



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ARCTIC CHARR

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

International Symposium on Arctic charr

Under the sponsorship of:

The University of Manitoba

The Freshwater Institute, Department of Fisheries and Oceans

A symposium on the biology and management of Arctic charr, *Salvelinus alpinus*, and including Dolly Varden, *S. malma*, is to be held at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, between 4th-7th May 1981.

Arctic charr is of great significance in the polar regions as it forms an important fishery resource of the indigenous peoples. Along 20,000 miles of coastline it is the dominant anadromous salmonid species. Further south, and extending over 30° of latitude, isolated stocks of charr have aroused scientific interest, and caused perplexity, as well as having provided sport and commercial fishing.

The species reaches its maximum size and greatest abundance in the anadromous form which is only found in suitable waters north of approximately 60° N. latitude; here the majority of the stock migrates each spring to the sea to feed, returning in the fall to overwinter in freshwater. Arctic charr lives on the environmental frontiers close to the limits of existence; in the Arctic it is without competitors in the most northerly freshwaters, similarly it is capable of living at greater depths in temperate lakes and at higher elevations in mountain lakes than any other north-temperate fish species.

In the Arctic the search for new resources has resulted in increased human activity and consequently increased pressure on the stocks of Arctic charr; in the lakes in more southerly parts of the range eutrophication, pollution and over-exploitation have caused elimination of the species or placed stocks at hazard. It is therefore opportune to review the scientific knowledge available on this immensely valuable and interesting species and to examine possible ways of reducing the impact of modern developments on its habitat. For Arctic charr, although capable of living on the frontiers of existence, is one of the first species to disappear in the event of increased enrichment of the waters in which it lives.

This Preliminary Notice will be followed in September by a Call for Papers. A tentative program is attached to provide some indication of the proposed scope of the Symposium, but this may be amended or extended in accordance with the response to the attached note of intention.

The Symposium will be held on the Campus of the University of Manitoba, about 8 miles south of the centre of the City of Winnipeg. Accommodation will be available on campus in University Residences at reasonable rates; current prices are about \$30.00 (Can.) per day with three meals included.

It is hoped that the participation of users can be encouraged, particularly where they have a contribution to make with respect to traditional approaches to utilization and management. To provide for this aspect of the Symposium it is expected that some funds will be available to defray travel expenses.

After the Symposium it will be possible to arrange for a number of tours to see some of the field stations of the University of Manitoba and the Freshwater Institute.

- 1) Delta Field Station, U. of M. Lake Manitoba. Marsh ecology, waterfowl.
- 2) Experimental Lakes Area (E.L.A.). Whole lake limnological experiments, Eutrophication, Acid Rain.
- 3) Local tours including Balmoral Fish Hatchery and Fish Cultural Station (Ultra-modern fish hatchery; recirculation, solar heating, controlled environments).
Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation (Modern fish processing plant built to handle and store the produce of Canadian inland lakes) and Oak Hammock Bird Sanctuary (Large staging area for waterfowl on their migration routes to and from northern areas).

If you are interested in attending the Symposium, please complete the enclosed card and return as soon as possible to:

L. Johnson,
Convenor
International Symposium on Arctic charr,
The Freshwater Institute,
Department of Fisheries and Oceans,
501 University Crescent,
Winnipeg, Manitoba,
Canada, R3T 2N6.

Telephone: Area code 204, 269-7379

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ARCTIC CHARR

May 4-7 1981

Winnipeg, Canada

Provisional Program

Monday, May 4

Registration

Wine and Cheese
Faculty Club

1730 - 1900

Tuesday, May 5

Morning session: Distribution and Taxonomy

Topics: i) Sympatric stocks
ii) Genetics and Biochemistry
iii) Zoogeography

Afternoon session: Life History

Topics: i) Migration
ii) Physiology
iii) Reproduction
iv) Predator and Prey
v) Behaviour

Evening session: Barbecue

1800 - 2100

Wednesday, May 6

Morning session: Management and Utilization

Topics: i) Historical and Cultural background
ii) Management of stocks
iii) Utilization, Processing, Marketing
iv) Parasites
v) Aquaculture of Arctic charr

Wednesday May 6 Cont'd

Afternoon Session: Charr Workshop

Evening Session: Symposium Dinner

1900 - 2300

Thursday May 7

Morning Session: The future of Charr and Man

Topics: i) Charr and environmental change
(Are charr in the way of progress?)
ii) Overexploitation
(Can charr feed the hungry northern world?)
iii) Where should research interests be developed?
(Or is research really necessary?)

Afternoon: (return Friday 8th May)

1) Delta Field Station, University of Manitoba

Afternoon: (return Saturday 9th May)

2) Experimental Lakes Area

Afternoon (or Friday morning)

3) Balmoral Fish Hatchery

Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation

Oak Hammock Bird Sanctuary