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**Assessment of Atlantic salmon,
Salmo salar, in the Margaree River,
Nova Scotia, 1986**

by

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ABSTRACT

The 1986 1SW and MSW salmon sport catch surpassed 1985 values, and the MSW sport catch was the greatest recorded since 1947. Nineteen eighty-four and 1985 sport catch estimated from license stub returns were 1.5 to 3.5 times the DFO values reported for these years. Most MSW salmon were taken in the fall portion of the run, while most 1SW salmon were caught in the summer portion.

In 1986, spawning requirements were met for the first time since 1947. Confidence in this conclusion is based on: (1) egg deposition estimated with a conservative measure of sport catch (DFO statistics); (2) egg deposition requirements have been met using the higher (37.9%) exploitation rate in the calculation; (3) even if an exploitation rate as high as 80% is used to calculate egg deposition, spawning requirements have been met; (4) MSW salmon entering the river after the angling season will also contribute to egg deposition.

MSW returns in 1987 are predicted to be similar to 1985 and 1986.

RÉSUMÉ

Les prises sportives pour l'année 1986 de saumons unibermarins et rédibermarins ont surpassé celles de 1985, et les prises de rédibermarins ont été les plus importantes enregistrées depuis 1947.

Pour les années 1984 et 1985, les évaluations des prises sportives calculées d'après les retours de talons de permis de pêche furent de 1.5 à 3.5 fois supérieures aux évaluations émises par le MPO pour ces mêmes années. La plupart des prises de saumons rédibermarins eurent lieu pendant l'automne et celles des unibermarins s'effectuèrent surtout pendant l'été.

En 1986, les besoins minimaux en géniteurs pour le maintien du stock ont été réalisés pour la première fois depuis 1947. Cette conclusion se fonde sur les facteurs suivants: (1) l'importance de la ponte fut évaluée d'après l'estimation la plus prudente des prises sportives (les données du MPO); (2) les calculs effectués avec le plus haut des taux estimatifs d'exploitation (37.9%) indiquent que le niveau minimal requis de ponte a été réalisé; (3) même si l'importance de la ponte eût été calculée d'après un taux d'exploitation de 80%, le niveau minimal requis de ponte serait réalisé; (4) la contribution d'oeufs des saumons rédibermarins étant arrivés en eau douce après la fin de la saison de pêche sportive n'apparaît pas dans les calculs.

On prévoit que les retours de rédibermarins en 1987 seront semblables à ceux de 1985 et 1986.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to provide an assessment of the Margaree River Atlantic salmon stock in 1986. The number of spawners required to meet egg deposition requirements has assumed all egg deposition will come from MSW (two-sea-winter and older) salmon. Spawning escapement is estimated using sport catch as an index of abundance. Forecasts concerning 1987 returns are reported.

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 has 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. In 1985 and 1986, all MSW salmon were released regardless of date caught. In 1984, there was a reduction in the commercial fishery from eight to three weeks. There was no commercial fishery in 1985 and 1986.

METHODS

Landings

Angling records from 1947-1986 were provided by fishery officers, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Margaree Forks, Nova Scotia. Sport catches for 1984 and 1985 were also obtained from Nova Scotia license stub returns (O'Neil et al. 1985b, 1986). Commercial landings (1947-1984) have been included (Clayton and Chadwick 1985).

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 1SW 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/m ² (Elson 1975) |
| Rearing area | = | 2,797,600 m ² (Marshall 1982) |
| Fecundity MSW | = | 1,764 eggs/kg (Elson 1975) |
| 1SW | = | 1,764 eggs/kg (Elson 1975) |
| Mean weight MSW | = | 4.9 kg (Marshall 1982) |
| 1SW | = | 1.7 kg (Marshall 1982) |
| Eggs per MSW | = | 6,482 eggs = 1,764 x 4.9 x .75 |
| 1SW | = | 330 eggs = 1,764 x 1.7 x .11 |
| Eggs per fish | = | (6,482 x .75) + (330 x .25) = 4,945 |
| Sex ratio male/female MSW | = | 25:75 (Marshall 1982) |
| 1SW | = | 89:11 (Marshall 1982) |
| 1SW/MSW salmon ratio | = | 25:75 (described below) |

Sex and 1SW/MSW salmon ratios were reevaluated using data obtained from hatchery broodstock collections made in August and September 1982-1986. The 1SW:MSW ratio in the sport catch from 1947-1978 was derived using 6.0 pounds as the division between 1SW and MSW salmon (Claytor and Chadwick 1985). All fish in the angling catch less than or equal to 6.0 pounds were considered 1SW salmon; those over 6.0 pounds, MSW salmon.

From 1979-1985, the 1SW salmon component of the sport catch has increased dramatically (1SW:MSW = 71:29). This increase has probably resulted from an increasing influence of hatchery stocking (Gray and Chadwick 1984). It is felt that the sport catch composition from 1947-1978 is a better representation of the wild stock.

