



Agenda item 7.1
For information

Council

CNL(18)14

***Summary of Annual Progress Reports
under the 2013 – 2018 Implementation Plans***

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Summary of Annual Progress Reports under the 2013 – 2018 Implementation Plans

The Annual Progress Reports (APRs) summarised here are the fifth to be made under the 2013 – 2018 Implementation Plans (IPs) using the agreed template (as revised in 2017). The following information is requested:

- any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan;
- any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management;
- any significant changes in the status of stocks, details of catches and any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks;
- an update on progress against all actions included in the Implementation Plan;
- any actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

The APRs submitted prior to the Review Group's meeting on 18 and 19 April were evaluated. The Review Group's findings are presented in document CNL(18)13. In this paper, the Secretariat has summarised the information provided in section 1 (changes to Implementation Plans and new initiatives/achievements relating to salmon conservation and management), section 2 (stock status and catches) and section 4 (additional information required under the Convention) of all the APRs, including those submitted but not evaluated by the Review Group. Section 3 of the APRs covers the progress made over the last year on each of the actions detailed in the IPs and these have been evaluated (if submitted prior to the Review Group meeting) and summarised in the Review Group's report. At the time of preparation of this report, no APRs have been received for European Union – Spain (Bizkaia), European Union – Spain (Cantabria) or European Union – Portugal.

1. Changes to Implementation Plans

1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan

European Union

France: We are currently rallying all salmon-related actions to set priorities for the future action plan. This collaborative plan will involve the Ministry of Fisheries and the Ministry of Ecology, and the various scientific and socio-economic actors.

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

Canada

Over the course of 2016/17, a working group comprised of members of the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Committee (ASAC) undertook a review of the Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy. The revised Policy was endorsed in May 2017 at the bi-annual meeting of ASAC, and subsequently received Ministerial approval in October 2017. One key requirement of the revised Policy is to develop an Implementation Plan, which would be updated every two years. In February 2017, members of ASAC were solicited to volunteer for this effort. The Working Group is mandated to draft an Implementation Plan, taking into account existing Departmental Forward Plan for Atlantic Salmon (posted in July 2016), including identifying gaps in the Forward Plan, and proposing appropriate revisions. In preparing the draft Implementation Plan, the Working Group will consider regional realities, issues, and differences as well as related work such as the report Ministerial Advisory Committee on Atlantic Salmon; House of Commons Report on Atlantic Salmon; DFO investments in salmon conservation; and the recently revised Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy. This work is expected to be completed for Ministerial consideration and approval by Fall/Winter 2018.

On January 30, 2017, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans (SCOFO) tabled a report calling on the Government to take action in response to declining wild Atlantic salmon returns in Eastern Canada. The SCOFO report made 17 recommendations on various topics concerning salmon conservation. A vast majority of the report's findings mirror the recommendations made the year before by the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Atlantic Salmon, which are being addressed by the DFO's Departmental Forward Plan for Atlantic Salmon.

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)

Faroe Islands: Consistent with the scientific advice, no salmon fishery was conducted in the waters around the Faroe Islands in 2017.

Greenland: In 2016, a parr and smolt-monitoring program of the Kapisillit river was initiated. Electrofishing and mark recapture experiments in the river indicated that although high, the number of parr and smolt is smaller than similar investigations performed in 1959. The Greenland Institute of Natural resources will start up a yearly monitoring program from 2018.

European Union

Denmark: Stocking of juveniles is decreased and ceased in Storå from 2017

Finland: A new agreement between Finland and Norway on the River Teno / Tana salmon fisheries was applied for the first time for the 2017 fishing season. Fishing rules reduce fishing time for all gear types used. The aim is to reduce fishing mortality by 30%, in order to enable recovery of weak salmon stocks especially in the upper reaches of the Teno system. The new agreement is in line with the NASCO recommendations concerning stock-specific, target-based management of salmon fisheries.

France: Most of the regional management actions are referenced in the PLAGEPOMI. It considers management methods that must be applied locally in order to preserve the species. This year, the PLAGEPOMI 2018/2023 of the Brittany Region is set up (consolidated version at this time). It will soon replace the PLAGEPOMI 2013/2017. A report on salmon was made on this occasion: Atlantic salmon is classified as near threatened according to the IUCN criteria in Brittany (2015). This observation is linked to a relatively good population on all Breton rivers. The level of juvenile recruitment has been good since 1997 despite a greater variability among rivers. Spawning lifts on the Aulne, Elorn and Scorff rivers, monitored by video and trapping devices, are also stable if all 3 rivers are taken into account. Salmon stocks in southern Europe, including France and, more specifically, Brittany, seem to be more fragile than those in northern Europe. This vulnerability is linked to a survival rate at sea that is increasingly variable, or even particularly low in some years.

The new objectives are: (http://www.bretagne.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/plagepomi_2018_2023_version_validee_cogepomi.pdf):

- 1.1 Preserve and restore habitats in freshwater and estuaries
- 1.2 Restore and guarantee free migratory
- 1.3 Take action on taking samples
- 1.4 Supervise restocking
- 1.5 Pursue and strengthen biological monitoring actions
- 1.6 Know and follow the fisheries

Germany: In the Rhine, the ICPR Master Plan Migratory fish is currently being updated and will be published in summer 2018. Projects to increase river connectivity and to improve habitats started in 2017 in various salmon spawning rivers of the Upper Rhine. It is expected that these measures will positively affect the quality of spawning and nursery habitats as well as salmon migration over the coming years. Nevertheless, further efforts for improving habitats and river connectivity, along with the preservation of existing habitats will continue to be necessary.

Today, 20 years after the first salmon runs in the tributaries of the Upper Elbe since its extinction hundred years ago, Atlantic salmon again forms an integral part of the fauna of the River Elbe and its tributaries. Thanks to the current positive development of the salmon stocks, consideration is being given to the extension of the salmon re-introduction programme on further tributaries of the Elbe river. Salmon is an important flagship species for the rehabilitation of fish habitats, especially for migratory species in the Elbe basin. Nevertheless, there are still big efforts necessary to bring the status of the salmon stocks from the 'maintained' to the 'restored' level.

Spain (Asturias): Fishermen have made some wild specimens available for artificial spawning.

Spain (Galicia): The Interreg Project MIGRAMIÑO-MINHO, with the participation of Spain and Portugal, started at the end of 2016 with the aim of improving the status

of migratory fish populations of the international reach of the river Miño and of their riverine habitat conditions.

Spain (Navarra): Under the framework of the LIFE IREKIBAI project (LIFE14 NAT/ES/000186), two dams have been demolished in two tributaries of the Bidasoa river: one dam in the Txaruta stream (Donamaria dam) and another one in Ezkurra stream (Ituren dam), both located in the upper basin. In addition two more dams have been demolished through funding provided by the Government of Navarra: one in the Ezkurra stream (old fish farm dam) and another one in Zalain stream, one of the tributaries of the Bidasoa River in the lower basin.

Sweden: The coastal catch of salmon has been insignificant during 2015 - 2017, due to fishing rules and a restricted licensing system. The mixed-stock fishery on the coast is not a problem anymore.

UK (England and Wales): The Environment Agency (England) is currently advertising the following proposed byelaws to protect salmon stocks in English fisheries and on the Border Esk (border river with Scotland):

1. Stop the taking of salmon from the majority of net fisheries by 2019; measures for some fisheries would be introduced in 2018.
2. For rivers with the lowest status salmon stocks, introduce a mandatory requirement to return all salmon caught in rod fisheries and in any net fisheries entitled to continue to fish for sea trout. This reflects the need for both net and rod fishermen to help us protect salmon stocks.
3. Restriction on the number, size and type of hooks that can be used when fishing.

The proposals come after an initial consultation to understand how the better management of salmon fishing in England and the Border Esk can reduce the impact on salmon numbers. The responses to that consultation helped inform the proposals and build an understanding of the likely impacts for managing salmon fishing in the future. The proposals include targets for high levels of voluntary catch and release for all other rivers. Mandatory measures will be considered if targets are not reached.

Reducing the take of salmon by rods and nets is only one part of the Environment Agency's larger programme called the Salmon Five Point Approach, which has been jointly developed and committed to by a wide range of partners which include Government, Atlantic Salmon Trust, Angling Trust, Association of River Trusts and the Institute of Fisheries Management. It sets out actions to address the key pressures that affect the different life stages of salmon. The priorities are:

1. Improve marine survival
2. Further reduce exploitation by nets and rods
3. Remove barriers to migration and enhance habitat
4. Safeguard sufficient flows
5. Maximise spawning success by improving water quality

Progress with actions is provided in the APR for EU - UK (England and Wales).

