



Agenda item 5.4
For information

Council

CNL(03)21

***Report of the First Meeting of the
International Cooperative Salmon Research Board***

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International Cooperative Salmon Research Board***

1. The International Cooperative Salmon Research Board was established by the Council in 2001 to direct and coordinate a programme of research to identify and explain the causes of marine mortality of Atlantic salmon and the possibility to counteract the mortality. The Board held its Inaugural Meeting in December 2001. The report of the Board's first meeting, in December 2002, is attached.
2. The inventory of research, developed at the Inaugural Meeting, is an essential tool for use by the Board in development of research priorities for potential funding and in better coordinating existing research efforts. The Board further developed its administrative procedures which, it was agreed, should be kept to a minimum consistent with proper controls. A Scientific Advisory Group was established to identify research gaps and priorities, to develop recommendations for enhanced coordination of existing research and to develop a draft call for proposals. The Board confirmed that its research priority remains major multi-disciplinary projects aimed at improving understanding of the distribution and migration of salmon at sea.
3. The Board received a report on some preliminary research which had been conducted by Russia in 2002 in order to assess the level of by-catch in mackerel, blue whiting and herring fisheries.
4. The Board further developed its approach to fund-raising and agreed that there may be a need for professional assistance in developing appropriate publicity material. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary should undertake a "pilot" project later in 2003 to gauge the response from a few potential donors and to ascertain the main problems and opportunities associated with an ambitious fund-raising project. The Board members were asked to propose contacts in each of their countries.
5. At the Council's Annual Meeting in 2002, provisional commitments by the Contracting Parties amounting to £0.5 million, in cash and in kind, were made in addition to the expenditure of £4 million detailed in the inventory. The Parties gave further details of their likely contributions to the fund which will be made during 2003. To date, however, no contributions to the fund have been made by the Parties. The Board agreed that it should seek a minimum of £18,000 from NASCO in 2004 to enable the initial fund-raising strategy to be implemented. However, it is the longer-term intention that the Board's costs be met from the fund.
6. The Board agreed that the Chairman of NASCO's NGO Group, or his/her nominee from within the accredited NGOs, be invited to participate in future meetings of the Board so as to provide the NGO viewpoint to Members of the Board on issues under discussion.
7. A further meeting of the Board will be held immediately before the Twentieth Annual Meeting and a verbal report of this meeting will be made to the Council.

Secretary
Edinburgh
7 April, 2003

***Report of the First Meeting of the International Cooperative Salmon
Research Board
Metropolitan Hotel, New York, USA, 3-5 December 2002***

1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 The Chairman, Dr Malcolm Windsor, opened the meeting and welcomed Members of the Board and their advisers to New York. He referred to the progress made by the Board at its Inaugural Meeting in developing an inventory of research relating to salmon mortality in the sea and in agreeing on administrative procedures to guide the Board's work. This progress had been welcomed by the Council at its Nineteenth Annual Meeting. He noted that the challenge for the Board at its first meeting is to agree ways of further improving coordination of existing research efforts and to develop a strategy for raising new funds from the public and private sector so as to finance the gaps in the research.
- 1.2 A list of participants is contained in Annex 1.

2. Election of a Chairman

- 2.1 At its Inaugural Meeting the Board had appointed Dr Malcolm Windsor to serve as Chairman until such time as the Board had been successfully established. This had now been achieved. The Board unanimously elected Mr Jacque Robichaud as its Chairman for an initial term of two years.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

- 3.1 The Board adopted its agenda, ICR(02)11 (Annex 2), but agreed to include under item 4 consideration of procedures for disbursement of new funds.

4. Review of the Financial Rules, Rules of Procedure and Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions and Consideration of Procedures for Disbursement of New Funds

- 4.1 The Rules of Procedure for the International Cooperative Salmon Research Board (ICR(01)9), Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Fund (ICR(01)10) and Financial Rules of the International Cooperative Salmon Research Fund (ICR(01)11) developed by the Board at its Inaugural Meeting had been accepted by the Council at its Nineteenth Annual Meeting. It was noted that the NGOs had raised the question of their relationship with the Board and it was agreed that this issue would be considered under agenda item 10.
- 4.2 Rule 4 of the Board's Rules of Procedure provides for the appointment of Patrons to the Fund. The Board discussed the criteria by which such Patrons may be appointed and agreed that there may be benefits to the Fund from the appointment of Patrons

who are well-known figures with an interest in salmon conservation. They may or may not contribute funds but they could enhance the status of the Board and its work. These appointments might bring promotional benefits. These individuals would probably not be involved directly in the Board's work. The Board agreed that it was ready to receive nominations for such status and invited proposals from its Members.