Spawning escapements

Spawning escapement has been derived from DFO angling catch statistics using exploitation rates from previous assessments, 20.6 and 37.9% (Hayes 1949; Marshall 1982; Gray and Chadwick 1984). The possibility of using juvenile densities as a method of estimating spawning escapement was investigated by examining correlations with DFO sport catch. 1+ parr densities from sites sampled in 1986 were added to the data set used to examine correlations with DFO sport catch in Claytor and Chadwick (1985). Correlations between sport catch (year i-2) and 1+ parr densities (year i) were determined using SAS (1986). Sites used in 1986 were chosen with the assistance of Leslie Ingraham, Margaree Valley, Nova Scotia, a member of electrofishing crews from 1957-1969, 1975-1979. Hence, sites are as similar as possible to those previously sampled. Initially, correlations between DFO MSW salmon sport catch and 1+ parr densities at each site were determined. A pooled 1+ parr density was calculated by dividing the sum of estimated numbers by sum of areas.

Egg deposition

Total egg deposition from 1SW and MSW salmon was calculated as described below:

$$\frac{\text{Sport catch (SC)}}{\text{Sport catch (SC) + Spawners}} = \text{Exploitation rate (ER)}$$
$$\frac{\text{SC (1 - ER)}}{\text{ER}} = \text{Spawners}$$

For years in which there were hook-and-release regulations, 1979-1986, the MSW salmon caught and released were added to the number of spawners calculated as above.

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

Forecast

The regression equation (MSW catch year [i+5] = 112.49 + 0.23 x [year i angling catch]) (Claytor and Chadwick 1985) was used to predict MSW returns in 1987. This equation is based on DFO sport catch statistics for years (1947-1984) prior to closure of the commercial fishery and implementation of universal hook-and-release regulations for MSW salmon.

RESULTS

Landings

Commercial landings (1967-1984) are presented in Table 1, DFO sport catch statistics (1947-1986) in Table 2, and Nova Scotia license returns (1984-1985) in Table 3. 1SW sport catch based on license returns was 1.5-2.0 times DFO estimates in 1984 and 1985. MSW sport catch based on license returns was 2.5-3.5 times DFO estimates in 1984 and 1985 (Tables 2, 3). Nineteen eighty-six MSW sport catch as estimated by DFO was the greatest since 1947 (Table 2).

MSW salmon sport catch steadily declined from 1947-1961 ($R^2 = 0.63$, $P < 0.01$) and again from 1962-1976 ($R^2 = 0.74$, $P < 0.01$), and remained relatively constant between 1977-1984. Substantial increases in MSW salmon sport catch occurred in 1985 and 1986 (Fig. 1). 1SW sport catch was relatively constant from 1947-1978. Higher than average 1SW catches have occurred since 1979, with the exception of 1983 (Fig. 1).

Most of the MSW salmon caught in 1986 were taken in the fall run, and proportions are very similar to those for long-term trends (1947-1978) (Table 4). However, most 1SW salmon were caught during the summer run. The complete MSW:1SW salmon ratio in the angling catch was very similar to long-term trends (1947-1978) (Table 4).

Spawning requirements

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

- (1) egg requirements = $2.4 \text{ eggs m}^{-2} \times 2,797,600 \text{ m}^2$
= 6,714,600 eggs
- (2) eggs/MSW salmon = $8,643 \text{ eggs/MSW} \times .75 \text{ (females)}$
= 6,482
- (3) required number of MSW = $6,714,600 \div 6,482$
= 1,036
- number of female MSW = $1,036 \times .75$
= 776
- number of male MSW = $260 = 1,036 - 776$
- number of male 1SW = $516 = 776 - 260$
- number of 1SW = $579 = 516 \div .89$

Using the above requirements, MSW salmon account for 100% of the egg deposition requirements and 97% of the total egg deposition.

Spawning escapement, egg deposition and exploitation rate

A significant correlation between MSW salmon sport catch and juvenile densities at individual sites was found only for MacLeod's (Table 5). Correlations between pooled densities and MSW sport catch were significant when data from 1957-1960, 1975-1979 and 1986 were included. However, when data from 1957 was eliminated, these correlations were not significant (Fig. 2). As a result, the 12.9% exploitation rate previously derived using pooled 1+ parr densities (year i) to determine number of spawners (year i-2) (Clayton and Chadwick 1985) was not used in this assessment. For the first time since 1947, egg deposition requirements have been met using either the 20.6 or 37.9% rate (Table 6; Fig. 3).

Forecast

The 1987 angling catch predicted from 1982 catch is 154. However, as discussed below, returns in 1987 are expected to be at least twice this value.

