



Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2021

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 2022.

Table with 2 columns: Party (European Union), Jurisdiction / Region (France)

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 plan was submitted in November 2020. No revisions have therefore been made since
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.
1- Except Plagépomi Bretagne, the year 2021 was devoted to writing new plagepomis for most of the basins river. All of them had to take into account the actions identified in the IP:
Seine-Normandie : www.drieec.ile-de-france.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/poissons-migrateurs-le-plan-de-gestion-2022-2027-a4632.html
Loire : www.pays-de-la-loire.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/le-plagepomi-a4044.html
Artois-Picardie : https://www.hauts-de-france.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/plagepomi_artois_picardie_2022_2027bd.pdf
Regarding the plagepomi Rhin-Meuse, Rhône-Méditerranée, Adour et Garonne-Dordogne, the approval has not yet been validated or on line at the time of writing this report.

2- As part of the World Conservation Congress held in Marseille from November 3 to 11, OFB wanted to attract a large audience through several humorous videos to raise awareness of the impact of our consumption on wildlife, taking Atlantic salmon as an example:

https://youtu.be/D_7kGYLRVY

https://youtu.be/doGjskQ_OhQ

https://youtu.be/6S_Mtgw_LXw

<https://youtu.be/dfImATJHJMw>

https://youtu.be/x5aDKAX_n98

3- Seven promotional videos about the salmon life cycle and management of the fish were produced and translated. The main aim of these videos is to help create a greater awareness of the ecological, social, cultural and economic value of salmon. They can also inspire and support a new generation of researchers and managers, and conservationists in line with the IYS objectives. They cover a year in the life of salmon stocks and their management by OFB.

<https://www.ofb.gouv.fr/en/international-year-salmon-2019> via the "1. FBA and its partners are carrying out several actions to better understand and preserve Atlantic Salmon (movies)" link in the "online" section.

4- A synthesis was carried out over 2 years. It is available and is entitled: Summary of the state of populations, pressures and management methods of Atlantic salmon in France :

https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/POLE_MIGRATEURS_AMPHIHALINS/hal-03222495v1

5- Other actions have been implemented regionally by the French "great migratory associations". The links to their websites are on the attached map.



2: Stock status and catches.

2.1 Provide a description of any new factors that may affect the abundance of salmon stocks significantly 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.

Nothing to report				
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 2021 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	3.47 round fresh weight	2.520 round fresh weight	0.0391 round fresh weight	6.0291 round fresh weight
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2020 (tonnes)	3.86 round fresh weight	4.085 round fresh weight	0.1045 round fresh weight	8.0495 round fresh weight
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2021 (tonnes)	NA	NA	NA	NA
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2021	50 out of 963 were caught and released, equivalent to 5.3% of total salmon caught in 2021 (data only available for in-river catches).			

