

Council

CNL(11)23

*Annual Report
on Actions Taken Under Implementation Plans*

EU – Germany

Annual Report on actions taken under Implementation Plans for the Calendar Year 2010 (Germany)

The Guidelines for the preparation of 'Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress', NSTF(06)10 (copy attached) indicate that the primary purpose of the annual reports is to provide a summary of all the actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year. In addition, details of any significant changes to the status of stocks, new factors affecting stocks, any changes to the management regime in place, and any changes to the Implementation Plan should be included in the report. Details of actions taken in accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of the Convention are also needed by the Council. **Please provide the following information to the Secretariat by 8 April 2011**

The annual report 2010 is structured according to the catchments of the rivers Rhine, Ems, Weser and Elbe and to the German Federal States.

Rhine: Data were mainly provided by Baden-Wuerttemberg and the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) on behalf of riparian Federal States. Further data and information came from, Bavaria and Hesse.

Ems: Data were supplied from Lower Saxony.

Weser: Data were mainly provided from Lower Saxony. Further information was supplied from the River Basin Commission Weser (RBC Weser) on behalf of riparian Federal States.

Elbe: Data were provided from Lower Saxony, Saxony and Brandenburg.

Section 1: Details of any significant changes to the management outlined in the introduction to the Implementation Plan.

Rhine:

ICPR:

To implement the “**Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine**” (ICPR Report No. 179,

[http://www.iksr.org/index.php?id=190&L=3&tx_ttnews\[pointer\]=1&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=522&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=128&cHash=470dd0b5f43ef1a45d6ad](http://www.iksr.org/index.php?id=190&L=3&tx_ttnews[pointer]=1&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=522&tx_ttnews[backPid]=128&cHash=470dd0b5f43ef1a45d6ad)) measures have been selected that are part of the program according to WFD and the program "Rhine 2020" / "Salmon 2020". These measures will be implemented in phases by 2015 or 2020/2027.

- On 26 January 2011, the ICPR Expert Group FISH had a meeting about the progress in national implementation of the “Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine” in 2010. The ICPR has collected the information from the riparian states and the corresponding report is being prepared.
- The salmon stocking was continued essentially as in recent years.

Baden-Wuerttemberg:

- The management of the salmon has not changed compared to previous years. It covers protection and monitoring of salmon in his migration, spawning and juvenile habitats. In Baden-Wuerttemberg, the salmon is protected all year and fisheries control ensures that adult salmon are not being fished.
- The implementation of the Habitats Directive requires monitoring of Atlantic salmon. In 2010 a corresponding program was developed and coordinated by the Federal Government and the Federal States. This includes the monitoring of adult salmon in upstream traps and juvenile monitoring in Rhine tributaries . This monitoring begins in 2011.

Bavaria:

- No significant changes.

Hesse:

- No significant changes.

Ems

Lower Saxony:

- No significant changes.

Weser:

Lower Saxony:

- No significant changes.

Elbe:

Saxony-Anhalt:

- In 2009 started the salmon reintroduction program for the Nuthe river catchment with salmon stocking. 2009 and 2010 10.000 six months old parrs (Skjern Å strain) were stocked. Additional 1000 smolts (Skjern Å strain) were stocked in 2010.

Brandenburg:

- In 2009 started the salmon reintroduction program for the Schwarze Elster / Pulsnitz river catchment with salmon stocking. 2009 and 2010 15.000 six months old parrs (Lagan strain) were stocked.
- The stocking of the Atlantic salmon in the Stepenitz river and his tributaries still continues (2010 45.800 six months old parrs of Skjern Å strain)
- Otherwise no significant changes.

Saxony:

- No significant changes. The reintroduction programme of the Atlantic salmon in the Elbe and his tributaries still continues. Salmon stocking is performed with fry of the Swedish Lagan strain and the offspring of returning salmons both in tributaries of the Elbe (Lachsbach, Wesenitz, Müglitz) as in the Mulde catchment (Chemnitz).

Lower Saxony:

- No significant changes.