DISCUSSION

Landings

Sport catch using license stub returns in 1984 and 1985 have been based on 90% angler response (O'Neil et al. 1985b; O'Neil et al. 1986) and are 1.5-3.5 times DFO estimates. There is potential bias associated with both estimates. Because of under-reporting DFO statistics may underestimate catch and returns. License returns may overestimate catch and returns as a result of variability among anglers in defining a hooked and potentially landed fish. A means of resolving the difference between these estimates will be very important for future assessments.

DFO statistics have been used in this assessment for two reasons: (1) they are assumed to represent a consistent measure of catch among years and (2) there are insufficient years of license return data to investigate correlations between estimating methods.

Spawning requirements, escapement and egg deposition

A combination of factors contribute to a relatively high degree of confidence in the statement that spawning requirements have been met. (1) Egg deposition has been calculated using DFO statistics, a conservative estimate of sport catch. (2) For the first time since 1947, egg deposition requirements have been met using the higher (37.9%) estimate of exploitation rate in the calculations. (3) Even if the exploitation rate is as high as 80%, egg deposition requirements have been met. (4) MSW salmon entering the river after the angling season will also contribute to egg deposition.

Additional research is still required to determine the exploitation rate over the entire angling season, the number of fish entering the river after angling season, and an independent method of estimating the number of MSW fish returning to the river.

Forecast

Management strategies affecting returns to the Margaree River are release of progeny from early-run parents (Tables 7, 8, 9), release of all MSW salmon hooked in the sport fishery and closure of the commercial fishery. Returns to Margaree River are predicted from a regression between MSW sport catch (year i) and MSW sport catch (year i+5) (Claytor and Chadwick 1985). This regression was calculated using years (1947-1984) prior to universal hook-and-release regulations and closure of the commercial fishery, and predicts returns similar to 1985 and 1986 in 1987. DFO sport catch in 1985 was twice the predicted value while 1986 sport catch was five times the value predicted from this equation. Returns to nearby Chéticamp River in 1986 (555) were three times 1984-1985 means (215). Hence, it is concluded that if management practices for 1987 remain the same as 1985 and 1986 that

MSW salmon returns in 1987 will be similar to the past two years. Because the forecasting method is based on returns resulting from a management plan that is different from the one currently in effect, finding a reliable method of predicting returns will be important for future assessments.

Hatchery contribution and broodstock characteristics

The sex ratio of male/female 1SW salmon taken in broodstock collections since 1982 has been 96:4 and 24:76 for MSW salmon. The wild 1SW/MSW salmon ratio has been 23:77 (Table 9). These ratios are similar to values used in past assessments (Marshall 1982). The proportion of hatchery return/wild fish in these collections has been nearly 50:50 (Table 9) suggesting that hatchery returns are a substantial segment of early returns to the river. Broodstock collections are typically made from mid-August to mid-September at relatively few sites and are a limited sampling of the run. Hence, additional research is required to determine sex ratios and proportion of hatchery to wild fish over the entire run.

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Table 1. Commercial landings for Zone 6 (1967-1984) in kg.

| Year | Northumberland Strait-NS Fisheries Statistical District | | | | Gulf Cape Breton-NS Fisheries Statistical District | | | Gulf NS 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 |

Table 2. Angling catch on Margaree River (1947-1986) as compiled by Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