- 4.3 The Board also recognised that donors to the fund might seek to participate in the work of the Board. Indeed, a substantial donation might be conditional on such involvement. The Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions allow that a donor may direct a contribution to specific research provided that the research is consistent with the aims of the Programme, i.e. to identify the causes of marine mortality of salmon and the opportunities to counteract the mortality. Where a donor is willing to make a substantial contribution or fund an entire project, the Board recognised that the donor may wish to be regularly appraised of progress with the research and to be satisfied that the funds had been correctly disbursed. In this situation the Board agreed that the donor may be appointed as a Patron to the Board and be invited to attend the Board's meetings. Such status would normally be linked to the period for which funding is offered. Other donors to the fund, perhaps offering smaller sums and/or wishing only to be identified with the Board's work, would be identified in the Board's Annual Reports and promotional material. There might be various categories of donors.
- 4.4 The Board suggested that the Chairman and Secretary use their discretion in offering Patron status where requested by large-scale donors. The Board asked to be advised of their decisions and to be consulted in the event of any unforeseen circumstances. The Board agreed that provided that any donation was consistent with the Guidelines, ICR(01)10, the Chairman and Secretary could accept contributions without further consulting the Board.
- 4.5 The Secretary introduced document ICR(02)8 which raised a number of questions in relation to the administrative arrangements for funding relevant research. The Board considered how, in the event that it is successful in raising new funds, these funds should be disbursed. It was agreed that the administrative procedures should be kept to a minimum consistent with adequate procedures to ensure that there were proper controls. However, even a minimal administrative process would require that research contracts be agreed with those receiving the funds. The Board considered a number of examples of calls for proposals, application forms and contracts for services used by the Contracting Parties and agreed on the elements to be included in documents to be used by the Board, ICR(02)10. The Secretary was asked to develop a call for proposals, an application form and a contract based in Scottish law for consideration by the Board at its next meeting. It was recognised that there may be a need for legal advice in developing these documents and that other inter-government fishery Commissions might be consulted in relation to the nature of any contracts they may have developed with government agencies. Further consideration would also need to be given to the issue of commercial ownership of products developed under research funded by the Board.

5. Inventory of Research – Updating and Future Maintenance

- 5.1 The Secretary introduced document ICR(02)2 concerning maintenance of the inventory, priorities for research needs and coordination of research efforts. The format and content of the inventory of research relating to salmon mortality in the sea (CNL(02)21), developed by the Board at its Inaugural Meeting, had been accepted by the Council. This inventory is an essential tool for use by the Board in the development of research priorities for potential funding and in better coordinating existing research efforts. Maintaining and improving the inventory will involve updating the inventory as new projects, including those funded by other agencies, are approved, and projects already included in the inventory are changed, and removing projects that have been completed.
- 5.2 The Board discussed a timetable and mechanism for updating the inventory, for identifying research priorities and for soliciting, evaluating and funding research proposals. It was agreed that much of this work could best be undertaken by a Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) of the Board made up of the advisers to the Members of the Board. The work of the SAG and of the Board itself might be according to the following timetable:

February	Information to update inventory provided to the NASCO Secretariat by the Contracting Parties by 15 February.
March	Updated inventory available for review by the Contracting Parties in early March.
April	<p>Inventory of research made available to the ICES Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon to assist them in identifying data deficiencies and research needs in accordance with NASCO's annual request for scientific advice.</p> <p>Following that meeting the Board's SAG meets to review the inventory, to identify gaps in research and research priorities and to develop recommendations for enhanced coordination of existing research. The SAG's report to be available to the Board by the end of April.</p>
June	The Board meets immediately prior to, and in the same location as, the Annual Meeting of NASCO to define research priorities, to assess the funding available for the coming year and to develop research funding proposals. Requests for research proposals to be issued in mid-June with a deadline for submissions of 1 September.
September	Members of the SAG evaluate research proposals, where necessary drawing on external expertise.
October	SAG works by teleconferencing/correspondence or, if necessary, meets (possibly in conjunction with ICES Annual Science Conference) to formulate recommendations to the Board on the research proposals and on coordination of these proposals. The SAG's recommendations to be sent to the Board in mid-October.
December	<p>Board meets in early December to decide on projects to be funded in coming year and to deal with fund-raising and administrative issues.</p> <p>Secretariat requests information from Contracting Parties to update inventory.</p>

