

CNL(24)84

# NASCO Atlantic Salmon Atlas

Update from the steering committee

NASCO Annual Meeting 2024

The Restigouche River- world famous for its large salmon-  
forms the border between New Brunswick and Quebec, Canada

# Background

## **Recalling that during the 2022 annual meeting, Council:**

- Accepted all recommendations of the Rivers Database Working Group, including all data/metrics to be provided
- Requested that the Rivers Database Working Group act as the Steering Committee for the development of the 'Wild Atlantic Salmon Atlas'.
- Agreed that the Periodic Projects Special Fund be used to fund the work over two years.

## **During the 2023 annual meeting, Council was updated that:**

- A Statement of Work was developed from WG recommendations and the consideration of many relevant examples by the Steering Committee.
- Successful application to Esri's Nonprofit Organization Program to host the Atlas and to provide low-cost access to GIS software, training, etc.
- Awarded a contract to the Forth Rivers Trust to deliver the Statement of Work, following an assessment of other potential contractors

# Highlights of NASCO Atlantic salmon Atlas

From [CNL\(22\)12](#), Agreed upon by Council

## **Purpose**

- to support a map-based overview of the state of Atlantic salmon populations across the North Atlantic for a public audience
- To act as the official NASCO record of the state of river stocks and provides data that can be used in the production of NASCO's State of North Atlantic Salmon Reports

**Metrics & data needs:** Council agree to fewer, succinct, clearly defined metrics that are fit for our stated purpose

**Display and features:** map-based, interactive, accessible, with exportable data

**Data input:** by the Secretariat (or Parties that have ArcGIS account), with compliance anticipated to increase given simplified data requirements.

# Status update

## Preview of the NASCO Salmon Atlas

- Work to date is on time and on budget
- Secretariat has worked with the contractor to implement the Statement of Work
- Outcomes from WGForN highlight the importance of education and outreach to enhance public and stakeholder engagement.

A preview has been prepared for the 2024 annual meeting, noting that:

*“the Steering Committee would provide oversight, but that the Parties should have the opportunity to agree the final plans for the ‘Atlas’ and agree the final product before it goes live”.*

# Wild Atlantic Salmon Atlas video guide

Microsoft Teams

## NASCORECORDING240528

2024-05-28 15:28 UTC

Recorded by

Michiel Voermans

Organized by

Michiel Voermans

# Towards publication

## Next steps and proposed timeline for agreement by Council

**Agreement by Council to publish the Atas, as presented by the Steering Committee, according to the following timeline:**

- Secretariat to request data asap after 2024 Annual Meeting
  - An optional information session held to support those tasked with data acquisition & upload proposed for September 2024
- Parties/jurisdictions to provide Secretariat with required data by December 2024
- Data uploaded to Atlas by Secretariat end of March 2024
- Soft launch of Atlas within April/May 2025
  - Steering Committee to oversee test run, to identify and resolve potential issues
- Public launch and publicity at Annual Meeting 2025
- Ongoing check-ins (periodically or as required) by Steering Committee to ensure platform remains functional, and to provide ongoing advice.

# Towards publication

## Next steps and proposed timeline for agreement by Council

	2024				2025			
Proposed timeline	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Agreement by Council on recommendations and timeline		NASCO A.M.						
Optional information session to support data gathering			September					
Parties provide Secretariat with updated data and sidecar information				December				
Data uploaded by Secretariat				December to April				
Softlaunch (publication with no promotion) and monitoring								
Public launch and promotion at 2025 annual meeting						NASCO A.M.		

**NASCO Atlantic Salmon Atlas Steering Committee:** Helge Dyrendal (Norway), Janina Gray (NGO-Wildfish), Steve Gephard (USA), Nora Hanson (UK-Scotland), Sarah McLean (EU-Ireland), Livia Goodbrand (Chair, Canada)

# Annex

# Data to be requested from Parties/Jurisdictions

Agreed to by Council

Metric	Data
River ID	Unique number for each river
Party	NASCO Party
Country	Country
Region / Province	Region or province
River Name	A river is named as the mainstem of the system of rivers and tributaries where it reaches the sea
Location Latitude	2 digits of degrees plus 2 digits of minutes, zero-padded where required e.g 0464, not 464. Possible use of <a href="#">WGS84</a>
Location Longitude	2 digits of degrees plus 2 digits of minutes, zero-padded where required. Possible use of <a href="#">WGS84</a>
Salmon Stock Category	Low / Moderate / High / Lost / Unknown / Stocking Intervention tick box  Each Party / jurisdiction is free to use its own approach to categorising stocks – likely via a ‘read across’ from its own assessment method
Stocking Intervention	Stocking has been used as a management tool for this population in the last five years.  Yes / No
Salmon Stock Category Trend	‘Salmon Stock Category’ in different time periods, i.e. the category last time and the category this time
Other Information	Provision of information would be optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of Significant Recovery and / or Management Actions;</li> <li>• Special Designations;</li> <li>• Specific Threats; and</li> <li>• Total Conservation Requirement</li> </ul>
Year	The year(s) in which the stock status assessment was conducted
Links	Links to further information on the specific river

## ➤ Data to be requested about your rivers

- Data requested for 6 new metrics: 4 required + 2 optional
- 7 metrics remain the same from previous database (in green)
- 4 metrics to be deleted

## Information to be requested about your Party/jurisdiction (consider pulling from your IPs/APRs)

Data about a Region / Country	
14	Data about a Region / Country
15	GIS shapefile requested from Parties / jurisdictions to display whole salmon river
16	Main impact factors adversely affecting salmon stocks at a regional or national level
17	Information on the methods used to arrive at the Stock Classification Category
18	Links to additional overarching information on rivers (optional)