

	<p>Council</p> <p><i>Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2020 – EU – Portugal</i></p>	<p>CNL(21)35</p>
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Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2020

The Annual Progress Reports allow NASCO to evaluate progress on actions taken by Parties / jurisdictions to implement its internationally agreed Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines and consequently the achievement of their objectives and actions taken in accordance with the Convention. The following information should be provided through the Annual Progress Reports:

- any changes to the management regime for salmon and consequent changes to the Implementation Plan;
- actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year;
- significant changes to the status of stocks, and a report on catches; and
- actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

*In completing this Annual Progress Report please refer to the **Guidelines for the Preparation and Evaluation of NASCO Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress, CNL(18)49.***

These reports will be reviewed by the Council. Please complete this form and return it to the Secretariat **no later than 1 April 2021.**

Party:	European Union
Jurisdiction / Region:	Portugal

1: Changes to the Implementation Plan	
1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan (Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 November).	
	The long-term objective is to improve the knowledge of the stock through information sharing between all involved in “Salmon community”, to restore and maintain protection of habitat and species control.
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.	
N/A	

2: Stock status and catches.	
2.1 Provide a description of any new factors that 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 (200 word max) summary of these changes.	

There are no changes, either perceived or expected, as the residual fishery continues to operate under the same conditions.				
2.2 Provide the following information on catches: (nominal catch equals reported quantity of salmon caught and retained in tonnes 'round fresh weight' (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or 'round fresh weight equivalent').				
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2020 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	0	0	0,24800	0,24800
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2019 (tonnes)	0	0	0,11124	0,11124
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2020 (tonnes)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2020	N/A			

3: Implementation Plan Actions.

3.1 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (section 2.9 of the Implementation Plan). Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action F1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Establishment of a Commission for the Monitoring of Diadromous Species Fisheries with a working group exclusively dedicated to the Atlantic salmon.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improve national coordination regarding salmon; Improve science based decisions; Improved reporting to NASCO; Support for the adoption of legislation; Promotion of the knowledge convergence and reflection; Increase public awareness for salmon related aspects.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g.	Not yet finalized - undergoing legal analysis

	<i>website links) will not be evaluated):</i>	
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F2:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Perform a scientific assessment
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Achieve a perspective of the salmon in Minho and Lima rivers in terms of genetics, age, migration pattern, reproduction areas and migration constraints.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	Research Project obtained approval and financial support - contract not yet signed
	Current status of action:	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F3:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Operational Plan for the Monitoring and Management of Anadromous Fish in Portugal – An@dromos.PT Coordination: University of Évora / MARE (Portugal)
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	The main objective of this project is the implementation, in Portugal, of a program focused in the monitoring and sustainable management of fishing activities directed to anadromous fish species, which are a highly valuable fisheries resource, both from socioeconomic, cultural and conservation perspectives. It is also expected that this project can promote a bidirectional transference of knowledge between scientists and commercial fishermen, capable of being maintained in the after-project period, to implement good practices guidelines that can protect this resource and, simultaneously, encourage fishermen to take part in a network where fisheries regulations will be defined for the sustainable exploitation of this resource. The project is being developed at the national scale since it includes work on all the river basins, between Minho, in the north, and Guadiana, in the south, where commercial fisheries for anadromous fish takes place.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress.	The An@dromous fish project is also ongoing. So far preliminary results are expected shortly. New data to be published through the site https://anadromos.pt/en/

	<i>Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):</i>	
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	N/A
Action F4:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Portugal and Galicia have already a very active collaboration on managing the international section of Minho river under the supervision of the Permanent International Commission. The goal is to establish an effective partnership between Portugal and Spain/Galicia under NASCO's framework.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	To maintain the good cooperation within the Permanent International Commission between PT and Galician Administration. Harmonization of procedures, joint decisions and actions regarding salmon challenges.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	The formal cooperation between the two countries exists, and is maintained, even if actions are not at the same level every year. A release of juvenile salmo was undertaken by both countries last year, with the attendance of school children from both countries, supervised by both navies. The action was a success, both at the scientific level and as a marketing operation, with the presence of news media, such as newspapers and television. Local schools also exploited the subject in classes thereupon.
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	N/A
Action F5:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Establishing harmonized legislation regarding: fishing restrictions/interdictions, closures, minimum sizes, allowed gears, control and inspection in both rivers. Promote clarification actions among fishermen. There is no specific inspection routines for salmon. All authorized gears are regularly inspected. Joint annual inspection actions take place, involving both Portugal and Spain authorities.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improve stocks through limiting exploitation; Develop consciousness about sustainable fishery; Control IUU fishing.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g.	