| Year | 1SW | MSW | | | Total | Rod-days ¹ | CUE |
|-------------------|-----|----------|----------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| | | Retained | Released | Total | | | |
| 1947 | 37 | 363 | | | 400 | | |
| 1948 | 106 | 704 | | | 810 | | |
| 1949 | 50 | 332 | | | 382 | | |
| 1950 | 119 | 320 | | | 439 | | |
| 1951 | 46 | 424 | | | 470 | 2,610 | 0.212 |
| 1952 | 87 | 204 | | | 291 | 2,265 | 0.143 |
| 1953 | 57 | 291 | | | 348 | 2,145 | 0.179 |
| 1954 | 78 | 298 | | | 376 | 1,965 | 0.224 |
| 1955 | 53 | 258 | | | 311 | 1,650 | 0.209 |
| 1956 | 29 | 90 | | | 119 | 1,380 | 0.110 |
| 1957 | 36 | 136 | | | 172 | 1,215 | 0.152 |
| 1958 ² | N/A | N/A | | | 334 | 1,275 | 0.762 |
| 1959 ² | N/A | N/A | | | 235 | 1,110 | 0.212 |
| 1960 ² | N/A | N/A | | | 140 | 1,050 | 0.133 |
| 1961 | 40 | 49 | | | 89 | 1,035 | 0.142 |
| 1962 | 46 | 410 | | | 456 | 1,240 | 0.407 |
| 1963 | 87 | 212 | | | 299 | 1,190 | 0.281 |
| 1964 | 120 | 289 | | | 409 | 2,243 | 0.185 |
| 1965 | 86 | 254 | | | 340 | 2,769 | 0.128 |
| 1966 | 92 | 165 | | | 257 | 2,482 | 0.113 |
| 1967 | 92 | 210 | | | 302 | 2,801 | 0.133 |
| 1968 | 63 | 197 | | | 260 | 3,274 | 0.082 |
| 1969 | 206 | 136 | | | 342 | 2,762 | 0.129 |
| 1970 | 85 | 214 | | | 299 | 2,612 | 0.116 |
| 1971 | 21 | 92 | | | 113 | 2,332 | 0.050 |
| 1972 | 41 | 106 | | | 147 | 1,985 | 0.074 |
| 1973 | 165 | 116 | | | 281 | 2,402 | 0.117 |
| 1974 | 59 | 107 | | | 166 | 2,203 | 0.076 |
| 1975 | 36 | 64 | | | 100 | 1,529 | 0.065 |
| 1976 | 95 | 82 | | | 177 | 2,108 | 0.084 |
| 1977 | 68 | 140 | | | 208 | 2,055 | 0.101 |
| 1978 | 25 | 158 | | | 183 | 2,543 | 0.072 |
| 1979 | 605 | 62 | 19 | 81 | 686 | 3,733 | 0.183 |
| 1980 | 169 | 138 | 2 | 140 | 309 | 2,978 | 0.110 |
| 1981 | 899 | 105 | 34 | 139 | 1,038 | 4,936 | 0.213 |
| 1982 | 692 | 103 | 76 | 179 | 871 | 5,160 | 0.156 |
| 1983 | 72 | 106 | 43 | 149 | 221 | 3,100 | 0.056 |
| 1984 | 148 | 12 | 109 | 121 | 269 | N/A | N/A |
| 1985 | 222 | 0 | 314 | 314 | 536 | N/A | N/A |
| 1986 | 294 | 0 | 749 | 749 | 1,043 | N/A | N/A |

¹ Rod-days is defined as one angler fishing for any portion of one day.

² Information regarding 1SW and MSW salmon for 1958-1960 are not available.

Table 3. Angling catch on Margaree River, 1984-1985, based on Nova Scotia license stubs.

| | 1SW | | | MSW | | | Unknown | Effort | | Percentage | |
|----------|--------|---------|-------|--------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------------|-------|------------|-----|
| | Retain | Release | Total | Retain | Release | Total | | Rod-days ¹ | CUE | 1SW | MSW |
| 1984 Obs | 184 | 48 | 232 | 9 | 285 | 294 | 4 | 5,956 | 0.089 | | |
| Est | 191 | 50 | 241 | 9 | 294 | 303 | 4 | 6,669 | 0.082 | 44% | 56% |
| 1985 Obs | 371 | 102 | 473 | 0 | 1,130 | 1,130 | 3 | 7,324 | 0.219 | | |
| Est | 399 | 110 | 509 | 0 | 1,215 | 1,215 | 3 | 7,824 | 0.221 | 30% | 70% |

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

Table 4. The number and percentage of 1SW and MSW salmon taken in the summer (June-August), fall (September-October), and complete portions of the sport fishery season on the Margaree River from 1947-1986. The 1947-1961 seasons were from June 1-September 30, the 1962-1978 seasons were from June 14- October 15, and the 1979-1985 seasons were from June 1-October 15. 1979, 1981 and 1982 were the years in which there was a large increase in the 1SW salmon contribution to the summer catch. Numbers in parentheses indicate percentage of MSW or 1SW salmon taken in the various portions of the angling season (i.e. for 1947-1978, 69.9 of the salmon caught in the summer were MSW, but 39.0% of the MSW salmon caught during the 1947-1978 seasons were taken in the summer portion of the season).

| Run timing | 1947-1978 | | 1979-1984 | | 1985 | | 1986 | |
|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------|------------|------|------------|
| | Mean | % | Mean | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| MSW salmon | | | | | | | | |
| Summer | 78 | 69.9(39.0) | 32 | 8.3(23.4) | 146 | 52.6(46.5) | 270 | 58.1(36.1) |
| Fall | 122 | 78.9(61.0) | 19 | 55.7(76.6) | 168 | 60.9(53.5) | 479 | 82.9(63.9) |
| Complete | 200 | 75.1 | 51 | 23.8 | 314 | 58.6 | 749 | 71.8 |
| 1SW salmon | | | | | | | | |
| Summer | 34 | 30.1(50.6) | 349 | 91.7(80.9) | 114 | 43.9(51.4) | 195 | 41.9(66.3) |
| Fall | 33 | 21.1(49.4) | 82 | 44.3(19.1) | 108 | 39.1(48.7) | 99 | 17.1(33.7) |
| Complete | 67 | 24.9 | 431 | 76.2 | 222 | 41.4 | 294 | 28.2 |

Table 5. Correlations between 1+ parr (year i+2) densities and DFO sport catch (year i). * indicates significant correlations.