In Wales in 2017, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) launched its own formal consultations (now closed) on Net Limitation Orders (NLOs) and netting and angling byelaw proposals for salmon and sea trout on rivers across all Wales. NLOs were renewed, unchanged, across all rivers in Wales. The byelaw consultations were divided into two categories: (i) for all Wales rivers - excluding the cross-border rivers Wye and Dee (and Severn where the Environment Agency take the lead on fisheries management), and (ii) for the cross-border rivers Wye and Dee. The proposals for salmon call for mandatory catch-and-release (C&R) on net and rod fisheries across Wales (with associated method changes) in response to widespread failure of individual river stocks against their Conservation Limits. For the 'all Wales rivers': slightly amended proposals in response to consultation correspondence (mainly modifications to some of the proposed changes in fishing methods) have been proposed. For the 'cross-border rivers' (Wye and Dee) the consultation period has ended but NRW are still in the process of responding to correspondence and considering the issues raised. The process for those byelaws will be the same as that described for the 'all Wales rivers'. The Welsh Government will make the final decision on whether to implement these byelaws or not, or what form they should take. Until that decision is made, the existing byelaws remain in place. However, salmon stocks remain vulnerable and so fishermen have been urged to return all salmon to the river; anglers have also been asked to only use methods that give released fish the best chance of survival. Alongside these proposals for increased regulation of the fisheries, NRW are actively pursuing measures to improve the quality of the riverine environments utilised by salmonid stocks.

UK (Scotland): In 2016 the Scottish Government introduced a range of legislative measures designed to improve the conservation status of salmon by managing the pressure of exploitation through fishing within Scotland's domestic waters. The killing of Atlantic salmon in inland waters is managed on an annual basis, with mandatory catch and release in place for those districts rivers or assessment groups where stocks are below their conservation limits. In 2017, significant progress has been made to develop and improve the assessment process and the robustness of the data used in the assessment: for example, Marine Scotland has processed more than 3,000 proposed changes to the 'wetted areas' maps of rivers across Scotland, using data provided by local Trusts and biologists. In addition, the number of fish counter sites used in the assessment has increased, allowing the model to incorporate greater regional variation in the relation between counts and rod catches data. Further development of the model is planned for 2018. This includes the continuing development of juvenile assessment tools for Atlantic salmon to inform Conservation Regulations. These tools would complement the existing adult based assessments. Work to date has focussed on two main areas (1) development of a national juvenile salmon density model from which an expectation of 'healthy' salmon numbers can be obtained, and (2) development of a national juvenile sampling programme from which assessments can be made. Following trialling in summer 2017, a work stream has been established to produce a national sampling design for electrofishing across Scotland that could be delivered through regional sampling.

Norway

148 salmon populations were classified according to the National Quality Norm for Wild Salmon. The classification includes nearly all of the most important Norwegian

salmon rivers representing 83% of the total combined Norwegian spawning target (reported in CNL(16)19) and 86% of annual reported catches in the river fisheries.

Genetic integrity		Conservation limit attainment and harvest potential					Sum
		Very poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very good	
Genetic integrity	Very poor	14	4	3	8	9	38
	Poor	1	1	5	0	3	10
	Moderate	9	2	6	9	23	49
	Very good /good	15	3	4	6	23	51
	Sum	39	10	18	23	58	148

The Norwegian Quality norm classification system used to classify 148 rivers. Note that the worst classification in any of the dimensions determines the final classification of the stock.

Management targets, based on spawning target attainment alone, were achieved for 120 of the 148 classified stocks in the period 2010 - 2014. However, only 29 of the 148 stocks reached the goal *good* or *very good* quality according to the norm, 42 stocks had moderate quality, and 77 stocks (52 % of those assessed) were classified as poor or very poor. 67 stocks did not reach the goal for the *Conservation limit attainment and harvest potential dimension*. 97 stocks did not reach the goal according to the *Genetic integrity dimension*. For 45 of the stocks the status was worse than good for both dimensions.

With the goal of improving the status of the stocks, an action plan where impacts on the stocks are assessed and relevant measures identified is in preparation.

