



Agenda Item 8.1
For Information

Council

CNL(13)31

*Annual Report
on Actions Taken Under Implementation Plans*

EU – Germany

Annual Report on actions taken under Implementation Plans for the Calendar Year 2012

The Guidelines for the Preparation of Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress, NSTF(06)10, 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 5 April 2013**

The annual report 2012 is structured according to the catchments of the rivers Rhine, Ems, Weser and Elbe and to the German Federal States.

Rhine: Data and further information were provided by Baden-Wuerttemberg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Hessen and the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) on behalf of riparian Federal States.

Ems: Data and further information were supplied from Lower Saxony.

Weser: Data and further information were provided from Lower Saxony.

Elbe: Data and further information were provided from Lower Saxony, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Brandenburg.

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

No significant changes to the management outlined in the introduction to the Implementation Plan were reported by the concerned German federal states in 2012.
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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 2012;**
- (b) the confirmed catch of salmon in tonnes for 2011;**
- (c) an estimate of unreported catch in tonnes for 2012;**
- (d) the number of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2012.**

Rhine:

ICPR

Since 1990, evidence is given of more than 6800 salmon returning to the Rhine from the North Sea to their spawning waters in the Rhine tributaries (see Annex 1), of which 334 were counted in 2011 and 248 in 2012.

The following factors are probably responsible for the strong fluctuations (see Annex 2) of abundance:

- There are natural fluctuations of salmon populations.
- Extremely fluctuating water levels in the Rhine and his tributaries affect the migration of fish.
- Stocking intensity in the respective Rhine sub-systems in preceding years are varying.
- Restricted functionality of fish passes and monitoring stations occurred (e. g. Moselle river/Koblenz 2010-2011, Iffezheim 2009-2013).
- Extensive construction works in Rotterdam harbour (Maasvlakte II) may have disturbed salmon migration.
- Increased marine mortality could be an additional factor which influences the frequency of returning salmon in the Rhine.

North Rhine-Westphalia

In 2011, 196 salmon were counted in the Sieg system and 6 in the Wupper system. In 2012 127 salmon were recorded in the Sieg system and 5 in the Wupper system.

Rhineland-Palatinate

In 2011, just 3 salmon were counted (1 Saynbach and 3 Sieg river). This poor result was caused by the exceptional drought and low water situations in 2011. In 2012, 5 adult salmon were counted in the Rhine river, 3 in the Mosel river, 1 in the Ahr river, 8 in the Saynbach and 3 in the Sieg river. Additionally 12 salmon redds have been counted in the Ahr river, 18 in the Saynbach, 9 in the Sieg river and 3 in the Nette river. Because there are no salmon monitoring stations in the rivers of Rhineland-Palatinate with exception of

one counting station in the Moselle river, the real number of salmon returnees is estimated as much higher.

Hesse

In 2011, one salmon returnee was monitored in the Main river and 9 in the Lahn river and in 2012 3 in the Lahn river.

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 evaluated. In 2011 50 salmon were recorded in the upstream counting station of the fishway at the barrage Iffezheim and 47 salmon in the upstream counting station of the fishway at the barrage Gamsheim. In 2012 21 adult salmon have been counted in the fishway Iffezheim and 53 salmon in the fishway Gamsheim. Because of construction works the fish pass Iffezheim was temporarily out of service. Therefore the real number of salmon that used this fishway might have been higher. All in all there are no significant changes in the status of salmon stocks for the upper Rhine but the sightings of returning adult salmon and evidence of successful natural reproduction in some Upper Rhine tributaries increase.

Ems:

Lower Saxony

In 2011 and 2012 there was no evidence for salmon returning to the Ems tributaries.

Weser:

Lower Saxony

There are no significant changes to the status of stocks compared to the preceding years.

Compared to preceding years, the salmon catches in 2012 increased significantly due to higher stocking numbers. In 2012 a salmon catch of about 330 kg was estimated for the Weser catchment.

As part of a monitoring program for lampreys 10 salmon were counted at the Weser river barrage in Langwedel. Furthermore 7 salmon were counted in 2 tributaries of the Weser estuary.

Elbe

Lower Saxony

There are no significant changes to the status of stocks compared to the preceding years.

From April to December 2011 516 salmon were counted at the new fish counting station of the weir Geesthacht.

In 2012 a salmon catch of about 150 kg was estimated for the Elbe catchment in Lower Saxony. Targeted catch and release fisheries on salmon is not exercised in the Elbe river.

