1989 are compared to long-term landings in Table 4.

## 2. Within river mortalities.

During the period 5 July to August 12, 1989 a total of 479 MSW salmon and 28 1SW salmon mortalities were removed from the Main Restigouche River. Some of these fish were tested for furunculosis but the results are not yet available. Based on the physical appearances of the fish (A. Madden, pers. comm.), most fish were believed to have died from this disease. Mortality rate of salmon attributed to furunculosis at the Upsalquitch barrier was estimated to be average for this site. Mortality rates calculated from this barrier pool would not be applicable to the entire river, however, because cold water was being pumped into the pool during the summer. Also, a proportion of the salmon at the barrier fence were inoculated.

Observations of mortalities of MSW salmon from five angling camps are summarized below:

Catch and release

| Camp 1 | 153 | 6 | 0.04 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2 | 51 | 10 | 0.20 |
| 3 | 96 | 2 | 0.02 |
| 4 | 350 | 30 | 0.09 |
| 5 | 291 | 20 | 0.02 |
|  |  | 68 | 0.07 |

A mortality rate of 0.07 is higher than the rate used in the 1988 assessment of 0.04 (Randall et al. 1989a). Many wardens and anglers observed that mortality rates within the river were higher than average in the Restigouche River during 1989. Lower than normal water levels during July and August may have contributed to these mortalities (Fig. 2). With furunculosis being so widely distributed throughout the Restigouche system, it is difficult to differentiate between mortalities resulting from this disease or from the stress of catch and release. It is possible that some fish may die after being hooked and released only because they were initially weakened by disease. A mortality rate of 0.07 was used in this assessment, but it is not possible to attribute this rate solely to the stress of catch-and-release.

A mortality rate of 0.07 would indicate 255 MSW salmon died after being released back into the river by anglers during 1989 ( 0.07 X 3641).

## 3. Spawning escapement.

## Upsalquitch protection barrier

Counts of both 1SW and MSW salmon at the Upsalquitch protection barrier in 1989 were less than in 1988, but only slightly (< 10\%) (Table 5). Counts of 1SW salmon in 1989 were $11 \%$ greater than the long term mean, while counts of MSW salmon were $22 \%$ greater than the long term mean.

Spawning escapement, 1989
Spawning escapement was estimated in methods 1 and 2 using angling catches of 4674 MSW salmon and 3655 1SW salmon (Table 1). Total river harvest of MSW salmon was calculated as:

Angling harvest 1033
Broodstock 89
Catch and release mortality 255
Total 1377

Returns and spawning escapement was calculated as:

|  | Method 1 Exploitation |  |  | Method 2 Spawner/ angled | Method 3 <br> Field surveys |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 |  |  |
| MSW salmon |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Total returns | 29469 | 20195 | 15558 | 11106 | 17193 |
| 2. Harvest in estuary | 1647 | 1647 | 1647 | 1647 | 1647 |
| 3. Harvest in river | 1377 | 1377 | 1377 | 1377 | 1377 |
| 4. PAD | 4452 | 2968 | 2226 | 1513 | 2488 |
| 5. Spawners | 21993 | 14203 | 10308 | 6569 | 11681 |
| 6. Target spawners | 12200 | 12200 | 12200 | 12200 | 12200 |
| \% of target (no.) | 180 | 116 | 84 | 54 | 96 |
| 1SW salmon |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Total returns | 21413 | 14330 | 10788 | 7388 | 9213 |
| 2. Harvest in estuary | 163 | 163 | 163 | 163 | 163 |
| 3. Harvest in river | 3655 | 3655 | 3655 | 3655 | 3655 |
| 4. PAD | 2975 | 1983 | 1488 | 1012 | 1267 |
| 5. Spawners | 14620 | 8528 | 5483 | 2559 | 4128 |
| 6. Target spawners | 2600 | 2600 | 2600 | 2600 | 2600 |
| \% of target (no.) | 562 | 328 | 211 | 98 | 159 |
| \% of target (eggs) | 184 | 119 | 86 | 55 | 98 |

PAD is poaching and disease, which was assumed to be 0.16 and 0.14 of river returns of MSW and 1SW salmon, respectively.

All methods indicated that numbers of 1SW salmon at spawning approximated or exceeded the spawning requirements. Estimates of the numbers of MSW salmon spawners varied substantially depending on the method used. Reasonable lower and upper limits of spawning escapement are probably provided by the angling exploitation rate of 0.3 (Method 1) and the spawner to angled fish ratio (Method 2) (see Discussion). These methods indicated spawning escapements of between 6569 MSW salmon (54\% of requirements) and 14203 salmon ( $116 \%$ of requirements). In terms of egg depositions, Methods 1 (0.3) and 2 indicate between $55 \%$ and $119 \%$ of target egg depositions were achieved.

In the 1988 assessment of Atlantic salmon in the Restigouche River, returns of MSW and 1SW salmon forecasted to return in 1989 were:

Method

Regression
Three year mean

Forecast
MSW salmon
14611 (7659-27867) 12272

1SW salmon

11397

Both forecasts were based on total returns as estimated by Method 2 (Randall et al. 1989a). Actual returns in 1989 based on Method 2 were 11106 fish; which were $76 \%$ of the regression forecast and $90 \%$ of the previous three year average. Actual returns of $15 W$ salmon were 7388 fish, which was $65 \%$ of the previous three year average.

