



Agenda Item 6.1  
For Information

**Council**

**CNL(14)37**

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

*Canada*



## CNL(14)37

### ***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>Canada</b>
<b>Jurisdiction/Region:</b>	<b>Canada</b>

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

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

Sections 4.2 and 4.3:

The five year renewal of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Sustainable Aquaculture Program (SAP) (from 2013 to 2018) was announced in Canada's Budget 2013, with the Aquaculture Sustainability Reporting Initiative renewed as Canada's mechanism for aquaculture public reporting. Therefore the last paragraph in section 4.2 and 4.3 is removed. To clarify this change, Canada's activities regarding aquaculture public reporting under the Program's renewal are clarified in new text (provided below) in revised Section 4.8, Description of Actions A1 and A2.

Section 4.2:

The last sentence in the second paragraph is updated to reflect current progress in developing Canada's Aquaculture Activities Regulations under Canada's *Fisheries Act*:

New paragraph:

"As of 2014, the proposed Aquaculture Activities Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* are being developed with potential public engagement on the proposal in the Spring 2014."

Section 4.3:

Within Section 4.3, a factual error is corrected with the below sentence re-written under "Verification of compliance with management requirements":

New paragraph:

"Government programs to verify compliance with escape management requirements are in

place in all three of the Provinces engaged in marine salmon aquaculture within the NASCO Commission area in Canada.”

Section 4.4 (bullet #3):

Within Section 4.4, sub-bullet #3, the following addition is included to reflect recent developments under Canada’s *Health of Animals Act* and *Fish Health Protection Regulations* (FHPR):

New paragraph:

“Amendments to Canada’s *Health of Animals Act* entered into force in December 2011 and include a change in the Canadian Food Inspection Agency’s (CFIA) authorities for management of the international movement of fish, including salmonids. Consequently, the FHPR under the *Fisheries Act* have been amended to reflect this change in legislative authority and to avoid duplication of regulatory effort for international imports. However, Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue applying the FHPR to interprovincial movements of salmonids until the domestic component of the National Aquatic Animal Health Program (NAAHP) is fully implemented by the CFIA.”

Sections 4.8 (A1):

Within Section 4.8, A1, the second paragraph, the title has been changed.

Re-write:

“Release of Aquaculture Substances Regulatory Regime” has been changed to “Aquaculture Activities Regulations”. This change reflects a change in the name of the proposed regulation which is currently under development.

Section 4.8, Description of Actions A1 and A2:

Within Section 4.8, Descriptions of Actions A1 and A2, the below new text is provided.

New paragraph:

“The five year renewal of the DFO’s Sustainable Aquaculture Program (SAP) (from 2013 to 2018) was announced Canada’s 2013 Budget. The Aquaculture Sustainability Reporting Initiative was renewed as Canada’s mechanism for public reporting on aquaculture, and is focused on providing timely, accurate, relevant and coherent information within DFO’s regulatory framework, both on a periodic and ongoing basis, to the public, markets and investors about the regulatory management of the sector as well as its economic and environmental performance.”

Specifically within the Description of Action for A1 (in Section 4.8, the second paragraph is clarified:

New paragraph:

“A range of tools is possible, including the development of proposed Aquaculture Activities Regulations under Canada’s *Fisheries Act*; the Bay Area Management approach; Integrated Pest Management; complimentary Provincial policies and regulations; monitoring; and aquaculture public reporting, including the use of sea-lice performance indicators.”

In Section 4.8, the Description of Action A2, the second paragraph is similarly clarified:

New paragraph:

“A range of tools is possible, including the development of legislative authority to enforce requirements; adoption of containment standards; and aquaculture public reporting, including the use of containment performance indicators.”

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

As part of Canada's on-going review of management approaches, Canada is taking action and reducing retention limits in the recreational fisheries in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia by 50%. These differing region by region analysis and recommendations reflects the diversity of returns in many of Canada's river systems.

The below measures move are expected to greatly reduce the overall mortality of Atlantic salmon in those Provinces.

These actions include;

- reduction in tags for retention from eight to four in New Brunswick
- reduction in tags for retention from four to two in Nova Scotia
- reduction in the daily retention quota in Salmon Fishing Area 15 from two to one
- expanded catch and release measures on the Northwest Miramichi River system.

Through Canada's newly established Recreational Fisheries Conservation Protection Program, a total of \$1,094,782 was provided in 2013 to recreational fishing/angling and conservation organizations for projects aiming to restore, rebuild and rehabilitate wild Atlantic salmon habitat.

