

	<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i> , <i>S. epidimidis</i>	<i>O. niloticus</i> <i>S. galilaeus</i>	Intestinal fluid,	Lethargy with frequent defaecation	Bacterial White Diarrhoea disease	6.5
Aquaria	<i>Pseudomonas sp.</i>	<i>O. niloticus</i>	Gill	Acute death following, imbalanced, behaviours.	Stress	3.0
Sewage	<i>Myxococcus, sp.</i> <i>Proteus sp.</i>	<i>S. galilaeus</i>	Gill	Necrotic areas on the lamella	Gill Rot disease	3.0
	<i>Aeromonas sp.</i>	<i>S. galilaeus</i>	Skin	Skin laceration with dermatitis	Mechanical, injuries.	3.0
Feral	<i>S. epidimi</i>	<i>C. gariepinus</i>	Skin	Skin laceration with dermatitis	Mechanical, injuries	3.0

## FISHERIES RULES AND REGULATIONS IN 23 STATES OF NIGERIA: A NOTE

BY

HORST SALZWEDEL<sup>1</sup>, MUA'ZU M. GULMA<sup>2</sup> AND IDRIS A. LEMU<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kainji Lake Fisheries Promotion Project (KLFPP),  
P. O. Box 306, New Bussa, Niger State, Nigeria.

<sup>2</sup>Kebbi State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources,  
Department of Livestock and Fisheries,

PMB 1068, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State, Nigeria.

<sup>3</sup>Niger State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources,  
Department of Livestock and Fisheries,  
PMB 74, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria.

### ABSTRACT

In order to make a sound proposal to the Kainji Lake Fisheries Management and Conservation Unit regarding the amendment of the existing Fisheries Laws and Regulations, including the raise of fishing license fees, the Fisheries Departments of 21 Nigerian States were visited in August – September 2000, their staff interviewed, existing documents revised, and the results compared with Kebbi and Niger State.

### INTRODUCTION

The Nigerian-German Kainji Lake Fisheries Promotion Project (KLFPP) is working towards the improvement of the living standards of fishing communities around Kainji Lake. A community-based fisheries management plan is being implemented since 1993. Nigerian implementing agencies are the Fisheries Departments of Niger and Kebbi States and the National Institute for Freshwater Fisheries Research (NIFFR), coordinated by the Federal Department of Fisheries (FDF). Sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and

Development (BMZ) the German Development Cooperation Agency GTZ assists the Nigerian agencies in project implementation.

On the initiative of KLFPP in 1997, both Kebbi and Niger States gazetted revised versions of their Fisheries Edicts and established the Kainji Lake Fisheries Management and Conservation Unit (KLFMCU). This Unit was put in charge of the community-based management of Kainji Lake aquatic resources. Since then KLFMCU on behalf of the States has issued fishing licenses for fishermen, banned the noxious fishing method beach seine (dala)

and implemented other measures agreed upon during the regular meetings held with representatives of fishermen and traditional rulers.

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After almost three years experience with the licensing exercise by the KLFMCU in 2000 it became obvious that license fees and other issues of the 1997 Kebbi and Niger States Fisheries Laws and Regulations had to be

reviewed again. In order to do this on a rational basis, fishing rules and regulations as well as fishing licenses charged in other states of Nigeria were reviewed and compared to those of Kebbi and Niger State.

#### METHODS

In August – September 2000 the Chief Fisheries Officers of Niger and Kebbi State visited their colleagues in 21 inland States (Table 1). They held discussions and obtained oral and written information from which the present summary report was derived.

**Table 1: Contacted fisheries officers of 21 States of Nigeria visited in Aug – Sept., 2000**

No.	State	Fisheries Officer
1.	Bauchi	Director Mu'azu Wali Dass
2.	Benue	Director Sonnic A. Aebe
3.	Edo	Director Auselem Edward
4.	Ekiti	Director Mrs. Ajayi
5.	Enugu	Fisheries Officer Mr. Okeke
6.	Gombe	Officer in Charge Yohanna Toma Latede
7.	Jigawa	Director Musa Sale Gumei
8.	Kaduna	Officer in Charge Luka Ibrahim
9.	Kano	Officer in Charge Habibu I. Yakasai
10.	Katsina	Officer in Charge Al-Mustapha Mu'azu Malunfashi
11.	Kogi	Director Sam Olabatoke
12.	Kwara	Chief Fisheries Superintendent
13.	Nassarawa	Ass. Director Musa Abari
14.	Ogun	Principal Fisheries Superintendent Samuel Oladipo
15.	Ondo	Director Femi Ebitomiye
16.	Osun	No Contact
17.	Oyo	Acting Director Olubowale Ojo
18.	Plateau	Officer in Charge E. I. Baleri
19.	Sokoto	Officer in Charge Mansur
20.	Taraba	Officer in Charge Alkasim A. Ibrahim
21.	Zamfara	Officer in charge Sule Kotorkoshi Results

**Results:** are presented and compared with Kebbi and Niger State in Table 3. A summary of the findings is given in Table 1. From this it can be seen that out of 23 States:

1. Fifteen (15) States have fisheries edicts, laws or regulations in place,
2. Ten (10) States charge a one-time permit or application fee of Naira 50 – 1,000 (average N225); Niger and Kebbi State: N50.
3. Fourteen (14) States charge annual license fees of Naira 35-1,200 (average N478) from fishermen; the average license fee collected in 20 States (not considering Niger and Kebbi and except Plateau, where the license fee is collected at Local Government Level) including all kind of

4. fees is N787; Niger and Kebbi State: N200. Seven (7) States charge annual license fees of Naira 25-500 (average N229) for fishing boats (three States on top of the license fee charged from fishermen); Niger and Kebbi State: nil.
5. Ten (10) States charge annual license fee on fishing gears of up to Naira 24,000 per year, some of them even on top of either the license fee charged from fishermen or for boats used; Niger and Kebbi State: nil.

