

## Returns under Article 15 of the Convention

### 1. Laws, Regulations And Programmes Adopted Or Repealed Since The Last Notification (*Article 15, Paragraph 5(a)*)

#### European Union

##### *Spain*

In Spain each Autonomous Region independently regulates its salmon stocks and they annually enact rules for their rational exploitation.

The open season for salmon fishing in Galicia was established through an Order of 21 January 2004 (BOG N° 22, February 2004). During 2004, fishing of salmon was allowed in the fishing reserves of Masma, Mandeo, Lérez, Miño, Ulla and Eo rivers, all of which, with the exception of the Eo River, had an annual catch quota.

In the Autonomous Region of Navarre, fishing of salmon is regulated by the Local Order 89/2004. Under this Order the only river in the region where salmon fishing was permitted was the Bidasoa and the Order set an annual catch quota. In addition, in Navarre the sale of salmon is forbidden with the exception of the first salmon caught in the year.

In the Principality of Asturias, the Resolution of 31 October 2003 (BOPA N° 264, 14 of November of 2003) regulated salmon fishing during 2004, and this Resolution established the minimum size limit for salmon and set the fishing periods in the fishing reserves.

The Order 4/2004 of 24 January (BOC N°24, 5 of February 2004) regulated salmon fishing during 2004 in the Autonomous Region of Cantabria. It defines the fishing periods, the catch quota and the minimum catch size.

The Basque Country has seven salmon rivers. In Guipúzcoa, the fishing of Atlantic salmon is only allowed in the small stretch of the Bidasoa River that belongs to the Basque Country.

### 2. Other New Commitments Relating To The Conservation, Restoration, Enhancement And Rational Management Of Salmon Stocks Subject To The Convention (*Article 15, paragraph 5(b)*)

#### European Union

##### *Spain*

Under the Council Directive 92/43/ECC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, the salmon belongs to the species of Community Importance for whose conservation it is necessary to designate special zones of management. All the zones designated as Sites of Community Importance (SCI) belong to the Nature 2000. The Commission Decision of 7 December 2004 (DO L387) adopted the list of SCIs for the Atlantic biogeographical region.

The Autonomous Regions of Galicia, Principality of Asturias, Cantabria, Basque Country and Navarre constitute the Atlantic Region of Spain. The salmon inhabits 101,633,351 hectares of the SCIs of the Atlantic Region.

In Galicia, of the areas approved as SCIs, salmon inhabit occupy 8,009.54 hectares in the following rivers:

Eo River (781.13 hectares); Betanzo - Mandeo (864.58 hectares); Ría de Foz - Masma, (575.17 hectares); Sistema Fluvial Ulla – Deza, (1,306.841 hectares); Lézrez River 18.6 hectares); Baixo Miño (2,791.64 hectares); Landro River (1,582.61 hectares); Esterio do Tambro (1,582.61 hectares).

In the Principality of Asturias the following SCIs inhabited by salmon have been designated and amount to 89,851 hectares:

Eo River (123 hectares); Cabo Busto – Luanco (11,599 hectares); Ría de Ribadesella - Ría de Tinamenor (5,788 hectares); Montovo - La Mesa (14,926 hectares); Ría del Eo (1,931 hectares); Picos de Europa (25,086 hectares); Ponga - Amiega (28,100 hectares); Cares - Deva River (269 hectares); Esqueiro River (13 hectares); Esva River (192 hectares); Las Cabras River (36 hectares); Nalón River (560 hectares); Narcea River (374 hectares); Navia River (96 hectares); Trubia River (81 hectares); Negro River (45 hectares); Pigüeña River (45 hectares); Porcía River (65 hectares); Purón River (22 hectares); Sella River (500 hectares).

In the Autonomous Region of Cantabria a total area of 3,386.84 hectares occupied by salmon have been designated as SCIs:

Nansa River (ES1300009, Area: 569,86 hectares); Pas River (957.29 hectares); Ason River (530.49 hectares); Deva River (397.91 hectares); Saja River (321.28 hectares); Miera River (395.53 hectares); Agüera River (214.48 hectares).

In the Basque Country, of the existing SCIs, 196 hectares are inhabited by salmon, as follows:

Urumea River (74 hectares); Txingudi - Bidasoa (122 hectares).

In the Autonomous Region of Navarre, the Bidasoa River (190 hectares), is considered as an SCI as it is the only salmon river in Navarre.

**3. Other Factors Which May Significantly Affect The Abundance Of Salmon Stocks Subject To The Convention**  
*(Article 15, Paragraph 5(c))*

**European Union**

*Spain*

At present, important Public Work is taking place on a road next to the Bidasoa River in Navarre that could affect the abundance of the salmon stocks.