5.3 The Board agreed:

- to update the projects in the inventory, including projects funded by non-government agencies, through an annual request to each Contracting Party's Member of the Board, seeking a return of information to the Secretariat by 15 February each year;
- to provide the information according to the format, ICR(02)13, contained in Annex 3;
- to ask the Secretariat to establish and maintain the inventory of research as a computer-based database which, subject to budgetary considerations, should be made available as a separate website dedicated to the work of the Board but with a link to the NASCO website. Details of Patrons and other donors could also be made available on this website.

5.4 In accordance with the timetable, the Secretary was asked to request an update of the projects in the inventory following the Board's meeting so that an updated inventory would be available to the SAG for review in April 2003. The returns from the Contracting Parties should include a brief summary of progress since the last notification for each of the research projects contained in the inventory. The Board asked that Mr David Meerburg serve as Chairman for an initial period and implement the procedures outlined in the timetable above.

5.5 The Board recognised that there would be a need for it to ensure the scientific independence of the SAG in situations where its members might also be potential recipients of funding.

6. Identification of Priorities for Research Needs and Analysis of the Inventory Against These Needs

6.1 Projects in the inventory of research have been allocated to five topic areas, subdivided by issue and assigned a priority by the Board of high, medium or low on the basis of the current perception of the need for international cooperation between the Contracting Parties and for access to funding. The Board had agreed at its Inaugural Meeting that cooperation between the Contracting Parties and access to the fund were desirable for practical studies of the distribution and migration of salmon in the sea (including studies of by-catch in pelagic fisheries) and studies of biological processes (e.g. environment, food, predation, growth, parasites and diseases) relating to the marine phase of the life-cycle. Initially the Board had agreed to focus on studies of the distribution and migration of salmon as its highest priority. This had been accepted by the Council, which had highlighted the need to afford a high priority to studies on by-catch.

6.2 Following the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Council, NASCO's NGOs had been given the opportunity to review the inventory of marine research and to comment on the priorities for research. The Secretary referred to document ICR(02)6 in which the Chairman of the NGO Group indicated that the NGOs endorsed the Board's conclusion about the initial focus of its work and proposed that by-catch of salmon in

near-surface pelagic trawling in the Norwegian Sea and elsewhere, and identification of practical measures to reduce by-catch of post-smolts in these fisheries, should be afforded the highest priority. The NGOs also proposed that, in relation to “studies of biological processes”, a high priority should be afforded to studies of the problems faced by salmon during their transition from fresh to salt water.

- 6.3 The Board confirmed that its priorities for research had not changed since its Inaugural Meeting and that they would be unlikely to change unless new information became available to suggest that the priorities needed to be re-evaluated. However, the SAG could re-evaluate these priorities in the light of the updating of the inventory and make recommendations to the Board. The Board agreed that major multi-disciplinary projects aimed at improving understanding of the distribution and migration of salmon at sea should be the main priority when funds become available. The Board noted that the issue of by-catch is of particular significance within the North-East Atlantic but that North American donors, government or private, may have other priorities for funding.
- 6.4 The representative of Russia reported to the Board on some preliminary research which had been conducted during 2002 to assess the by-catch of post-smolts in pelagic fisheries for mackerel, blue whiting and herring, ICR(02)9 (Annex 4). Details of this research had not been included in the inventory in 2002 because funding had only been secured after the inventory had been developed. It is the intention to continue this research if funding is made available. The Board welcomed this research and agreed that it is important that relevant research which is not included in the inventory at the time of the annual request because, for example, of uncertainty about funding is included retrospectively in subsequent returns. The Board agreed that when a research project detailed in the inventory is completed a brief report on the main findings of the research should be made available to the Board and a compendium of relevant research should be included on the Board’s website.