## 4. Spawning escapement and egg depositions, 1970 to 1989.

Spawning escapements, as estimated using Method 2, are summarized for the period 1970 to 1989 in Tables 6 and 7 (updated from Randall et al. 1989a). Angling data indicated that total returns and spawning escapement of both MSW and 1SW salmon were less in 1989 than in 1988, particularly the numbers of 1SW salmon (Table 7). In contrast, numbers of spawners as estimated from cance surveys showed an increase from 1988 to 1989. Canoe surveys have been made in the Restigouche River since 1982; for the period 1982 to 1989, spawners as estimated from angling data (Method 2) and canoe surveys were significantly correlated for both MSW salmon ( $\mathrm{R} 2=0.82$; $\mathrm{P}<0.01$ ) and 1SW salmon ( $\mathrm{R} 2=0.70$; $\mathrm{P}=0.01$ ). In most years, numbers of spawners as estimated by canoe surveys were greater than numbers of spawners as estimated from angling data (Tables 6 and 7).

Estimated total egg depositions in the Restigouche River from 1971 to 1989 are given in Table 8. Egg depositions were calculated as the product between the estimated numbers of spawners (Method 2) and the average numbers of eggs per spawner (Randall 1984). Egg depositions were significantly correlated with resulting age 0 and age 1 parr densities (Table 8 and Fig. 3).

## 5. Recruitment.

Average densities of both age 0 and age 1 salmon parr at the 15 electrofishing sites in 1989 exceeded densities from previous years (Table 8; Fig. 4), suggesting that spawning levels and/or freshwater survival rates were greater than average in 1988 and 1989. Variation in densities among individual sites was considerable, however, as indicated by the wide confidence intervals (Fig. 4). Electrofishing data are presently being examined in more detail to determine there usefulness as an index of recruitment strength in the Restigouche River.

## 6. Forecast for 1990.

The regression between catches of 1SW salmon at Kedgwick Lodge (year i) and total MSW salmon returns to the Restigouche River (year i+1) was significant but weak (Table 9; Fig. 5). Returns of MSW salmon in 1990 were predicted to be 11626 (6413-21074).

Assuming average returns of MSW and 1SW salmon in 1990, returns would be 11592 MSW salmon and 9713 1SW salmon (calculated from the previous five year means in Table 6 and 7). Over the long term (1970 to 1989), returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River have not varied substantially (CV=31\%). Returns
of ISW salmon were relatively more variable (CV=54\%).
Indices of spawning escapement and adult survival in years that will produce 1SW and MSW salmon returns in 1990 were also considered. For MSW salmon, average returns of 1SW salmon in 1988 and 1989 (i.e., same smolt years that will produce 2SW and 3SW salmon in 1990) were compared to the previous five year averages, as a possible index of sea survival. Also, average age 1 parr densities for the period 1985 to 1987 were compared to the previous five year average, as a possible index of recruitment strength. Similarly, for potential returns of 1SW salmon in 1990, age 1 parr densities for 1987 and 1988 were considered:

MSW salmon (1990)
(index years)
1SW salmon (1990)
(index years)

Spawning or survival index

| 1SW returns | Age 1 parr |
| :---: | :---: |
| $+24 \%$ | $+85 \%$ |
| $(1988,1989)$ | $(1985,1987)$ |
| - | $+7 \%$ |
|  | $(1987,1988)$ |

The spawning/survival indices suggest MSW salmon returns could be at least average, and 1SW salmon returns could be average in 1990.

## DISCUSSION

Judging from angling data, returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River were slightly less in 1989 compared to 1988. Total returns were estimated to be about 11,100 MSW salmon, which was the same as the previous five year average of returns to the Restigouche. As in the previous five years, the management plan in effect resulted in a high proportion of total returns potentially surviving to spawn. About 59\% of MSW salmon that returned to river were estimated to have spawned. Total harvest of MSW salmon in the river by anglers (Quebec) and native fishermen in 1989 was 2680 fish, which was a slight increase (10\%) from the harvest in 1988 (2437).

In contrast to MSW salmon, total returns of $15 W$ salmon decreased substantially from 1988 to 1989. Landings of 1SW salmon in 1989 were $44 \%$ below the landings in 1988. Angling catches of 1SW salmon in 1988 however, were the highest on record. Angling catches in 1989 were closer to average catches for the previous five years; catches in 1989 were 3655 fish, compared to a five year average of 4507. Total returns in 1989 were estimated to be 7388 fish, which was about $29 \%$ less than the previous five year average.

Most egg deposition in the Restigouche River comes from MSW salmon. Judging from angling catches of MSW salmon, total egg deposition in 1989 probably ranged between $55 \%$ and $119 \%$ of the target egg deposition ( 71.4 million eggs). In past assessments, Method 2 (ratio of spawner to angled fish) has been used to estimate
the long term trends in egg deposition rates. Based on this method, egg deposition rates in 1989 were below target levels, but they were above the average deposition rates in years before the 1984 management plan was introduced (Fig. 6). Juvenile salmon densities at the 15 electrofishing sites seem to confirm that egg depositions have been increasing in recent years (Fig. 4).

