

# **Report from the Ad Hoc Review Committee on Implementation Plans**

June 2007



# Overview

- The purpose of the Plans – Next Steps
- Guidelines for Preparation of Plans
- How the Review was Conducted
- Summary of Results
- Identification of Best Practice
- Next Steps
- Discussion

# NASCO's Next Steps Process

- Determined that a simpler and more transparent approach was needed for reporting on implementation of agreements
- Implementation Plans will address overall objective of ensuring the conservation, restoration, enhancement and rational management of salmon stocks
- Focus around the 3 main agreements:
  - fishery management,
  - protection and restoration of habitat, and
  - aquaculture and associated activities

# Next Steps Goals

- Modify reporting procedures to make them clearer and more transparent
- Implementation Plans are to provide the basis for the preparation of regular reports on the extent to which proposed actions have been undertaken and objectives achieved
- Expected that IPs will differ depending on the nature and status of stocks, the management regimes in place and other factors

# Terms of Reference for Ad Hoc Review Group

- Review and provide feedback to the Council on the adequacy of Implementation Plans
- Assess:
  - Conformity of Plans with the Guidelines
  - How well the plans lend themselves to evaluation in relation to the objectives of NASCO's Resolutions and Agreements

# Guidelines for the Preparation of NASCO “Implementation Plans”

- Content of Implementation Plans
  - **Introduction:** General picture of the resource and management structure in place
  - **Status of stocks:** Description of the current status of stocks for future comparison
  - **Threats** to stocks and current management measures: fisheries, habitat, aquaculture, other
  - **Management Approach:** Approaches to address problems including measurable outputs against which subsequent reports can be assessed; socio-economic implications should be considered; identify data deficiencies and research needs for each focus area
  - **Evaluation**

# Format of the Review

- Structure and Format of the Plan

Questions A1 – A5

- Content of the Plan

Questions B1 – B7

- Monitoring and Evaluation

Question B8

# **A. Structure and Format of Plan**

- A1. Does it apply to all stocks/fisheries managed within the jurisdiction?
- A2. Does it apply for a period  $\geq 5$  years?
- A3. Does it make specific reference to the extent to which NASCO Guidelines, Resolutions and Agreements have been applied?
- A4. Is it written in a clear and concise form to facilitate future reporting and cross referencing to the plan?
- A5. Does it describe a process and outputs that are open to critical evaluation?



## **B. Content of Plan**

- B1. Does it provide a general picture of the resource and the management in place?
- B2. Does it describe the current status of stocks that will allow for future comparison?
- B3. Does it provide a summary of the threats to stocks and outline current management measures?

# **Does the Plan provide a summary of the approach that will be adopted to:**

B4. Review and modify fishery regulations?

B5. Assess habitat quality, identify problems and prioritize actions?

B6. Minimize adverse effects of aquaculture and control introductions and transfers?

B7. Address other influences?

# Monitoring and Evaluation

B8. Does it provide a summary of monitoring and evaluation activities that will be used to assess stock status and the efficacy of management measures?

- Fisheries
- Habitat
- Aquaculture, Introductions & Transfers
- Other influences, if identified

# The Results

## ■ 15 Plans were submitted

### ■ EU (8)

Northern Ireland

Scotland

England and Wales

Ireland

Finland

Sweden

Spain (Asturias)

Denmark

### ■ US

### ■ Canada

### ■ Iceland

### ■ Denmark (in respect of Greenland & Faroe Islands) (2)

Greenland

Faroe Islands

### ■ Norway

### ■ Russian Federation

## ■ 3 Plans missing

### ■ EU

France

Germany

Portugal

# Overall Impressions

- Are national salmon conservation efforts connected to international salmon conservation efforts?
  - Connection not explicit in some cases and not obvious in many cases
- Are home NGOs fully engaged in NASCO in a meaningful way?
  - Role that NASCO can play in influencing and improving national salmon management not recognized

Plan	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	Total
N Ireland	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Scotland	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
England & Wales	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
USA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Finland	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	3
Sweden	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Iceland	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	8
Greenland	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
Russia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5
Denmark	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Canada	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Norway	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12
Spain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Ireland	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	6
Faroe I	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Total	13	5	6	5	3	12	10	8	4	3	5	2/6	8	