7. Improved Coordination of Existing and Planned Research Programmes

- 7.1 Prior to the Board’s Inaugural Meeting there had been little collation of the research being undertaken by the Parties in relation to mortality of salmon at sea. The Board recognised that development and maintenance of the inventory is, in itself, a major step forward since it is now possible to find details, in one document, of all relevant research programmes conducted by the Parties thereby facilitating enhanced communication between scientists, improved coordination of research and cost and efficiency savings. The SAG should review the inventory and make recommendations to the Board for improved coordination of existing and planned research.

8. The Search for New Funding

(a) Decisions on the strategic approach to be adopted to fund-raising in the private sector

- 8.1 The Secretary introduced document ICR(02)3. At its Inaugural Meeting the Board had agreed that its fund-raising efforts would best be targeted at individuals with a strong interest in wild Atlantic salmon and their survival, and at companies that might

gain from being identified with the wild Atlantic salmon and its conservation. The Board developed a list of categories of donors, ICR(02)14 (Annex 5). The Members of the Board agreed to provide to the Secretary by the end of December a list of potential donors according to the categories identified. These potential donors might be initially contacted by the Members of the Board or a senior government representative to advise them of the objectives of the Board and to indicate that they may be approached by the Chairman and Secretary with regard to fund-raising for the Board.

- 8.2 The Secretary stressed that he and the Chairman did not believe that, with the funds and resources available to them, it was likely that the large amount of funds required could readily be raised in the short term. Such major fund-raising activities would normally require specialist skills in public relations, significant support funding and the development of a wide range of contacts. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary would undertake a "pilot" project to gauge the response from a few potential donors and to ascertain the main problems and opportunities associated with an ambitious fund-raising project.
- 8.3 The Board noted that contributions by the Contracting Parties to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Programme might be in the form of funded research included in the inventory or contributions in cash or in kind to the Fund. The Chairman referred to the provisional commitments made by the Contracting Parties at NASCO's Nineteenth Annual Meeting amounting to £0.5 million, in cash and in kind, in addition to the expenditure of £4 million detailed in the inventory. He asked for clarification of these contributions. It was noted that a number of Parties would be undertaking additional research on salmon at sea in 2003, which would increase the expenditure included in the inventory.
- 8.4 The United States confirmed that it expected to make a contribution of approximately £100,000 (US\$150,000) to the Fund in the first quarter of 2003. The Board expressed its appreciation for this generous contribution. Canada indicated that it expected to be able to make a small contribution of cash to the Fund in 2003. Although no representative of the European Commission was able to attend the meeting, the Secretary read out the following message he had received: "The Commission is entirely supportive of this initiative and wishes the proceedings to be as successful as possible. We look forward to hearing the outcome later this week. The Commission is presently examining the future means for funding the work of the Board, and will report back on this at a later stage". All the other Contracting Parties reaffirmed their support for the work of the Board. The Chairman recalled the commitment made by the Head of the EU delegation at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Council to seek funds in relation to studies on by-catch of salmon in pelagic fisheries and asked if there was any progress to report. The EU representative indicated that any contribution to the Programme would probably be in the form of research funded through EU initiatives such as the Sixth Framework. Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland) indicated that matching funding might be available in the Faroes for research funded in part by the Board. Norway spent significant amounts on existing salmon research programmes but indicated that it might be able to make a contribution to the Fund at the end of the first quarter of 2003. The amount of the contribution was not yet resolved. Russia had previously advised the Board of a new commitment to assess by-catch in pelagic fisheries amounting to an expenditure of

approximately £80,000 in 2002. Iceland referred to ongoing research programmes detailed in the inventory. The Chairman welcomed these commitments and asked that the Members of the Board confirm to the Secretary, at the earliest opportunity, their contributions to the Fund.

- 8.5 The Board was made aware of the fact that in some countries donations to charities benefit from tax reductions. The Board asked the Secretary to examine the possibility of NASCO operating such a tax reduction scheme or the opportunities to channel funds through a local NGO for this tax reason.