As part of the reintroduction program, about 80 spawners were caught in the Oste river by using electric fishing for breeding purposes.

Brandenburg

In 2010, a total number of 24 spawners (122 kg) were detected and in 2011, 4 Salmon (20kg) were counted in the Stepenitz river. One Salmon was monitored in the Schwarze Elster river.

Saxony-Anhalt

In 2011, one salmon returnee was monitored in the Nuthe river and in 2012 7 (26 kg). Furthermore 8 adult salmon were counted in the Mulde River.

There were single notifications (3) of salmon caught by rod fishing.

Saxony

In 2011 a total number of 26 adult salmon returnees were detected in Saxony. In 2012 25 salmon (24 MSW salmon) were counted in the Lachsbach river. In 2011 a total number of 26 adult salmon returnees were counted in Saxony. Additionally one salmon and two salmon redds were detected in the Müglitz river.

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

ICPR

In the "Master Plan migratory fish Rhine", identified measures will be implemented gradually and should influence the development of salmon stocks positively. Numerous of the measures, planned in the Master Plan have already been implemented. Up to 2005 126 barrages have been made passable in the Rhine and his tributaries. Until the end of 2012 in total 479 barrages have been made passable for salmon and other fish species in the entire Rhine catchment. The Haringvliet Sluices, an important "entrance" for Salmon to the Rhine and Meuse river systems including extensive accompanying measures will open in 2015 . In the following Rhine tributaries also important restoring measures were implemented:

- at the Lower Rhine in the Wupper-, Sieg-, Dhünn- and Agger River
- at the Middle Rhine in the Moselle river near Koblenz, in the Sauer river a Moselle tributary (Luxemburg) and in the Main river
- at the Upper Rhine in the Kinzig-, Rensch-, Alb-, Murg river and in the Ill tributary Bruche (Alsace/France)
- at the High Rhine in the Biber river

Baden-Wuerttemberg

In 2012 the ecological improvement of salmon program rivers was continued. 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.

Predation on downstream migrating smolts by piscivorous birds significantly reduce salmon stock levels.

Brandenburg and Saxony-Anhalt

Following adverse impacts on salmon stocks were mentioned:

- increasing siltation in salmon habitats due to expansion of maize- and rape cultivation for biofuel production
- increasing beaver stocks lead to new barrages for salmon migration
- direct and indirect entry of manure and silage effluent from leaky storage facilities contaminate salmon habitats

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		
<u>Rhine</u>		
<i>ICPR</i>		
In the entire Rhine catchment, including the Dutch coastal area, catching and possessing salmon and sea trout is forbidden by law.	To penalize infringements a special fisheries control was launched in the Netherlands, in North Rhine-Westphalia, in Rhineland-Palatinate and Hessen.	ongoing
Salmon stocking measures	Stocking measures performed in 2012 for the entire Rhine system are shown in Annex 2	ongoing
<i>North Rhine-Westphalia</i>		
Protection of salmon returnees	Fishing ban areas around the mouths of Rhine tributaries Sieg and Wupper river were extended. The fisheries surveillance was strengthened during migration time of salmon and sea trout, due to volunteering fisheries inspectors.	ongoing
<u>Elbe</u>		
<i>Brandenburg</i>		
Salmon stocking measures	Stepenitz river: 30.000 half-year parr / Origin: Skjern Å / Marking: adipose clipping Pulsnitz river: 15.000 half-year parr /	ongoing

	Origin: Lagan / Marking: No	
<u>Saxony-Anhalt</u> Salmon stocking measures	Nuthe river: 19.049 half-year parr / Origin: Skjern Å / Marking: ventral fin clipping (left)	ongoing
<u>Saxony</u> Salmon stocking measures	Polenz river: 100.000 Salmon fry / Origin: Lagan Sebnitz river: 35.000 Salmon fry / Origin: Lachsbad + 100.000 Salmon fry / Origin Lagan Lachsbad river: 35.000 Salmon fry / Origin Lagan Müglitz river: 60.000 Salmon fry / Origin Lagan Chemnitz river: 70.000 Salmon fry / Origin Lagan Pulsnitz river (upstream section): 7.600 parr / Origin Lagan	ongoing
Habitat Protection and Restoration		
<u>Rhine</u>		
<u>ICPR</u>		
Data collection of salmon habitat	Currently about 25 % of the potential salmon spawning and juvenile habitats (1039 ha) in the Rhine system are accessi- ble. In 2009, only 20% of the potential habitats had been accessible. The ongoing data collection will show the progress in restoring and making accessi- ble salmon habitat in the Rhine catchment.	ongoing