Projects were funded in Newfoundland (1 project), Nova Scotia (5 projects), Prince Edward Island (5 projects) and New Brunswick (8 projects) and Quebec (2 projects).

**2: Stock status and catches.**

**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.**

Returns of small salmon and large salmon in 2012 and 2013 were slightly lower than the high returns experienced throughout eastern Canada in 2011.

Following on an assessment of the status of Atlantic salmon in Eastern Canada by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in 2010, science advisory reports on the Recovery Potential Assessment of five of sixteen Designatable Units (DUs), which were assessed as threatened or endangered, were completed in 2012 and 2013.

Recovery Potential Assessments were completed for the South Newfoundland DU (assessed as "threatened"), Anticosti Island DU (Quebec; assessed as "endangered"), Eastern Cape Breton DU (Nova Scotia; assessed as "endangered"), Southern Uplands DU (Nova Scotia; assessed as "endangered") and Outer Bay of Fundy DU (New Brunswick; assessed as "endangered"; publication pending).

The advisory reports assessed the status of the populations, assessed the threats, the viability of the populations, considered mitigation options and proposed recovery objectives.

**2.2 Provide the following information on catches:(nominal catch equals reported quantity**

<i>of salmon caught and retained in tonnes ‘round fresh weight’ (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or ‘round fresh weight equivalent’).</i>				
	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2013 (tonnes)	83.2	43.4	9.6	136.2
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2012 (tonnes)	73.1	45.1	7.9	126.1
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2013 (tonnes)	6.786	3.159	13.949	23.894
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2013.	33,520 small salmon; 25,687 large salmon; for a total of 59,207 salmon size groups combined. Released salmon represent 60.6% of all fish handled (caught and retained plus caught and released)			

### 3: Implementation Plan Actions.

#### 3.1 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (section 2.8 of the Implementation Plan)

<b>Action F1:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>Fisheries management measures introduced to compensate for low marine survival include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced daily and seasonal bag limits;</li> <li>• Mandatory catch and release fishing, especially of large salmon;</li> <li>• Salmon fishing closures in areas where the Conservation Spawner Requirements (CSR) are not being met; and,</li> <li>• Restrictions on commercial pelagic fisheries to stop or minimize salmon by-catch, including moving these fisheries in time and space and modifying the fishing gear to avoid migrating salmon.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, Canada’s fisheries managers have asked for a science-led review of reference points for Atlantic salmon which conforms to the Precautionary Approach (PA) for all areas of eastern Canada.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	<p>Fisheries management measures are designed to maintain or improve numbers of salmon returning to Canadian rivers by reducing human induced mortalities in both directed fisheries or those caught incidentally.</p> <p>A consistent approach to Atlantic salmon reference points which conform to the PA will improve management of Atlantic salmon fisheries and overall conservation of the species.</p>

	<p>Monitoring/Enforcement Results:</p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s Conservation &amp; Protection Division have the responsibility of enforcing the regulations, which embody the many management measure designed ensure the sustainability of wild Atlantic Salmon.</p> <p>One key role for enforcement is the monitoring of closed rivers or sections of rivers. Along with ensuring that variation orders are developed and appropriate notice is provided to the public, enforcement personnel place signage in these areas to adequately inform the public of closures and regularly patrol these areas to ensure the closure is respected.</p> <p>One of the most frequent causes of closures in recent years, particularly in NL, has been low rainfall, resulting low water in systems, and high temperatures. Although from time to time individuals are apprehended in closed areas overall compliance is generally good, largely due to the collective efforts of all individuals and jurisdictions involved.</p> <p>A second key measure which Canadian enforcement places significant effort upon is the mandatory tagging requirement. This measure requires the angler to tag each fish immediately upon retention.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with these requirements, Fishery Officers, Aboriginal Fishery Guardians, and Fishery Guardians, in the case of NL Region, conduct inspections of anglers, pursuant to S. 49(1). These Officers/Guardians confirm that all fish are tagged in accordance with the regulations. Fisheries and Oceans Canada also designates Provincial authorities as Fishery Officers in some provinces.</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada is currently transitioning its enforcement program with the creation of the National Fisheries Intelligence Service (NFIS). NFIS will provide intelligence products that will increase focus on intelligence-led enforcement, inform risked-based prioritization and facilitate the utilization of new technology. It is anticipated that these programs changes will result in enhanced enforcement outcomes and increased compliance.</p> <p>Finally, efforts continue to educate Courts to the impact of these violations on the environment/ecosystems with</p>
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		the view to ensuring penalties act as a more effective deterrent to non-compliant behaviour.
	Ongoing/completed:	<p>A Scientific Peer Review process to identify reference points for Atlantic salmon which conform to the Precautionary Approach was conducted Feb. 11-13, 2014. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is currently working to produce a Report on these results which could be released in 2014.</p> <p>Retention limits in the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be reduced by 50% in 2014.</p> <p>The use of “Catch and release” techniques” are to be expanded in the Northwest Miramichi river system, while ensuring no increase in retention.</p>
	Achieved objective?	Clear progress is being made to bring management measures more in line with the Precautionary Approach across Atlantic Canada. Results from the Scientific Peer Review of reference points will provide additional direction regarding further changes in management measures which may be necessary.
<b>Action F2:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>Designed to address the threat of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), to existing salmon habitat, Canadian fisheries scientists and managers are addressing AIS using all tools currently available.</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada is working with provincial and territorial partners to develop a national framework and regulations to manage the threat of AIS. The regulations will complement existing authorities and bridge gaps to enable a broad range of AIS management activities. This initiative will accommodate localized AIS issues, as well as provide a national framework for managing and controlling AIS in Canada.</p> <p>Biological risk assessments will identify those species that pose a risk based on probability of arrival, survival and establishment with ecological impacts. The proposed regulation will list AIS by geographical area, prohibit the live import, transport and possession of listed AIS, provide management authorities with a wide range of AIS control and eradication activities, including the use of deleterious substances, and enhance the ability to direct activities (including enforcement) to high risk areas. Along with these regulations, education and public awareness are considered key to achieving success.</p>



