



Agenda item 6.1  
For information

**Council**

**CNL(16)28**

***Annual Progress Report  
on Actions Taken Under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015***

***EU - Spain (Cantabria)***



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***Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015***

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 2016**.

<b>Party:</b>	<b>European Union</b>
<b>Jurisdiction/Region:</b>	<b>Spain (Cantabria)</b>

<b>1: Changes to the Implementation Plan</b>
<b>1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan</b> <i>(Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 December).</i>
None
<b>1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.</b>
None

<b>2: Stock status and catches.</b>
<b>2.1 Provide a description of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks and, if there has been any significant change in stock status since the development of the Implementation Plan, provide a brief (200 word max) summary of these changes.</b>
None

<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>				
	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2015 (tonnes)	0,542 t	NA	NA	0,542 t
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2014 (tonnes)	0,480 t	NA	NA	0,480 t
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2015 (tonnes)	0	NA	NA	0
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2015	< 1%			

### 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).  
*Note: The reports under ‘Progress on Action to Date’ should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.*

<b>Action F1:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Reducing over-exploitation of MSW in rivers through restrictions on landing large fish.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Increased egg deposition and MSW survival.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress could be achieved. The only measure adopted as in previous years is the delay of the recreational fishing season in Cantabria continental waters. In 2015 the season was opened on 26 <sup>th</sup> April.
	Current Status of Action (e.g. ‘Not started’; ‘Ongoing’; ‘Completed’):	Not started
	If ‘Completed’, has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action F2:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Joint promotion, with stakeholders, of catch and release in rod fisheries.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Increased uptake of catch and release in rod fisheries.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress could be achieved. In 2015 it was discovered that salmons were released with the objective not to exceed the threshold of one salmon/fisherman/day and to keep fishing for a larger specimen. For this reason, for the 2016 fishing season, it has been prohibited to release any caught fish that is above the legal size limits (Orden MED/51/2015, 17 November 2015)

	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action F3:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Establishing Conservation Limits and management targets from all salmon stocks.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Data on the current status of salmon stocks. Conservation limits for all salmon stocks.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress could be achieved
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action F4:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Establishing in-river exploitation levels, through tagging/returns & catch and effort statistics.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Catch & effort statistics for Cantabrian rivers.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress could be achieved
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action F5:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Running monitoring in index river (smolt & spawner census, tagging of smolt, electrofishing).
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Stock-recruitment data, sea survival, run-timing, diversity of stock, age at smolting, age in the sea.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	Sampling on smolts and juveniles is ongoing. No information on survival during the marine phase. Estimated progress: 20%
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	

### 3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (Section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan).

*Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.*

<b>Action H1:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Improve fish passage by removing dams, installing fishways, removing culverts and upgrading road-stream crossings.
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	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Enhanced connectivity between freshwater habitats and the Cantabrian Sea
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	Estimated progress: 1%  The fish pass in river Pas in Puente Viesgo was improved, to allow a better functioning of the fishways.  The functionality of this device was enhanced to better select adult specimens to be used as spawners in the fishery centre [centro ictiológico] for increased phenotypic selection. However, those interventions did not improve the habitat accessibility.
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action H2:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Undertaking further research on impacts of hydropower (including cumulative effects) and taking account of best scientific advice to maintain and where possible to improve fish passage and implementing new regulations enhancing powers to require fish passage.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improvements to fish movement allowing greater access throughout rivers and to obtain better understanding of the potential impacts of hydropower.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	4 projects are ongoing to install grating at the entrance and exit of hydroelectric power generation waterways in Saja-Besaya watershed  However, there was overall no major progress for the action
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action H3:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Provision of appropriate river flows by implementing sustainable abstraction programmes.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Water bodies do not deteriorate from their current status and provision of flows to support <i>Good Ecological Status</i> of river habitat.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress

	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action H4:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Taking an integrated catchment management approach to reduce the impact of land use, through implementing the SACs Management Plans.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improvements to land management practices and more water bodies meeting <i>Good Ecological Status</i> , as well as Natura 2000 Protected Area objectives.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

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

*Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.*

<b>Action A1:</b>	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Regulate salmonid stocking in Cantabrian rivers by implementing and enforcing existing and proposed new stocking programme. The scheme will include limiting stock levels and preserving the genetic integrity of stocked fish. Out of catchment introductions of fish will be forbidden. Ongoing review of evidence about impacts of stocking will be used to update the stocking guidance and procedures underpinning existing and proposed new regulations.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Stocking operations are more focused, appropriate and lower risk leading to protected genetic integrity and reduced risks from inadvertent introduction of diseases, non-native invasive species, etc.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	No progress
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Not started
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

<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.
	None
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.
	None
4.3	Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.
	NA
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.
	NA
4.5	Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.
	NA