



North American Commission

NAC(16)5

Annual Report

(Tabled by Canada)

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Canada, Submitted by: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Date: 2016 for calendar year 2015

1. Summary of salmonid disease incidents

Under the *Health of Animals Act*, Canada lists significant aquatic animal diseases which, when suspected or found, must be reported to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for further investigation in order to prevent the introduction of and spread of disease. The disease lists include diseases of concern for protection of domestic aquatic animal resources and for international trade.

The CFIA is Canada's Competent Authority for aquatic animal health and lead Agency with respect to meeting Canada's international reporting obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement. The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) is the international standard setting body for aquatic animal health. Accordingly, CFIA reports to the OIE, following the OIE's *Aquatic Animal Health Code* and *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*. Canada reports on all notifications of disease that are confirmed by the CFIA. Canada notifies the OIE following the standards set out in the Aquatic Animal Health Code.

There are several types of CFIA reports to the OIE (<http://www.oie.int/>):

- Immediate notification of OIE-listed diseases when an exceptional epidemiological event occurs; for Canada, an exceptional event would be the presence of a new disease, or finding a known disease in a new location or in a new species. Once verified by the OIE, notifications are distributed to the Delegates of Member Countries, the OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres and international and regional organizations;
- Affected country submits weekly follow-up reports describing progress and results of the applied control measures;
- Affected country provides a final report once the event has been brought under control and there are no new reported outbreaks;
- Semi-annual and annual reports provide information on the presence or absence of diseases listed by the OIE and, for those diseases which occur in the country, any prevention and control measures applied.

Information submitted to the OIE can be viewed by the public on the World Animal Health Information Database Interface (WAHID). Data is provided on animal diseases, per country, region, week, month and year. The database also compiles country animal population, exceptional epidemiological events maps, global animal diseases distribution maps or comparative disease status between two countries. (http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Wahidhome/Home).

Of note, Canadian regulations also include diseases not listed in the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code. Information on all confirmed findings of regulated diseases on a monthly basis can be found on CFIA's website at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/diseases/reportable/2014/eng/1339174937153/1339175227861>. CFIA also maintains information on the status in Canada of reportable diseases and immediately notifiable diseases (<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/exports/eng/1299156521180/1320599162614>).

The following lists the number of confirmed cases of federally reportable aquatic animal diseases in Canada for the calendar year 2015. The numbers include both wild and farmed aquatic animals and are running totals, up to and including the last day of the previous month.

CFIA updates [Canada's health status](#) in real time as mandatory notifications of aquatic animal diseases are confirmed.

Confirmed cases of a federally reportable aquatic animal disease in Canada for the calendar year 2015

Locations infected with infectious salmon anemia in 2015.

Infectious salmon anaemia is a federally reportable disease. This means that anyone who owns or works with aquatic animals has the legal obligation to notify the CFIA when they suspect or detect an aquatic animal disease that is of concern to Canada.

Date confirmed	Location	Animal type infected	Scientific Name
November 24*	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
November 24*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
November 24*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
June 23*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
June 18*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
June 18*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
May 29	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
May 13*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
April 30	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
April 30*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
April 30*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
February 25*	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>

*This virus strain is not known to cause disease.

Locations infected with infectious pancreatic necrosis in 2015

Infectious pancreatic necrosis is a federally reportable disease. This means that anyone who owns or works with aquatic animals has the legal obligation to notify the CFIA when they suspect or detect an aquatic animal disease that is of concern to Canada.

Date confirmed	Location	Animal type infected	Scientific Name
September 22	Nova Scotia	Rainbow trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>
July 30	Quebec	Brook trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
June 26	Quebec	Brook trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
June 18	New Brunswick	Arctic char	<i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>
June 5	Nova Scotia	Rainbow trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>

Contact Points:

- Disease Status in Canada: Dr. Debbie Barr, Director, Animal Health, Biosecurity and Welfare Division, Programs and Policy Branch, CFIA. Debbie.barr@inspection.gc.ca
- International Trade: Dr. Mohit Baxi, Director, Animal Import/Export Division, Programs and Policy Branch, CFIA. <mailto:Mohit.Baxi@inspection.gc.ca>

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	Date of breach
Atlantic salmon	Unknown	Average 3kg Non maturing post-smolts	Fortune Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador	Recapture efforts commenced as a result of reports of farmed fish sightings. Biological characteristics of sampled farm-origin fish and the geographic proximity of the impacted sites enabled the conclusion that fish had escaped. Approx. 200 fish were recovered.	Predator strikes. Net holes were repaired upon detection during preparation for a sea lice treatment. Given location and size of the holes and absence of any change in feeding responses at the affected site, no loss was suspected at the time.	August 2015
Atlantic Salmon (Saint John River Strain)	40,000	6.5 kg	BMA 2B Grand Manan, New Brunswick		Extreme weather, 3 cages	January 27, 2015
	NIL		Quebec			
	NIL		Prince Edward Island			
	NIL		Nova Scotia			

Notes:

1. This should be the best estimate possible, though it is recognized that exact numbers may be difficult to obtain. Also note that methodologies for determining and numbers differ between provinces and are presently not directly comparable. Efforts are underway to resolve these differences.
2. Based on the codes of containment, it was agreed that average size is a more accurate measurement than life stage.
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
Rainbow Trout	40,000	Eggs	Denmark	Marine Institute, St. John's, NL	Research
Atlantic Salmon SAGA strain	1,000	Eggs	Iceland	Ocean Sciences Centre, St. John's NL	Research
Atlantic Salmon	50,000	Eggs	Iceland	Victoria, PE	Research
Rainbow Trout	1,000	Eyed Eggs	WA, USA	Victoria, PE	Research
Rainbow Trout	2,100,000	Eyed Eggs	WA, USA	Kensington, PE	Aquaculture
Rainbow Trout	850,000	Eggs	WA, USA	Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia	Aquaculture
Rainbow Trout	400,000	Eggs	WA, USA	Pictou County, Nova Scotia	Aquaculture
Rainbow Trout	100,000	Eggs	WA, USA	Antigonish County, Nova Scotia	Enhancement
Rainbow Trout	475,000	Eggs	WA, USA	Colchester County, Nova Scotia	Aquaculture
Atlantic Salmon SAGA strain	104,000	Eggs	Iceland	Hants County, Nova Scotia	Aquaculture
Arctic char	80,000	Eggs	Yukon, Canada	Mont Joli, Quebec	Aquaculture

Notes:

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 NASCO Commission Area (between Maine and New Brunswick, 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 transgenic AquaAdvantage™ Atlantic Salmon is currently under review by Health Canada and CFIA for sale as human food and animal feeds, respectively, in Canada.

In 2015, there were no known violations of the *New Substances Regulations* (Organisms) in respect of Atlantic salmon, and there were no known violations of the Significant New Activity Notice 16528.

In 2015, there were no regulatory submissions under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* for a transgenic salmonid, or any other novel aquatic organism that is a fish product of biotechnology.