		<p>With respect to the increasing presence of rainbow trout in Quebec waters, at Canada’s request in 2012, NASCO added a question for ICES advice on the impact of this “exotic salmonid’s” expansion outside of its natural habitat through human intervention. This advice will guide actions, where necessary, to control this invasive species.</p> <p>In Nova Scotia, the provincial government enacted <i>Live Fish Possession Regulations</i> in 2012 to prohibit possession of live fish unless authorized, and has closed fishing for smallmouth bass where they are not found, to remove the incentive for illegal introductions.</p> <p>A three-year (2010-2012) containment and eradication plan is in place to control the spread of smallmouth bass in the Miramichi Lake and to eventually eradicate them from the watershed. The plan includes the use of barriers to contain the smallmouth bass, physical removal by intensive fishing and electrofishing, and location and removal of nests.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	The national framework and regulations are being designed to support management activities aimed at preventing the introduction of AIS into Canada and controlling the spread of AIS if they are introduced.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	In Newfoundland and Labrador it is illegal to transport salmonids from one water body to another. Conservation and Protection personnel investigate all incidents of this nature, where known, and take enforcement action as appropriate.
	Ongoing/completed:	A science review of progress of the first three years of the control and eradication program for smallmouth bass in Miramichi Lake was completed ( <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScRS/2013/2013_012-eng.pdf">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScRS/2013/2013_012-eng.pdf</a> ) and a revised control and eradication program was continued in 2013.
	Achieved objective?	<p>Regarding control and eradication program of smallmouth bass in Miramichi Lake, the total abundance of was low and was further reduced in each year of the program.</p> <p>While successful spawning occurred in all three years of the program, the abundance of young of the year decreased substantially in each year. As the abundance of Smallmouth Bass was reduced, it has become more</p>

		difficult to assess the presence of adult bass in Miramichi Lake. Preferred spawning locations have been identified which can be used to focus future activities with the objective of preventing spawning and ultimately recruitment to the lake.
<b>Action F3:</b>	Description of Action:	Reduction and elimination of acid rain-causing emissions can aid in reducing losses of wild Atlantic salmon due to acidification.  Liming of watercourses is recognized as an acidification mitigation technique that provides benefits to salmon. In Nova Scotia, the Atlantic Salmon Federation (ASF) has been very involved with liming projects e.g. in West River, Sheet Harbour. The ASF and others have been operating an automated lime-doser for approximately 6 years.
	Expected Outcome:	The liming project in West River has shown very positive results. Parr numbers have increased by more than 300% and new sections of the river are being recolonized.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Conservation & Protection Division works with the ASF on this project, playing a supporting role where required and providing input where necessary.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Ongoing, though early results are being shown.
<b>Action F4:</b>	Description of Action:	With the overall goal of increasing compliance and reducing poaching, Canada has taken steps to inform and educate the public of about the importance of Atlantic salmon conservation as those with a stake in the resource would surely assist in deterring poaching.  Tips from the public and undercover work, along with Regular patrols by federal fishery officers and provincial conservation officers, are all used to detect and catch poachers.  Additionally, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has worked with its lawyers in recent years to educate the court system and judges about the seriousness of salmon poaching and its effects on Atlantic salmon populations. As a result, heftier fines and other penalties are now being imposed by the courts, which is a further deterrent.
	Expected Outcome:	Decreased incidence of poaching
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	In 2013, almost 65,000 hours were dedicated to monitoring and enforcement of salmon harvest activities throughout Atlantic Canada.

		<p>Although compliance issues continue to be detected by enforcement personnel it does appear that non-compliance has been trending downward over the last decade.</p> <p>In 2013, there were 305 violations identified in salmon fisheries, with charges laid in approximately half of these incidents.</p> <p>A key contributor to this trend is the fact that Canadian fishery officers and fishery guardians have been actively engaging the public on the importance of salmon conservation. Secondly, the use of new enforcement techniques and operational approaches has contributed.</p> <p>Thirdly, over this same time frame Canada's court system has recognized the need to send a message to the public about the importance of salmon conservation. The penalties issued to offenders have increased over this same period with fines, forfeitures and prohibition having an impact. In a recent case within NL Region an individual was convicted for netting salmon in inland waters and was subsequently ordered prohibited from participating in any recreational fisheries for life.</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Though quantifying results can present challenges, Canada is increasing its efforts to monitor and enforce programs to allow for increased reporting of offences.
<b>Action F5:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>To reduce Atlantic salmon bycatch, Canada's current Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (IFMP) for Atlantic salmon and commercial pelagic fisheries are providing information on measures that are being taken to reduce this salmon by-catch. Wild Atlantic salmon that are caught incidentally in any fishery cannot be retained and must be returned to the water in a manner that causes the least harm to the salmon.</p> <p>Canada is moving towards a more rigorous catch monitoring and reporting regime that will encompass all catches, including by-catch and discards, as set out in Fisheries and Oceans Canada's <i>Policy on Managing By-catch</i>.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	Implementation of the <i>Policy on Managing By-catch</i> , with ongoing monitoring of salmon by-catch and further improvements in management measures to avoid such by-catch, will enhance Atlantic salmon conservation.

Monitoring/Enforcement Results:		<p>Fishery officers regularly conduct inspections of fishing gear to ensure that it is set in accordance with the regulation and applicable conditions of licence.</p> <p>As well, fishery officers, fishery guardians and conservation officers conduct surveillance of commercial fishing gear to ensure that salmon management measures are complied with.</p> <p>Incidents of non-compliance with the mandatory release of Atlantic Salmon are strictly enforced and regularly result in prosecution.</p> <p>In Newfoundland and Labrador Region, fishery officers randomly monitor (inspect and record) the number of salmon incidentally captured in fishing gear such as bait nets. These results are compiled and reported.</p>
Ongoing/completed:		Ongoing
Achieved objective?		<p>While measures taken appear to have reduced incidental harvests of Atlantic salmon, this will continue to be an ongoing effort to promote effective release of salmon caught as by-catch, with the least harm caused.</p> <p>Canada's (DFO's) Policy on Managing By-Catch and implementation guidelines were published in April, 2013 and is expected to have a positive effect on the overall monitoring of all incidence of salmon interaction.</p> <p>It is recognized that this policy will be implemented over time, according to national and regional priorities . The policy will primarily be implemented through regular revisions and updates to Integrated Fisheries Management Plans, many of which are multi-year.</p>

<b>3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration</b> <i>(section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan)</i>		
<b>Action H1:</b>	Description of Action:	<p><b>Focussed Legal Protection</b></p> <p>The Fisheries Act was amended in 2012 to focus on providing for the sustainability and ongoing productivity of recreational, commercial and Aboriginal fisheries. This will require updated policy and decision-making frameworks.</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada's new Fisheries Protection Program will administer provisions of the Fisheries Act related to managing effects on fish and fish habitat, i.e., the fisheries protection provisions.</p>