<u>Lower Rhine / North Rhine-Westphalia</u>		
Improvement of migration	At the Sieg river (Unkelmühle) a new fish pass is currently under construction. This measure represents a pioneering project for up- and downstream migration at a hydro-power plant. Escorting this measure a comprehensive biological monitoring is under preparation.	Ongoing
Improvement of migration	Removing of a barrage in the Naafbach (Sieg catchment).	Completed
Improvement of migration	Removing of a barrage in the Dhünn river (Wupper catchment).	Completed
Improvement of migration	In the Wupper river two new fish passes have been put into operation.	Completed
<u>Middle Rhine / Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse</u>		
Improvement of migration	Removing of a barrage (Hoeschwehr) in the middle section of the Sieg river.	Ongoing
<u>Upper Rhine / Baden-Wuerttemberg</u>		
Improvement of migration and improvement of habitat quality	In the salmon project river Murg, an upstream migration facilities and a downstream fish migration facilities were built. Furthermore a structure-improving measure was implemented.	Completed
Improvement of habitat quality	In the salmon project river Kinzig a structure-improving measure was implemented.	Completed
<u>Elbe</u>		
<u>Brandenburg</u>		

Improvement of migration	Closure of the hydropower plant in Perleberg (Stepenitz river).	Completed
Improvement of migration	At the Schwarze Elster river and the Pulsnitz river two new fish passes have been put into operation.	Completed
<u>Saxony-Anhalt</u>		
Improvement of migration	At the Nuthe river two barrages have been modified to enable the fish passability.	Completed
Aquaculture and related activities		
<u>Elbe</u>		
<u>Brandenburg</u>		
Increasing incubation capacity for salmon.	A new hatchery used for artificial propagation of Atlantic salmon for stocking purposes is planned in 2013.	Ongoing
Other influences affecting salmon abundance or diversity (including marine environment)		
<u>Rhine</u>		
<u>Baden-Wuerttemberg</u>		
Extension of hydroelectric power in salmon program waters	Continued efforts to increase the use of hydroelectric power in salmon habitats jeopardize a successful salmon reintroduction.	Ongoing

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

No remarks

Section 6: Information on the number of salmon that escaped from salmon farms (both freshwater and marine facilities) in 2012. The Council has asked that information be provided on the number of farmed salmon reported to have escaped from salmon farms together with an estimate, if available, of the number of escaped farmed salmon that was unreported.

Not applicable (there are no salmon farms for food purposes in Germany).

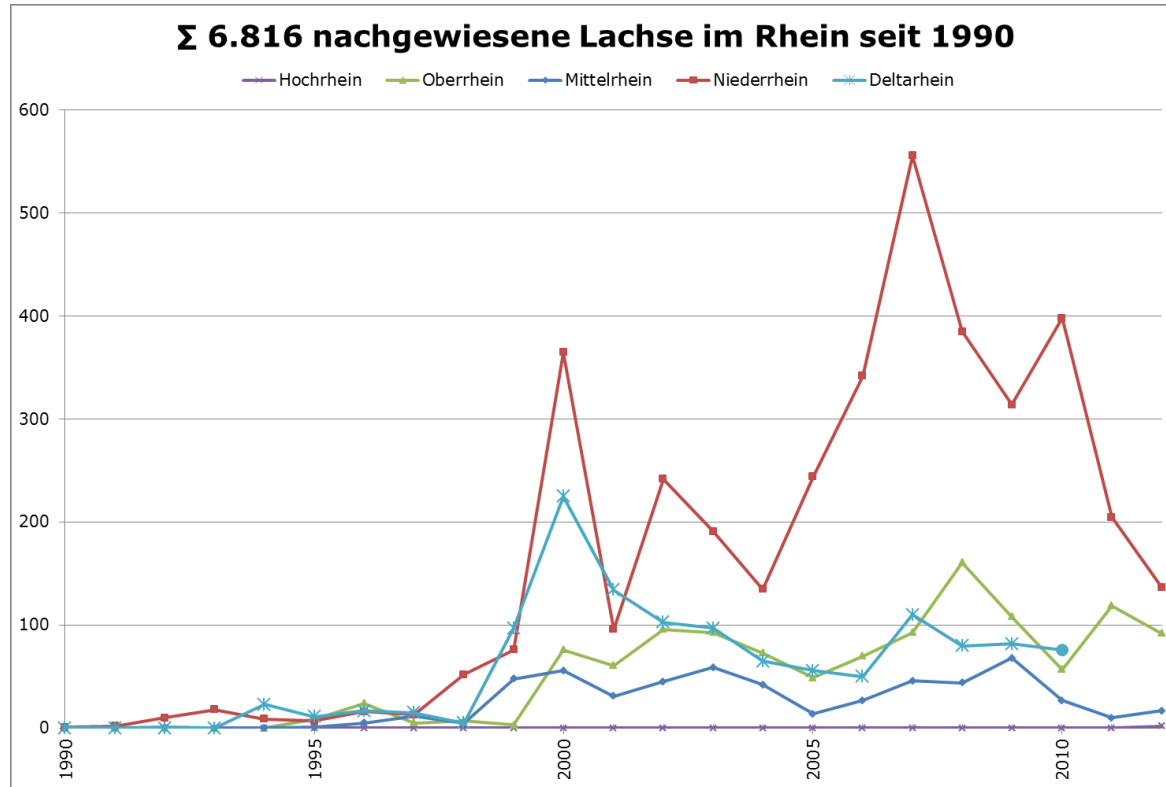
Annex 1 (Source ICPR)