**Table 2: Summary of findings about existing rules and regulations and fishing fees collected in 23 States of Nigeria, September 2000.** Average amounts were calculated for those States only that have the respective fee in place.

Item	No. of States	Annual Amount (Naira)	Average Amount (Naira)
Legal Base in place			
(Fisheries Edict, Law or regulations gazetted)	15	./.	./.
Legal Base in place (Fisheries Edict/Law approved, not gazetted; Circular of Hon. Comm. Agric. or other)	3	./.	./.
No Legal Base in place or unknown	5	./.	./.
Permit or application fee charged from fishermen	10	50-1000	225
License fee	14	35-1200	478
Boat without motor	7	25-500	229
Boat with motor	5	40-500	190
Seine/Drag/Draw Net (different sites)	10	150-24000	2518
Castnet	9	25-3000	530
Hook & Line/Longline	7	50-600	263
Gillnet/Sinkiya (different mesh sizes)	9	50-3000	875
Traps/Cages/Similar	9	20-3000	539
Trawl nets	3	500-1000	820
Fish fence/barriers	3	200-3000	483
Lift net	6	150-500	325

#### Discussion and recommendations

According to the information obtained permit and license fees in Kebbi and Niger States are lower than in most of the visited States where these are charged. They are also lower than the average fees charged for fishing gears. However, it must be pointed out that none of the visited states could present numbers about the actually charged licenses or permit fees theoretically in place, nor could they provide the numbers of fishermen, boats or gears in their respectively water bodies. This is quite different in Kebbi and Niger State because of the work of KLFPP and KLFMCU, where all these numbers are known and license fees were levied from 66% of the fishermen (out of a total of 5201) and 60% of their assistants (total 4301) in the year 2000.

Due to these findings it was recommended to KLFMCU to discuss and approve on higher license fees for fishermen. I was not recommended to charge for fishing gears used because this would only complicate the issue.

The fees recommended to be charged as of 2002 were:

1. 500 Naira as annual license fee for the fishing entrepreneur;
2. No license fee for the assistant, and
3. 150 Naira as administrative charge for an optional, laminated, lifetime valid ID-card with a photograph taken by KLFMCU and the holder's signature/thumb-print.

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Kainji Lake Fisheries Management and Conservation Unit discussed and approved these and other changes to Kebbi and Niger State Fisheries Laws and Regulations in its regular meeting held in December 2000 in New Bussa. These approved amendments were later on revised by the Legal officers of both States, approved by the respective Ministries and submitted to the Houses of Assembly of Niger and Kebbi States, where they are now for endorsement.

Tab. 2: Comparison of Fishing fees collected in 23 States of Nigeria, September 2000.

No.	State	Legal Base	Permit/ Application fee	License fee (renewal) (assistant)	Boat (mechanized, floatin device)	Seine/ Drag/ Draw Net (diff. Sites)	Castnet	Hook & Line/ Longline	Gillnet/ Sinkiya (diff. mesh sizes)	Traps/ Cages/ similar	Trawl nets	Fish fence/ barriers	Lift net	Others	Average
1	Bauchi	3,1997	/.	100-250	100(150,50)	200	150	80	2500	100-150	1000	200	150	50	430
2	Benue	1 or 2 no copy	/.	300 (trader)	100(200)	200-300	200	100-200	300	150-250	/.	/.	300	/.	221
3	Edo	?	/.	500	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	500
4	Ekiti	1, no copy	100	400	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	400
5	Enugu	?	/.	500	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	500
6	Gombe	6, 1997	/.	/.	30(60)	600	300	210	300	120-240	960	600	300	120-240	368
7	Jigawa	1, year?	1000	/.	/.	9000-24000	24000-3000	/.	3000	3000	/.	/.	/.	3000-4000	5740
8	Kaduna	6, 1998	200	200 (trader)	/.	1000	100	/.	50-250	20	/.	/.	/.	/.	318
9	Kano	1, 1985 4, 1999	50	/.	600	3000-5500	600	600	600	600	/.	/.	/.	/.	1208
10	Katshina	5, year?	100	1200	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	1200
11	Kogi	1 or 2, no copy	50-100 (trader)	/.	25 (40)	150	25	50	100	20-30	/.	300-1000	500	2000-2500	233
12	Kwara	1, no copy	/.	400	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	420
13	Kebbi &	1, 1997	Opt.: 50	200 [50]	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	(200)
14	Niger														
15	Nassarawa	2, 1998	200	500 (300)	250(500)	350-500	200	200-300	350-500	150-250	/.	/.	200	/.	322
16	Ogun	1, 1999	250	/.	500	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	500
17	Ondo	5	250	500	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	500
18	Osun	?	/.	1000	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	1000
19	Oyo	1, no copy	/.	750	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	750
20	Plateau	2, 1984	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.
21	Sokoto	1, 1988; 4, 1996	/.	100-500	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	300
22	Taraba	1, 1989 4, 1994	/.	/.	/.	1000-2000	500	500	500	500	500	/.	500	/.	643
23	Zamfara	1, 1988	/.	35-80	/.	300	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	/.	179
															787

# Legal base:

1. Fisheries Edict/Law gazetted
2. Fisheries Regulations gazetted
3. Fisheries Edict/Law approved, not gazetted

# Legal base:

4. Circular of Hon. Commissioner Agric.
5. Other (MoU, by-laws Local Government Councils, Fed. Fish. Decree Draft)
6. Fisheries Edict/Law draf