



CNL(13)10

Request for Scientific Advice from ICES

1. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North Atlantic area:

- 1.1 provide an overview of salmon catches and landings by country, including unreported catches and catch and release, and production of farmed and ranched Atlantic salmon in 2013¹;
- 1.2 report on significant new or emerging threats to, or opportunities for, salmon conservation and management²;
- 1.3 provide a review of examples of successes and failures in wild salmon restoration and rehabilitation and develop a classification of activities which could be recommended under various conditions or threats to the persistence of populations³;
- 1.4 provide a review of the stock status categories currently used by the jurisdictions of NASCO, including within their Implementation Plans, and advise on common approaches that may be applicable throughout the NASCO area;
- 1.5 provide a compilation of tag releases by country in 2013;
- 1.6 identify relevant data deficiencies, monitoring needs and research requirements.

2. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North-East Atlantic Commission area:

- 2.1 describe the key events of the 2013 fisheries⁴;
- 2.2 review and report on the development of age-specific stock conservation limits;
- 2.3 describe the status of the stocks;
- 2.4 provide recommendations on how a targeted study of pelagic bycatch in relevant areas might be carried out with an assessment of the need for such a study considering the current understanding of pelagic bycatch impacts on Atlantic salmon populations⁵.

*In the event that NASCO informs ICES that the Framework of Indicators (FWI) indicates that reassessment is required:**

- 2.5 provide catch options or alternative management advice for 2014-2017, with an assessment of risks relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding⁶;
- 2.6 update the Framework of Indicators used to identify any significant change in the previously provided multi-annual management advice.

3. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the North American Commission area:

- 3.1 describe the key events of the 2013 fisheries (including the fishery at St Pierre and Miquelon)⁴;
- 3.2 update age-specific stock conservation limits based on new information as available;
- 3.3 describe the status of the stocks;

*In the event that NASCO informs ICES that the Framework of Indicators (FWI) indicates that reassessment is required:**

- 3.4 provide catch options or alternative management advice for 2014-2017 with an assessment of risks relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding⁶;
- 3.5 update the Framework of Indicators used to identify any significant change in the previously provided multi-annual management advice.

4. With respect to Atlantic salmon in the West Greenland Commission area:

- 4.1 describe the key events of the 2013 fisheries⁴;
- 4.2 describe the implications for the provision of catch advice of any new management objectives proposed for contributing stock complexes⁷;
- 4.3 describe the status of the stocks⁸,

*In the event that NASCO informs ICES that the Framework of Indicators (FWI) indicates that reassessment is required:**

- 4.4 provide catch options or alternative management advice for 2014-2016 with an assessment of risk relative to the objective of exceeding stock conservation limits and advise on the implications of these options for stock rebuilding⁶;
- 4.5 update the Framework of Indicators used to identify any significant change in the previously provided multi-annual management advice.

Notes:

- 1. *With regard to question 1.1, for the estimates of unreported catch the information provided should, where possible, indicate the location of the unreported catch in the following categories: in-river; estuarine; and coastal. Numbers of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries should be provided.*
- 2. *With regard to question 1.2, ICES is requested to include reports on any significant advances in understanding of the biology of Atlantic salmon that is pertinent to NASCO, including information on any new research into the migration and distribution of salmon at sea and the potential implications of climate change for salmon management.*
- 3. *With regards to question 1.3, NASCO is particularly interested in case studies highlighting successes and failures of various restoration efforts employed across the North Atlantic by all Parties/jurisdictions and the metrics used for evaluating success or failure.*
- 4. *In the responses to questions 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1, ICES is asked to provide details of catch, gear, effort, composition and origin of the catch and rates of exploitation. For homewater fisheries, the information provided should indicate the location of the catch in the following categories: in-river; estuarine; and coastal. Information on any other sources of fishing mortality for salmon is also requested.*

5. *In response to question 2.4, if ICES concludes that there is a need for a study, provide an overview of the parameters and time frame that should be considered for such a study. Information reported under previous efforts and on migration corridors of post-smolts in the Northeast Atlantic developed under SALSEA-Merge should be taken into account.*
6. *In response to questions 2.5, 3.4 and 4.4, provide a detailed explanation and critical examination of any changes to the models used to provide catch advice and report on any developments in relation to incorporating environmental variables in these models.*
7. *The proposal specifically refers to NAC(13)4, tabled during the North American and West Greenland Commissions during the 2013 NASCO Annual Meeting.*
8. *In response to question 4.2, ICES is requested to provide a brief summary of the status of North American and North-East Atlantic salmon stocks. The detailed information on the status of these stocks should be provided in response to questions 2.3 and 3.3.*

*** The aim should be for NASCO to inform ICES by 31 January of the outcome of utilising the FWI**

Attendees:

vacant (NEAC, manager representative)

Peder Fiske (NEAC, scientist representative)

Tony Blanchard (NAC, manager representative)

Tim Sheehan, Acting Chairman (NAC, scientist representative)

Kristina Guldbaek (WGC, manager representative)

Ted Potter (WGC, scientist representative)

Ian Russell, Observer (ICES representative)

New questions, originator:

- 1.4, Council
- 2.4, NGO
- 4.2, Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland)