

## Recommendations to NASCO

1. Recommendation to set up a Working Group for three years to co-ordinate NASCO's climate change activities. If this was accepted by Council, the Terms of Reference may include, but not be limited to, the following tasks:
  - Draft a NASCO climate change strategy and a roadmap setting out how the strategy could be implemented;
  - Recommend where meaningful changes can be made within NASCO to manage, use, and communicate the information it receives on climate change activities, and to support the Parties' / jurisdictions' abilities to mitigate the impacts of climate change on salmon productivity. For example, consider organizing a regular symposium focused on climate change, and, if warranted, consider developing a climate change knowledge hub within the NASCO website;
  - Develop a NASCO resolution on climate change, aligning with those resolutions set out by other RFMOs (for example, ICCAT);
  - Develop a Carbon Policy to ensure NASCO's carbon emissions are in line with best practices on achieving carbon neutrality (for example, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Climate Neutral Now Initiative); and
  - If deemed appropriate, advise on a long-term plan for continuing the work of the WG into the foreseeable future and advise on the most appropriate mechanism to do so (for example, Standing Committee).

# Recommendations to NASCO (cont'd)

2. Recommendation that NASCO produces an overarching statement highlighting the climate emergency and setting out its commitment to consider climate change impacts. NASCO may wish to include an obligation that climate change is considered systematically in all future decisions and resolutions that are developed by NASCO.
3. Council may wish to consider the incorporation of best practice related to climate change and salmon management into NASCO's relevant Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines when reviewed and revisited.
4. Recommendation that NASCO recognises the climate change research that is ongoing across the Parties / jurisdictions that can inform drivers of Atlantic salmon mortality. NASCO may wish to look for opportunities to facilitate funding and increase international scientific collaboration both through the Parties / jurisdictions and the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board.

# Recommendations to Parties / jurisdictions

1. Recommendation that Parties / jurisdictions consider taking a strategic multidisciplinary approach when developing and implementing their climate adaptive management measures. All reasonable opportunities should be taken to incorporate wider stakeholder views into decision making, including where appropriate, collaboration with other agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, and all relevant stakeholders.
2. Recommendation that Parties / jurisdictions consider undergoing an aligned exercise to assess which stressors to wild Atlantic salmon would be the most relevant for the Parties / jurisdictions. For example, using the Norwegian ranking stressor assessment across all Parties / jurisdictions. This would inform the Parties / jurisdictions which stressors are most impactful on their salmon stocks and are likely to increase with climate change, as well as where climate change ranks within the range of stressors experienced by salmon populations.

# Recommendations to Parties / jurisdictions (cont'd)

3. Recommendation that Parties / jurisdictions consider incorporating the below identified best practices, as reported on in the TBSS papers, as part of their climate adaptive management strategy:
  - increase access to, and implement protection of, thermal refuges to mitigate effects of increases in water temperatures in salmon rivers;
  - restore and maintain connectivity when it is compromised by climate change related effects. For example, river flows, estuarine thermal barriers, renewable energy infrastructures;
  - develop a strategically designed, quality controlled, national river temperature monitoring network;
  - develop 'warm water protocols' for recreational fishing to minimise the negative impacts of catch and release on recreationally caught salmon;
  - management strategies that seek to improve the climate resilience of rivers with consideration for nature-based solutions;
  - ensure that genetic and phenotypic diversity of all salmon populations is maintained to optimize their adaptive capacity;
  - maintain existing and, where appropriate, initiate new long-term population monitoring programs (e.g. life stage abundance and distribution, life history traits, harvest, origin) to provide critical data needed to evaluate population dynamics in the face of a changing climate; and
  - identify actual or potential invasive biota and pathogens presenting risk to wild salmon, whose occurrence maybe increased by climate change; develop and apply remedial measures.

## Recommendations to Parties / jurisdictions (cont'd)

4. Recommendation that Parties / jurisdictions consider identifying knowledge gaps through implementing the above recommendations, and through other means, that are preventing effective management actions to mitigate the impacts of climate change. These knowledge gaps could be collectively reviewed to assess if NASCO can facilitate the information sharing needed, or if a request for scientific advice from NASCO to ICES would be needed.
5. Recommendation that Parties / jurisdictions implement management to reduce anthropogenic stressors on salmon populations.