Section 2: A description of any significant changes in the status of stocks and information on catches. The Council has asked that the following information on catches be provided:

- (a) the provisional catch of salmon in tonnes for 2010;**
- (b) the confirmed catch of salmon in tonnes for 2009;**
- (c) an estimate of unreported catch in tonnes for 2010;**
- (d) the number of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2010.**

Rhine:

ICPR:

- In **2009** a total number of **596 adult salmon** returnees were detected in the Rhine catchment.
- The preliminary figures of **2010** (returnees and spawning activity) suggest an approximately constant salmon stock. At 2010 a number of **549 salmon** (preliminary number) were detected in the Rhine catchment. The counting station Koblenz / Mosel and two of the three entrances to the fish pass Iffezheim were temporarily out of service due to construction measures so the real returnee number was probably higher.
- At the control and catch station Buisdorf / Sieg (Lower Rhine) a new Vaki fish counter was installed, that way it is now possible for monitoring purposes to recognize salmon with video recordings.
- An estimate of unreported catch and the number of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries is not available.

Baden-Wuerttemberg:

- Salmon migration is regularly recorded in the upstream counting stations of the fish pass at the barrages Iffezheim and Gamsheim. In this way, the status of stocks in the upper Rhine can be assessed. Currently there are no significant changes in the status of salmon stocks.
- In 2007 62, 2008 86 and 2009 52 adult salmon were counted in the fish pass Iffezheim.
- In 2007 27, 2008 70 and 2009 46 adult salmon were counted in the fish pass Gamsheim.
- In 2010 only 18 salmon were counted in Iffezheim and 26 salmon in Gamsheim. The low number of registered salmon is related to construction work of the barrage Iffezheim.
- 15 unreported salmon catches are estimated for Baden-Wuerttemberg.
- Salmon fisheries in the form of catch and release does not exist.

Bavaria:

- There are no significant changes in the status of stocks.

Hesse:

- There are no significant changes in the status of stocks.
- In 2009 7 adult salmon were counted in the Wisper river and 2010 3 adult salmon were detected.
- In 2009 28 adult salmon were counted in the Lahn river and 2010 10 adult salmon were detected.

Ems:

Lower Saxony:

- In 2009 about 20 kg salmon were caught mainly by recreational fishing in the Ems catchment.
- During the period from November to December 2009, no salmons were recorded at the fish pass Bollingerfähr (middle Ems section).
- Up to now, no data for 2010 are available.

Weser:

Lower Saxony:

- During the period from November to December 2009, 10 salmons were caught in the upstream trap of the fish pass at Langwedel (middle Weser section) for monitoring purposes.
- As part of the reintroduction program in some tributaries of the Weser estuary (Geeste, Hunte, Wümme, Ochtum), spawners were caught by using electric fishing for breeding purposes. Overall, in 2009 only 6 spawners were caught.
- Up to now, there are no data available for 2010.

RBC Weser:

- There are no changes in the status of stocks.
- Up to now, there is no significant natural reproduction of salmon in the Weser river basin district.

Elbe

Schleswig-Holstein:

- During the period from 01 June to 31 December 2010, 99 salmon were counted in the upstream trap of the of the new commissioned fish pass at the weir Geesthacht (north bank).

Lower Saxony:

- The condition of salmon stocks in the catchments or tributaries of Elbe, Weser and Ems has not significantly changed compared to last year. Although some salmon reintroduction projects (Oste/Ilmenau/Luhe) have comparative high numbers of returning adult salmon up to now there is no significant natural reproduction of salmon in the river basins of the Elbe, Weser and Ems in the area of Lower Saxony.
- Since there are no statutory provisions in Lower Saxony for reporting catches of salmon, the salmon catch estimations are based on few catch statistics of recreational fishing. Therefore the estimate includes 50% for unreported rod-catches and accidental by-catch of coastal and inland fisheries.
- Compared to 2008, the salmon catches in 2009 increased significantly. The estimation for 2009 for entire Lower Saxony is 0,35 tons, about 90% of which were caught by recreational fishing (320 kg) and 10% by accidental by-catch of coastal and inland fisheries
- Out of this, about 280 kg with an average weight of 4,5 kg per fish (catch statistics of the Elbe catchment) were caught in the Elbe catchment.
- In Lower Saxony, salmon catches concentrated nearby estuary river reaches. While the rod catches in the Elbe catchment increased significantly (apparently, the positive trend continued in 2010), they stagnate in the Weser river basin district at a low level, despite of high stocking numbers. In the Ems river basin district, only some single catches of salmon are known.