Spawning escapement and egg deposition rates as estimated from Method 2 are probably underestimates. The ratio of spawners to angled fish of 0.7 implies an angling exploitation rate of 0.49 which is extremely high. Spawning escapement as estimated from canoe surveys in the Restigouche River also suggest that angling exploitation rates are high (sametimes > 0.5; Table 10). However, canoe surveys may provide estimates of spawners that are negatively biased (Appendix 1; Shardlow et al. 1987), and this would result in estimates of angling exploitation which are too high. In the Miramichi River, exploitation rate by anglers on early run salmon, as estimated from mark-recapture data, averaged 0.34 (Randall et al. 1989b). Exploitation rate by anglers on adult salmon in the Restigouche River is probably at least this high; all Restigouche salmon enter the river early (Peppar 1983) and are thus available to anglers for the entire angling season. Also clear water makes the salmon very visible in the Restigouche and anglers only fish where they can see salmon. Therefore an exploitation rate of 0.3 is probably a reasonable lower limit that can be applied to angling catches in the Restigouche which would give a maximum estimate of returns and spawning escapement (Fig. 6). On the other hand, an exploitation rate of 0.49 is probably an upper limit, which would provide a minimum estimate of spawning escapement. Actual exploitation rate in the Restigouche is probably somewhere between 0.3 and 0.5; obviously exploitation rate needs to be determined accurately if angling catches are going to be continued to be used to estimate salmon abundance in this river. An attempt was made to estimate exploitation rate in 1989 by tagging 1SW salmon at Dalhousie, but the trapping operation was unsuccessful (Appendix 8). Method 2 is used in this assessment to estimate spawning escapement, but this method probably results in underestimates of total egg depositions.

Returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River have remained relatively constant over the past several years. Both the regression model and the previous five year averages suggest that total returns in 1990 could be about 11,600 MSW salmon. Assuming average returns of 1SW salmon in 1990, total returns could be about 9,700 fish.

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Table 1. Estimated angling catches of satmon in the Bestigouche River, $19 \% 1$ to 1989.

| Year | MSW |  |  | 1SW |  |  | Proportion MSW |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PQ | NB | Total | PQ | NB | Total | PQ | NB | Total |
| 1970 | 326 | 1,716 | 2,042 | 166 | 1,340 | 1,506 | 0.66 | 0.56 | 0.58 |
| 1971 | 259 | 757 | 1,016 | 173 | 999 | 1,172 | 0.60 | 0.43 | 0.46 |
| 1972 | 1,171 | 3,870 | 5,041 | 111 | 978 | 1,089 | 0.91 | 0.80 | 0.82 |
| 1973 | 1,146 | 3,746 | 4,892 | 147 | 1,423 | 1,570 | 0.89 | 0.72 | 0.76 |
| 1974 | 1,163 | 4,785 | 5,948 | 129 | 1,038 | 1,167 | 0.90 | 0.82 | 0.84 |
| 1975 | 741 | 2,160 | 2,901 | 149 | 1,130 | 1,279 | 0.83 | 0.66 | 0.69 |
| 1976 | 1,029 | 4,481 | 5,510 | 377 | 2,345 | 2,722 | 0.73 | 0.66 | 0.67 |
| 1977 | 1,579 | 5,128 | 6,707 | 459 | 2,333 | 2,792 | 0.77 | 0.69 | 0.71 |
| 1978 | 1,652 | 3,373 | 5,085 | 282 | 1,322 | 1,604 | 0.85 | 0.72 | 0.76 |
| 1979 | 826 | 997 | 1,823 | 556 | 1,990 | 2,546 | 0.60 | 0.33 | 0.42 |
| 1980 | 2,059 | 4,098 | 6,157 | 409 | 2,833 | 3,242 | 0.83 | 0.59 | 0.66 |
| 1981 | 1,408 | 2,832 | 4,240 | 635 | 3,010 | 3,645 | 0.69 | 0.48 | 0.54 |
| 1982 | 962 | 1,620 | 2,582 | 402 | 2,449 | 2,851 | 0.71 | 0.40 | 0.48 |
| 1983 | 587 | 1,481 | 2,068 | 181 | 715 | 88 | 0.76 | 0.67 | 0.70 |
| 1984 | 570 | $[1,672]$ | [2,242] | 348 | 1,474 | 1,822 | 0.62 | 0.53 | 0.55 |
| 1985 | 752 | [3,563] | [4,315] | 259 | 3,58 | 3,517 | 0.74 | 0.52 | 0.55 |
| 1986 | 1,418 | [4,763] | [6, 181] | 498 | 4,915 | 5,413 | 0.74 | 0.49 | 0.53 |
| 1987 | 873 | [3,203] | [4,076] | 591 | 4,414 | 5,005 | 0.60 | 0.42 | 0.45 |
| 1988 | 1,007 | [4,546] | [5,509] | 692 | 6,084 | 6,776 | 0.59 | 0.43 | 0.45 |
| 1989 | 1,03 | [3,641] | [4,674] | 662 | 2,993 | 3,655 | 0.61 | 0.55 | 0.56 |
| Mean ( $70-88$ ) | 1,028 | [3,094] | [4,120] | 345 | 2,318 | 2,664 | 0.74 | 0.57 | 0.61 |