		<p>Fisheries Protection Program staff will focus on managing specific activity and development types. Staff has been organized into teams that will focus on, among other areas: linear development including transportation infrastructure; marine and coastal development including coastal land use such as agriculture and forestry; and mining. These teams will develop specialized expertise to effectively address threats to important fisheries listed in section 3.3: transportation infrastructure, agriculture, forestry, and mining. To address these threats to fisheries, teams will complete several types of actions: development of standards for protection (to be enshrined in policy and regulation); implementation of regulatory requirements including regulatory reviews of development projects and activities under the Fisheries Act and the Species at Risk Act; and identification and protection of important habitats.</p> <p>In addition, a recovery strategy has been developed for the Inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic Salmon populations, under the Species at Risk Act. This provides a strategy for the planning and implementation of recovery for Inner Bay of Fundy Salmon. It defines the goal for recovery of the species and outlines objectives to achieve this goal. It identifies activities to be undertaken as well as areas where knowledge is lacking and further information is required. It also includes a description of the species and its needs, and identifies the threats to its survival and recovery.</p> <p>Activities planned for 2013-2018 to implement the recovery strategy include: progress towards identification of critical habitat in the marine environment which is currently a knowledge gap, and protection of critical habitat identified for the population. As well, three federal funding programs provide ongoing support to conservation and enhancement activities for this population: the Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund (ASEF), Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP), and the Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk (AFSAR) program. On April 1, 2013 Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced a new organizational structure for the new Fisheries Protection Program. To support improved information sharing, Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Fisheries Protection staff have been organized into teams to focus on specific activities and development types that cause harm to fish and fish habitat and have begun to consider priorities for development standards and guidelines to address key threats to fish and fish habitat.</p>
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		<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada Species at Risk Program staff are establishing processes and standards for the review of applications for permits under the <i>Species at Risk Act</i>.</p> <p>November 25, 2013 all of the amendments to the <i>Fisheries Act</i> entered into force and Fisheries and Oceans Canada released its Fisheries Protection Policy Statement with the goal of providing for the sustainability and ongoing productivity of commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries. Through the Policy, the Department's objectives are to provide consistent guidance through regulations, standards and directives, and to make regulatory decisions in a timely manner. In this way, proponents will have the necessary information and direction to avoid, mitigate and offset serious harm to fish and fish habitat and thereby meet the goal of this policy and comply with the <i>Fisheries Act</i>.</p> <p>Under this new Policy Statement, Fisheries and Oceans Canada also released the Fisheries Investment Policy to guide proponents on development of offsetting plans required to balance the unavoidable destruction of fish and fish habitat as a result of a proposed development. Progress has been made on the initiatives listed under the Inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic Salmon Recovery Strategy, and the following elements are expected to be completed within the next year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-identification of areas containing critical habitat in the marine and estuarine environment will be included in an amended recovery strategy,</li> <li>- protection of freshwater critical habitat identified for the population through a Species at Risk Act Critical Habitat Order,</li> <li>-development of an action plan under Species at Risk Act which is a document that outlines all the activities necessary to implement the entire recovery strategy by building on previous and ongoing activities.</li> </ul>
	Expected Outcome:	Enhanced protection of recreational, and Aboriginal fisheries, improved information sharing between Fisheries Protection officials, and clear, focused risk based decision making processes.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Though results have yet to be tabled, it is expected this suite of new measures will greatly enhance conservation for wild Atlantic salmon.
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Results not yet available

<b>Action H2:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>Additional items under the revised <i>Fisheries Act</i> (2012), include a number of new provisions which are expected to enhance compliance.</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligning the <i>Fisheries Act</i> with the <i>Environmental Enforcement Act</i> (increased fines and penalties for offences);</li> <li>• Creating more easily enforceable conditions for Ministerial authorizations;</li> <li>• Modernizing inspector powers to assist them in ensuring compliance with section 35 (dealing with harm to fish and their habitat); and</li> <li>• Establishing a “duty to notify” provision to establish obligations on persons whose actions result in harm to fish habitat to report and to take corrective measures.</li> </ul> <p>These changes support the action of enforcing the fisheries protection provisions of the <i>Fisheries Act</i>, through activities aimed at both deterring activities that may harm fish and fish habitat, and at compelling compliance with the Act. Enforcement actions will help address the threats to fish and fish habitat listed in section 3.3 (H1).</p> <p>In addition, clear standards and guidelines for routine projects will be set in order to increase protection of commercial, recreation and Aboriginal fisheries.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	Enhanced protection of recreational, commercial and Aboriginal fisheries from works, undertakings and activities that represent the greatest threats.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	<p>Canada’s Fisheries Protection Program website (<a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html</a>) has been updated to include information for the public on reporting <i>Fisheries Act</i> violations.</p> <p>Planning is underway for updates to Fishery Officer training on the new changes to the <i>Fisheries Act</i>, related to enforcement. This training is expected to take place in 2015.</p> <p>Planning is underway for updates to the compliance protocol that outlines the roles and responsibilities between the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fisheries Protection Program and its Conservation and Protection branch (enforcement branch), to reflect the new changes</p>