	<i>website links) will not be evaluated):</i>	
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	

3.2 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration

(section 3.5 of the Implementation Plan). Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action H1:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i>	Assessing and enhancing ecosystem services provided by diadromous fish in a climate change context – DiadES
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i>	<p>Based on a multinational network of scientific, governmental and private partners, DiadES aims to assess and enhance ecosystem services provided by diadromous fish (shads, lamprey, eel, salmon, trout & thin-lipped grey mullet) in the Atlantic Arc (AA), and in parallel, the conservation status of these species, by explicitly considering in their management expected impacts of climate change on their distributions.</p> <p>Building on previous EU-funded projects & monitoring programmes, DiadES will positively impact diadromous fish management in the face of global climate change by: i) Fostering the necessary level of cooperation among Member States (MS) & actors involved in diadromous fish management to enable sound decision-making; ii) Improving awareness and knowledge among policy makers and other key stakeholders on the services provided by these species and the need to set common management measures targeting both anthropogenic pressures & climate change; iii) Favouring a joint promotion of ecosystem services related to diadromous fish in the AA to the wider public because they influence decision-making; and iv) Ensuring a sustainable ecosystem services provision by these species, combining exploitation & conservation, in support of AA local economies and quality of life.</p> <p>Three main outputs will be produced to increase the capacity of policy makers and other stakeholders to make efficient and informed management decisions and support them in the implementation of related policies on diadromous fish. An INTERACTIVE WEB ATLAS will present changes in diadromous fish distributions and trends in relevant ecosystem services under climate change, promoting benefits provided by these species. A SERIOUS GAME, of a role-playing form, will consist in bringing together target groups who have different sources of knowledge to (i) share this different knowledge, (ii)</p>

		<p>build a joint representation of fish population dynamics, and (iii) imagine alternative management strategies in the face of climate change. Along with the ATLAS, these main outputs will foster the emergence of</p> <p>POLICY GUIDELINES for the long-term management of diadromous fish and the maintenance of the ecosystem services and economic welfare they produce in the AA.</p>
	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):</i></p>	<p>Results are currently being obtained. No significant reports yet available</p>
	<p>Current status of action:</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
Action H2:	<p>Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i></p>	<p>Revision of the Portuguese Red Book of freshwater and diadromous fishes and development of an information system about these species. Coordination: FCiências.ID / MARE / cE3c (Portugal)</p>
	<p>Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i></p>	<p>The last version of the Portuguese Red Book of Threatened Vertebrates dates from 2005. Therefore, the main objectives of this project are: i) to update information on population distribution and status of freshwater and diadromous fish species; and ii) build an information system on these species.</p> <p>More specifically, this project will contribute to enhance the knowledge on the threats and conservation status of fish species occurring in the Portuguese territory, with a particular emphasis on poor known and/or threatened fish species that are in a significant population decline, which is the case of the Atlantic salmon. This knowledge will help to protect these species by allowing the definition of priority populations and habitats for conservation.</p> <p>In a complementary way, this project also aims to develop an information system that allows the storage, treatment and public disclosure of data on the ecology, distribution and conservation status of freshwater and diadromous fishes in Portugal, in order to increase the knowledge and interest of the public on this subjects.</p> <p>Objectives of this project will also contribute to enhance the response and compliance of Portuguese authorities to national and international legislation regarding protected species and habitats, such as National Strategy for Nature Conservation and Biodiversity or the management requirements of Natura 2000 sites.</p>

	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):</i>	Results are currently being obtained. No significant reports yet available
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	N/A
Action H3:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i>	Migra Miño-Minho Project: Identification and interventions on river obstacles. Construction of fish passages; Intervention in riparian vegetation that has a direct impact in the riverbed; Monitoring <i>Salmo salar</i> and other diadromous species: <i>Alosa alosa</i> , <i>Alosa fallax</i> , <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> , <i>Salmo trutta</i> , and <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Coordination: Portuguese and Galician entities http://migraminho.org/socios/?lang=pt-pt
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP):</i>	A set of river obstacles eliminated or transposed: demolition of dams, fish ladders or removable weirs. Allowing longitudinal and lateral continuity of the river beds, increasing the accessibility of the tributaries of the Minho river to migratory fish species; - New devices designed, tested and installed in tributary river courses of the Minho sub-basin. It is an innovative product of the project, since it will contribute to the transposition of obstacles for migratory fish and the fauna in general by means of <i>ad-hoc</i> solutions adapted to the conditions of the obstacles that limit the fluvial continuity; - Common river fishing management standards established and agreed between the relevant management authorities in Galicia and Portugal; - Riparian vegetation recovered and restored for the improvement of river habitat quality. The restoration of forested river banks will habitats and therefore the quality of the river; - Restocking from indigenous river Minho salmon.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g.</i>	Restocking achieved with the release of an additional batch of 6000 salmon to a total of 600000 over the years in joint actions between Portugal and Spain, lately with the framework of this project