Russian Federation

In accordance with the Fisheries Regulations for the Northern Fisheries basin (Order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 414, 30.10.2014) fisheries for Atlantic salmon are banned in the Barents Sea, in the White Sea Throat, in the Kandalaksha Gulf of the White Sea and along the Karelian coast of the White Sea. The Murmansk Regional Commission on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish established additional restrictions to salmon fisheries in 2017 (see action F1 of the APR for the Russian Federation).

2. Changes in Stock Status and Catch Statistics

The catch statistics and information on unreported catches and on catch and release are presented in Annex 1 using the information provided in the APRs. The provisional catch in 2017 (1074 t) is slightly lower than the catch in 2016 (1087 t). Incomplete information is available on the extent of catch and release fishing and unreported catches.

- 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 summary of these changes*

The following information was provided:

European Union

Germany: In the Rhine, the registered numbers of returning adult salmon increased compared to the previous year. In total, 540 salmon were registered in the Rhine catchment in 2017 compared with 414 in the previous year. Difficult monitoring conditions due to high discharge in programme waters could have resulted in lower number of registered returners. The number of registered adult salmon returning from the sea and observations of natural reproduction of salmon in the Rhine tributaries are documented (see graph and statistics attached to the German APR). With 1,687,190 stocking stages, stocking measures in the catchment were again a bit lower than in the previous year due to problems at different breeding facilities. Particularly for the Upper Rhine, regional experts determine a positive trend in the stock development of Rhine salmon. In 2017, they registered the second-highest salmon numbers ever counted in the counting stations Gamsheim and Iffezheim. In most salmon re-introduction tributaries of the Upper Rhine, local experts observed evidence of adult salmon and spawning activities despite the difficult monitoring conditions. Efforts for the expansion of hydropower and smolt predation by birds remain a problematic issue in some rivers according to the local experts from the Upper Rhine.

For the area of the Lower Elbe, the relevant authority reported little evidence of returning salmon to spawning rivers and only few angling catches in 2017. Fortunately, the reported situation for tributaries in the Middle and Upper Elbe is different compared to the Lower Elbe. The numbers of monitored adult salmon reached a high not seen for years. Excellent results were reported by the local experts from the Rivers Stepenitz, Nuthe and Lachsbach. They observed natural reproduction in most salmon rivers. A special highlight was the first evidence of salmon redds in the River Pulsnitz for more than hundred years. To complete the good news, Czech colleagues observed around 20 salmon in the River Kamenice in the Bohemian Switzerland (Czech Republic). An investigation carried out in the river Stepenitz from 2014 to 2016 showed that between 50 to 100% more migratory salmonids swim up the river during the spawning run, as with the method normally used (electro fishing) so far could detect. Particularly, for the rivers Stepenitz and Nuthe, local experts complained about massive salmon habitat degradation by the spread of beavers. Further, they pointed out an increased impact on the water quality due to the increasing cultivation of energy plants like maize and rape. The extension of the salmon re-introduction programme on the river Bode is currently being reviewed.

In tributaries of the Weser estuary, members of the relevant fisheries association recorded a reasonably satisfactory adult salmon return. Unfortunately, natural reproduction of salmon is not possible in these rivers, due to siltation of spawning habitats. Salmon stocks of these rivers will depend on enhancement stocking for an indefinite time.

Ireland: The stock status and catch advice forecasted for the 2018 fishery is that 41 rivers have an advised harvestable surplus as they are exceeding their conservation limits (CL). A further 36 river systems could open for catch and release-only (C&R) fishing based on exceeding a minimum fry threshold (>15 salmon fry/5 min electro-fishing average) in catchment-wide electrofishing surveys or based on IFI management criteria that they meet 50% or over of their CL but do not exceed their CL. 66 river systems should be closed for fishing as they do not exceed the management target of

meeting 50% of CL, electrofishing thresholds have not been met or there is insufficient information for full stock assessment. In comparison to the baseline stock status reference points as set out in the Implementation Plan, this represents a progressive decline in the number of systems open as a harvest fishery, an increase in fisheries open solely for C&R and a marginal decline in closed fisheries. There are 16 river systems for which a separate assessment is made for multi-sea-winter (MSW) salmon where there are significant fisheries. Of these, 12 have an advised harvestable surplus as they are exceeding their CL. Four of these river systems can open for catch and release-only fishing based on exceeding the minimum fry threshold in catchment-wide electrofishing surveys or based on IFI management criteria that they meet 50% or over of their CL but do not exceed CL. In addition, there are four assessments on river systems used for hydropower which have been assessed as being below their CL (Upper Liffey (Dublin), Upper Lee (Cork), Upper Shannon (Limerick) and the River Erne).