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.*

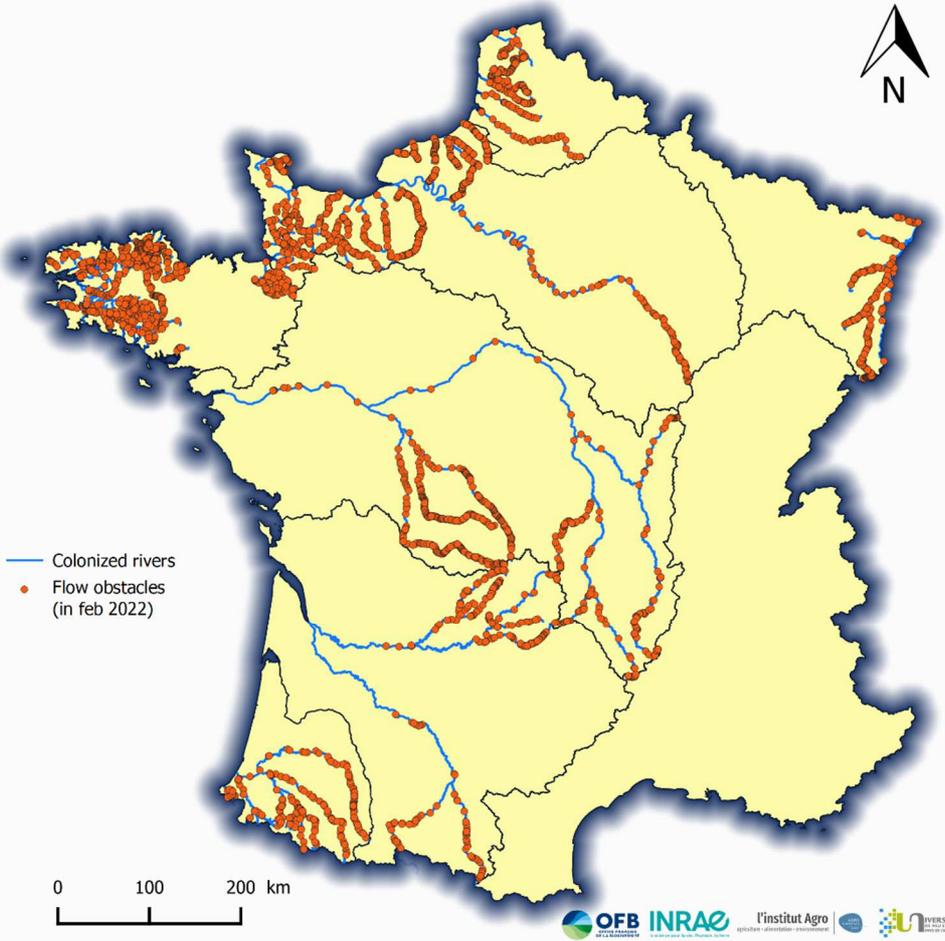
Action F1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	<p>Under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) 2008/56/EC dated 17 June 2008 each Member State should develop a strategy to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) in the marine environment. The first cycle covered the period 2012 – 2018 and the second cycle (2019 – 2025) is now in progress. Relevant objectives and indicators are set for each cycle and these are revised every 6 years. Reaching these objectives and indicators is achieved through monitoring programmes and a suite of measures set out in the strategy papers for maritime zones. One of the environmental objective indicators in the second cycle relates to marine catches of diadromous species, including salmon, and is given below.</p> <p>Implementation of the indicators for the second cycle of the MSFD (2019 – 2025) will enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) an assessment to be carried out on reaching the indicators in the first cycle; b) new monitoring measures and actions to be established for the second cycle.
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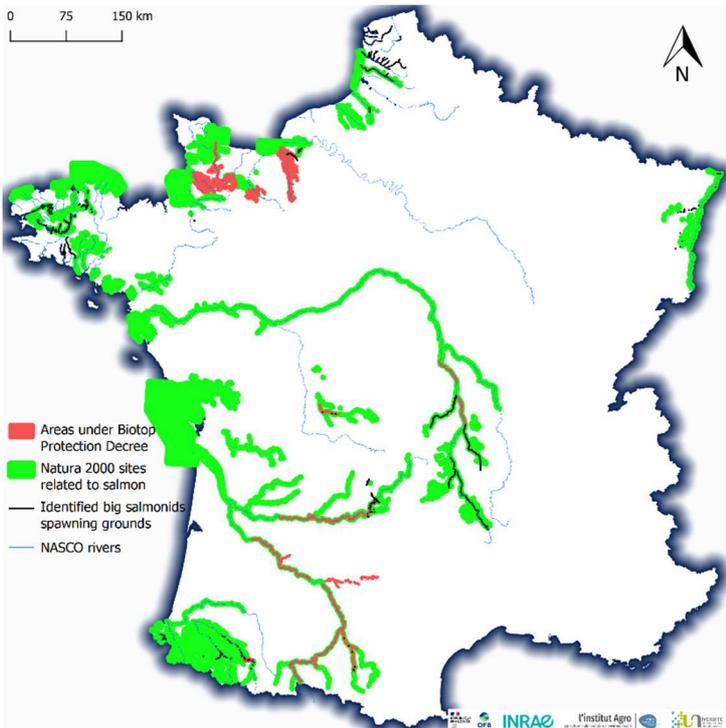
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Management of the resource will be adapted and the MSFD objectives will be achieved.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated):	The bycatch risk analysis methodology has been produced in 2021. This analysis will be implemented according to the following schedule. - 2022 : spatial analysis of risk at biogeographical level by combining species distribution and fishing effort to identify risk areas - 2023-2025: Tests of bycatch reduction measures and additional acquisition of knowledge at the scale of risk areas - 2025-2026: conclusion and definition of bycatch reduction measures
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F2:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Establish conservation limits for French rivers on which fishing occurs / Create management objectives and assessment tools
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Conservation limits or management targets will be established
	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):	Brittany: the definition of conservation for all watercourses is "the quantity of eggs which makes it possible to control a 25% risk of producing less than 50% of the carrying capacity." For the Léguer and the Elorn, a more ambitious management objective was requested, towards which we should aim in the coming years. Regarding the work on RENOSAUM, it is summarized on the BGM page: https://www.observatoire-poissons-migrateurs-bretagne.fr/connaitre-le-saumon-atlantique/etat-des-populations-de-saumon-atlantique/vers-une-nouvelle-gestion-de-la-peche-on-breton-watercourses-1st-stage-the-definition-of-conservation-limits . The new fishing management scenarios resulting from this work will be presented to the freshwater recreational fishing authorities in mid-March, for validation and a new decree by the end of 2022. Adour: in 2019, the Adour basin and coastal rivers Cogepomi the initiated the construction of a tool to help salmon management including the estimation of a conservation limit. The first conservation limit value was presented to the committee in 2020. It is established on a value of 500 eggs per 100m ² . The committee considers