	<i>website links) will not be evaluated):</i>	
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	N/A

3.3 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (section 4.11 of the Implementation Plan). Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. For all actions, provide clear and concise quantitative information to demonstrate progress. In circumstances where quantitative information cannot be provided for a particular action because of its nature, a clear rationale must be given for not providing quantitative information and other information should be provided to enable progress with that action to be evaluated. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action A1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	<p>The authorization for fish culture facilities, for non-indigenous species or in classified areas is preceded by the advice of the national authority on nature conservation, and therefore, may be prohibited or conditioned.</p> <p>Intensive aquaculture projects are subject to an environmental impact assessment, a procedure that may impose constraints, measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the environment or compensatory measures of such impacts, if any.</p> <p>The authorization involves an administrative procedure and the compliance with legal requirements, ensuring the good ecological status of natural water bodies and the health and welfare of the animals. A deposit was implemented to guarantee, at the time of the assignment of the "Aquaculture Activity Permission", the good environmental status of the marine/river environment and of the marine and inland water bodies, as well as the removal of the structures (DL 40/2017, 4th of April).</p> <p>In the case any aquaculture project, subject to an environmental impact assessment, specific monitoring programs or compensatory measures may be stipulated, to be implemented in the course of the operation.</p>
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	<p>Ensure the monitoring and control of the facility and minimize the environmental impacts.</p> <p>To guarantee the physical-chemical quality and the biological safety of the discharged water in the natural environment.</p>
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	No new facilities were authorized

	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	Yes
Action A2:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	<p>The use of non-indigenous species in aquaculture is subject to legislation that regulates the introduction of these species into nature. However, some species already established in the natural water bodies in Portugal (eg. <i>Cyprinus carpio</i>, <i>Carassius auratus</i>, <i>Micropterus salmoides</i> or <i>Onchorhynchus mykiss</i>) are treated as indigenous in some river basins.</p> <p>In general, the use of these species (application of the DL 565/99 of 21st of December) is only accepted in closed, recirculating systems and subject to special measures that promote maximum environmental safety. Nevertheless, even in these systems the production of species with high risk of dissemination in the natural environment is not allowed.</p> <p>Restrictions on the production of these species aim at the protection of natural aquatic systems in general.</p> <p>Regarding salmonids, two species are currently produced: <i>Salmo trutta</i> and <i>Onchorhynchus mykiss</i>, which is a non-indigenous species. However, this species did not establish wild populations in lotic systems, in Portugal.</p> <p>Regarding the Regulation (EC) No 708/2007 of 11th of June 2007 concerning use of exotic and locally absent species in aquaculture. This Regulation, except for Articles 3 and 4, shall not apply to the species listed in Annex IV. The risk assessment in Article 9 shall not apply to species listed in Annex IV except in cases where Member States wish to take measures to restrict the use of the species concerned in their territory. <i>Onchorhynchus mykiss</i> is one of the species identified in the annex IV.</p>
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Prevent the escape of non-indigenous specimens to the natural environment, avoiding the ecological impact.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	No problems occurred with the facilities in operation and no new facilities were licensed
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	Yes
Action A3:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	There is a health monitoring and control program for fish (Integrated Plan for Official Control of Piscicultures - PICOP)

		<p>in order to achieve a disease- free status:</p> <p>Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), Infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN), and other diseases related to non salmonids.</p> <p>All freshwater fish farms in Portugal have a disease-free status or are in the process of obtaining one.</p>
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Attribution and maintenance of a disease-free status for all aquaculture establishments.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	Still reportinh no disease outbreaks
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	Yes

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.	
Adoption of the Edital n.º 836/2019, of the 11th July, allowing a fishery to take place in the 2019-2020 season, subject to change depending on results	
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.	
N/A	
4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.	
N/A	
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.	
None allowed	
4.5 Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.	
N/A	
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.	

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.

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