- Data on catch and release are not available.
- During the period from 01 April to 31 December 2009, for monitoring purposes 319 salmon were counted in the upstream trap of the of the fish pass at the weir Geesthacht (south bank). It can be assumed that the weir in Geesthacht is temporarily surmountable for upstream migrants depending on water levels. Therefore, the number of fish caught in the fish trap does not reflect the total number of migratory salmon.
- As part of the reintroduction program, spawners were caught in some tributaries of the Elbe estuary by using electric fishing for breeding purposes. This applies in particular to the upper Oste where 66 salmon spawners were caught in 2009. In the other rivers (Schwinge, Aue/Lühe, Este, Seeve, Luhe, Ilmenau), comparatively few salmon spawners were caught. In these rivers the projects for migratory salmonid fishes focus mainly on sea trout.
- Up to now, no data are available for 2010.

Brandenburg:

- In the catchment area of the Stepenitz river 2010 the highest number of returnees is being counted since the beginning of the salmon resettlement project (1999). The positive population trend seems to continue.
- In 2009, a total number of 17 salmon spawners (65kg) were caught in the Stepenitz river.
- In 2010, a total number of 57 spawners (202kg) were detected in the Stepenitz river.
- In the catchment area of the Stepenitz a free migration of salmon is possible now on a distance of 55 km, so that the catch numbers represent just about 30 % of the real returnee number. This estimate is confirmed by mark-release-recapture investigations.
- In the catchment area of the Schwarze Elster river in 2009 and 2010 no salmon were counted, due to construction measures at weirs and high water levels.
- Catch and release numbers of salmon are not available.

Saxony-Anhalt:

- It is too early to evaluate the status of salmon in the Nuthe river, because the reintroduction program has been only started in 2009.
- First monitoring measures of the smolt output in 2010 were rated positively.

Saxony:

- The monitored number of migratory adult salmon increased compared to previous years. After the number of salmon returning to Saxony had been low in the years 2003 to 2009, the rate of returnees in 2010 was the best since the great flood of 2002. Upstream migrants were observed in the Mulde river system in Saxony-Anhalt, as well as in the Elbe and its tributary Lachsbach. Mark-release-recapture investigations with HDX transponders were carried out in the Elbe catchment in 2009 and 2010. In view of the little number of recaptured marked salmon, it can be concluded that the real number of returning salmon exceeds the number of detected salmon by far.
- In 2009, a total number of 19 salmon spawners were caught in the pilot water Lachsbach. Based on the mark-release-recapture investigations, a return of 50 salmon is estimated.
- In 2010, a total number of 40 spawners were detected in the Lachsbach. Due to the recaptured marked fish, a total number of 200 salmon is estimated.
- In 2010, rod catches in the Mulde system and in the Elbe river basin district could not be quantified.

Section 3: A description of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks.

Rhine

ICPR:

- In the "Master Plan migratory fish Rhine", identified measures will be implemented gradually and should influence the development of salmon stocks positively.
- In the entire Rhine catchment and in the Dutch coastal area, catching and possessing salmon and sea trout is forbidden by law. Nevertheless, from today's point of view, fishery must be considered as a limiting factor for salmon, as implementation is deficient. Losses of all other migratory fish occur in the entire Rhine catchment and the coastal area and are due to mortality during catches, (e.g. injuries and stress), to accidental catches (including inadvertent by-catches) and to poaching. In particular, there are no reliable data on targeted illegal catches. Information, intensified controls and the consequent use of penal law should considerably reduce salmonid mortality due to fishery. The ICPR has worked out recommendations aimed at reducing by-catches and illegal catches of salmon (see chapter on fishing pressure in the "Master Plan migratory fish Rhine", p. 17f).

Baden-Wuerttemberg:

- In 2010, the quantity and quality of salmon habitats were improved in almost all project waters. For this purpose, obstacles have been redesigned to improve the longitudinal connectivity, and structural improvement measures have been implemented to optimize the quality of the habitat.
- Efforts to increase the use of hydroelectric power in the spawning and nursery waters are contrary to successful salmon reintroduction. Further measures to increase the longitudinal connectivity and improve habitat conditions are considered necessary.
- In particular, predation on downstream migrating smolts significantly reduce salmon stock levels. Competing species protection concepts prevent effective protection measures for salmon.

Weser

Lower Saxony:

- The fish migration has been improved in principle by the construction of a new fish passage at the weir Bannetze (lower Aller). The longitudinal connectivity of the Aller river is still impaired by two other barrages – one downstream and one upstream of the weir Bannetze.

Elbe

Lower saxony:

- A high mortality of parrs and smolts is assumed in some rivers (e.g. in the tributaries of the Elbe estuary), because of the continuing high predation by cormorants especially in the winter months and during the period of fish migrations.
- Farmed salmon of unknown origin have been repeatedly caught by electric fishing in the Elbe and Weser catchment.