In applying the scientific advice to management, it should be noted that where rivers are only marginally above their CL they may be restricted to C&R-only fishing so that the actual number of rivers open for harvest under regulation can be less than the number of rivers actually achieving CL. It should be noted that previous to the 2018 advice, C&R-only fishing was permitted in systems where 65% or over of the CL was met but the CL was not exceeded, or a minimum fry threshold (>17 salmon fry/5 minute electro-fishing average) was achieved.

Spain (Asturias): Catches have increased slightly.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Catch number	356	247	1045	1301	837	1210	1094	1138	498

Restocking programmes are carried out using native fish. 2017 hatchery parr production is 358,200 parr.

Spain (Galicia): There was a very big drought in Galician rivers during 2017 which affected to fishing conditions during the season and the final catch, and that probably may have adverse effects on salmon populations for the coming years as it is believed that reproduction will be seriously affected. No other significant changes.

Sweden: The commercial coastal fishery for salmon has been insignificant since 2015 with only two traps operating. There has been no reported catches of salmon as they are focussed on other species (garfish, brown trout). In 2017, there was no reported commercial catch of salmon. The development is due to ban on gill-net fishing in deeper coastal waters and licenses to operate traps are seldom issued. Also, there is a bag-limit for non-commercial fishermen using rod and line.

UK (England and Wales): The provisional annual review of stock status for 2017 resulted in the following river classifications against the designated management objective (MO) – i.e. of meeting or exceeding the conservation limit in four years out of five, on average:

- 0 rivers (0 %) ‘not at risk’ – i.e. p>95 % of meeting the MO;
- 7 rivers (11 %) ‘probably not at risk’ – i.e. p>50% but <95% of meeting the MO;

- 38 rivers (59 %) ‘probably at risk’ – i.e. $p > 5\%$ but $< 50\%$ of meeting the MO;
- 19 rivers (30 %) ‘at risk’ – i.e. $p < 5\%$ of meeting the MO.

[NB: *The ‘at risk’ category does not mean that stocks are in danger of becoming extinct, but rather that they are falling well short of the management objective.*]

Factors affecting stock abundance: Several rivers in England & Wales have seen a progressive decline in numbers of returning salmon since around 2010. This has been driven by a marked reduction in the abundance of 1-sea winter salmon (or grilse) - the dominant run component on most salmon rivers in England & Wales in the last 20-30 years. While, in part, this decline has been compensated for by increased runs of multi-sea winter salmon (generally larger and more fecund fish than grilse), many river stocks are still failing to meet Management Objectives (above). These recent changes in the abundance and composition of returning salmon appear to be linked to changes in the marine environment - possibly long-term cyclical changes affecting the North Atlantic. In addition to the influence of marine factors on adult returns, the poor recruitment of juvenile salmonids - particularly salmon fry - was a cause of significant concern in 2016 in many English and Welsh rivers. Aside from falling numbers of adult returns on many catchments, the main causes were thought to be unseasonably warm winter temperatures and extreme flows which, through various mechanisms, adversely affected spawning success. This poor recruitment was reflected in a very poor smolt run in 2017 (less than half the previous 5-year average) on a river in southern England where almost all the smolts migrate as one-year-olds. For most other rivers in England and Wales, where two-year-old smolts predominate, smolt runs are likely to be well below average in 2018. In general, juvenile recruitment in England and Wales in 2017 was better than in 2016. However, particularly low juvenile numbers on the River Camel in Cornwall led to the introduction of an emergency byelaw. This curtailed the net fishing season and made catch-and-release mandatory for the rod fishery.

A research project is being progressed by NRW, Welsh Government and Cardiff University to investigate the adverse effects of extreme winter climate on salmonid spawning and examine options for mitigation.