		<p>to the <i>Fisheries Act</i> related to enforcement. These updates are expected to be implemented in 2015</p> <p>A new proponent self-assessment and regulatory review and decision process is now available on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website (<a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html</a>) that describes the key measures to avoid harm to fish and fish habitat and provides guidance to assist compliance with the law.</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada is currently conducting analysis to determine priority areas for standards and guidelines.</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	<p>Completed in 2013 were several science advisory processes in support of developing policies under Canada's Fisheries Protection Program</p> <p>A Science advisory report titled "Science-Based Framework for Assessing the Response of Fisheries Productivity to State of Species or Habitats" has provided examples of productivity-state (P-S) response relationships which describe the likely response of fisheries productivity to various common types of habitat changes.</p> <p>Pathways of Effect (PoE) are used here to link classes of development activities (stressors) to the types of habitat changes they are likely to cause.</p> <p>Also published was a second advisory report titled "A Science-based Framework for Assessing Changes in Productivity, Within the Context of the Amended Fisheries Act" which provides a framework for assessing changes in fisheries productivity resulting from works, undertakings or activities (projects).</p> <p>Generally, this framework involves determination of impact type and scale; existing Pathways of Effects (POEs) are used to determine potential residual effects; appropriate metrics of productivity are chosen to assess these residual effects; and residual effects on productivity are used to inform decision making. This framework is to be applied in cases when a technical assessment concludes that the project is likely to result in a permanent alteration to habitat or death of fish.</p>



		Finally published was a third advisory report titled “Science Advice on Offsetting Techniques for Managing the Productivity of Freshwater Fisheries” summarizes a literature review of methods that have been used to increase fisheries productivity and which might be potential methods for offsetting serious harm to fish under the Fisheries Protection Provisions (FPP) of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> .
	Achieved objective?	Though many of these Programs are new, Canada will report back on effects of these Programs in future Implementation Plans.
<b>Action H3:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>Another action of Canada’s updated <i>Fisheries Act</i> allows Canada’s Minister the ability to develop regulations in order to enter into agreements with other federal departments, provinces and others for the effective management of fisheries resources, including wild Atlantic salmon habitat.</p> <p>Reporting will be done by various means, including regular reports to Parliament and under the Multi-Agency Wild Atlantic Salmon Habitat Reporting Working Group.</p> <p>As well, jurisdictions within Atlantic Canada continue to work through informal arrangements and under the Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy to increase coordination on all key areas of management for Atlantic salmon.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	Increased agreements, partnerships and collaboration among jurisdictions in Atlantic Canada.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	<p>Through a multi-lateral process established by the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers, Fisheries and Oceans Canada is engaging with provinces and territories, including jurisdictions in Atlantic Canada to support and guide inter-jurisdictional collaboration in the implementation of the new Fisheries Protection Provisions and Program.</p> <p>To date Provinces have provided input on the updated policy and decision-making frameworks prepared by Fisheries and Oceans Canada to support the new Program and Provisions.</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Ongoing

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

<p><b>Action:</b> <b>A1</b></p>	<p>Description of Action:</p>	<p>Implementation and improvement of current sea-lice management tools (legislation, regulation, policy, standards, monitoring and reporting on sea-lice management) and the development of new tools, where required.</p> <p>A range of tools is possible, including the development of proposed Aquaculture Activities Regulations under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>; the Bay Area Management approach; Integrated Pest Management; complimentary provincial policies and regulations; monitoring; and aquaculture public reporting, including the use of sea-lice performance indicators.</p> <p>The combined objective of these tools is to ensure that all participants in the management of farmed fish health in general, and sea-lice management in particular, throughout the NASCO Commission area in Canada, do so in a coordinated manner that, using a risk and evidence-based approach, addresses impacts to fish populations that support recreational and Aboriginal fisheries as well as the habitat that support them.</p>
	<p>Expected Outcome:</p>	<p>Improved implementation and coordination of sea-lice management through new agreements, regulations and policies, adoption of new standards, research, improved monitoring and dissemination of information on sea lice management.</p>
	<p>Monitoring/Enforcement Results:</p>	<p>New Aquaculture Activities Regulations (AAR) under the <i>Fisheries Act</i> are proposed, which if implemented, would require all aquaculture owners or operators in Canada to complete and submit an annual report to DFO. Among other reporting requirements, the proposed regulations would require marine finfish farm operators to report activity related to the control and mitigation of sea lice.</p> <p>Monitoring sea-lice levels is already a provincial regulatory requirement. Investment in research and development to identify non-chemical treatments and other means to minimize sea-lice levels is encouraged. Under provincial requirements, operators are currently required to maintain records, including outcomes for sea-lice management actions. These reporting requirements would not change with the promulgation of the AAR.</p>

