



DET KONGELIGE  
MILJØVERNDEPARTEMENT

*Royal Ministry of the Environment  
The Minister*

Mr Orri Vigfússon  
North Atlantic Salmon Fund  
Skiopholt 35, 105 Reykjavik, Iceland

Your ref

Our ref  
200703830-/EYA

Date

12 DES 2011

**Concerning the situation with regard to the wild salmon stock in the North Atlantic**

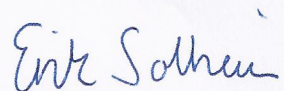
Referring to your letter dated 28 September 2011 to our Minister of Foreign Affairs and e-mail to my State Secretary 27 October 2011, I appreciate the concern and continued interest displayed by the North Atlantic Salmon Fund and you personally concerning the situation with regard to the wild salmon stock in the North Atlantic. This is an issue which also the Norwegian authorities follow with vigilance and the fullest understanding of the obligations for responsible management that we jointly share with the other coastal states.

The new knowledge concerning the possible extent of Norwegian fisheries on salmon of Russian origin is the result of a research effort conducted in close cooperation between Norway, Russia and Finland. This research cooperation will continue. Norway and Russia have a long-standing dialogue concerning this issue – both bilaterally and under the auspices of The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization. The results of further research and continued cooperation in this respect will be dealt with in our continuing close dialogue with Russia.

Adverse effects of aquaculture on wild salmon stocks are of serious concern both for me and for the Minister of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. We have a close dialogue on all relevant issues in this respect, and I will suggest that you contact our Ministry of Fisheries

and Coastal Affairs for further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erik Solheim". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Erik Solheim