



Report from visit of Russian colleagues (Steering group and PINRO) to local salmon fishermen in the county of Nordland, Norway, 15.07-16.07.2013

Project KO197: Trilateral cooperation on our common resource; the Atlantic salmon in the Barents region

Aim:

In July 2013 four scientists from PINRO and one member of the Steering group, Russia visited Norway to meet a local fisherman in the Lofoten archipelago, county of Nordland to get acquainted with the traditional salmon fishing methods in coastal areas of the southernmost part of the Kolarctic salmon project area. The trip was organized by the Lead partner and by NINA-Tromsø.

The importance of this visit consists in providing international communications, increasing knowledge on Atlantic salmon and traditional methods of its exploitation, enhancing exchange of information about the project, its activities and results etc.

The visit lasted 2 days, from 15 July 2013 to 16 July 2013 excluding travel time.

Visiting program:

Scientists from PINRO and a Steering group member were acquainted with the Atlantic salmon fisheries regulation in the county of Nordland, Norway. In 2013 salmon fishermen in Nordland were allowed to fish for four days only, i.e. from July 15 (from 18:00) to July 17 and from July 22 (from 18:00) to July 24 (till 18:00).

Russian colleagues visited Mr. Erling Solhøy, the only fisherman in our Kolarctic group fishing in Lofoten (Fig. 1). He turned 85 years in 2013, but has decided to fish in 2013 as well. A group arrived to the area in the Monday evening, July 15. The meeting and a trip to the salmon net were arranged for the next morning, July 16.

Mr. Erling Solhøy was the only licensed salmon fisherman in the Lofoten in 2013. Mr. Erling Solhøy was using one bend net installed nearby cost line about 1 mile off his house. The salmon net consisted of a leading net (about 150 meters long) (Fig. 2) and one wing of V-looking bag net (10 meters long) (Fig. 3). The net was checked by Mr. Erling Solhøy and Mr. Ottar Dyrkorn (a son of Mr. Solhøy's sister) at 6 am, July 16 (Fig.4). Six salmon were caught. All fish were 2 SW summer run salmon with weight varying from 3 to 4 kilos. Next check was done at noon the same day by Mr. Erling Solhøy, Mr. Ottar Dyrkorn, Mr. Viktor Koretsky (a member of the Steering group), Dr. Yuri Lepesevich (Director of PINRO), Dr. Sergey Prusov (Head of the Lab at PINRO) (Fig. 5). No salmon were in the net. Fishing boats with tourists were detected in the area. Mr. Erling Solhøy informed the group about the problem with tourists who sometimes check his salmon net illegally and take salmon from the net. Mr. Ottar Dyrkorn informed the group about illegal salmon fishing in the area with nets by locals. No information about the size of illegal catches was provided.



Results of visit:

In the course of the visit, the specialists from PINRO studied the traditional salmon fishing methods in coastal areas of the southernmost part of the Kolarctic salmon project area. Fishing gears, fisheries regulation, challenges for salmon fisheries in the county of Nordland, Norway were identified.



Fig.1. A map showing salmon fishermen in the county of Nordland participating in the Kolarctic salmon project.





Fig.2. A leading net from the bank to the bend net.



Fig.3. A bend net.



Fig.4. Mr. Erling Solhøy (left), Mr. Ottar Dyrkorn (right).



Fig.5. Starting from the left: Mr. Viktor Koretsky, Dr. Sergey Prusov, Dr. Yuri Lepesevich, Mr. Ottar Dyrkorn, Mr. Erling Solhøy.

