

NAC(13)3

NAC Annual Report (Tabled by the US)

USA, 2012

Submitted by: National Marine Fisheries Service

Date: 21 May 2013

1. Summary of Salmonid disease incidences

None to report for 2012.

U.S. Point of Contact on Disease:

David Bean

Fisheries Biologist

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service

Maine Field Station

17 Godfrey Drive

Orono, Maine 04473 USA

Phone: 207-866-4172

Fax: 207-866-7342

Email: David.Bean@noaa.gov

2. Summary of breaches of containment of salmonids from net cages

Species (Strain, if applicable)	Number¹	Average size of fish²	Location³	Result⁴	Cause of the breach
NONE					

Notes:

Starting in early September and continuing into October, the Maine Department of Marine Resources captured several putative aquaculture origin fish in Maine rivers. In total seven fish were reported, three fish were captured in the Union, three fish in the Penobscot and one fish in the Androscoggin Rivers. Preliminary scale analysis showed growth indicative of aquaculture-origin salmon, further genetic analysis to verify origin is ongoing.

1. This should be the best estimate possible, though it is recognized that exact numbers may be difficult to obtain.

2. Based on the codes of containment, it was agreed that average size is a more accurate measurement than lifestage.

3. The more specific the information the better, however Bay level is considered sufficient.

4. This refers to using recapture methods as detailed in the relevant code of containment and summarizing the results of the recapture attempt.

3. Summary of Salmonid introductions from outside the Commission Area

Species (strain, if applicable)	Number	Life Stage	Origin ¹	Destination ²	Purpose ³
None					

1. This would be the province or state for introductions from the west coast; or country for international introductions. It was decided that introductions between Canada and the US that are within the Commission Area (between Maine and NB, for example) would not be included here as those introductions would be captured in other avenues (ICES WGITMO, for example) and because these are not as relevant.

2. The more specific the information the better, however Bay level is considered sufficient.

3. This refers to the intention for the introduction – aquaculture, research, stock enhancement, etc.

4. Summary of Transgenic activities within the Country Annex 1 of NAC(10)6

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are currently considering approval of Genetically Engineered (GE) Atlantic salmon for commercial sale and human consumption in the U.S. A New Animal Drug Application (NADA) was submitted by a private biotechnology company called Aqua Bounty for fish being grown outside of the U.S. and will be sold in select retail stores labeled as AquaAdvantage® salmon. The application is being reviewed under the authority of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act as a new animal drug due to the genetic construct used to make genetically engineered animals qualifies as an “article” that meets the definition of a new animal drug. The FDA reviewed this application in regards to food safety issues focusing on consumption hazards and associated risks posed to the public. The draft environmental assessment (DEA) included an evaluation of effects from the following specific conditions for production and use; 1) production of eyed eggs in Prince Edward Island (PEI), Canada; 2) shipment of eyed eggs to Panama; 3) grow-out of fish in the highlands of Panama; 4) processing of fish in Panama; and 5) shipment of table-ready processed fish to the U.S. A preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and DEA by the FDA was published in the Federal Register (77 FR 76050) for public review and was open for comments until April 26, 2013. Public comments are considered before any final decision and approval is made.