





















### 3 Progress in relation to the recommendations in NEA(18)08

This section reports on Irish progress in relation to the 11 recommendations in the ‘Road Map’ to enhance information exchange and co-operation on monitoring, research and measures to prevent the spread of *G. salaris* and eradicate it if introduced, as agreed by the North-East Atlantic Commission of NASCO in 2018 (NEA(18)08).

#### 1. Preventive measures and contingency planning

Measure	Progress
<p>a) Appropriate steps should be taken to prevent the spread of <i>G. salaris</i> on fishing equipment, boats, etc. by use of approved disinfection methods.</p>	<p>In general, Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) has been at the forefront in planning and implementing management measures to protect native species and habitats from the threat posed by aquatic invasive species (AIS). These include monitoring, control and eradication operations and protocols, research on AIS impacts, risk assessments, biosecurity guidelines and a programme of stakeholder engagement-related education and awareness initiatives. Biosecurity guidance has been developed for anglers, boaters, scuba divers, paddle sports enthusiasts and inland fisheries personnel which advise of appropriate prevention measures and disinfection protocols to minimise the risk of introducing or spreading AIS (<a href="https://tinyurl.com/v2qym83b">https://tinyurl.com/v2qym83b</a>).</p> <p>In addition, IFI and MI have co-produced and widely circulated awareness literature to highlight the issue of <i>Gyrodactylus</i> among stakeholders and advise on biosecurity measures that can be taken to minimise the risk of introduction of the parasite to Ireland (i.e. A Guide to Protecting Freshwater Fish Stocks in Ireland from the Parasite <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5bcmtmkf">https://tinyurl.com/5bcmtmkf</a>).</p>
<p>b) All movements of live fish should be recorded so that movements can be traced in the event of an outbreak of <i>G. salaris</i>.</p>	<p>In Ireland, this practice is largely governed by European Communities (Health of Aquaculture Animals and Products) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 261 of 2008) based on the European Commission's Council Directive 2006/88/EC which applies to the import, movement, sale and supply of aquatic animals for fish stocking or ornamental purposes. Under the regulations, where appropriate, notification of the import and movement of fish must be made to the MI and this must be accompanied by an appropriate health certificate stating that the animals are free of the diseases listed in Part II Annex IV of the Directive and diseases for which Ireland has national measures granted under Commission Decision 2010/221/EU.</p>
<p>c) The risk of <i>G. salaris</i> introduction through the processing of fish carcasses should be assessed and, where appropriate, mitigated through control of processing.</p>	<p>As detailed in the contingency plan, this is addressed under the European Communities (Health of Aquaculture Animals and Products) Regulations 2008 (as amended) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an offence for any person to act in contravention of any of the provisions of a Restriction Notice.</li> <li>• It is an offence to place on the market or release into the wild or a put and take fishery, any aquaculture animal that may pose a risk of spreading disease to other aquatic animals.</li> <li>• It is an offence to place on the market for farming or restocking, any aquatic animal intended for destruction or slaughter in accordance with disease control measures under Regulation 14 of S.I. No 261 of 2008.</li> <li>• It is an offence for any person who knows or suspects that a listed disease, including <i>G. salaris</i>, is present in any aquatic animal to fail to notify the MI.</li> <li>• It is an offence for a person except under the authority of a Sanitary Slaughter Permit issued by the MI, to dispose of any aquatic animal (whether alive or dead) which comes from a designation area.</li> </ul>





















