



Agenda Item 6.1  
For Information

**Council**

**CNL(14)22**

***Annual Progress Report  
on Actions Taken Under Implementation Plans for the Calendar Year 2013***

***EU – Sweden***



## CNL(14)22

### *Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under Implementation Plans for the Calendar Year 2013*

The primary purposes of the Annual Progress Reports are to provide details of:

- any changes to the management regime for salmon and consequent changes to the Implementation Plan;
- actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year;
- significant changes to the status of stocks, and a report on catches; and
- actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention

These reports will be reviewed by the Council. Please complete this form and return it to the Secretariat **by 1 April 2014**.

<b>Party:</b>	<b>European Union</b>
<b>Jurisdiction/Region:</b>	<b>Sweden</b>

#### **1: Changes to the Implementation Plan**

##### **1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan and, where appropriate, provide a revised plan.**

There have not been any significant changes to the management outlined in the implementation plan in 2013.

##### **1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.**

A ban on gill net fishing was implemented in 2013 in Idefjorden, the sea area between Norway and Sweden.

Shortened open season for gill net fishing on the coast with one month was implemented in 2013. Gill net fishing at depths <3 m is already regulated with respect to effort, period and mesh size.

A ban on gill net fishing for salmon in remaining coastal waters with a depth >3m has been decided from 7 March 2014 to reduce exploitation on mixed stocks.

Elimination of lowermost hydropower plant in River Ätran in 2013.

A fishway built 2013 at Hedefors, R. Säveån. The longest by-pass system in Scandinavia.

<b>2: Stock status and catches.</b>				
<b>2.1 Provide a description of any significant changes in the status of stocks relative to the reference points described in the Implementation Plan and of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks.</b>				
The salmon catches in 2013 were comparably low, but stocks are above national conservation limits as calculated by WGNAS. There are strong indications that the low spawner return is due to low sea survival. According to the implementation plan focus will be on further reducing fishing pressure, e.g. the gill net ban described above, and further rehabilitation of habitat.				
<b>2.2 Provide the following information on catches:(nominal catch equals reported quantity of salmon caught and retained in tonnes ‘round fresh weight’ (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or ‘round fresh weight equivalent’).</b>				
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2013 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	9.680	-	5.018	14.698
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2012 (tonnes)	21.151	-	8.667	29.818
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2013 (tonnes)	1.0	-	0.5	1.5
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2013.	9.6 % (N=220) It should be noted that the catch is made up of both wild and reared fish. C&R is not done in reared rivers. Looking only at wild salmon the 220 salmon released back constitutes 18%.			

<b>3: Implementation Plan Actions.</b>		
<b>3.1 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (section 2.8 of the Implementation Plan)</b>		
<b>Action F1:</b>	Description of Action:	Implementing new fishing rules to lessen exploitation of wild salmon in rivers with low status.
	Expected Outcome:	Increased stocks through lessened exploitation.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Effects monitored with index river, electrofishing programme, catch statistics etc.
	Ongoing/completed:	Suggested new fishing regulation with a bag-limit of two salmonid fish for sport fishing in rivers from 2014.
	Achieved objective?	To be implemented in 2014.
<b>Action F2:</b>	Description of Action:	Phasing out mixed-stock fisheries on wild salmon in reared rivers, and mixed-stock fisheries on the coast.
	Expected Outcome:	Increased stocks through lessened exploitation.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Effects monitored with index river, electrofishing programme, catch statistics etc.

	Ongoing/completed:	Completed. Ban on gill net fishing for salmon in deeper (>3m) coastal waters has been decided and is implemented from 7 March 2014.
	Achieved objective?	Yes
<b>Action F3:</b>	Description of Action:	Fin-clipping of reared salmon and trout, annually ca 180,000.
	Expected Outcome:	Allows for reared and wild salmon to be distinguished.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Monitored by County Administrative Boards at rearing facilities. Also monitored in sport fishing in rivers.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action F4:</b>	Description of Action:	Genetic base line of salmon stocks.
	Expected Outcome:	Stocks in mixed-stock fisheries identified. International exchange of data possible.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Not started in 2013.
	Ongoing/completed:	Collection of fish for screening will be carried out summer 2014.
	Achieved objective?	Plan accepted and will be carried out.
<b>Action F5</b>	Description of Action:	Running monitoring in index river (smolt & spawner census, tagging of smolt, electrofishing).
	Expected Outcome:	Stock-recruitment data, sea survival, run-timing, diversity of stock, age at smolting, age in the sea.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Data from the index river from 2013 is delivered and quality controlled.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action F6</b>	Description of Action:	Establishing Conservation Limits & Management Targets from index river data and habitat surveys.
	Expected Outcome:	Individual river assessment facilitates management and advice.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	During 2013 the efficiency of the smolt trap in the index river was evaluated. In 2014 the efficiency of the spawner trap will be evaluated. This will allow for stock-recruitment modelling. New habitat data will be collected during 2014-2015 (Action H2 & H3).
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action F7</b>	Description of Action:	Establishing in-river exploitation levels, through tagging/returns & catch and effort statistics in two rivers.
	Expected Outcome:	Aiding MTs, and also required for International assessment through ICES
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Not started in 2013. Using radio-telemetry the exploitation will be checked in the index river in late summer/autumn 2014.
	Ongoing/completed:	Planned for 2014; ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Not started.