(b) *Development of publicity and audio-visual materials and use of the media*

- 8.6 At its Inaugural Meeting the Board had agreed that, in order to assist with fund-raising efforts, publicity and audio-visual material (including a brochure and possibly a video) should be developed for presentation to potential donors. The Board considered a brochure entitled "Salmon at Sea" describing the background to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Programme and its objectives and inviting contributions to the Fund. Sample letters to potential donors were also considered. The Board agreed that there was a need to seek professional advice on the presentation and wording of these documents, so as to ensure they attract the attention of the recipients, and on the general approach to fund-raising. The Secretary raised the question of the possible conflict between the necessary shorthand styles used by advertising and PR firms and the need for the Board, associated with an international treaty, to present a factually balanced approach. Such issues would need careful consideration. The Board recognised that the inclusion in the brochure of statements of support from high-profile celebrities might aid the fund-raising effort.
- 8.7 The Board had previously agreed that it was important to develop a logo and acronym which conveyed to the public the intention of the Programme. NASCO's graphic designer had been approached to seek his views on a logo and the Board considered his proposal. It was agreed that there was a need to further enhance the design perhaps through use of either a more lifelike or a more artistic representation of a salmon and more striking use of colour. The insertion of the word "Atlantic" might be considered for incorporation in the text used in the logo, although this word does not appear in the name of the Board. In order to clarify that the Board's funding activities and programme of research would only be in relation to studies of marine mortality of Atlantic salmon, the Board agreed that at its next meeting it would consider changing its name to the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board (IASRB).
- 8.8 Since the Inaugural Meeting consultations had been initiated with an audio-visual company based in Ireland with regard to production of a video or CD. The Board agreed that for the time being it would not proceed with development of a video/CD but would use the brochure as its main publicity for the work of the Board. It was recognised that production of a high-quality video/CD would probably require new filming and that this could lead to considerable expense. However, the views of a professional adviser should be sought on the most appropriate aids to assist the Board's fund-raising activities.

- 8.9 The Board recognised that it was important to initiate fund-raising activities as soon as possible and agreed that it would be desirable that the SAG develop a draft call for proposals focused on studies of the distribution and migration of salmon for consideration by the Board at its next meeting. Even if funds were not available to support the research envisaged in this call for proposals, details of the research that might be undertaken in the event that funds become available and the cost of this work could assist the Chairman and Secretary in their fund-raising activities. The Chairman noted that the timing of the approaches to potential donors could be important and that advice should be sought on this aspect.

9. Utilisation of a Budget for 2003 and Proposals for a 2004 Budget

- 9.1 The Secretary introduced document ICR(02)5. The Council had approved the sum of £30,000 as an initial budget for the Board for 2003. The initial fund-raising strategy presented to the Council had requested funds to cover the cost of production of a brochure and video for use in fund-raising activities; the cost of travel and subsistence for the Chairman and/or Secretary associated with meeting potential donors; administrative costs (telecommunications, postage, stationery and representation) and meeting costs. After further discussion it was agreed that professional advice should be sought and paid for on approaches to fund-raising in general, and in particular on the design and wording of the brochure and on the letters to possible donors. There would also be a need for legal advice in relation to the contracts to be offered by the Board. In addition there would be costs associated with setting up a new website and costs associated with the meetings of the SAG. These changes in emphasis would require changes in the balance of budget spending and the Board agreed that there would need to be flexibility in the operation of this first budget.
- 9.2 The Board discussed the need for further funding from NASCO in 2004 which would have to be sought in April 2003 when the draft budget proposals are made to NASCO's Finance and Administration Committee. The Chairman and Secretary expressed some doubts that the Board could be self-financing with only one year of start-up funds from the Council. It was unlikely that a relatively small investment for one year only could raise the large funds necessary to finance a significant research programme. Clearly, however, there would only be a short window of time when the Board could be dependent on the Council. There was a potential conflict on how the start-up funds for the Board should be provided. Some Parties might prefer such funding to come through the NASCO formula for contributions to the Organization, while others might prefer another funding mechanism. Given the cash donations expected through Board Members, the Board felt that an element of these contributions might be used to support its fund-raising activities. In this case the support sought from the Council of NASCO could be reduced from £30,000 to a minimum of £18,000. This would enable the fund-raising strategy as developed with professional support in 2003 to be initiated that year and more fully implemented in 2004. It is the intention that, in the longer term, the Board's costs will be met from the Fund. It is, however, impossible to guarantee the timescale in which the Board could not only become self-supporting, but generate significant new funds for research.