		<p>Monitoring remains a key component supporting provincial risk and evidence-based regulatory management. Canada is committed to a science research and advisory process to inform future monitoring practices.</p> <p>Enforcement activities conducted by provinces and federal legislative authorities continue to demonstrate a high level of regulatory compliance.</p> <p>Under the renewed Sustainable Aquaculture Program (2013-2018), the Aquaculture Sustainability Reporting Initiative has been renewed as the means for public reporting on aquaculture.</p> <p>This reporting will provide timely, accurate, relevant and coherent reporting of information, both on a periodic and ongoing basis, to the public, markets and investors about the regulatory management of the sector and its economic and environmental performance. This reporting on policies and programs, regulations, statistics, and science, including information on the management of sea lice, can be found on the DFO's website (<a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/index-eng.htm">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/index-eng.htm</a>).</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	<p>This program is underway and ongoing.</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada has requested science advice to support the optimization of sea lice management, including the development of integrated pest management and mitigation strategies, and science-based conditions of licence.</p> <p>The requested studies have been initiated regarding various aspects of sea lice biology, monitoring control and management. This advice is required to support management decisions on issues such as thresholds/triggers, effective monitoring protocols, and wild/cultured interactions related to sea lice.</p> <p>The advisory report has not yet been finalized but is expected to be published in 2014.</p>
	Achieved objective?	<p>As the report is not yet finalized a determination of its success cannot be made.</p>
<b>Action A2:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>The development of new tools, where required and the implementation and improvement of current management tools (legislation, regulation, policy, standards and public</p>

		<p>dissemination of information on the management of farmed fish) in incidences of breached containment..</p> <p>The range of tools includes the development of legislative authority to enforce requirements; adoption of containment standards; and aquaculture public reporting, including the use of containment performance indicators.</p> <p>The combined objective of these tools is to ensure that all participants in the containment of farmed fish throughout the NASCO Commission area in Canada do so in a manner that minimizes impacts on fish populations that support commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries as well as the habitats that support them.</p>
	<p>Expected Outcome:</p>	<p>Improved implementation and coordination of farmed fish containment through agreements, regulations and policies, adoption of new technology, standards, research, improved monitoring and dissemination of information on farmed fish containment.</p>
	<p>Monitoring/Enforcement Results:</p>	<p>Under Canada’s Constitution, jurisdiction for aquaculture management is shared between federal and provincial or territorial governments. Consequently, there is some variability in monitoring and enforcement approaches related to breaches of containment.</p> <p>In 2013, the Atlantic salmon-farming industry began a collaborative review of the various industry Codes of Containment used throughout the region with the intent to create a uniform Pan-Atlantic Industry Code of Containment for Salmonids based on the highest standards available. This review is being conducted with Provincial regulators and in consultation with DFO. A Pan-Atlantic Industry Code of Containment is expected to be finalized in 2014. Once finalized, provinces may examine a harmonized governance approach, where and if appropriate.</p> <p>The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador continues to implement its “Code of Containment” with regular updates through an Aquaculture Liaison Committee composed of regional stakeholders. This Code describes specific measures and actions to be taken by operators, followed by audit, inspection and monitoring conducted by the Provincial Government.</p> <p>The Government of Nova Scotia is reviewing its aquaculture regulatory framework</p>

		<p>(<a href="http://www.aquaculturereview.ca/">http://www.aquaculturereview.ca/</a>). A revised framework is expected to be presented by the end of 2014.</p> <p>The Government of New Brunswick is reviewing its governance document on escape reporting in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and stakeholders. A revised framework is expected to by the end of 2014.</p> <p>Canada's aquaculture reporting program reporting will also provide information, various aspects of containment, can be found on Fisheries and Oceans Canada's website (<a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/index-eng.htm">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/index-eng.htm</a>).</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	Ongoing
	Achieved objective?	Providing web-links to the public provides additional avenues for access to information, and thus openness and transparency, which in part contributes to achieving objectives.
<b>Action A3:</b>	Description of Action:	<p><b>Review of Canada's National Code on Introductions and Transfers of Aquatic Organisms</b></p> <p>The objective of this action is to complete the review and update Canada's National Code on Introductions and Transfers of Aquatic Organisms.</p>
	Expected Outcome:	A renewed Code accounting for changes in federal authority over the management of aquatic animal disease risks and potential refinements.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	<p>The renewed 2013 National Code on Introductions and Transfers of Aquatic Organisms was officially endorsed by the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers in September 2013 and is expected to be implemented to coincide with the full implementation of the National Aquatic Animal Health Program (NAAHP) in 2014.</p> <p>Amendments to Canada's Health of Animals Act entered into force in December 2011 and include a change in CFIA's authorities for management of the international movement of fish, including salmonids.</p> <p>Consequently, the Fish Health Protection Regulations (FHPR) under the Fisheries Act have been amended to reflect this change in legislative authority and to avoid duplication of regulatory effort for international imports.</p>