<b>Action F8</b>	Description of Action:	Improving catch statistics (C&R, effort)
	Expected Outcome:	Aiding MTs, and also required for International assessment through ICES.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	More detailed information on C&R has been obtained, however still data are lacking from some rivers. Data on effort still not in a data base.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Not yet (C&R data improving, data on effort in sport fishing still not taken care of).
<b>Action F9</b>	Description of Action:	Reducing over-exploitation of MSW in rivers through restrictions on landing large fish. (Compare F1.)
	Expected Outcome:	Increased egg deposition. Action aimed at weak stocks or where catches are unreported/uncertain.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Monitoring through catch statistics. The number of MSW landed in rivers decreased in 2013.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Further restrictions necessary in some rivers.
<b>Action F10</b>	Description of Action:	Coordinating and securing monitoring of recruitment (parr) in rivers.
	Expected Outcome:	Securing monitoring in at least 17 of 23 rivers, preferably all rivers if feasible.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	All data (17 rivers) from 2013 has been stored in the common database and is quality controlled.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action F11</b>	Description of Action:	Initiate and support formation of fish management units (fmu) in salmon rivers
	Expected Outcome:	A more effective decision process involving fishing rights owner regarding decision on CL, regulation of fisheries, data collection, habitat restoration.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Continually this process is undertaken in cooperation between stake holders, authorities, and scientific advisers.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes, funding and information is available. No, no new fmu's have been formed during 2013.

<b>3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan)</b>		
<b>Action H1:</b>	Description of Action:	Continued liming of acidified salmon rivers and tributaries
	Expected Outcome:	Increased pH, lowered toxic aluminium. Increased juvenile survival, increased biodiversity.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Liming projects are carried out at expected intervals and magnitude. All is reported to the common database. Follow-up of chemistry and biota carried out.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.

<b>Action H2:</b>	Description of Action:	Habitat surveys compiled, quality assured and new data added if required.
	Expected Outcome:	Quality controlled data on salmon habitat and quality compiled in a database.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	This is planned for 2014-2015.
	Ongoing/completed:	Starting 2014.
	Achieved objective?	Starting 2014.
<b>Action H3:</b>	Description of Action:	Plan for continued habitat restoration in salmon rivers. (Also including H2 & H4)
	Expected Outcome:	Planned in 2015, with the cooperation of the County Administrative Boards. Different plans exist.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Not started yet.
	Ongoing/completed:	Not started yet.
	Achieved objective?	Not started yet.
<b>Action H4:</b>	Description of Action:	Establishing criteria for BAT (best available technology) for hydropower generation.
	Expected Outcome:	Plan in 2015. Implemented in all Counties.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Scientific background documents published in 2013. Guidance under production spring 2014.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action H5</b>	Description of Action:	Establishing criteria and workflow for surveillance of hydropower plants according to Environmental Law & BAT.
	Expected Outcome:	Plan in 2015. Implemented in all Counties.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Implementation plan and guidance to be produced in spring 2014. Implementation in 2015.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes (for 2013-2014).

### 3.3 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (*section 4.8 of the Implementation Plan*)

<b>Action A1:</b>	Description of Action:	Monitoring of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i>
	Expected Outcome:	Updated information on <i>G. salaris</i> distribution and infection.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Annual monitoring undertaken as planned in 2013. No new <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> -infested rivers detected. Cooperation with Norway established.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing.
	Achieved objective?	Yes.
<b>Action A2:</b>	Description of Action:	Genetic screening of alien (escaped) salmon. (Compare action F4).
	Expected Outcome:	Determination of origin of alien salmon. Based on established base line (action F4).

Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Awaiting genetic baseline (action F4). Scheduled for 2016.
Ongoing/completed:	Not started.
Achieved objective?	Not started.

<b>4: Additional information required under the Convention</b>	
4.1	Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification.
	<p>New regulation in 2013, and planned for 2014 (se section 1.2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A ban on gill net fishing was implemented in 2013 in Idefjorden, the sea area between Norway and Sweden.</li> <li>• Shortened open season for gill net fishing on the coast with one month was implemented in 2013. Gill net fishing at depths &lt;3 m is already regulated with respect to effort, period and mesh size.</li> <li>• A ban on gill net fishing for salmon in remaining coastal waters with a depth &gt;3m has been decided and is implemented with start 7 March 2014 to reduce exploitation on mixed stocks.</li> <li>• A bag-limit (two salmonids) has been decided for rod-and-line fishing in Skagerrak and Kattegat with start from 7 March 2014.</li> </ul>
4.2	Details of any new commitments concerning the adoption or maintenance in force for specified periods of time of conservation, restoration and other management measures.
	No changes.
4.3	Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.
	Not applicable.
4.4	Details of any new actions to invite the attention of States not Party to the Convention to matters relating to the activities of its vessels which could adversely affect salmon stocks subject to the Convention.
	Not applicable.
4.5	Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.
	None undertaken.