[^0]Table 2. Prel iminary estimates of anoling catch, effort and CRE in Mew Brunsick and aubec portions of the Restigouche River.

|  |  | 1989 |  |  | 1988 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Catch | Effort | CPIE | Catch | Effort | CPIE |
| N.B. | 1SW | 2993 | 9620 | 0.30 | 6084 | 11076 | 0.55 |
|  | MSW | [3641] | 9820 | 0.37 | [4546] | 11076 | 0.41 |
| P.Q. | 1SW | 662 | 8805 | 0.08 | 692 | 9165 | 0.08 |
|  | MSW | 1033 | 8805 | 0.12 | 1007 | 9165 | 0.11 |

rable 3. Prel iminary estimates of harvest (nubers) of 194 and Mis solmon in Restigouche River, 1989 . Harvests of salmon in 1988 are given for comparison.

|  | 1989 |  | 1988 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fishery | 1SW | MSW | 19W | HSW |
| Native |  |  |  |  |
| N.B. | 151 | 568 | 70 | 509 |
| P.Q. | 12 | 1079 | 3 | 921 |
| Angling |  |  |  |  |
| N.B. | 2993 |  | 6084 |  |
| P.Q. | 662 | 1033 | 692 | 1007 |
| Total | 3818 | 2680 | 6849 | 2437 |

Table 4. Commercial, angling and Mative salman landines from Baie des Chalerrs and Bestigouche River, 1951 to 1989. Data saurces given in Appendix 7.

| Year | Commercial |  | Angl ing |  | Native |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSH | 15w | MSN | 1SW | 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 | 1,009 | 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 | 1,873 | 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 | 5,005 | 873 | 100 | 1,902 | 7,880 |
| 1988 | 0 | 0 | 6,776 | 1,007 | 73 | 1,430 | 9,286 |
| 1989 | 0 | 0 | 3,655 | 1,033 | 163 | 1,647 | 6,498 |

[^1]Table 5. Corrts of salmon at a fish berrier an MU Usalquitch River, 1980 to 1989.

| 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 | 2,904 |
| 1986 | 1,738 | 1,166 | 2,557 |
| 1987 | 1,557 | 1,000 | 2,114 |
| 1988 | 1,121 | 993 | 1,945 |
| 1989 | 1,051 | 894 | 1,686 |
| mean (80-88) | 951 | 734 |  |

Table 6. Estimated spaners and total returns of Mild salmon in Restigouche River, 1970-1999. Spaners were estimated using a spaner/angled fish ratio of 0.7.

| Year | Harvest |  | Released plus P.Q. | PAD | Spawners <br> (S) | Returns <br> (R) | S/R |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estuary | River |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | 10,235 | 0.35 |
| 1973 | 28 | 4,892 | ----- | 1,584 | 3,424 | 10,196 | 0.34 |
| 1974 | 68 | 5,948 | -.--- | 1,986 | 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 | 5,085 | -...- | 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 ${ }_{2}$ | ---- | 670 | 1,448 (2,397) | 10,230 | 0.14 |
| 1984 | 3,309 | 688 | 2,242 | 76 | 3,123 (5,23) | 7,846 | 0.40 |
| 1985 | 1,217 | 1,074 | 4,315 | 1,397 | 6,262 (7,898) | 9,950 | 0.63 |
| 1986 | 1,576 | 1,693 | 6,181 | 2,002 | 8,815 (9,542) | 14,085 | 0.63 |
| 1987 | 1,902 | 1,073 | 4,076 | 1,320 | 5,856 (8,535) | 10,151 | 0.58 |
| 1988 | 1,430 | 1,207 | 5,553 | 1,798 | 8,233 (9,520) | 12,668 | 0.65 |
| 1989 | 1,647 | 1,377 | 4,674 | 1,513 | 6,569 (11,681) | 11,106 | 0.59 |

1 (Spawner counts fram field surveys.)
2 River harvests, 1984 to 1989, include catch and release mortalities and broodstock removals.

Table 7. Estimated spaners and total returns of 151 salman in Restigouche River, 1970 - 9989. Sparers mare estimated using a spaner/angled fish ratio of 0.7 .