# Number of “Satisfactory” Responses by Party or Jurisdiction

10-13	6-9	3-5	0-2	No Plan
England & Wales	N Ireland	Greenland *	Spain	Germany
USA	Iceland	Finland	Sweden	Portugal
Norway	Canada	Russia	Faroe Islands	France
	Ireland	Scotland	Denmark	

\* Greenland was evaluated on only 8 questions (not 13)

# Number of Satisfactory Responses – By Question

10-13	5-9	0-4
<b>A1</b> - All stocks	<b>A2</b> - => 5 years	<b>A5</b> - Outputs
<b>B1</b> - Resource & mgmt	<b>A3</b> - NASCO Agreements	<b>B4</b> - Fishery plans
<b>B2</b> - Stock status	<b>A4</b> - Clear and concise	<b>B5</b> - Habitat plans
	<b>B3</b> - Summary of threats	<b>B7</b> - other influences (2/6)
	<b>B6</b> - Aquaculture plan	
	<b>B8</b> - Evaluation	

A5: Process and Outputs for Critical Evaluation

B4: Approach to review and modify fishery regulations

B5: Approach to assess habitat quality, identify problems and prioritize actions



# Identification of Best Practice

- Structure and Format of Plan
  - Consistency with NASCO Guidelines, Resolutions and Agreements
  - Description of Process and Outputs open to Critical Evaluation
- Status of Stocks
- Current threats to stocks and management
- Future specific actions and timeframes

# Consistency with NASCO

## Ireland (Fisheries management)

- Objectives of National Management Strategy
  - National Objectives
  - Irelands international obligations – NASCO
  - Irelands consideration of ICES advice
  - Irelands consideration of obligations under EU Habitats Directive
- Alignment with scientific advice on precautionary approach

# Description of Process and Outputs Open to Critical Evaluation

## Norway

- Reduction of sea lice infections on wild stocks
- Management goal: There shall not be harmful levels of sea lice on wild salmon by 2010.
- Milestones

YEAR	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
2007	Develop a new Action Plan against sea lice	The Norwegian Food Safety Authority
2007	Initiate necessary long term monitoring and research on sea lice vs wild fish populations	The Norwegian Food Safety Authority

