

## **DRAFT from meeting 10 March 2009**

**Salmon/Sea trout Working Group, 10 March 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark**

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

The chairman Gunnar Asplund opened the meeting and wished the representatives welcome. (Participant list attached). The meeting of the salmon/sea trout WG was held at the secretariat of the Baltic Sea RAC in Copenhagen.

The goal of the meeting was to inform the WG members on the present work for a salmon management plan and to discuss the possibility of having a contribution from the WG and BSRAC. Representatives from ICES, from the socio-economic science group, and from DG Mare were invited to present their contributions so far.

### **2. Survey of the ICES report**

The representative of ICES Mr. Atso Romakkaniemi presented ICES' views on options for a new management plan for salmon. See attachment for the presentation.

### **3. Socio-economic impact report**

The European Commission has called for an evaluation of the socio-economic impacts of the IBSFC Baltic Salmon Action Plan (SAP). The report (SI2.491891, FISH/2007/03-Lot 6) dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 was presented in the meeting by Mr. Tapani Pakarinen.

### **4. Consultation paper from the European Commission, DG Mare**

Ms. Ellen Bruno from DG Mare presented a consultation paper to support the development of a Baltic salmon management plan.

The paper is a part of the consultation process. A stakeholder meeting will be held 28<sup>th</sup> April in Brussels. Five or six persons will be invited from BSRAC. Total amount of participants 50-60 persons. Contributions will be collected and elaborated in order to present a proposal during the autumn.

One of the main questions is how to get all actors on board for the new proposal, as expressed by Ms Veronique Angot, DG Mare.

A statement from the BSRAC would be welcomed and could be sent directly to the Commission. It would be good to send it before the stakeholder meeting 28.4 2009. Deadline for the consultation paper is beginning of 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## **5. Salmon WG, activity calendar for 2009**

The following meetings are foreseen and closely linked to the work of the European Commission;

- WG meeting in Copenhagen 2-3<sup>rd</sup> April 2009
- Contributions to the rapporteur before 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009 on the questions from DG Mare
- Stakeholder meeting in Brussels 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009

## **6. Any other business**

### **Cormorants**

The Federation of Finnish Fisheries Associations represented by Mr. Vesa Karttunen presented a proposal for a Baltic Sea RAC resolution on measures to solve the conflict between cormorants and fisheries.

Discussion: Many of the WG members felt that the rapidly growing cormorant populations constitute a growing problem for the fishermen and the fisheries sector. There is a need to notify authorities of the situation. The proposal includes hunting as a means to regulate the rapidly growing population

Decision: Members of the WG were uncertain whether the existing regulations in force are sufficient or not. In order not to neglect the problem and the initiative, it was decided to send the proposal to the Executive Committee for further discussion and possible action.

### **Fresh salmon statistics for 2008**

Peter Funegård had been asked to present new figures on catches and smolt production, spawn returns etc for 2008.

Due to technical difficulties the material was not available at the meeting and will be sent to the members with the minutes from the meeting.

## **7. Closing the meeting**

The chairman closed the meeting at 4.00 pm