| Year | Harvest |  | PAD | Spawners (S) |  | Returns (R) | S/R |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estuary | River |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1970 | 0 | 1,506 | 417 | 1,054 |  | 2,977 | 0.35 |
| 1971 | 0 | 1,172 | 324 | 820 |  | 2,317 | 0.35 |
| 1972 | 36 | 1,089 | 301 | 762 |  | 2,189 | 0.35 |
| 1973 | 1,272 | 1,570 | 435 | 1,099 |  | 4,376 | 0.25 |
| 1974 | 132 | 1,167 | 323 | 817 |  | 2,439 | 0.33 |
| 1975 | 166 | 1,279 | 354 | 885 |  | 2,684 | 0.33 |
| 1976 | 5,120 | 2,722 | 733 | 1,905 |  | 10,501 | 0.18 |
| 1977 | 1,153 | 2,792 | 773 | 1,954 |  | 6,672 | 0.29 |
| 1978 | 1,545 | 1,604 | 444 | 1,123 |  | 4,716 | 0.24 |
| 1979 | 252 | 2,546 | 705 | 1,782 |  | 5,285 | 0.34 |
| 1980 | 2,044 | 3,242 | 897 | 2,269 |  | 8,453 | 0.27 |
| 1981 | 3,045 | 3,645 | 1,009 | 2,551 |  | 10,250 | 0.25 |
| 1982 | 2,350 | 2,851 | 789 | 1,9\% | $(1,577)^{9}$ | 7,986 | 0.25 |
| 1983 | 1,584 | 89 | 248 | 627 | (986) | 3,355 | 0.19 |
| 1984 | 7,339 | 1,822 | 504 | 1,275 | $(1,374)$ | 10,941 | 0.12 |
| 1985 | 35 | 3,517 | 973 | 2,462 | $(2,111)$ | 6,987 | 0.35 |
| 1986 | 30 | 5,413 | 1,498 | 3,789 | $(5,190)$ | 10,730 | 0.35 |
| 1987 | 100 | 5,005 | 1,385 | 3,504 | $(3,930)$ | 9,994 | 0.35 |
| 1988 | 73 | 6,776 | 1,875 | 4,743 | $(3,861)$ | 13,468 | 0.35 |
| 1989 | 163 | 3,655 | 1,012 | 2,559 | $(4,128)$ | 7,388 | 0.35 |

[^2]Table 8. Estimates of total egs daposition and resultire juenile dersities of Atlantic salmo in the Restignche River, 1971 to 1989.

| Year | Egs deposition (millians) | $0+$ | Jumenile salmon densities 1+ | $2+$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
| 1971 | 4.3 | 5.2 | 2.8 | 0.6 |
| 1972 | 20.1 | 22.0 | 6.1 | 1.5 |
| 1973 | 21.7 | 13.1 | 4.8 | 1.0 |
| 1974 | 25.3 | 28.6 | 6.9 | 1.4 |
| 1975 | 13.4 | 13.3 | 3.9 | 1.0 |
| 1976 | 24.9 | 14.7 | 6.3 | 1.4 |
| 1977 | 25.6 | 19.5 | 5.9 | 2.1 |
| 1978 | 21.4 | 6.1 | 3.8 | 0.4 |
| 1979 | 8.1 | 9.3 | 2.4 | 0.4 |
| 1980 | 20.5 | 18.9 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| 1981 | 17.8 | 11.2 | 7.8 | 2.5 |
| 1982 | 10.9 | 25.4 | 7.3 | 1.6 |
| 1983 | 8.7 | 25.1 | 10.4 | 2.8 |
| 1984 | 18.6 | 25.2 | 7.5 | 4.7 |
| 1985 | 37.4 | 23.9 | 9.4 | 2.1 |
| 1986 | 52.6 | 42.0 | 6.1 | 1.9 |
| 1987 | 35.0 | 53.2 | 12.1 | --- |
| 1988 | 49.3 | 72.1 | ---- | --- |
| 1989 | 39.2 | ---- | ---- | --- |

Correlations:
$\mathbf{n} \quad r \quad \mathbf{P}$

| In 1. with $\ln 2$. | 17 | 0.74 | $<0.01$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| In 1. with $\ln 3$. | 16 | 0.65 | $<0.01$ |
| 2. with 3. | 16 | 0.74 | $<0.01$ |
| 2. with 4. | 15 | 0.45 | 0.09 |
| 3. with 4. | 15 | 0.51 | 0.05 |

Table 9. Total returns of miU salmon to Restigouche River and catch of 151 salmon at Mederick Lodge in the previous year (1969-89). Total returns are calculated in Table 6. Returns of MSI salman predicted for $\mathbf{1 9 9 0}$ are given in paranthesis.

| Year (i) | Kedgrick Locte 1SW salmon catch (year i) | Total returns of MSW salmon to Restigouche (year $\mathrm{i}+1$ ) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1969 | 174 | 22,313 |
| 1970 | 124 | 11,023 |
| 1971 | 72 | 10,25 |
| 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 | 7,846 |
| 1984 | 83 | 9,950 |
| 1985 | 98 | 14,085 |
| 1986 | 199 | 10,151 |
| 1987 | 238 | 12,668 |
| 1988 | 223 | 11,106 |
| 1989 | 86 | 11,626 |

MSW returns in 1990 (parenthesis) were estimated from the regression: $\ln$ MSW (yr $\mathrm{i}+1)=8.52+0.19 \ln (1 S W, y r i)$. ( $R=0.47$, of $=19, F=5.24, P<0.034$ ).