| Location | 1SW | | | MSW | | | 1SW + MSW | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|------|-----|-------|-------|-----------|------|------|
| | No. | R | P | No. | R | P | No. | R | P |
| Tributary | | | | | | | | | |
| Forest Glen #2 | 9 | -0.06 | 0.88 | 9 | -0.32 | 0.40 | 10 | 0.32 | 0.37 |
| Ingraham Brook #1 | 5 | 0.68 | 0.20 | 5 | -0.44 | 0.46 | 5 | 0.44 | 0.46 |
| Gallant Brook #1 | 4 | 0.62 | 0.38 | 4 | -0.87 | 0.13 | 4 | 0.40 | 0.60 |
| Lake O'Law #2 | 6 | 0.30 | 0.57 | 6 | 0.64 | 0.17 | 6 | 0.49 | 0.33 |
| Big Brook #2 | 5 | 0.87 | 0.05 | 5 | 0.34 | 0.58 | 5 | 0.77 | 0.13 |
| Northeast Margaree | | | | | | | | | |
| MacLeod's | 8 | -0.41 | 0.31 | 8 | 0.82 | 0.01* | 9 | 0.64 | 0.06 |
| Below Old Bridge | 9 | 0.31 | 0.42 | 9 | 0.38 | 0.32 | 10 | 0.58 | 0.08 |

Table 6. Estimated Atlantic salmon egg deposition in the Margaree River from 1947-1985. Exploitation rates 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 eggs/MSW and 330 eggs/1SW. Egg deposition requirements are 6,710,000 eggs. An * indicates years in which spawning requirements have been met. For 1957, 1958, 1959, 1975-1979 and 1986, egg depositions calculated from 1+ parr densities have been used. N/C, no collection made; N/A, data not available.

| ===== | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| Eggs X10 ⁶ | | | | | | | |
| Year | Collected for hatchery | MSW (20.6) | 1SW (20.6) | Total | MSW (37.9) | 1SW (37.9) | 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 | - | 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 |
| 1984 | 0.10 | 3.73 | 0.19 | 3.82 | 1.99 | 0.08 | 1.97 |
| 1985 | 0.15 | 9.88 | 0.28 | 10.01* | 5.37 | 0.12 | 5.34 |
| 1986 | 0.15 | 23.57 | 0.38 | 23.80* | 12.81 | 0.15 | 12.81* |

Table 7. Smolt and parr released to Margaree River since 1976. MAR, Margaree; RB, Rocky Brook; COB, Cobequid; MER, Mersey.

| Year | Rearing location | Smolt | | | | Parr | | | |
|------|------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|-------|-------|--------|----|
| | | 2+ | | 1+ | | 1+ | | 0+ | |
| | | MAR | RB | MAR | RB | MAR | RB | MAR | RB |
| 1976 | MAR | 8,971 | | | | | | | |
| 1977 | MAR | | | | | 5,022 | | | |
| 1978 | COB | | 15,250 | | | | | | |
| 1979 | COB | | 15,927 ¹ | | | | | | |
| 1980 | COB | | 14,960 | | | | | | |
| 1981 | COB | | 15,950 | | | | | | |
| 1982 | MER | | | 8,481 | | 1,098 | | | |
| 1983 | COB | 13,486 | | | | | | 9,853 | |
| | MAR | 3,783 | | | | | | | |
| 1984 | MAR | | | | 10,195 ² | | | | |
| | MER | | | 14,483 | | | | | |
| | COB | 11,210 | | | | | | | |
| 1985 | MAR | | | 2,669 | 1,303 | | 834 | | |
| | COB | 13,660 | | | | 7,820 | 5,860 | | |
| 1986 | MAR | | | 2,105 | | 8,754 | | 25,000 | |
| | COB | 8,820 | 9,684 | | | | | 6,750 | |

¹ Millbank broodstock

² Rocky Brook x Margaree broodstock

Table 8. Numbers of wild, hatchery, 1SW and MSW salmon caught during broodstock collections from 1982-1986.

| Origin | | 1SW | | | MSW | | | Total |
|--------|----------|-----|---|-------|-----|----|-------|-------|
| | | ♂ | ♀ | Total | ♂ | ♀ | Total | |
| 1982 | Wild | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 17 | 18 |
| | Hatchery | 31 | 4 | 35 | 0 | 15 | 15 | 50 |
| 1983 | Wild | 11 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 17 | 28 |
| | Hatchery | 27 | 0 | 27 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 31 |
| 1984 | Wild | 11 | 0 | 11 | 5 | 12 | 17 | 28 |
| | Hatchery | 27 | 0 | 27 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 33 |
| 1985 | Wild | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 9 |
| | Hatchery | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| 1986 | Wild | 6 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 33 | 36 | 42 |
| | Hatchery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 12 | 21 | 21 |

Table 9. Sex ratios (%) of wild and hatchery-return 1SW and MSW salmon caught during broodstock collections from 1982-1986.

