

CNL(23)78

IP/APR Report 2023



Report of the Meeting of the Implementation Plan / Annual Progress
Report Review Group for the Review of Annual Progress Reports
under the Third Cycle of Reporting (2019 – 2024)

Date: 8th June 2023

Presenter: Dr Cathal Gallagher



IP/APR Review Group



Members:

Cathal Gallagher	Europe (Chair)
Michael Millane	SSC
Dan Kircheis	North America
Lawrence Talks	UK
Katrine Kærgaard	Denmark(FI&G) *
Livia Goodbrand	Canada *
Paul Knight	NGO
Steve Sutton	NGO

Co-ordinators:

Emma Hatfield
Wendy Kenyon



APR Evaluation timeline 2023



DATE/DEADLINE	MAJOR ACTION	PROGRESS
1st Feb 2019	Deadline for submission of Implementation Plans to Review Group	10 Plans Received
28th Feb -13th May 2019	Review concluded 1st evaluation of the IPs (see CNL (19)14)	20 Plans reviewed: 1 IP acceptable
6th June 2019	IP Review Group presentation to Council	
1st November 2019	Deadline for submission of revised Implementation Plans to NASCO	16 revised Plans submitted
18th to 22nd November 2019	Meets and develops its 2nd evaluation of the revised Implementations Plans	Considerable progress by almost all Parties/jurisdictions. Still only 2 IPs acceptable.
1st May 2020	Deadline for revised IP to be submitted to NASCO	No special session in 2020. - IPs not discussed until November 2020.
1st November 2020	Deadline for revised IPs	
16th to 27th November, 4th, 11th, 16th & 17th December 2020	Review Group meets and develops its 3rd evaluation of the revised Implementation Plans Revised guidance.	21 IPs review (1 new IP): 12 IPs were revised from 2019. 1 IP satisfactory in all areas.
1st April 2021	Deadline for submission of Annual Progress Report to Secretariat	19 of 21 APRs
19th to 28th April 2021	APR Review Group review progress against IPs reviewed in November 2020	19 of 21 APRs reviewed
15th to 19th November 2021	Review Group meets and develops its 4th evaluation of the revised Implementation Plans Revised guidance.	17 revised IPs received and reviewed
11th to 14th April & 3rd May 2022	APR Review Group review progress against IPs reviewed in November 2021	20 of the 21 Aps received by deadline
14th and 15th November 2022	Review Group meets and develops its 5th evaluation of the revised Implementation Plans Revised guidance.	3 revised IPs received and reviewed
17th to 21th April 2023	APR Review Group review progress against IPs reviewed in November 2022	20 of the 21 APRs expected were received and reviewed
1 November 2021/2022/2023	Deadline for return of modified Implementation Plans to NASCO for inclusion in APR template.	
31 December 2021 /2022/2023	Deadline for return of modified Implementation Plans to NASCO for inclusion in APR template.	

Introduction and Background



- 5th Interim Report of the IP/APR Review Group IP review (CNL (23)21)
- 14th & 15th November 2022
 - Areas of assessment and guidance remains the same CNL(22)15.
 - Council in 2021 decided:
 1. Only revised parts of the IP to be reviewed
 2. Aspects of the IP that are making progress towards NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines should be identified.
 3. Significant improvements should be identified to the Secretariat for onward communication (Web and Social Media)
 - Ground rules:
 - *Only info in the APR & IP to be reviewed*
 - *Reviewers not present for own jurisdictional APR*
 - *Initial reviewer to remain anonymous*



APR Review Group Agreed



- 3 revised IPs received:
 - Norway (IP(19) 18 rev4)
 - UK Northern Ireland (IP(19) 08 rev4)
 - UK – Scotland (IP(19) 10 rev3)

Review Group, again recommends Parties and Jurisdictions with responsibility to regulate salmon farming industries need to adhere closely to NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines

Comments and Questions



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Emma Hatfield
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Introduction and Background