Table 10. Estimated argling exploitation rates (1) in Restigouche River, 1982 to 1989 . Muber of gamers mere estimated from field spaning surveys and returns were estimated assuming a poaching and disease rate of 0.14 for 191 salmon.

| Yr | Angling | Spawners | Returns | $u$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 | 2,851 | 1,577 | 5,149 | 0.55 |
| 1983 | 896 | 986 | 2,188 | 0.41 |
| 1984 | 1,822 | 1,374 | 3,716 | 0.49 |
| 1985 | 3,517 | 2,111 | 6,544 | 0.54 |
| 1986 | 5,413 | 5,190 | 12,329 | 0.44 |
| 1987 | 5,005 | 3,930 | 10,390 | 0.48 |
| 1988 | 6,776 | 3,861 | 12,369 | 0.55 |
| 1989 | 3,655 | 4,128 | 9,050 | 0.40 |



Figure 1. Map of the Restigouche River showing the location of salmon counting facilities, index angling camps and discharge gauging stations.

## Upsalquitch



Main Restigouche


Fig. 2. Mean monthly discharge (\% of long term mean) in Upsalquitch and Main Restigouche Rivers during 1989.

Age 0 parr: $R Z=0.55$


Age 1 parr; R2 $=0.42$


Fig. 3. Relationships between estimated egg deposition levels and resulting mean densities of age 0 and age 1 parr in the Restigouche River, 1972-1989.

Age 0 parr


Age 1 parr


Fig. 4. Mean densities of age 0 and age ${ }^{\text {Yer }}$ salmon parr at 15 sites in the Restigouche River, 1972 to 1989. Dashed lines indicate $95 \%$ confidence intervals.


Fig. 5. Correlation between catches of 1 SW salmon at Kedgwick Lodge (year i) and total returns of MSW salmon to the Restigouche River (year i+1).

## Restigouche



Fig. 6. Estimated egg deposition leve1s in the Restigouche River, 1970 to 1989, as estimated by Method 2 (spawner to angled fish ratio of 0.7 ) (squares), and Method 1 with assumed angling exploitation rates 0.4 (asteriks) and 0.3 (circles). Horizontal line indicates target deposition rates.
appedix 1

## Spanner Surveys in the Restigouche River

A preliminary attempt was made in 1989 to determine the acarecy of estimating numbers of spenners in the Restigarche River by visual counts from canoe surveys. During October, a known number of 1SW and MSW salmon were counted into two enclosures in the Upsalquitch River immediately above the DURE protection barrier. The upper enclosed section of river consisted of a large pool (maximum depth about 5 m ) about 0.2 km lang; river width at the upper enclosure varied from about 20 to 50 m . The lower enclosure was about 3.3 km in length, and varied between about 10 and 100 metres in width. Most areas within the lower enclosure were wadeable (i.e., less than 1 m in depth) with the exception of three pool areas which had maximum depths of about 5 m .

Each enclosure was surveyed twice by two different teems from the upstrean barrier to the lower barrier. The actual numbers of fish in each enclosure was unknown to the survey teams. For each of the two replicates, the sections were first surveyed by canoe and then by two people snorkelling in tandm. Each team included one experianced and one inexperianced surveyor, and each surveyor estimated the numbers of 1SW and MSW salmon in the enclosures independent of the other surveyors. Results are given below:

## 1. Experienced surveyors:

| Upper enclosure |  | Shorkelling |  | Canoe |  | Actual |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |
|  | 1sw | 19 | 16 | 13 | 13 | 10 |
|  | MSW | 7 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 11 |
|  | Total | 26 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 21 |
| Lower enclosure | 1SW | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 16 |
|  | MSW | 3 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
|  | Total | 7 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 18 |
| Both | 1sw | 23 | 19 | 15 | 15 | 26 |
|  | MSW | 10 | 11 | 14 | 11 | 13 |
|  | Total | 33 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 39 |
|  | \% of | 85 | 7 | 74 | 67 |  |

2. Inexperienced surveyors

| Upper enclosure | ISW | 24 | 16 | 18 | 12 | 10 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | MSW | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 11 |
|  | Total | 30 | 23 | 26 | 18 | 21 |
| Lower enclosure |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1SW | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 16 |
|  | MSW | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
|  | Total | 5 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 18 |
| Both |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1SW | 27 | 20 | 14 | 26 |  |
|  | MSW | 8 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 13 |
|  | Total | 35 | 30 | 33 | 23 | 39 |

All surveyors underestimated the total numbers of fish in the survey aree. For the experienced surveyors, the estimates were $81 \%$ of the actual numbers for shorkelling survey and $71 \%$ of the actual rumbers for the canoe survey. Results were not consistent between the two sections. Surveyors consistently overestimated the numbers of 1SW salmon in the upper enclosure, but significantly underestimated the numbers in the lower enclosure. On average, the results were similar for both experienced and inexperienced surveyors. However, the difference in estimates between replicates was larger for the inexperienced crew.

