

	<p>Council</p> <p><i>Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2023 EU – Spain (Galicia)</i></p>	<p>CNL(24)32</p>
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Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2023

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 2024**.

Party:	European Union
Jurisdiction / Region:	Spain (Galicia)

1: Changes to the Implementation Plan
1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan (<i>Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 November</i>).
<p>Actions F5, H3 and H4, related with projects funded with NextGeneration funds must be corrected to meet actual numbers: 3 counting devices in rivers Landro, Eo and Ulla (F5), eradication of invasive species in 11 rivers (H3) and demolition/permeabilization of 6 barriers in 2 rivers (H4), which also may include another two barriers not related with these (see 1.2). Corrections will be included in a revised version of IP</p>
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.
<p>Two dams in rivers Eo and Masma were removed by Water Agencies, not related with actions cited in previous APRs. Both dams were permeable but had negative effects on timing of runs and increased vulnerability of migrants to fishermen or predators. Two new fish counters will be operating soon in rivers Landro and Eo. We have no news about actions of the Government of Spain, joint with the Government of Portugal, related with the development of an IP for the Miño-Minho river, as cited in the previous APR.</p>

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.				
Despite good water levels and good fishing conditions, catches were low. At the same time very few adults were caught at fish traps, pointing to the fact that salmon runs were very weak this season.				
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 2023 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	0.139	0	0	0.139
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2022 (tonnes)	0.188	0	0	0.188
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2023 (tonnes)	0.014			
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2023	Maintaining the figures of previous years, at least 15% of the catch is released. As 30 salmon were retained in 2022 in sport fisheries, a minimum of 4 salmon were released in Galician rivers			
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).				
<i>Note: the reports under ‘Progress on action to date’ should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. 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.</i>				
Action F1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	Development of CLs for Ulla river, where relatively long series of data on fish traps for adults or smolts are available, together with catch data and parr surveys data.		
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Better management criteria for the Ulla fishery and a basis for the “transportation” of curves developed and methods to other river systems.		
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement	Publication of results and application to yearly fishing regulations.		

	<i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	
	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i></p>	[The study for the development of CLs for Ulla river is almost finished, but not officially submitted yet.]
	<p>Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i></p>	[Ongoing]
	<p>If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?</p>	
Action F2:	<p>Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	Co-operation with the central government of Spain for the development of a stand-alone IP for the river Miño-Minho, jointly with the government of Portugal.
	<p>Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	Reinforcement of the population in the main river and its tributaries and rationalization of fishing under sustainable guidelines.
	<p>Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	State of development of the IP itself.
	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i></p>	[We have no information on the progress in this item. We must emphasize that this is an initiative and an attribution that corresponds to the government of Spain and not to the regional government of Xunta de Galicia.
	<p>Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall</i></p>	[Not started]

	<i>action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F3:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	Progressive limitation of “conflictive” sea-trout fisheries (14 rivers), closing the season together for both species
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Avoiding by-catch of salmon after fishing season, or in restricted areas, improving its survival to spawning time. This will improve in the long term the levels of spawning and recruitment.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	Number of fisheries with closed season for both species
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)	8 of 14 "conflictive" fisheries have already been limited to minimize by-catch of salmon. Further limitations were introduced last season to ensure it in some of these fisheries (fishing season closed in 30 of June for any species). But fishing for sea-trout is still authorized until 30 of September in rivers Sor, Mera, Xubia, Eume, Mandeo and Tambre, in the province of Coruña.
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
Action F4:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	Stocking Miño's tributaries in Portugal and Spain presently not used by salmon with parr of local origin (river Tea).
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Reinforcement and improvement of the Miño river stock will contribute to maintain a better status on the southernmost populations and, on a larger time-scale basis, contribute to the

		recovery/reconstruction of “bridge” populations between cantabrian and atlantic complexes.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Number of parr stocked in new tributaries. Electrofishing monitoring in tributaries.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i>	As stated in previous APR
	Current status of action <i>(Please note: ‘Completed’ means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as ‘Ongoing’)</i>	Completed
	If ‘Completed’, has the action achieved its objective?	No available results yet from the screw-trap in Mouro river (Portugal)
Action F5:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Installation of monitoring devices (automatic fish counter) in the lower Ulla river.
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Improvement of knowledge on salmon and other migratory fish movements and number, in order to develop better fishery regulations .
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Number of devices installed.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g.</i>	The fish counter in river Ulla will be installed in summer 2024. Another counter has been already installed in river Landro while in the Eo River the installation of another one is about to be completed

	website links) will not be evaluated)	
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
<p>3.2 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (section 3.5 of the Implementation Plan).</p> <p><i>Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. 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.</i></p>		
Action H1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	Design and testing of new passage facilities for some tributaries of the Miño river.
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Improvement of connectivity and accessibility in the Miño system, allowing to reach the cooler pristine waters of upper reaches.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	Installation of 2 new devices in Galician or Portuguese tributaries.
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)	
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third	Completed

	<i>reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	Yes
Action H2:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Permeabilization or demolition of barriers in the Miño system.
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Improvement of connectivity and accessibility in the Miño system, allowing to reach the cooler pristine waters of upper reaches.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Permeabilization or demolition of 8 barriers in Galician or Portuguese tributaries.
	Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i>	As stated in previous APR
	Current status of action <i>(Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	Completed
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	Yes
Action H3:	Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Eradication of invasive alien species in riparian environments of 6 salmon rivers.
	Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Increase/conservation of biodiversity and resilience of riparian and associated freshwater habitats.
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Number of rivers with eradication completed.

	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i></p>	<p>Erradication works completed in 11 rivers Eo, Masma, Ouro Landro, Sor, Mera, Tambre, Ulla, Lárez, Verdugo and Tea (tributary of Miño river) with 5 over the 6 initially planned</p>
	<p>Current status of action <i>(Please note: ‘Completed’ means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as ‘Ongoing’)</i></p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>If ‘Completed’, has the action achieved its objective?</p>	<p>Yes, but will be seen in next future.</p>
Action H4:	<p>Description of action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>Permeabilitation of 14 barriers in 6 rivers, including demolition, new fish ladders and improvement of defective ladders.</p>
	<p>Expected outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>Improvement of connectivity and accessibility, allowing to reach the cooler pristine waters of upper reaches.</p>
	<p>Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>Number of barriers permeabilized.</p>
	<p>Progress on action to date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)</i></p>	<p>2 barriers were extirpated. The rest will be completed in summer 2024.</p>
	<p>Current status of action <i>(Please note: ‘Completed’ means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<i>reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')</i>	
	If 'Completed', has the action achieved its objective?	
<p>3.3 Provide an update on progress on actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (section 4.11 of the Implementation Plan).</p> <p><i>Note: the reports under 'Progress on action to date' should provide a brief overview of each action. Please report in relation to the reporting year only or the most relevant recent year. 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.</i></p>		
Action A1:	Description of action (as submitted in the IP)	
	Expected outcome (as submitted in the IP)	
	Approach for monitoring effectiveness & enforcement (as submitted in the IP)	
	Progress on action to date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure, or other justified evaluation, of progress. If sub-actions are completed during the reporting year, this should be made clear. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated)	
	Current status of action (Please note: 'Completed' means that the overall action is complete for the lifetime of the third reporting cycle. If it is an ongoing action that is reported on annually, it should be marked as 'Ongoing')	Choose an item.

	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.	
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.	