Brandenburg:

- In the catchment area of the Schwarze Elster two new fish passes (Herzberg and Lindenau) were commissioned and one is

under construction (Neumühl). The new fish pass in Lindenau was badly damaged by a flood in 2010, so it is currently out of service.

- The silting up of spawning grounds is a significant ecological problem in the Stepenitz and Pulsnitz river basin.
- The positive population trend could already be a result of the modified stocking strategy because since 2007, only six months old parrs were used for stocking.
- An output of 8000 to 10.000 smolts was estimated for the Stepenitz river in 2008 and 2009. Due to the difference between data of smolt output and adult run size an increased mortality of salmon in the coastal and marine environment is believed.
- Additionally to be criticised is that the fishing pressure of the recreational fishing and part-time fisheries in the lower Elbe is too high.
- On the basis of public support of renewable energy in Germany more and more water power plants are commissioned. This is detrimental for ongoing or planned resettlement projects of Atlantic salmon.
- A regularly occurring summer oxygen lack near Hamburg complicates the physiological adaptation of the returning salmon from sea water to fresh water.
- Although salmon habitats are often harmed by mechanical river maintenance, fisheries authorities currently have no possibility to intervene.

Saxony-Anhalt:

- The free migration of salmon is still limited in the Nuthe catchment, due to barrages.
- The silting up of spawning grounds is a significant ecological problem in the Nuthe river.
- The stow net fisheries in the Elbe river is a potential danger for downstream migratory smolts. It is possible to minimize smolt losses by stow net fisheries with suitable protection facilities (juvenile fish grids).
- The commissioning of hydropower plants due to the public support of renewable energies is also a problem in Saxony-Anhalt.

Saxony:

- For the Elbe catchment, the commissioning of the new fish pass at the weir Geesthacht is of outstanding importance.
- Due to the floods in summer and autumn of 2010, there were setbacks in improving fish migration at the Mulde river system in Saxony-Anhalt. Thus, the 4 million € fish pass at the Mulde reservoir, which is under construction, was badly damaged.
- The flood-related damages to fishways in significant tributaries of the Elbe in Saxony were removed quickly and had no

negative impact for salmon migration.

- In the winter of 2010/11, measures to eliminate flood damage were carried out in some salmon rivers. Destruction and damage to salmon spawning grounds as result of these measures cannot be excluded.

Section 4: An account of all actions taken under the Implementation Plan with regard to the management of salmon fisheries; habitat protection and restoration; aquaculture and related activities; and other influences affecting salmon abundance or diversity (including the marine environment).

Management Action	Reporting Update	Achieved Management Action (Yes, No, Ongoing, Completed)
Fisheries Management		
<p><u>Rhine:</u> The following recommendations in relation to the fisheries management were drafted by the <i>ICPR</i> (see "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine", p. 17f)</p>	<p>On 26 January 2011, the ICPR Expert Group FISH had a meeting about the progress in national implementation of the "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine" in 2010, including the reduction of by-catches and illegal catches. The ICPR has collected the actual information from the riparian states and the corresponding report is being prepared.</p>	ongoing
1. Supplementary and improved investigations	Supplementary investigations with other methods and instruments within professional fishing may give an improved view of the real causes for disappearing salmon and fish mortality.	ongoing
2. Adequate regulations	<p>a. As far as salmonids are concerned, regulations for catches and sale as well as obligations to release caught salmonids back into the water are solidly anchored in law.</p> <p>b. Sanctions for infringing these interdictions (e.g. fines) correspond to the (financial) advantage in connection with catching and selling salmon and are sufficiently "deterrent". In case of infringement of</p>	ongoing

	<p>the regulations, professional fishermen may experience that their permit will not be prolonged or even cancelled.</p> <p>c. Interdictions will be practicable (see example given under 4c).</p>	
3. Information	<p>a. Active information of certain target groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line fishermen (angling and leisure fishing) • Professional fishermen • Police and fisheries' surveillance • Collaborators at fish auctions and fish mongers <p>The information material will explain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why it is so important not to take any salmonids; • how accidental damage to salmon caused by fishing for other species may be reduced; • the interdictions applied to catching and selling salmon. Fines and other eventual penalties will be mentioned. <p>b. Information of the public (also by means of the press) on the return of the salmon and sea trout into the Rhine and the Meuse, on the success of measures implemented and on the issue why it is so important, to take as few salmonids as necessary in order to be able to restore their populations. Exceptions may only be made in order to support the programs aimed at restoring salmon and sea trout populations (e.g. catch parent fish for stocking purposes).</p>	ongoing
4. Well passable constructions and other obstacles	<p>a. Well passable constructions according to the most recent state of the art not only mean that more salmonids (and other fish species) may migrate upstream to spawn. It also reduces the time salmon spend at the foot of impoundments and an aggregation of the species in all places, where the upstream migration route is difficult to find – a</p>	ongoing