| Origin | Percentage | | | | Total | 1SW:MSW ratio |
|----------|------------|---|-----|----|-------|------------------|
| | 1SW | | MSW | | | |
| | ♂ | ♀ | ♂ | ♀ | | |
| Wild | 97 | 3 | 23 | 77 | 47 | 23:77 |
| Hatchery | 96 | 4 | 27 | 73 | 53 | 40:60 |
| Combined | 96 | 4 | 24 | 76 | | 32:68 |

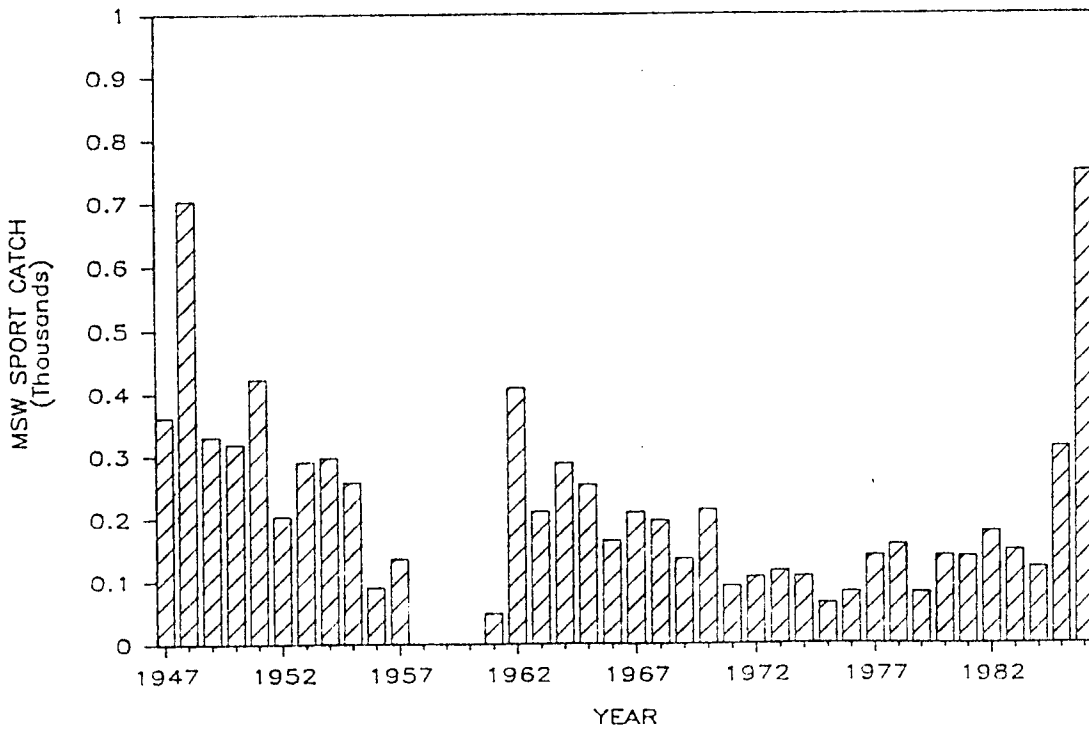
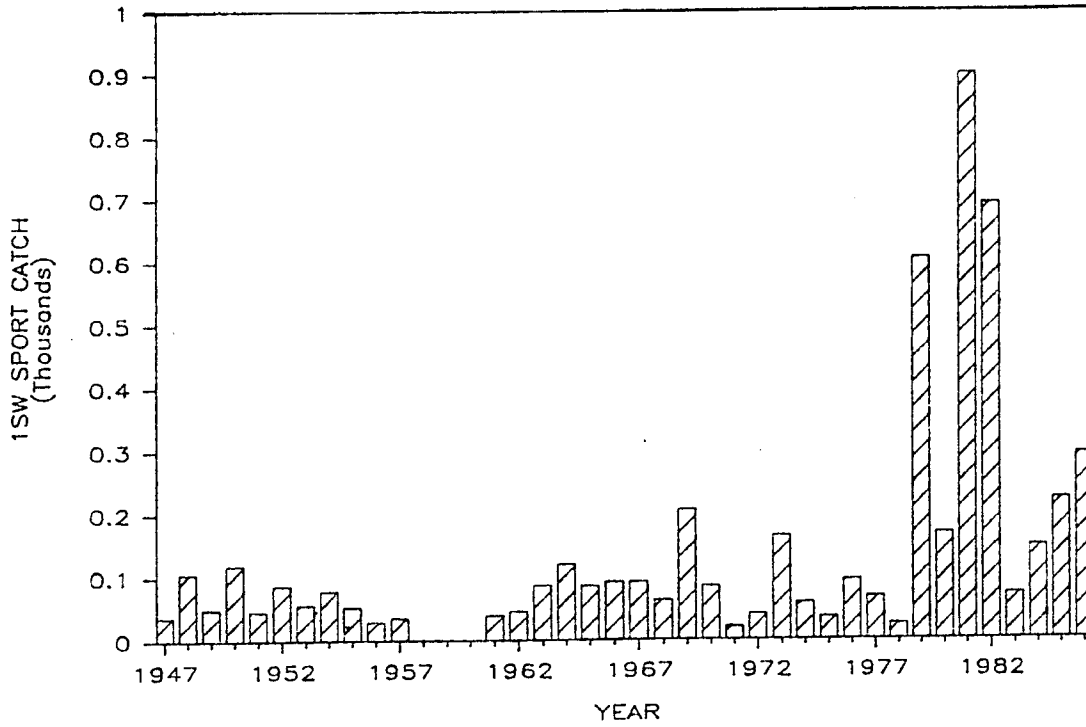