	Identification of adult salmons in the Rhine system since 1990	
Salmons of at least 50 cm (first catches) are considered to be adult		

Year	CH	France			Baden-Wuerttemberg						Hesse und Rhineland-Palatinate						Northrhine-Wstphalia					Netherlands			Rhine	Year				
	Highrhine	Rhine*, Ill	Gambsheim	Iffezheim	Elz-Dreisam	Murg	Kinzig	Rench	Alb	Others	Main	Wisper	Nette	Lahn	Saynbach	Mosel	Ahr	Sieg	Rhine	Sieg	Wupper	Ruhr	Lippe	IJssel	Waal		Lek	Total		
1990																				1								1	1990	
1991																				2								2	1991	
1992																1				10								11	1992	
1993															0				2	16								18	1993	
1994															0					9					16	7		32	1994	
1995				9											1				1	6					7	4		28	1995	
1996				23					1				0	4	1				1	15					2	15		62	1996	
1997				5	1								1	8	3					13				2	5	8		45	1997	
1998				7									0	1	4	0	2			42	7		1	0	2	3		69	1998	
1999				3									8	21	7	12	7			53	15		1	0	12	85		224	1999	
2000				75									5	35	14	2	8			335	21		1	3	28	194		722	2000	
2001		2		59									1	4	12	4	10	0		84	12			1	23	110		322	2001	
2002				94						1			1		3	0	3	20	11	8	9			3	28	72		486	2002	
2003				90			1			2			2	0	15	37	3	2	8		160	20	1	2	3	44	50		440	2003
2004				72				1					0	2	8	17	4	11	5		93	37			4	33	28		315	2004
2005				49									0	2	0	6	1	5	10		195	39			6	38	12		363	2005
2006			18	47			2	1	1				1		4	1	5	13	4	0	11	1			4	28	18		489	2006
2007			27	62									1		4	1	12	26	2	1	24				4	79	27		805	2007
2008		1	70	86						2	2				1	1	8	21	10	3	9	4			4	43	33		670	2008
2009		3	46	52	1		3	0	0	1	2	0	7	3	28	21	6	3	2	0	282	30	0	0	4	60	18		572	2009
2010		8	26	18	1		0	2	0	0	2	0	3	3	10	10	0	1	5	0	385	8	0	0	4	47	25		558	2010
2011		3	47	50	2		2	12	0	1	1	1	0	0	9	1	0	0	2	1	196	6	0	0					334	2011
2012	2	3	53	22	1	4	6	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	8	5	1	3	2	127	5	0	0					248	2012	
Gesamt	2	20	287	823	5	15	22	4	4	15	1	24	14	119	261	81	59	105	12	3326	361	5	5	42	495	709		6816	Gesamt	

* FR: Rhine upstream of Gambsheim

Annex 2 (Source ICPR)



Identification of adult salmon in the Rhine system for the single Rhine sections since 1990

Annex 3 (Source ICPR)