APPEDIX 2

Comercial salmon landings fram Baie des Chateurs and Destigache Rivar, 1951 to 1989. Data sources given in Appendix 7.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  | Québec |  |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSN | TOTAL | 1SW | MSM | TOTAL |  |
| 1951 |  | 17,718 | 17,718 |  | 24,735 | 24,735 | 42,453 |
| 1852 |  | 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 | 11,411 | 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 | 75 | 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 |
| 1988 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1989 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

appadix 3
Angling salmon landings from Restigache River, 1951 to 1989. Data sarces given in Appendix 7.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  | aúbec |  |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | TOTAL | 1SW | MW | TOTAL |  |
| 1951 |  |  | 3,511 | 25 | 160 | 185 | 3,696 |
| 1952 |  |  | 5,662 | 104 | 373 | 477 | 6,139 |
| 1983 |  |  | 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 | 27 | 334 | 2,662 |
| 1957 |  |  | 3,387 | 124 | 259 | 383 | 3,70 |
| 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 | - 1 | 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 | 277 | 580 | 837 | 4,361 |
| 1988 | 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 | 338 | 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 | 1,980 | 997 | 2,987 | 556 | 888 | 1,382 |  |
| 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 | 52 | 1,011 | 4,269 |
| 1986 | 4,915 | 0 | 4,915 | 498 | 1,418 | 1,916 | 6,831 |
| 1987 | 4,414 | 0 | 4,414 | 591 | 873 | 1,464 | 5,878 |
| 1988 | 6,084 | 0 | 6,084 | 692 | 1,007 | 1,699 | 7,783 |
| 1989 | 2,993 | 0 | 2,993 | 662 | 1,033 | 1,695 | 4,688 |

APPEDIX 4
Argling salmon landirgs from Restigauche River Systen, 1970-1989. Data sarces given in Appendix 7.

| Year | Matapedia |  | Upsalquitch |  | Patapedia |  | Kedewick |  | Little Main |  | Main Restigauthe |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 1SW | MSW | 18W | MSW |
| 1970 | 162 | 290 | 270 | 122 | 4 | 24 | 323 | 205 | --- | --- | 747 | 1401 |
| 1971 | 153 | 217 | 344 | 90 | 20 | 40 | 128 | 67 | --- | --- | 527 | 608 |
| 1972 | 102 | 1010 | 362 | 984 | 7 | 144 | 165 | 425 | --- | --- | 453 | 2478 |
| 1973 | 147 | 1098 | 498 | 512 | 0 | 43 | 128 | 548 | --- | --- | 797 | 2691 |
| 1974 | 124 | 1083 | 433 | 579 | 5 | 63 | 80 | 289 | --- | --- | 525 | 3934 |
| 1975 | 131 | 692 | 462 | 262 | 18 | 31 | 136 | 316 | --- | --- | 532 | 1600 |
| 1976 | 296 | 922 | 767 | 753 | 80 | 88 | 209 | 348 | --- | --- | 1370 | 3399 |
| 1977 | 278 | 1312 | 554 | 901 | 181 | 227 | 368 | 684 | --- | --- | 1411 | 3583 |
| 1978 | 251 | 1457 | 449 | 507 | 31 | 158 | 143 | 423 | --- | --- | 730 | 2480 |
| 1979 | 466 | 754 | 507 | 135 | 90 | 60 | 316 | 123 | --- | --- | 1167 | 751 |
| 1980 | 311 | 1784 | 1178 | 592 | 9 | 229 | 284 | 468 | --- | --- | 1374 | 3084 |
| 1981 | 485 | 1176 | 123 | 221 | 148 | 175 | 356 | 473 |  |  | 1422 | 2195 |
| 1982 | 259 | 841 | 818 | 214 | 143 | 112 | 322 | 190 | $59^{1}$ | $50^{1}$ | 1250 | 1175 |
| 1983 | 154 | 456 | 203 | 218 | 27 | 103 | 68 | 224 | 14 | 0 | 430 | 1067 |
| $1984{ }^{2}$ | 318 | 527 | 483 | 0 | 45 | 33 | 149 | 10 | 102 | 0 | 725 | 0 |
| 1985 | 208 | 708 | 1175 | 0 | 103 | 32 | 329 | 12 | 163 | 0 | 1539 | 0 |
| 1986 | 387 | 1293 | 1397 | 0 | 162 | 89 | 565 | 36 | 481 | 0 | 2421 | 0 |
| 1987 | 498 | 817 | 819 | 0 | 193 | 40 | 582 | 16 | 407 | 0 | 2506 | 0 |
| 1988 | 580 | 948 | 1296 | 0 | 188 | 27 | 807 | 32 | 524 | 0 | 3381 | 0 |
| 1989 | 622 | 989 | 898 | 0 | 61 | 28 | 23 | 16 | 99 | 0 | 1743 | 0 |

${ }_{2}^{1}$ Prior to 1982 Little Main lardings included in Main Restigauche.
2 Hook and releese of MSW salmon began in New Brunswick.