Fig. 1. 1SW and MSW salmon sport catch using DF0 statistics, 1947-1986.

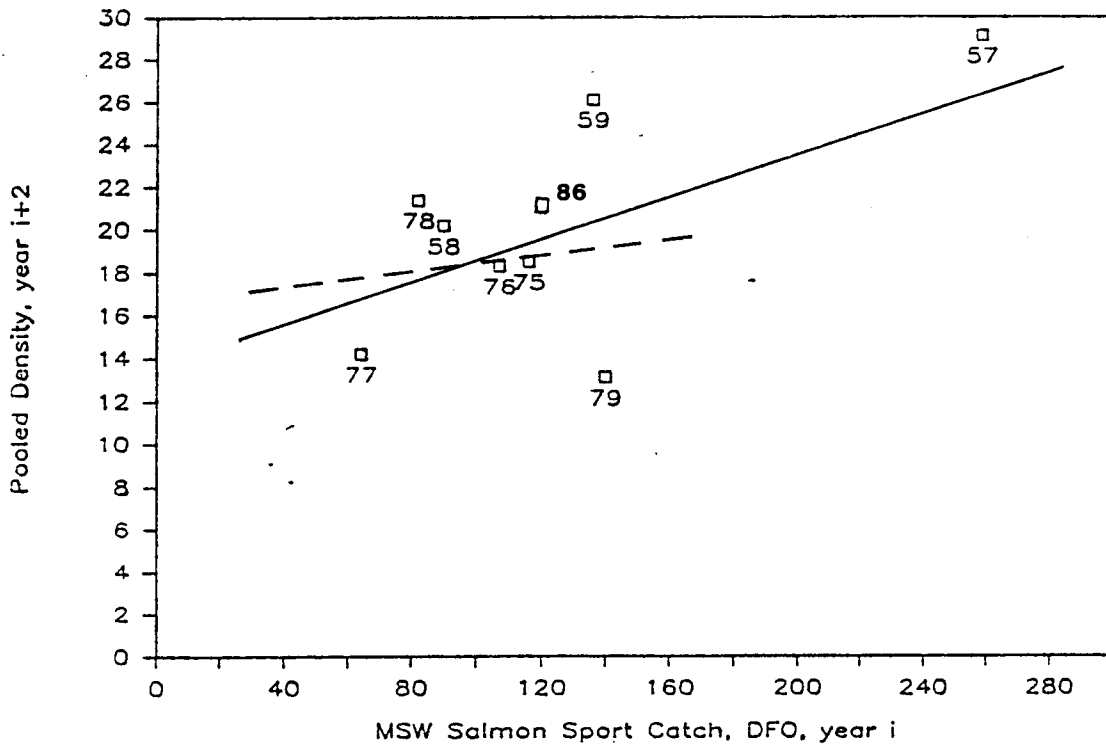


Fig. 2. Correlations with 1+ parr densities (year i+2) and DFO MSW sport catch (year i). Year shown, corresponds to year of juvenile sampling without 1957 --- $R^2 = 0.03$, $P = 0.71$; with 1957 --- $R^2 = 0.43$, $P = 0.04$.