- 4th APR review in the 3rd cycle (2020 review was cancelled)
 - No specific TOR for the APR review relied on CNL(18)49 (*Preparation and Evaluation of NASCO Implementation Plans and for Reporting on Progress*)
 - Secretariat designed review template (CNL40.2178 A3)
 - Lead/Initial reviewers assigned
 - Review Group – Reviewed all Actions (CNL(21)07)
 - Ground rules:
 - *Only info in the APR & IP to be reviewed*
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 - *Initial reviewer to remain anonymous*



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APR Evaluation Std Text



Progress of actions evaluated and categorised against:

NS = Not Started;

OG = Ongoing – clear progress;

OG-NP = Ongoing – no progress;

OG-UD = Ongoing – unable to determine progress;

CD = Completed – clear progress;

CD-NP = Completed – without clear progress;

Progress deemed ongoing - reporting improvement provided

Progress not able to be determined (standard descriptors):

- action not yet started;
- lack of quantitative data to demonstrate progress;
- reliance on references to websites or publications;
- reporting timeframe not clearly specified;
- no progress has been made in the reporting year;
- progress report is unclear.



APR Review Group Agreed



- Given the reporting cycle is four years in, any actions that had not yet started would be marked as 'Unsatisfactory'
- for those actions considered to be unsatisfactory; to report only that progress towards NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines could not be established



APR RG noted shortcomings



- several of the APRs had, again, reported on activities in years prior to the reporting year; reporting should be confined of reporting year. However, quantitative information on trends is expected, where possible;
- focus on demonstrating progress towards the ‘Expected outcome’ set out in the IP. In several instances, the ‘Approach for monitoring’ and ‘Planned timescale’ laid out in the IP were not followed, such that progress in relation to the targets / metrics stated in those sections of the IP was difficult to determine.
- reports on progress should be brief, while providing enough information to demonstrate clear progress; this is not the case in many instances;
- in some cases the overall action was stated to be ‘Completed’ however, it was unclear whether this meant that the overall action was complete or whether it was an ongoing action that would be reported on annually, in which case it should have been marked as ‘Ongoing’. This is now stated more clearly in the review feedback.



APR Review Group Feedback



- The RG welcomed Greenland's proposed development of the Kapisillit-Austmannadalen national park.
- The RG noted with concern the continued poor stock status of Atlantic salmon populations in the River Tana/Teno system, all salmon fishing was closed in 2022 both in the river and in nearby coastal areas
- The RG commented that in EU – Spain (Cantabria) the removal of four dams, two in 2021 and two in 2022 is a notable achievement and inline with the NASCO Habitat Guidelines, CNL(10)51
- CNL(23)05 contains further positive feedback from various Parties/jurisdictions