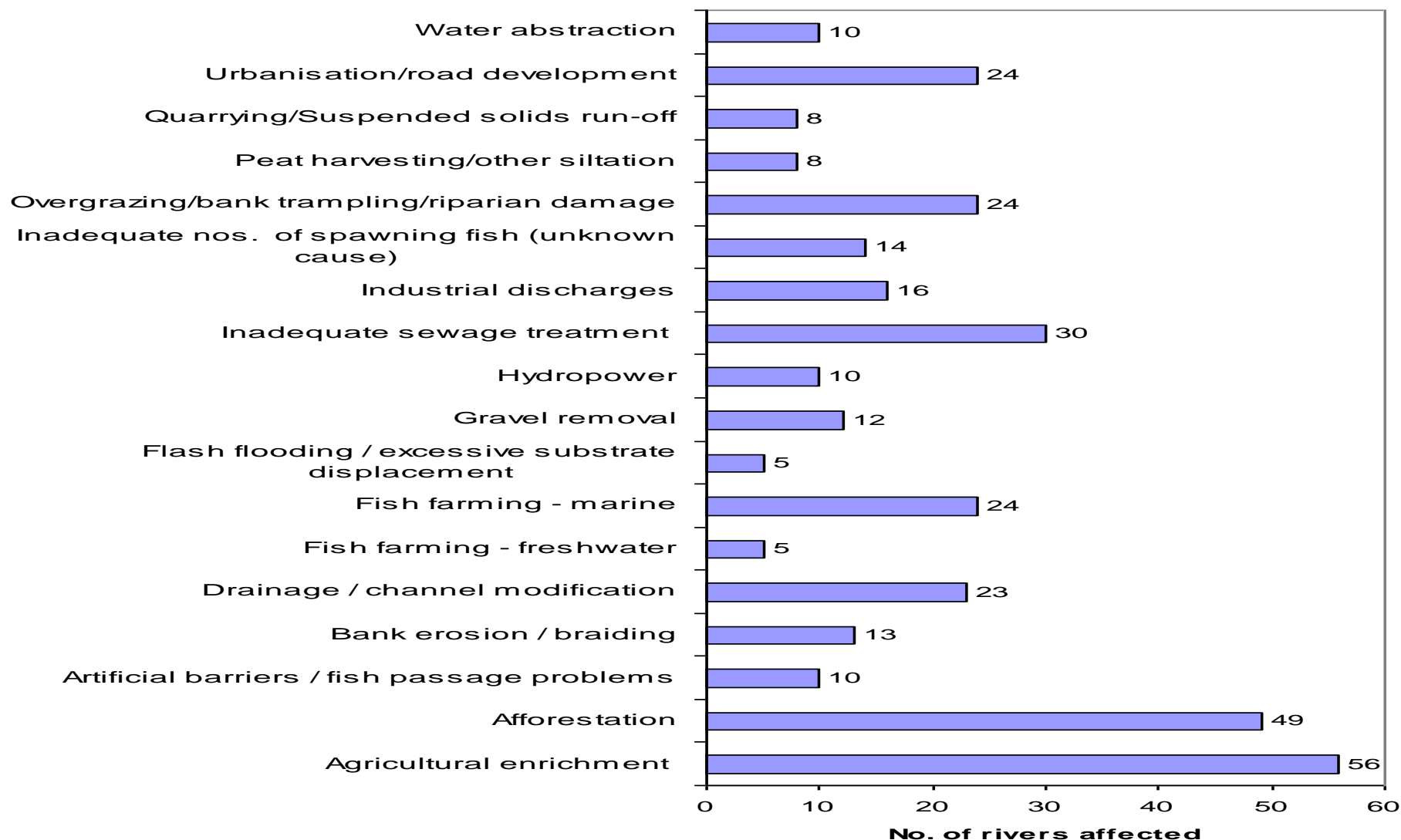
# Status of Stocks – Future Comparison

## England and Wales

- Stock Conservation Limits and Management Targets are used to assess the status of river stocks on an annual basis
- Management Objective for each river is that the stock should be = or > its CL at least 4/5 years (>80% of the time)

# Threats to Stocks - Ireland

**Figure 5. Habitat impact factors in Irish Salmon Rivers**



# Specific Actions and Timeframes - USA

## 4.3 Manage Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers

### Specific Actions

- Conduct annual audits of containment management systems (Years 1 - 5).
- Review results of genetic analysis to ensure compliance with the permit condition that all smolts must be of North American origin (Years 1 -5).
- Review marking plans to ensure compliance with permit conditions (Years 1 - 5).
- Prepare and implement mitigation plan in response to large losses from Canadian marine cages in the summer and fall of 2005 (Year 1).
- Install and operate weirs and traps on selected rivers to intercept aquaculture escapees and conduct genetic and fish health assessments of any captured escapees (Years 1-5).
- Establish communication procedure with Canada for rapid notification of any reported escapees (Year 1 and 2).

# Other Observations

- Evaluation Section
  - Emphasis on fisheries more than habitat and aquaculture
- Socio-Economic Impacts
  - Not scored as a separate section
- Clear Actions, Commitments and Timeframes
  - Critical to meeting objective of transparency

# Next Steps

- Parties revise plans in consideration of review provided and benefiting from the example of other plans
- Ad Hoc Review Committee will conduct final review of each Plan



# Annual Reports

- Reports are to be provided annually by each Party or relevant jurisdiction
- Primary purpose is to provide a summary of all actions that have been taken under the Plan in the previous year
- Report will also include any significant changes to the status of stocks, factors affecting stocks and the management regime in place

# Future Special Sessions

- Will be in-depth assessments of actions taken under one of the Focus Areas of the Plans, as selected by Council
  - Fisheries
  - Habitat
  - Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers
- Will assess efficacy of those actions in addressing NASCO's objectives