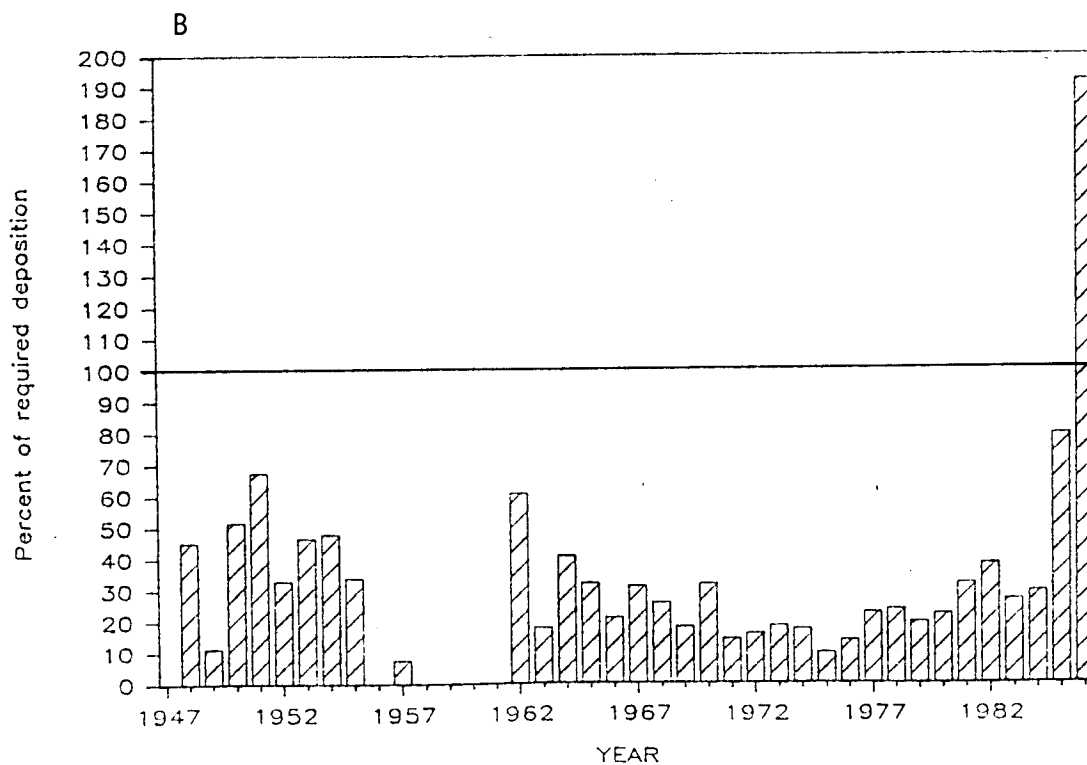
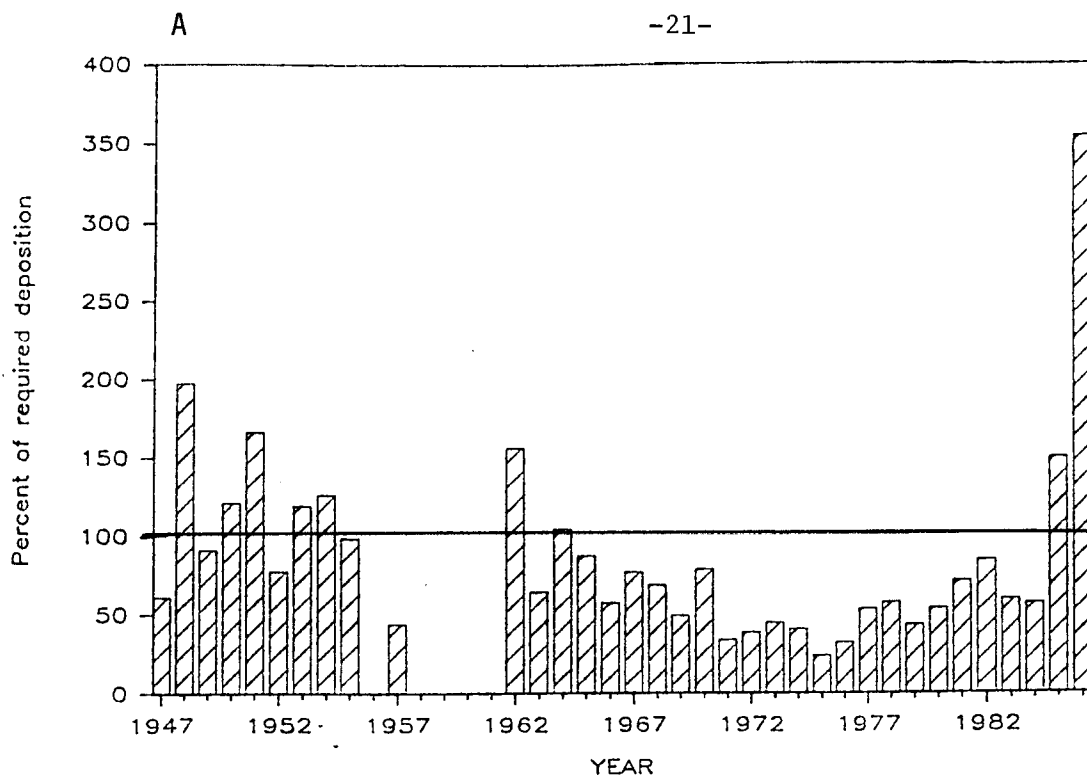


Fig. 3. The percentage of required Atlantic salmon egg deposition achieved on the Margaree River, 1947-1986. A) Using a 20.6% exploitation rate; B) Using a 37.9% exploitation rate. No data is available for 1958-1960. Horizontal line denotes when 100% of required egg deposition has been achieved.