

**Paper submitted by Hugh Campbell-Adamson, ASFB and Paul Knight, STA
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Mixed Stock Netting
Policies from all NASCO countries**

England & Wales	<p>In 1996, a policy for Mixed Stock Fisheries was adopted for the whole of England and Wales – that ‘...exploitation ... should take place, as far as possible, where the stock of salmon is from a single river. In fisheries which can be shown to exploit predominantly mixed stocks, fishing will be phased out over an appropriate timescale.’</p> <p>As a result of this, and the review of Fisheries Legislation in the late 1990s, the NE drift net fishery, which was known to significantly exploit Scottish fish (up to 70% of catch), was reduced by private interest/Government partnership buy-out in 2003 from 68 to 16 net licenses – zero Net Limited Order (NLO) will phase out remaining fishery completely as licenses are surrendered (licenses cannot be transferred or handed on under zero NLO).</p> <p>Solway haaf net fishery under new NLO (2008). Current English/Scottish genetic research being carried out to establish mixed stock nature of fishery.</p> <p>Marine Bill, currently going through Parliament, will give EA significantly more power to regulate remaining MSFs, such as Severn putchers, from 2009.</p>
Irish Republic	<p>NASCO IP stated policy – the only fishery for salmon should be on river stocks that are shown to be above conservation limits – due to the different status of individual stocks within regions, mixed stock fisheries present particular threats to stock status.</p> <p>Primary objective: to maintain river stocks within precautionary limits – ‘mixed stock’ therefore relates in Ireland to any fishery outside estuary limits.</p> <p>Drift net fishery closed at end of 2006 season, with Government funded compensation package paid to affected netsmen.</p> <p>Future policy is to confine all exploitation – netting and angling - within individual river systems and estuaries.</p>
Northern Ireland	<p>Foyle area – 2002 buy-out of 90% of commercial nets by Government Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), reducing exploitation by 75%. Current negotiations to buy out remaining nets are nearing agreement, and should be completed before 2009 season, again funded by DCAL.</p> <p>Loughs Agency area – inner lough and river fisheries, so little mixed stock exploitation. Marked reduction in commercial exploitation and fishing effort in recent years, and ongoing negotiations to buy out remaining licences – government funding and angler tag contribution.</p> <p>Management based on fish crossing individual index river counters – if CL limits are not met at specific time targets, fisheries may be closed immediately.</p>
Russia	<p>Mixed stock netting in 24 White Sea fisheries, catching 40.9 tonnes in 2005. Commercial fishing at ‘barrier’ fences closed in 2003. National policy to reduce and eventually phase out all coastal fisheries. Coastal fishery regulated by quota, which dropped from 60 tonnes in 1999 to 44 tonnes in 2006.</p>

	Emphasis placed on recreational angling, mainly with barbless hooks and catch & release (2005 – 3,409 killed, 23,592 returned)
Norway	<p>Closed drift net fishery at sea in 1989. Since 2003, all bend nets banned, except along Finmark coast.</p> <p>5 year regulatory regime imposed in 2003, to be reviewed every 5 years. Coast divided into 25 regulatory zones, allowing more focussed management at local level. Not sufficient data yet to impose quota restrictions, but this will be regularly reviewed within the regime.</p> <p>2008 review: based on ICES advise and employing NASCO decision structure, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further reduction in mixed stock fisheries where exploited stocks cannot be identified. 2. Phase out remaining (Finmark) bend nets by 2013. 3. Expand use of spawning targets in regulations. <p>Strengthen cooperation with Finland.</p>
Finland	No coastal mixed stock fisheries – in-river netting, primarily by native Sami people. Finnish stocks intercepted by Norwegian coastal fisheries, and the two countries working together to minimise impact.
Sweden	Coastal fisheries now only allowed outside rivers with supportive smolt stocking programmes, but amounted to just 416 salmon (1.4 tonnes) in 2005. Gill netting has been banned - only traps are used. No further plans to phase out remaining coastal netting, as it is not considered a threat to overall stocks
Iceland	Coastal mixed stock netting banned in 1930s. Some in-river netting carried out, but less than 10% of overall catch. Recreational angling takes precedence – significant contribution to the national economy.
Canada	No commercial netting permitted since 2000 – some aboriginal subsistence fisheries permitted just outside estuaries, but these are seldom ‘coastal’ and none are considered to exploit significant mixed stocks
USA	No salmon netting permitted since 1987
France	St Pierre and Miquelon fisheries off Newfoundland are totally mixed stock. Only 2-3 tonnes pa, but 98% of these are Canadian origin and impact some under-performing Southern rivers. Other 2% are USA origin, all of whose rivers under-perform. Pressure from NASCO for France to close this fishery.
Spain (Asturias)	No commercial fishing since 2002. Angling is closely regulated by quota system (8 salmon per angler/year since 2007).