	<p>situation in which salmonids are particularly vulnerable (predators, fishery).</p> <p>b. When improving passableness, it is recommended to strive for an optimal synergy with measures resulting from the Eel Regulations.</p> <p>c. The creation of a zone with a 300 m perimeter around smaller and 500 m around bigger weirs, sluices, fishways and natural sills (in up- and downstream direction) is recommended, as many salmonids are liable to aggregate in these river sections during their migration. Complete interdiction of fishery is easier to implement in these areas around constructions than the specific ban on catching certain salmon species without putting them back again.</p>	
<p>5. Implementation</p>	<p>a. According to indications of the Rhine bordering countries, only individual illegal catches of salmon, sea or lake trout have been registered so far. However, studies and personal communications made by anglers and fishery experts indicate repeated illegal catches in the different sections of the Rhine. The bans on catching and selling salmon, sea and lake trout, and the obligation to release these fishes back into the water after accidental catches will be strictly applied, so that, in practice, interdictions will be effective. Being caught after infringements of such regulations is highly improbable, bans are little effective, in particular if catching salmonids is combined with economic interests.</p> <p>b. Regulatory and controlling authorities should commission „salmon rangers" in individual areas under protection or at well known "hotspots" of illegal catches to collect information together with</p>	<p>ongoing</p>

	<p>anglers on site about locations, time and precise circumstances of illegal by-catches. This should be done in close cooperation with the water police.</p> <p>c. It is furthermore recommended to try to cooperate with administrators of the impoundments with a view to implementing a fishing ban in areas without fishing activities around the constructions. Many constructions are equipped with a closed loop video system and camera surveillance for operation and administrative purposes. To a limited extent, and respecting data protection regulations this system might also be used for implementing a ban on fishing.</p> <p>d. Authorities in charge of food control are requested to examine the origin of salmon for sale in shops or gastronomy.</p>	
6. International reporting	In future, experts will annually exchange information within the ICPR on the implementation of these recommendations in the Rhine bordering countries and report on their effectiveness in practice.	ongoing
<u>Elbe, Ems, Weser</u> Laws, regulations and programmes changed not significant since the last notification		ongoing
Habitat Protection and Restoration		
<p><u>Rhine</u> (ICPR)</p> <p>A comprehensive overview on habitat and protection measures for the Rhine catchment is given in the ICPR Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine (report no. 179). In the annex (Table 1) of the report are the implemented, ongoing and planned hydro-morphological measures for the entire Rhine catchment listed.</p>		

Improving migration (<i>Baden-Wuerttemberg</i>)	In the program rivers Alb, Murg, Rench, Kinzig, Elz-Dreisam and Wiese, a total of 15 upstream migration facilities and 5 downstream fish migration facilities were built and furthermore a structure-improving measure was implemented.	completed
Improving migration (<i>Bavaria</i>)	The “Strategic c concept to improve the longitudinal connectivity in Bavarian rivers” (Strategisches Durchgängigkeitskonzept Bayern) and the "Connectivity study navigable Bavarian Main river " (Durchgängigkeitsstudie schiffbarer bayerischer Main), be developed each under the auspices of the Bavarian State Office for the Environment to implement the EU-Water Framework Directive	ongoing
<u>Weser</u> Improving migration (<i>Lower Saxony</i>)	The fish migration has been improved by the construction of a new fish passage at the weir Bannetze (lower Aller)	completed
Improving cooperation between the various stakeholders (<i>RBC Weser</i>)	The River Basin Commission Weser works on a voluntary agreement between the navigation authorities, the fishing associations, the hydropower operators and the federal states. The main tenor of this agreement is the fact that a significant improvement of the quality of the spawning areas as well as of the river continuity can only be achieved if all stakeholders work hand in hand. The future work will base on the idea that all stakeholders supply their contribution for a common understanding of how a river system should be enhanced.	ongoing
<u>Elbe</u> Improving migration	The “Concept to improve the longitudinal	ongoing