Stocking measures with salmon in the Rhine system 2012					
Country /Water body	Stocking				
	Kind and Stage	Numberl	Origin	Marking	
Switzerland					23.500
Rhine	Lp	6.200	Allier / Chanteuges	cwt ac	
Birs	Lp	1.000	Allier / Chanteuges	cwt ac	
Ergolz	Lp	500	Allier / Chanteuges	cwt ac	
Riehen Tych	Lp	300	Allier / Chanteuges	cwt ac	
Wiese	Lp	1.000	Allier / Chanteuges	cwt ac	
Arisdörferbach	Lb (L _a)	3.000	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Möhlbach	Lb (L _a)	6.000	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Etzgerbach	Lb (L _a)	3.000	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Bachtalbach	Lb (L _a)	500	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Magdenerbach	Lb (L _a)	2.000	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Francei					421.420
Rhine (Oldrhine)	L0	119.000	Allier Obenheim	No	
	La	75.000	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
	La	9.800	Allier Petite Camarque	No	
Doller	La	31.750	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Thur	La	31.150	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Lauch	La	10.760	Allier / Chanteuges	No	
Fecht und Nebengewässer	La	41.500	Allier Chanteuges	650 a/c	
Ill	La	3.840	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Giessen und Nebengewässer	La	37.900	Allier Chanteuges	400 a/c	
Bruche	La	42.320	Allier Chanteuges	2120 a/c	
	La	7.400	Rhin Obenheim	No	
Mosel	La	5.000	Atran HAT	No	
Houille	La	3.000	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Blies	La	3.000	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Luxemburg					
Sauer (Mosel)					
Germany, Baden-Wuerttemberg					282.000
Alb	La	20.500	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Murg	La	63.800	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Oos, Oosbach	La	11.900	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Rench	La	13.300	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Kinzig mit Zuflüssen Erlenbach, Gutach, Wolf	La	111.600	Allier Chanteuges	No	
	Lps	12.600	Allier Chanteuges	No	
	La	4.600	Rhein	No	
Elz	La	23.000	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Dreisam	La	8.400	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Wiese	La	12.300	Allier Chanteuges	No	
Germany, Hesse					33000
Lahn, Dill, Weil	Ls	1200	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	a/c	
Kinzig (Main)	Lp	800	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Schwarzbach (Main)	Lp	18700	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Main (Testfische WKA Kostheim)		0			
Wisper	Lp	10000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Wisper	Ls	2300	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	a/c	
Germany, Rhineland-Palatinate					204.300
Ahr	Lp	80.000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Lahn, Mühlbach	Ls	3.000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	a/c	
	L2	200	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	a/c	
Mosel, Elzbach	Lp	16.300	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Saynbach	Ls	3.300	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	a/c	
Nister, Kleine Nister (Sieg)	Lp	12.000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Nister (Sieg)	Ls	10.000	KFS Sieg (HAT)	a/c	
Nister (Sieg)	Lp	18.500	KFS Sieg (HAT)	No	
Nister (Sieg)	Lp	27.000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Wisserbach (Sieg)	Ls	2.000	KFS Sieg (HAT)	a/c	
Wisserbach (Sieg)	Lp	12.000	EFH Sieg & Saynbach (HAT)	No	
Wieslauter	Lp	20.000	Allier	No	
Germany, Northrhine-Westphalia					1.091.582
Sieg and tributaries	Lb (L0)	155.455	Sieg	No	
	Lb (La)	297.999	Sieg	No	
	Lb (La)	214.600	Atran	No	
	Lp (0+)	33.500	Sieg	partly a/c	
	Lp (0+)	150.000	Atran	a/c	
	Lp (1+)	9.000	Sieg	No	
	L1 / Ls	12.000	Sieg	cwt a/c	
Wupper and small tributaries	Lb (L0)	56.000	Sieg	No	
	Lb (La)	57.300	Sieg	No	
	Lp (0+)	25.000	Sieg	No	
Dhünn and small tributaries	Lb (L0)	60.000	Sieg	No	
	Lp (0+)	20.728	Sieg	No	
cwt = coded wire tags; a/c = adipose clipping; EFH = 'parent fish keeping; HAT = Hasper salmon center KFS = Monitoring and catching station; Le = salmon spawn; Lb = salmon fry; L0 = unfed fry; La = fed fry; Lp = Salmon parr; Lps = Salmon pre-smolt; Ls = Salmon smolt; L1 = one year old salmon; L2 = two year old salmon Mfp = 'Seatrout parr; k. A. = no specification. DCV = Danish Center for Vildlaks (Wild salmon)					
Sum total		2.055.802			