UK (Northern Ireland): Salmon returns improved significantly in the DAERA area in 2016 and expectations were high for the 2017 season. However, the 2016 increases were not sustained in 2017 and salmon numbers returned to the levels observed in previous years. For example, the total count of salmon on the largest river in the DAERA area (Lower Bann) was 15,936 in 2016 but this fell back to 8,433 salmon in 2017 which was similar to the previous 5-year average of 7,538 salmon (2012-16).

In the Loughs Agency Foyle area, the results were mixed for the four rivers with Management Regulations and which are assessed using fish counters results. The Roe continued to exceed its MT while the Finn, as in previous years, did not attain MT and after some years of increases experienced a drop in numbers. The Mourne did attain its MT, after adjustment for fish crossing the weir and not passing through the counting channel, while numbers were down on previous years, this may in part be explained by high floods which were experienced and subsequent difficulties with counter operation. This was likely to be a minimum estimate. Flood events damaged the counting site was inoperable on the River Faughan for a large part of 2017 and so no data is available.

UK (Scotland): The conservation status of Scottish salmon stocks is assessed as the probability of that stock meeting its conservation limit over a five-year period. Stocks are allocated to one of three categories; 1 (greater than 80% chance of meeting CL), 2 (between 60% and 80%), 3 (less than 60%). Status of stocks in 2017 was assessed using data for the return years 2012 to 2016 and has been used to develop management measures for these stocks for the 2018 season. Assessable stocks comprised those associated with SACs and individual river stocks where reported fishery data supported identification of catch to the river level. Where this was not possible, groups of rivers were assessed together, although improvements to the reporting system have been put in place to improve future assessment by river stock. Of the 171 stocks assessed in 2018, 28 (16%) were categorised as grade 1; 21 (12%) as grade 2 and the remaining 122 (71%) as grade 3. Corresponding proportions for 2017 were 28%, 29% and 43% respectively. Weighting these data by reported catch in the areas assessed, 78% of the Scottish salmon stock was associated with grade 1 areas, 10% with grade 2 areas and 12% with areas categorised as grade 3. Corresponding proportions for 2017 were 76%, 19% and 5% respectively.

Russian Federation

In 2015 during the salmon spawning run a massive mortality of spawners was observed in the Kola river (Murmansk region) caused by disease, diagnosed as ulcerative dermal necrosis (UDN). In 2016, continued spawner mortality caused by this disease was observed in the Kola river again and in the Tuloma River whose outlet is located 10 km from the Kola River mouth. Both rivers drain into the inner part of the Kola Bay (see the Russian APR for 2016). In 2017 more than 200 salmon with UDN were detected in the process of recording in the fish-trap of the Lower Tuloma fish ladder. Diseased salmon, including fish in bad conditions, were further found in the Lower Tuloma Reservoir and its tributaries. For the period of observation (from July 10 to August 4 2017) at the counting fence of the Kola River, 163 dead fish were collected and disposed of. Salmon mortality was 14.5% of the number of registered salmon.

In 2017 the introduction of the parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* to the salmon rivers Pak and Shovna in the basin of the Lower Tuloma Reservoir (Murmansk region) was confirmed. It is believed that the introduction of parasite was caused by transfers of rainbow trout to the cage-aquaculture farms in the reservoir.

United States of America

Provisionally, adult returns to U.S. waters in 2017 were 1,041.

3. Implementation Plan Actions

Details of progress against the actions included in individual Implementation Plans is reported in the Annual Progress Reports for each jurisdiction and have been evaluated and summarised by the Review Group (see CNL(18)13).

4. Additional information required under the Convention

4.1 *Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification*

European Union

Finland: A new agreement between Finland and Norway on the River Teno / Tana salmon fisheries was signed in September 2016 and came into effect for the 2017 fishing season. Fishing rules reduce fishing effort for all gear types used with a special emphasis on early part of the season

France: The modernisation of territorial public action and affirmation of metropolises law, which was approved on 27 January 2014, transferred most of the management of European funds from the State to the regions. For the period 2014-2020, the regions of France thus have authority to manage most of the European structural and investment funds (FESI). They are responsible, in partnership with the State, for the implementation of four funds (ERDF, EAFRD, ESF, and EMFF), in line with the 2020 Europe strategy 'for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth' and with the regional and local strategies of their territory. In addition, the recovery of biodiversity, nature and landscapes law which was approved on 8 August 2016 has given the regions the task of defining a biodiversity regional strategy. The regions of France are now a major partner for the preservation of salmon.

