NAC(12)3

NAC Annual Report 2011
(Tabled by the US)

USA, 2011
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1. Summary of Salmonid disease incidences

None to report for 2011.

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

Species (Strain, if applicable)	Number[1]	Average size of fish[2]	Location[3]	Result[4]	Cause of the breach
NONE					

Notes:
In early September 2011, the Maine Department of Marine Resources reported three putative aquaculture origin fish captured at the weir on the Dennys River. Scale analysis showed growth indicative of aquaculture-origin salmon.

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) is currently considering approval of Genetically Engineered (GE) Atlantic salmon for commercial sale and human consumption in the U.S. The fish are being grown outside of the U.S. by a private biotechnology company called Aqua Bounty. The fish will be marketed as AquaAdvantage® salmon and will be sold in select retail stores as cleaned and gutted whole fish or further processed into filets. The application was 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 assessment of environmental impacts included an evaluation of 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. Any deviation from the above process will trigger a new action and will have to be reviewed under a separate application. Further, the FDA was required to consult with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on environmental risks associated with GE seafood products, including the impact on wild fish stocks. Staff from NMFS Aquaculture Program and Office of Protected Resources in Silver Springs, Maryland consulted with the FDA on this matter. The FDA concluded that the action would not affect listed Atlantic salmon; NMFS concurred with this determination. Currently, public comments are being considered before any final approval is made.