

	<b>North American Commission</b> <i>North American Commission Annual Report (Tabled by Canada)</i>	<b>NAC(21)06rev2</b>
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***North American Commission Annual Report  
(Tabled by Canada)***

**Submitted by: Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

**Date: Data cover calendar year 2020**

**1. Summary of salmonid controlled disease incidents**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for Canada’s National Aquatic Animal Health Program and is the Competent Authority for aquatic animal health which includes meeting Canada’s international reporting obligations to the World Organisation of Animal Health (OIE) under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement.

The CFIA updates the health status of Canada’s aquatic animals monthly as mandatory notifications of aquatic animal diseases are confirmed (See Annex).

For more information, please consult the CFIA website or contact:

- Disease Status in Canada: Dr. Martin Appelt, Director, Animal Health, Welfare and Biosecurity Division, Programs and Policy Branch, CFIA. [Martin.Appelt@canada.ca](mailto:Martin.Appelt@canada.ca)
- International Trade: Dr. Nancy Rheault, Director, Animal Import/Export Division, International Affairs Branch, CFIA. [Nancy.Rheault@canada.ca](mailto:Nancy.Rheault@canada.ca)

2020 summary of federally reportable diseases of finfish

<https://www.inspection.gc.ca/animal-health/aquatic-animals/diseases/reportable-diseases/federally-reportable-aquatic-animal-diseases/eng/1339174937153>

**Current as of: 2020-12-31**

<b>Disease</b>	<b>Total</b>
<a href="#"><u>Ceratomyxosis (<i>Ceratomyxa shasta</i>)</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Infectious haematopoietic necrosis</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Infectious pancreatic necrosis</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Infectious salmon anaemia</u></a>	25
<a href="#"><u>Koi herpesvirus disease</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Spring viraemia of carp</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia</u></a>	1
<a href="#"><u>Whirling disease (<i>Myxobolus cerebralis</i>)</u></a>	0
<a href="#"><u>White sturgeon iridoviral disease</u></a>	0

## 2020 confirmed cases of federally reportable diseases that affected salmonids<sup>1</sup> in the Atlantic Region

### Locations infected with infectious salmon anaemia<sup>2</sup>:

<b>Date confirmed</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Animal type infected</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
January 17 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	Prince Edward Island	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
January 20	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
February 17	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
February 25	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
February 25	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
March 18 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
April 22	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
May 7 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
May 7	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
June 2 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
July 6 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
July 6 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
July 6 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
July 30	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 5	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 12	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 12	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 14	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 26	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
August 31	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
October 7	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
November 6	Newfoundland	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
November 13 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	Prince Edward Island	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
November 19 <a href="#">Table note *</a>	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
December 10	New Brunswick	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>

*Table Note \* This virus strain is not known to cause disease.*

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

There are no marine net-pens in Quebec or Prince Edward Island.

New Brunswick had no reported breach events in 2020.

In 2020, Nova Scotia had one reported escape event of rainbow trout where 22,000 fish were reported as having escaped.

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<sup>1</sup> Reporting does not distinguish whether the salmonids were cultured or wild.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.inspection.gc.ca/animal-health/aquatic-animals/diseases/reportable-diseases/isa/locations-infected/eng/1549521878704/1549521878969>

There was no significant fish escapes reported in Newfoundland and Labrador. On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, there was a report that one 600 gram Atlantic salmon smolt escaped while being handled at the cage.

### 3. Summary of Salmonid introductions from outside the Commission Area

Species (strain, if applicable)	Number	Life Stage	Origin <sup>1</sup>	Destination <sup>2</sup>	Purpose <sup>3</sup>	Land-Based or Marine
Arctic Char ( <i>Salvenius alpinus</i> )	1,000	Eggs	Yukon	Québec	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Arctic Char ( <i>Salvenius alpinus</i> )	45,000	Eggs	Yukon	Québec	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	1,050,000	Eggs	Stofnfiskur, Iceland	Marystown, NL	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	1,900,000	Eggs	Stofnfiskur, Iceland	Marystown, NL	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	100,000	Eyed eggs	Stofnfiskur HF, Iceland	Victoria, PE	Research	Land-Based
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	15,000	Eyed eggs	Stofnfiskur, Iceland	Souris, PE	Research	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	30,000	Eyed eggs	Washington, USA	Victoria, PE	Research	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	1,000,000	Eyed eggs	Washington, USA	Brookvale, PE	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	18,000	Eggs	Iceland	Burlington, NS	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	14,250	Fry	Ontario	South Rawdon, NS	Research	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	650,000	Eggs	Washington	Merigomish, NS	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	750,000	Eggs	Washington	Wolfville, NS	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	50,000	Eggs	Washington	Bridgetown NS	Aquaculture	Land-Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	105,000	Eggs	Washington	St. Andrews, NS	Aquaculture	Land-Based

Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	50,000	Eggs	Washington	Centrelea, NS	Aquaculture	Land- Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	50,000	Eggs	Washington	Halifax, NS	Research	Land- Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	50,000	Eggs	Denmark	Halifax, NS	Research	Land- Based
Rainbow Trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> )	500,000	Eggs	Washington	Wolfville, NS	Aquaculture	Land- Based

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]**

In 2020, there were no known violations of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* in respect of transgenic Atlantic salmon.

In 2020, there was no production of transgenic fish in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or Newfoundland and Labrador.

Members of the Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance (CAIA), which represents the majority of farmed salmon facilities in Canada, do not farm or sell transgenic (genetically modified) salmon, and are not growing or researching transgenic salmon. Outside of CAIA’s membership, there are two commercial facilities in Canada that produce transgenic salmon: one in Fortune, Prince Edward Island and the second Rollo Bay, Prince Edward Island. Both are land-based facilities.

In keeping with Annex 5, paragraph d) of the Williamsburg Resolution, DFO has established the Centre of Expertise on Aquatic Biotechnology Regulatory Research, where contained, land-based research is undertaken to provide scientific knowledge that informs the risk assessment, risk management and regulatory approaches for transgenic salmonids.

To facilitate decision-making in the absence of full scientific certainty, where there is a risk of serious or irreversible harm, the Government of Canada has developed a Framework for the Application of Precaution in Science-Based Decision Making about Risk. This approach is aligned with Article 7 of the Williamsburg Resolution.

Grieg is proposing to construct and operate 11 marine-based farms in Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. Each marine-based farm will consist of multiple cages with nets extending down to 43 meters. The project proposal was received in February 2016 and has undergone a series of provincial and federal reviews and assessments. More information on the timeline and other relevant documents are publically available from the Province of Newfoundland and

Labrador at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/mae/projects/project-1834/>. Grieg introduced their first batches of triploid European salmon eggs at their land-based hatchery in Marystown in 2020 (see section 3) and are planning to stock a marine-based site in 2021 in Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. Prior to DFO's approval to transfer smolt to marine cages, the company will be sampling fish (via blood) to verify triploidy. The development of a triploid verification methodology was a condition of release from their provincial environmental assessment, and was approved by both the provincial and federal governments.

Introductions and transfers information regarding Newfoundland and Labrador's Grieg project will be provided in future North American Commission reports as available.

## **Annex**

### **Additional Information**

- Information on all confirmed findings of regulated diseases is publicly available on the CFIA's website (see <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/diseases/reportable/2017/eng/1339174937153/1339175227861>).
- The CFIA also maintains information on the status in Canada of controlled diseases in Canada (see <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/eng/1299155892122/1320536294234>).