Ireland: As reported under Action F1 of the APR for Ireland, in February 2017 the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment informed Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) that it had received legal advice to the effect that IFI did not have explicit power to prosecute offences under the Fisheries Acts. Because of this, summonses for such offences before the Courts were unable to proceed in the interim period until the *Inland Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2017* was signed into law in July 2017 to resolve this legal discrepancy. Since then, any offences detected during the interim period or thereafter have been able to proceed to prosecution in the normal manner.

Spain (Navarra): Since the multi-sea-winter (MSW) salmon protection measure was included in the regional angling regulation in 2015, it has been included in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and will also be included in forthcoming years, unless otherwise is specified.

UK (England and Wales): Various new Net Limitation Orders and byelaws, as specified in Section 2 of the APR for EU - UK (England and Wales).

UK (Scotland): The Conservation of Salmon (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 have been laid in parliament and will come into force on 1 April 2018.

Norway

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority has partly redrawn permission to produce on 5 production sites for salmon in 2016 due to long lasting problems with sea lice on the fish in the farms.

- 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*

European Union

Finland: In River Näätamönjoki, local co-operation among fishing rights owners has resulted in voluntary reduction of their fishing effort in latest years, reduced fishing days for traditional gears and setting a total seasonal quota for tourist fishing days.

Spain (Navarra): The on-going LIFE IREKIBAI project (LIFE14 NAT/ES/000186) has the main objective of improving the connectivity of the Bidasoa River. The project will run until 2020.

UK (England and Wales): The proposed new fishery regulatory initiatives in both England & Wales are scheduled to be implemented during 2018 and 2019 – see section 1.2 of the APR for EU - UK (England and Wales).

4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles

None reported.

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

Canada

Canada met with France (in respect of Saint Pierre and Miquelon) in 2017 and discussed potential membership in NASCO. France will continue as an observer and participate at NASCO annual meetings as it has in the past.

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 reported.

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

No new measures reported.

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

No details reported.

Secretary
Edinburgh
11 May 2018

Table 1: Official Catch Statistics

	Provisional 2017 catch				Confirmed 2016 catch			
	In-River	Estuarine	Coastal	Total	In-River	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
Canada	69.4	33.3	9.1	111.8	92.5	35.5	7	135.0
Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland)								
Faroe Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greenland	-	-	28.1	28.1	-	-	27.2	27.2
European Union	152.4	34.5	36.2	223.1	141.7	35.9	70.9	256.6
Norway	374	-	290	664	343	-	269.0	612
Russian Federation	33.9	0	12.9	46.8	32.3	0	23.5	55.8
USA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	629.7	67.8	376.3	1073.8	609.5	71.4	397.6	1086.6

Table 2: Catches of Atlantic Salmon by the Parties to the NASCO Convention

	Canada	Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)²	European Union¹	Finland	Norway	Russian Federation	Sweden	USA
1960	1636	60	2641		1576	1100	40	1
1961	1583	127	2276		1456	790	27	1
1962	1719	244	3894		1838	710	45	1
1963	1861	466	3842		1697	480	23	1
1964	2069	1539	4242		2040	590	36	1
1965	2116	861	3693		1900	590	40	1
1966	2369	1338	3549		1823	570	36	1
1967	2863	1600	4492		2058	883	25	1
1968	2111	1167	3623		1752	827	150	1
1969	2202	2350	4407		2083	360	76	1
1970	2323	2354	4069		1861	448	52	1
1971	1992	2511	3745		1847	417	35	1
1972	1759	2146	4261	32	1986	462	38	1
1973	2434	2402	4604	50	2126	772	73	3
1974	2539	1945	4432	76	1973	709	57	1
1975	2485	2086	4500	76	1754	811	56	2
1976	2506	1479	2931	66	1530	542	45	1
1977	2545	1652	3025	59	1488	497	10	2
1978	1545	1159	3102	37	1050	476	10	4
1979	1287	1694	2572	26	1831	455	12	3
1980	2680	2052	2640	34	1830	664	17	6
1981	2437	2602	2557	44	1656	463	26	6
1982	1798	2350	2533	83	1348	364	25	6
1983	1424	1433	3532	79	1550	507	28	1
1984	1112	997	2308	75	1623	593	40	2
1985	1133	1430	3002	49	1561	659	45	2
1986 ³	1559	1490	3524	38	1597	608	53	2
1987	1784	1539	2593	49	1385	559	47	1
1988	1311	1136	2833	34	1076	419	40	1
1989	1139	701	2450	52	905	359	29	2
1990	912	542	1645	59	930	316	33	2
1991	711	533	1139	69	877	215	38	1
1992	520	260	1506	77	867	166	49	1
1993	373	35	1483	70	923	140	56	1
1994	355	18	1919	48	996	141	44	0
1995	259	86	1852	-	839	130	-	0