		<p>that the Oloron-Saison part of the Adour stock is above the conservation limit. This value was adopted in December 2021 for the period 2022-2027 for the Adour basin. In addition to the conservation limit, the new management objectives for 2027 are based on a target above the conservation limit reducing the risk of low recruitment. This target, which will be monitored and assessed annually, takes into account forecasts for the restoration of access to spawning and rearing habitats.</p> <p>Seine-Normandie et Artois-Picardie: Studies are carrying out with a view to establish management of recreational salmon fishing based on conservation rather than exploitation, on the model of the RENOSAUM project in Brittany. It is included on the action 3B1: "Introduce management of salmon fisheries based on conservation rather than exploitation" of the Seine-Normandie PLAGEPOMI 2022-2027 and on the action C5: "Establish a methodology to assess stocks and set salmon conservation limits on basin rivers" of the Artois-Picardie PLAGEPOMI 2022-2027.</p> <p>The salmon stocks in the Garonne and Dordogne, Loire and Rhin-Meuse waterbasins are not subject to fishing activity and are not concerned by this action.</p>
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F4:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Determine the origin of salmon caught in estuaries and riversthrough scientific studies
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improved knowledge of stock exploitation
	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):	A study on the evaluation of the ability of the shape of Atlantic salmon otoliths to discriminate the origin of fish at different spatial scales from the Bidasoa to the Rhine was carried out.
	Current status of action:	Completed
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	You can find the report here https://www.ofb.gouv.fr/la-preservation-des-especes-migratrices-amphihalines

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 (as submitted in the IP):	Improve upstream and downstream movement by reducing the impacts of obstacles on the main watercourses populated by salmon (removing, levelling or modifying obstacles).
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Assessment of the improvements made to upstream and downstream movement of salmon in the main watercourses.
	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):	<p>The monitoring of the obstacles identified in the French salmon rivers list provided in 2021 has been done and the list updated.</p>  <p>— Colonized rivers • Flow obstacles (in feb 2022)</p> <p>0 100 200 km</p> <p>OFB INRAE Institut Agro Université de Bourgogne</p>
Improvement work is in progress.		