<i>(Brandenburg)</i>	connectivity in Brandenburg rivers” (Landeskonzept der ökologischen Durchgängigkeit) be developed under the auspices of the Federal State Brandenburg to implement the EU-Water Framework Directive	
Improving migration <i>(Saxony)</i>	In the Müglitz, two weirs were removed and in the Wesenitz, one barrage was removed	completed
Creation of juvenile habitats and improving longitudinal connectivity <i>(Saxony)</i>	A number of specific measures to improve the structure of the Chemnitz by a length of 13 km are currently in implementation.	ongoing
Improving migration <i>(Schleswig-Holstein)</i>	Since September 2010, the new fish pass at the barrage Geesthacht nearby Hamburg on the north side of the Elbe allows migratory fish now to move upriver to their spawning areas without barriers. It thus leads to a nationally significant improvement of the ecology and water connection of the upper and middle Elbe to the Elbe Estuary and North Sea.	completed
Aquaculture and related activities		
<p><u>Rhine</u> <i>(ICPR)</i></p> <p>In the Rhine catchment area, there is no salmon aquaculture.</p> <p>Salmon hatchery facilities for stocking purposes: DE-NW: Ponds "Albaum" and "Hasper dam” at the State Office for Nature, Environment and Consumer Protection North Rhine Westphalia, Department of Fisheries Ecology (stocking since 1998, http://www.lanuv.nrw.de/natur/fischerei/wanderfisch.htm) DE-HE: Hatchery Lahn of the Interest Group (IG Lahn) in Aumenau DE-BW: "Salmon farming Wolfstal" (see above), hatchery "IG Elz (Kollnau), trout farming Roesch (Gengenbach), hatchery "Fishing Club Karlsruhe, and in cooperation with France: Pisciculture "Saumon du Rhin" (establishment of the fishing association Bas-Rhin in Witternheim). see http://www.wfbw.de</p>		
Salmon rearing for stocking purposes <i>(Baden-Wuerttemberg)</i>	In Baden-Württemberg there is no production of salmon as food fish. Fry, parrs and smolts are reared to be used for stocking purposes only.	ongoing

	<p>In 2010, a total of 198.040 salmon were reared in the following 5 hatcheries:</p> <p>Gengenbach: 20.000 Obenheim: 103.700 Karlsruhe: 27.540 Wolftal: 40.800 Waldkirch: 6.000</p> <p>Together with 25.000 frys purchased from the salmon hatchery Chanteuges in France a total number of 223.040 salmon were stocked in reintroduction rivers.</p>	
Other influences affecting salmon abundance or diversity (including marine environment)		
No Response		

Section 5: Details of any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan.

Rhine
The ICPR would appreciate a professional exchange with NASCO regarding with the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the stock situation of the Atlantic salmon at sea.

Elbe
Brandenburg, Saxony-Anhalt:

- According to the resettlement projects in the upper reaches of the river basins the fishing regulations should be synchronized between the German Federal States and adjacent States.
- River maintenance measures should be only carried out in consultation with the fisheries authorities and taking into account to the EU WFD and to the EU Habitats Directive.

- The legal positions of German laws with the European legal requirements should be determined. As one example, the German law for supporting the renewable energy is partly contrary with the requirements of the EU WFD and the EU Habitats Directive.

Waters flowing directly to the North Sea (page 18 IP (07)21)

Schleswig-Holstein: The salmon is on the territory of Schleswig-Holstein just a passage migrant of the Elbe river and the coastal waters. In the rivers described under section E of the German Implementation Plan, the Atlantic salmon is a non-indigenous species. Historical reports of former salmon stocks are probably due to a mixing up with the sea trout. The sea trout is the only native anadromous salmonid species in the little rivers flowing directly to the North Sea in Schleswig-Holstein which are named in the implementation plan.

Nevertheless, in some little rivers in Schleswig Holstein salmon restocking was performed, temporarily supported by the fisheries authority. The stocking measures have not led to the establishment of viable salmon stocks. These rivers do not meet the hydro-morphological requirements for spawn, inter-gravel stages and juveniles of salmon. Additionally a successful reproduction is inhibited by suboptimal gravel composition and siltation. Therefore, the public financial support for salmon restocking in Schleswig-Holstein was definitively ceased in 2010.

For these reasons, section E “Waters flowing directly to the North Sea” should be deleted from the German Implementation Plan.