	Canada	Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)²	European Union¹	Finland	Norway	Russian Federation	Sweden	USA
1996	290	92	1474	-	787	131	-	0
1997	229	59	1179	-	630	111	-	0
1998	157	17	1183	-	740	130	-	0
1999	152	19	1016	-	811	102	-	0
2000	153	29	1336	-	1176	124	-	0
2001	148	42	1407	-	1267	114	-	0
2002	148	9	1245	-	1019	118	-	0
2003	141	9	1012	-	1071	107	-	0
2004	161	15	978	-	784	82	-	0
2005	139	14	884	-	888	82	-	0
2006	132	23	703	-	931	91	-	0
2007	112	25	453	-	767	63	-	0
2008	158	26	444	-	807	73	-	0
2009	126	26	327	-	595	71	-	0
2010	146	38	496	-	642	88	-	0
2011	179	28	510	-	696	89	-	0
2012	126	33	403	-	695	82	-	0
2013	137	47	382	-	476	78	-	0
2014	118	58	313	-	490	81	-	0
2015	140	58	289	-	585	80	-	0
2016	135	27	257	-	612	56	-	0
2017	112	28	223	-	664	47	-	0

¹The European Union catch from 1995 includes the catches by Finland and Sweden; ²The catch for Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) includes the catch for Greenland when it was a member of the European Union and the catches up to 1983 by Denmark; ³Figures since 1986 are the official catch returns to NASCO. Where no return to NASCO has been made ICES data have been used.

Table 3: Catch and release

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Canada	62,106	58,961	54,425	51,442	57,005	45,886	49,279	42,820	58,000	47,892	58,300	77,641	50,811	59,207	39,534	64,159	69,950	49,513
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
European Union	27,346	33,504	32,984	34,968	55,064	60,145	62,812	82,977	81,301	71,133	115,065	99,086	97,499	74,445	53,985	68,986	74,504	73,155
Norway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,512	6,696	15,041	14,303	18,611	15,912	20,229	25,433	25,206	25,876
Russian Federation	12,624	16,410	25,248	33,862	24,679	23,592	33,380	44,341	41,881	-	14,585	-	4,743	3,732	8,479	7,028	10,793	10,110
USA	0	0	0	0	0	0	424	-	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes: Not all EU Member States provide complete information on catch and release. Since 2009, there has been no obligation to report fish caught and released in the Russian Federation. In the US, no sea-run salmon are subject to recreational fishing but small recreational fisheries occur on domestic broodstock in the Merrimack River in New Hampshire and the Naugatuck and Shetucket Rivers in Connecticut; these rivers are outside the geographic range of the recovery programme for wild endangered salmon.

Table 4: Unreported catches

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Canada	133	124	81	84	118	101	101	56	-	21	-	18	29	31	24	21	25	27	27
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)	10-15	10	10	11	10	11	11	11	12	10	5	12.3	10	10	10	10	10	10	-
European Union	215	240	169	165	125	116	114	95	72	54	47	70	71	59	57	38	41	22	23
Norway	320- 540	440- 760	500- 860	410- 690	320- 600	252- 420	285- 475	299- 499	247 - 411	260 - 432	166 - 338	206 - 344	298	298	204	210	250	262	285
Russian Federation	237- 255	249- 309	200- 252	166- 206	99-152	110	70-103	70-103	25 - 77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: The information for Canada in 2010 is incomplete, as only 3 of 4 administrative regions reported. Not all EU Member States provide an estimate of unreported catch. No estimate has been provided by the Russian Federation since 2008. The 2016 and 2017 unreported catch for Canada are provisional figures.