

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a small, silvery fish, likely a salmon, against a blue background. The fish is held horizontally, with its head to the right and tail to the left. The fish has a silvery body with a dark dorsal fin and a lighter belly. The person's hands are visible, with fingers supporting the fish. The text "CANADA'S IMPLEMENTATION PLAN" is overlaid in large, bold, yellow capital letters with a black outline. Below it, the text "PROGRESS REPORT" is overlaid in smaller, bold, yellow capital letters with a black outline and a yellow underline.

CANADA'S IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

PROGRESS REPORT

CANADA'S IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

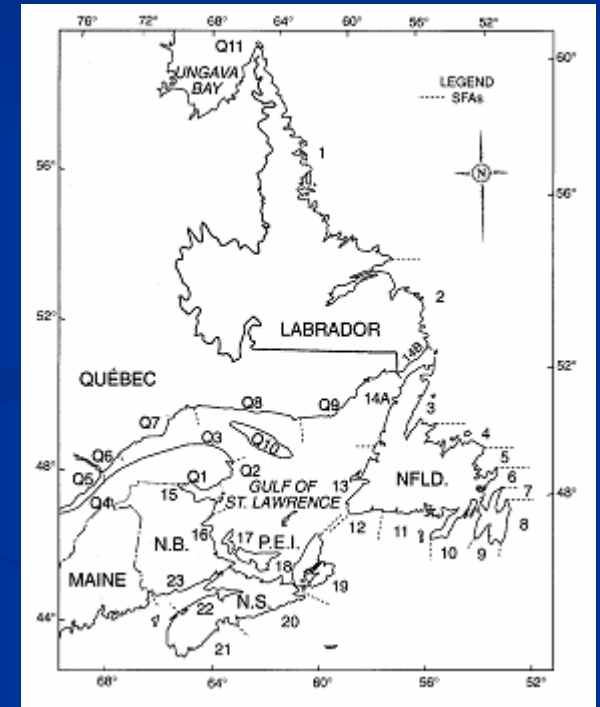
- Opportunity to bring together Canada's policies and actions on Atlantic salmon.
- Integration of:
 - involvement from various sources: Canada & provinces, Aboriginal groups and stakeholders,
 - policy frameworks/legislation: Wild Atlantic Salmon Policy, Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund, Aquaculture Framework Agreement and Species At



CHALLENGES

Canada's Atlantic salmon implementation plan will:

- Describe management strategies
- Reflect significant challenges:
 - Managing Atlantic salmon stocks in Canada is complex:
 - Stocks are numerous and spread over a large geographic area (950 rivers over 5 provinces)
 - Various stakeholder groups, levels of government and Aboriginal groups (with constitutional rights)
 - Issues influencing individual stocks are diverse (i.e. environment, habitat, ceremonial, social & food fisheries, recreational fisheries, stakeholder involvement and stewardship initiatives)
 - Major policies under development are expected to influence the Implementation Plan



The Stocks and Fisheries are Diverse

STOCKS

- Northern rivers, which are remote and not easily accessible, have generally low fishing effort and pristine habitat.
- Southern rivers have high fishing effort and may have habitat concerns.
 - Acid Rain - 14 stocks extirpated from Nova Scotia
- At-sea survival remains a concern.

FISHERIES

- Aboriginal food, social and ceremonial fisheries occur in all areas, as a constitutional right after conservation.
- Recreational angling also occur in all areas.
 - 55% of catch was released in 2005
- The last commercial fishery was closed in 2000.

Management Regime is Complex

- The Fisheries Act is the legislative basis for regulating fisheries. Regulatory measures are used to vary fishing times, areas, type of gear, quotas (limits) and sizes of fish.
- The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, the Oceans Act and the Species at Risk Act also provide for habitat protection and restoration.
- Management and habitat protection is also supplemented by provincial legislation
- Partnerships and stewardship arrangements with Aboriginal, recreational and community groups are key to successful management.



Ongoing Management Initiatives

- **Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy**
 - manage sustainable fisheries and maintain habitat and ecosystem integrity
 - promote stewardship
- **Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund**
 - one-time contribution of \$C30 million
 - help achieve healthy and sustainable wild Atlantic salmon by financing management and habitat projects
 - be administrated and managed at "arms length" from government
- **Aquaculture Framework Agreement**
 - outline the roles of government and industry
 - promote best practices
 - provide protection for the environment and consumer



Status of the Implementation Plan

- A first draft plan is being developed.
- Developing the Plan consistent with the Proposed Guidelines for the “*Preparation on Implementation Plans and Reporting on Progress*”.
- Consultations with Aboriginal, Provincial, and stakeholder representatives will be completed by September 2006.
- Finalised Plan to NASCO will be submitted in October 2006.

