

Council

CNL(09)26

***Annual Report
on Actions Taken Under Implementation Plans***

Iceland

Annual Report on actions taken under Implementation Plans for the Calendar Year 2008

ICELAND

The Guidelines for the preparation of 'Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress', NSTF(06)10 (copy attached) indicate that the primary purpose of the annual reports is to provide a summary of all the actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year. In addition, details of any significant changes to the status of stocks, new factors affecting stocks, any changes to the management regime in place, and any changes to the Implementation Plan should be included in the report. Details of actions taken in accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of the Convention are also needed by the Council. **Please provide the following information to the Secretariat by 22 April 2009**

Section 1: Details of any significant changes to the management outlined in the introduction to the Implementation Plan.

- a) There has been a change in responsibility with respect to salmon management. The Competent Authority is now the Salmonid Management Division of the "Directorate of Fisheries" instead of the "Food and Veterinary Authority".**
- b) No other major changes are in the execution of salmon management policy.**

Section 2: A description of any significant changes in the status of stocks and information on catches. The Council has asked that the following information on catches be provided:

- (a) the provisional catch of salmon in tonnes for 2008;**
- (b) the confirmed catch of salmon in tonnes for 2007;**
- (c) an estimate of unreported catch in tonnes for 2008;**
- (d) the number of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2008.**

- a) Provisional salmon catch in 2008 was 193,3 tonnes**
- b) Confirmed catch in 2007 was 126,6 tonnes**
- c) Unreported salmon catch in freshwater and in coastal trout fisheries in 2008 is estimated 4 tonnes (2 %) Unreported by-catch of salmon in marine fisheries in 2008 is estimated 13 tonnes (10%). Total unreported catch is thus estimated at 17 tonnes.**
- d) The number of wild salmon released was 13500 which amounts to ca 34% of the total angling of wild salmon whereas only 1900 salmon of enhanced origin were released (7%). The total number of salmon released was thus 15400 (18,9 %).**

Section 3: A description of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks.

Salmon catches resulting from enhancement of rivers with salmon smolts has increased and accounts for 35% of the total Icelandic salmon catch in 2008.

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Section 4: An account of all actions taken under the Implementation Plan with regard to the management of salmon fisheries; measures to minimise impacts of aquaculture and related factors; other influences affecting salmon abundance or diversity (including the marine environment).

Management Action	Reporting Update	Achieved Management Action (Yes, No, Ongoing, Completed)
Fisheries Management		
Develop preliminary CL’s in Icelandic rivers prior to January 1 2009.	CL calculated for 11 Icelandic rivers. See progress in the “Fisheries Management Focus Area Report for Iceland” dated in April 2008	Ongoing
Request “Effort and Conservation Plans” from all “Fisheries Associations” in accordance with provisions of Act no. 61/2006 prior to January 1 2009	“Effort plans” are being submitted by fisheries associations and are being reviewed by fisheries management experts as prescribed by law.	Ongoing
Uphold a ban on marine fisheries for salmon	Carried out through surveillance and enforcement activities.	Ongoing
Limit by-catch of salmon in marine char fisheries.	New regulations set in April 2009, no. 367/368/2009, which ban marine net fishing for char in certain areas close to salmon rivers during the salmon run.	Replaces regulation no. 372/2004, which needed an update.

Measures to minimize the impact of Aquaculture and other related factors		
No escapees have been observed in Icelandic salmon rivers in recent years.	Salmon farming production has reduced greatly in Iceland and currently amounts to less than 330 tonnes.	
Other influences affecting salmon abundance or diversity (including marine environment)		
Enhancement releases of smolts	Smolts are now being released in numerous rivers where salmon have not been naturally sustained. These releases now account for 35 % of the total Icelandic salmon catch.	Ongoing
Submission of Enhancement plans	All river associations, which intend to release fry or smolts, must submit a 5 year “Enhancement Plan”.	Ongoing

Section 5: Details of any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan.

There are no proposed revisions to the Implementation plan

Notes on completing the Annual Report on actions taken under Implementation Plans

Section 2:

The weight of catch should be in tonnes “round fresh weight” (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or round fresh weight equivalent. If available the numbers and weight of salmon caught according to sea-age may also be presented.

“Provisional” means the latest available data (which may be subject to revisions) for 2008. “Confirmed” includes any revision to the provisional figure previously given for 2007.

The estimate of unreported catch may be broken down into categories e.g. by gear type; location of the fisheries (coastal fisheries, in-river fisheries, etc.); and by-catch of salmon in fisheries for other species. It should indicate if the unreported catch arises from legal or illegal activities

Section 4:

The primary purpose of the information provided under item 4 is to provide an account of all the actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plans with regard to:

- Management of salmon fisheries
- *Habitat protection and restoration (see note below)*
- Aquaculture and related activities
- Other influences affecting salmon abundance and diversity.

Note: The 2009 focus area is habitat protection, restoration and enhancement. No information is required in this annual report, unless a jurisdiction wishes to supplement its FAR or has not submitted a FAR.

Please include as part of the annual report under item 4 the following information which is a requirement under the Convention:

- Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification;
- Details of any new commitments concerning the adoption or maintenance in force for specified periods of time of conservation, restoration and other management measures;
- Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles;
- 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;
- Details of any new measures to minimise by-catches of salmon originating in the rivers of the other member [**North American Commission Members only**];
- 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 [**North American Commission Members only**];
- Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.