		Science advice was provided in 2013 to inform the risk assessment and subsequent risk management decisions regarding requests for importation and use of European-origin Atlantic Salmon broodlines in salmon aquaculture in Newfoundland; ( <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/SAR-AS/2013/2013_050-eng.pdf">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/SAR-AS/2013/2013_050-eng.pdf</a> )
	Ongoing/completed:	DFO will continue applying the FHPR to interprovincial movements of salmonids, in addition to provincial requirements, until the domestic component of the NAAHP is fully implemented by the CFIA. For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/management-gestion/intro-eng.htm">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/management-gestion/intro-eng.htm</a> .
	Achieved objective?	Ongoing
<b>Action A4:</b>	Description of Action:	<p>Process to Assess Potential Commercial Production of Transgenics</p> <p>Canada continues to implement and enforce our risk-based regulatory programs to assess and manage potential risks associated with living organism products of biotechnology, including transgenic salmonids, under the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999</i> and the <i>New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms)</i> (see <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/biotech-genom/regulation/regulatory-information-eng.htm">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/biotech-genom/regulation/regulatory-information-eng.htm</a>).</p> <p>Canada continues to conduct scientific research to provide regulators and decision-makers with scientific knowledge to inform the risk assessment, regulation and management of potential risks associated with transgenic salmonids (see <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/coe-cde/cabrr-crrba/index-eng.asp">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/coe-cde/cabrr-crrba/index-eng.asp</a>).</p>
	Expected Outcome:	To effectively assess and manage potential risks associated with transgenic salmonids so that they do not harm the environment including wild salmon populations.
	Monitoring/Enforcement Results:	Canada continues to enforce mandatory control measures implemented under the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999</i> and the <i>New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms)</i> by conducting inspections and investigations and by responding to any violations in accordance with the <i>Compliance and Enforcement Policy of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999</i> (see <a href="http://www.ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&amp;n=AF0C5063-1&amp;printfullpage=true">http://www.ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&amp;n=AF0C5063-1&amp;printfullpage=true</a> ).

		<p>Environment Canada conducted 1 inspection of a facility rearing transgenic Atlantic salmon in 2013.</p> <p>There were no known violations of the <i>New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms)</i> in respect of Atlantic salmon in 2013.</p>
	Ongoing/completed:	<p>Completed: In August 2013, based on a rigorous, peer-reviewed scientific risk assessment (see <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2013/2013_023-eng.html">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2013/2013_023-eng.html</a>), Canada approved the commercial production of growth-enhanced, transgenic Atlantic salmon (AquAdvantage® Salmon) in contained facilities as prescribed in Section 3 of Significant New Activity Notice No. 16528 published in Vol. 147, No. 47 of the <i>Canada Gazette, Part 1</i> on November 23, 2013 (<a href="http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2013/2013-11-23/html/notice-avis-eng.html#d106">http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2013/2013-11-23/html/notice-avis-eng.html#d106</a>).</p>
	Achieved objective?	<p>Canada continues to achieve our objective to protect the environment, including wild Atlantic salmon, from potential risks associated with transgenic salmonids through implementation and enforcement of a strong regulatory program.</p>

<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>2012 Amendments to Canada's <i>Fisheries Act</i>, can be found at this link:  <a href="http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&amp;Mode=1&amp;DocId=5524772&amp;File=353">http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&amp;Mode=1&amp;DocId=5524772&amp;File=353</a>  Links to other new Regulations are contained previously throughout this document.</p>
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.
	N/A
4.3	Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.
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.
	Though Canadian scientists work with French scientists in St. Pierre and Miquelon on sampling to determine genetic origin of St. Pierre and Miquelon fisheries, vessels are not used for these harvests.
4.5	Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.
	N/A
	North American Commission Members only:
4.6	Details of any new measures to minimise by-catches of salmon originating in the rivers of the other member.
	N/A
4.7	Details of any alteration to fishing patterns that result in the initiation of fishing or increase in catches of salmon originating in the rivers of another Party except with the consent of the latter.
	N/A