		See the attached Excel file called H1_SAT_2021
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action H2:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Identify strategic salmon spawning and nursery habitats and match these with appropriate regulatory instruments for their protection.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Creation of a map of regulatory protection instruments; if possible this will be superimposed on a map of strategic habitats for salmon.
	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):	<p>This year, we worked on the articulation between salmon rivers, natura 2000 sites, and identified salmon spawning grounds. This is in addition to the work carried out last year with the biotope protection decrees</p>  <p>The map displays the geographical distribution of salmon spawning grounds (brown lines) across France. It also shows Natura 2000 sites related to salmon (green areas) and areas under biotope protection decrees (red areas). NASCO rivers are indicated by blue lines. A scale bar (0, 75, 150 km) and a north arrow are included. Logos for INRAE, Institut Agro, and other partners are visible at the bottom of the map.</p>
	Current status of action:	Ongoing

big salmonids » refers to salmon (*Salmo salar*) and sea trout (*Salmo trutta*), because distinction between spawning grounds of these two species is not possible

	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action H3:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Improving the function of 'weakened' habitats: a) Improve sedimentary conditions in some strategic areas for salmon, especially below some large dams b) Improve flow management below some large dams for the various stages of the salmon's life cycle (e.g. migration, spawning, growth) c) ensure appropriate flow levels on certain routes, or strategic stretches, for salmon (particularly on side channels)
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	a) identification of the relevant areas in France and implementation of actions (dam management, mechanical sedimentary transport) which will improve the survival rates of eggs and juveniles b) identification of the relevant areas across France, definition and implementation of adapted management methods (minimum and maximum flow levels, water level variation gradients etc.) c) identification of the relevant routes or stretches (side channels) across France, definition and implementation of appropriate flow levels for salmon to live, spawn and move around the river
	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):	Although initiated in a few COGEPOMIs, the actions identified in the IP will be taken into account in future plagepomis and these actions can really begin in 2022 in order to have a strong identification of territories with salmon related issues for the end of the plan.
	Current status of action:	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action H4:	Description of action	Co-ordinate planning tools, linking actions related to salmon to the various existing planning and management documents.

(as submitted in the IP):	
Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Salmon issues should be taken into account in developing these documents.
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):	<p>The development of National Action Plan for migratory fish is done. The species considered are migratory fish and macrocrustaceans present in France metropolitan area and in french overseas departments and regions. Some of these species are already subject to management systems, on an international, national, or watershed scale. Not all benefiting from the same protection status, the plan philosophy is to adopt a multi-species approach, with salmon as a flag species.</p> <p>The plan gives an overview of the state and management practices for all of these species and completes the existing management systems by supporting through a National level operational actions. These actions, activating the link between biodiversity, freshwater and marine environments, will aim for results concrete and achievable within fixed deadlines with responsible and means identified.</p> <p>The writing of the plan is the result of consultation with stakeholders, including users and administrations concerned. This plan will feed the new national biodiversity strategy. OFB, with the technical support of INRAE, ensured the coordination of the development of the plan under the authority of the French Ministry in charge of ecology and the French ministry in charge of agriculture and food.</p> <p>A webpage dedicated to NAP has been set up. You can find all the steps relating to the development of the NAP from the meetings to discuss the construction of this plan (Sept. 20) until its validation by the steering committee (Dec. 2021) (PPT, PDF...) : https://professionnels.ofb.fr/fr/node/1240</p>
Current status of action:	Completed
If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	if the development of the Plan is validated, and thus the proposed action completed, it now remains to implement the actions identified in the plan

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):	Assessment of stocking practices (genetic, the impact of the life stage at which stocking occurs etc.) in the various river basins in France.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Compilation of a national overview, with proposed management measures.
	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):	Rather than a short-term recruitment as planned, a service provider will be chosen to respond to this problem as well as to the actions RO1-1 and RO1-2 of the NAP. This service provider will be chosen according to specifications at the end of 2022
	Current status of action:	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action A2:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Implementing reporting specifically on sea lice.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Close monitoring for the presence / absence of sea lice in commercial salmon farms in France.
	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 infestation of sealice has been reported to the local and national states services in the commercial salmon farms during 2021
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	

Action A3:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP):	Monitoring escapes from commercial marine salmon farms
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Monitoring the number of escapes each year
	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 escapes in the commercial salmon farms had been reported to the local and national services in 2021
	Current status of action:	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	

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.
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.
New plagépomis, see 1.2
4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.
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.
4.5 Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.
North American Commission Members only:
4.6 Details of any new measures to minimise bycatches 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.