APPEDIX 5
Mative salman landings fram Baie des Chalears and Restigouche River, 997 to 9989 . Deta sarces given in Appendix 7.

| Year | New Brunswick |  |  | Qutbec |  |  | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1SW | MSW | TOTAL | 1sw | 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 | 29 | 24 | 1,563 | 1,587 | 1,885 |
| 1981 | 20 | 211 | 231 |  |  |  | 231 |
| 1982 | 12 | 155 | 167 | 148 | 1,521 | 1,669 | 1,836 |
| 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 | 95 | 916 | 1,011 | 5 | 986 | 991 | 2,002 |
| 1988 | 70 | 509 | 579 | 3 | 921 | 924 | 1,503 |
| 1989 | 151 | 568 | 719 | 12 | 1,079 | 1,091 | 1,810 |

APPEDIX 6
Operating dates of Mative fisheries in Baie des Chaleurs and Restigauche River, 1979 to 9889 . Data sources given in Appandix 7.

| Year | New Brunswick |  | auébec |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gillnet | Trap net | Gillnet |
| 1979 | May 14-Octaber 24 |  | June 6-Augist 1 |
| 1980 | May 19-July 13 |  | June 2-July 28 |
| 1981 | May 15-August 30 |  |  |
| 1982 | May 17-Auast 1 |  | June 9-Algust 2 |
| 1983 | May 16-Alost 28 |  | June 3-Alust 7 |
| 1984 | May 14 - Alugst 27 |  | June 5-Alust 10 |
| 1985 | May 20 - August 25 |  | June 3-July 31 |
| 1986 | May 19 - August 10 |  | June 2-June 26 |
| 1987 | May 24 - July 27 | May 24 - July $15{ }^{2}$ | June 1 - June 30 |
| 1988 | May 16-Alyst 26 | May 16 - Alust 14 | June 6 - July 6 |
| 1989 | May 15-Alust 20 | May 29 - Aluust 20 | June 5-June 30 |

[^3]
## APPEDIX 7

Salmon landings for Baie des Chaleurs and Restigouche River given in Appendices 2 to 6 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 Quábec conmercial data for 1951 to 1969 from Mey and Lear (1971) and assume saimon average 6.4 kg .
New Brunswick conmercial for 1970 to 1984 fram Recbooks ccompiled by Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Science Branch, Halifax).
aúbec conmercial for 1970 to 1981 from Bureau de la Statistique du aúbec (G. auellet and J.P. Lebel, pers. corm.), and assume average weight and MSW/1SW ratio sane as calculated fram Recbooks.

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

## 2. Argling data

New Brunswick angling data for 1951 to 1959 fram Smith (1981); 1960 to 1969 fran Swetnam and 0 יNeil (1985); 1970 to 1979 from O'Neil and Swetnem (1984); 1980 to 1983 from Swetnam and O'Neil (1984); 1984 fran O'Neil et al. (1985); 1985 from O'Neil et al. (1986); 1986 from O'Neil et al. (1987); and 1987 to 1988 from O'Neil (pers. canm.).
auśbec angling from 1951 to 1969 from New Brunswick Department of Natural Resarces and Energy files (A. Madden, pers. corm.). Angling data for 1970 to 1988 fram Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pēche, auábec (G. arellet, J.P. Lebel and G. Landry, pers. conm.).

## 3. Native data

New Brunswick Mative data for 1975 to 1982 from Department of Fisheries and Dceans, Protection and Regulations Branch files (R. Roy and M. Sulliven, pers. camm.); 1983 to 1986 from Department of Fisheries and Oceens, Resource Allocation and Developnent Branch, (K. Atwin, F. Ring and R. Hebert, pers. comm.); and 1987 to 1988 from Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Protection and Regulations Branch, (R. Roy, R. MacNair and R. Senechal, pers. comm.).

Québec Mative data for 1976 to 1984 from Gaudreault (1984); 1985 to 1988 fram Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pèche, aübec (G. Landry, pers. carm.).
4. All 1989 data are preliminary as described in text.

## appendx 8

Adult salmon trap, Restigouche River, 1989
An adult salmon trap was operated by contract at Dalhousie, New Brunswick from 27 June to 22 July, 1989. The trap was installed about 315 m south of Bon Ami Rocks, which wes the exact location of the trap operated by DFO for monitoring salmon from 1972 to 1980 (Peppar 1983). The trap consisted of a 350 shore leeder (mesh size of 12.7 cm ), and a single spearhead trap (mesh size 3.2 cm ). The original trapping facility at Dalhousie included four intercornected traps and adjoining leaders (total length of 702 $m$, with 15.2 cm mesh in the leaders and 6.4 cm mesh in the traps). During the 1972 to 1980 trapping period, however, most salmon were captured in the shore trap ( $>50 \%$; R. Stewart, personal comm.) During 1989, the cbjective was to tag about 500 1SW salmon using Carl in tags. Recaptures from angl ing camps within the Restigouche River were then going to be used to estimate angling exploitation rate. During the period 1972 to 1980, most of the total numbers of 1SW salmon trapped were caucht within the period the trap was operated in 1989 (usually greater than 70\%).

The 1989 trapping qperation was unsuccessful. A total of 341 SW salmon and 14 MSW salmon were captured. Only 261 1SW salmon were tagged, and none were subsequently recaptured within the river by aglers.


[^0]:    1 Estimates in parenthesis [] include MSW salmon released in New Brunswick. New Brunswick catch-and-release data (1984 to 1989) were estimated from DFO fishery officers.

[^1]:    1 Totals from 1951 to 1859 include angling landings for which the 1 SW to MSW ratio was unknow.

[^2]:    1 (Spawner counts from field surveys.)

[^3]:    ${ }_{2}$ one trap net in 1986.
    2 Two trap nets in 1987 to 1989.