APR Review Group Feedback on the Reporting Cycle

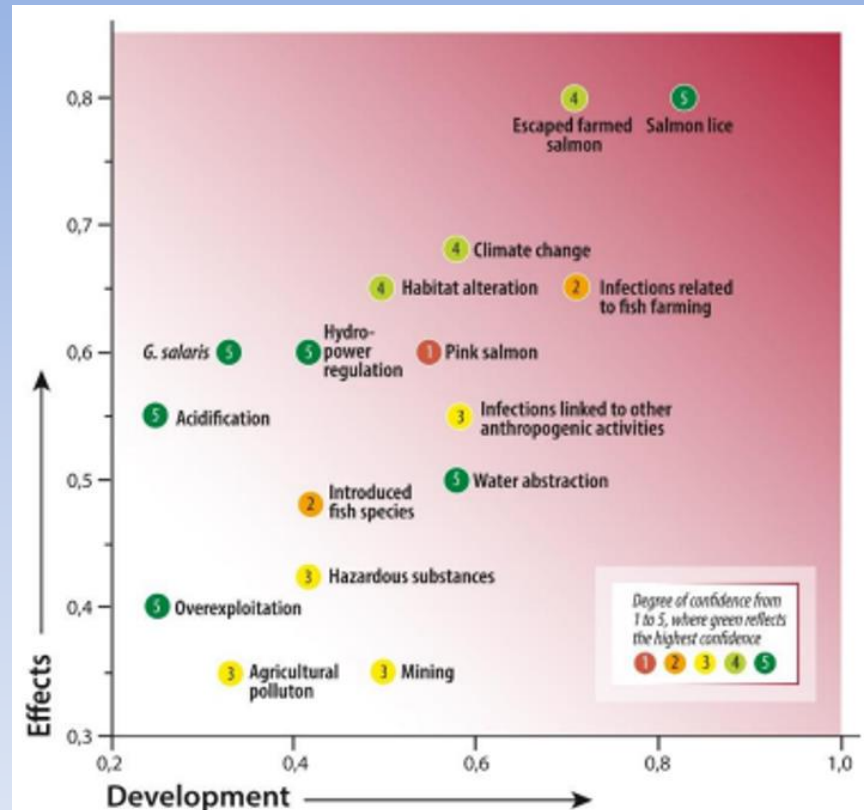


- The 3rd reporting cycle has increased engagement across NASCO's Parties / jurisdictions. The 21 IPs submitted have enabled a light to be shone on the common challenges being faced across the North Atlantic while highlighting potential tools to address these challenges;
- The RG found NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines to be very useful in supporting the development and evaluation of IPs / APRs. These, going forward, should be referenced in each IP, identifying how each action should move them towards their achievement;
- To enable a full understanding of what is expected of IPs and APRs in the fourth reporting cycle, a workshop should be held in advance of IP development to inform the authors of the Plan

APR Review Group Feedback on the Reporting Cycle



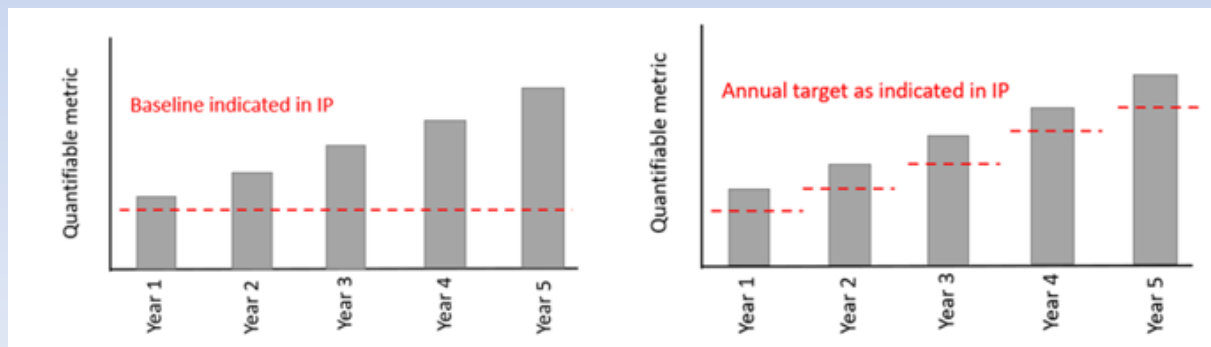
- the development of a NASCO standardised risk assessment tool capturing the main threats to wild Atlantic salmon, such as presented in recent years by Norway, should be considered to inform an assessment of the highest priority threats / challenges to populate the IPs for all of NASCO's Parties / jurisdictions;



APR Review Group Feedback on the Reporting Cycle



- Mandatory actions in the key reporting areas should be retained;
- Where actions are qualitative, there must be a measurable outcome, with milestones, to determine movement towards the achievement of NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines;
- For each quantitative action, wherever possible, a standard graph should be used, in each year of reporting, to show the annual results and associated trend over the life of each reporting cycle, together with the appropriate baseline / target;



APR Review Group Feedback on the Reporting Cycle



- Actions considered to be unsatisfactory by the Review Group should not be reviewed in the APRs; and
- the Review Group Chair and Secretary should be consulted if the Council wants to make changes during the reporting cycle.



Comments and Questions