10. External Representation on the Board

- 10.1 At its Inaugural Meeting the Board had decided that it would not, for the time being, invite external representation but recognised that the NGOs had considerable expertise in relation to fund-raising, public relations aspects and identifying research priorities. An element of flexibility had been included in the Rules of Procedure to allow external representation under exceptional circumstances. The Secretary introduced document ICR(02)4 which presented a number of options concerning external representation. The NGOs had asked the Board to consider inviting two representatives to participate in its work, ICR(02)6. The Board agreed that for it to work effectively it is important to limit its size. Nevertheless, NASCO's NGOs could bring valuable advice and experience if they were able to participate in the Board's work. The Board therefore agreed that the Chairman of NASCO's NGO Group, or his/her nominee from within the accredited NGOs, should be invited to participate in future meetings of the Board so as to provide the NGO viewpoint to the Members of the Board on the issues under discussion.

11. Other Business

- 11.1 There was no other business.

12. Report of the Meeting

- 12.1 The Board agreed a report of its meeting.

13. Date and Place of Next Meeting

- 13.1 The Board agreed to hold its next meeting in Edinburgh on Monday 2 June, immediately prior to the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Council. A meeting of the SAG will be held in April immediately following the ICES North Atlantic Salmon Working Group meeting.
- 13.2 The Chairman thanked the Members of the Board for their contributions to the meeting. The work of the Board had got off to a very good start and he appreciated the very positive atmosphere in which discussions had been held and decisions made.

List of Participants

Chairman

Mr Jacque Robichaud

Canada

Mr David Bevan

Adviser: Mr Dave Meerburg

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)

Mr Hedin Weihe

Adviser: Dr Jan Arge Jacobsen

European Union

Dr Ken Whelan

Adviser: Ms Jinny Hutchison

Iceland

Mr Arni Isaksson

Norway

Mr Arne Eggereide

Advisers: Mr Raoul Bierach, Dr Lars P Hansen

Russian Federation

Dr Boris Prischepa

Advisers: Ms Svetlana Krylova, Dr Alexander Zubchenko

Interpreter: Ms Elena Samoylova

United States

Mr Pasquale J Scida

Secretariat

Dr Malcolm Windsor

Dr Peter Hutchinson

First Meeting of the International Cooperative Salmon Research Board

3-5 December 2002, Metropolitan Hotel, New York, USA

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of a Chairman
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Review of the Financial Rules, Rules of Procedure, and Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions and Consideration of Procedures for Disbursement of New Funds
5. Inventory of Research - updating and future maintenance
6. Identification of priorities for research needs and analysis of the inventory against these needs
7. Improved coordination of existing and planned research programmes
8. The search for new funding
 - (a) Decisions on the strategic approach to be adopted to fund-raising in the private sector
 - (b) Development of publicity and audio-visual materials and use of the media
9. Utilisation of Budget for 2003 and proposals for a 2004 Budget
10. External representation on the Board
11. Other business
12. Report of the meeting
13. Date and place of next meeting

***Annual Return to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Board on
Research Relating to Salmon Mortality in the Sea***

1. Have there been any changes, since the last notification, to ongoing research projects included in the inventory of research, e.g. resources allocated to the projects, the extent of international collaboration? If yes, please provide details.
2. Have any projects included in the inventory of research been completed since the last notification and should therefore be removed from the inventory? If yes, please indicate which projects should be removed.
3. Have any new projects relevant to the inventory of research relating to salmon mortality in the sea been approved and funded since the last notification? If yes, please provide details using the format attached. *Note: The Board has agreed that projects funded by agencies other than the Contracting Parties should be included in the inventory. The Board also wishes to retrospectively include ongoing projects which were not included in previous notifications because, for example, of budgetary uncertainty at the time of the annual request.*
4. For each of the ongoing research projects contained in the inventory please provide a brief summary of progress since the last notification. In the case of projects which have been completed, and notified for removal from the inventory under paragraph 2 above, please provide a short summary of the main research findings of the project as a whole.

Inventory of Marine Research on Atlantic Salmon
- Notification of New Projects for Inclusion in the Inventory

Party or relevant jurisdiction	
Title of project	
Objective of research project	
Brief description of research project	
Dates during which research will take place	
Area in which research will take place	

Estimated number and weight of salmon to be retained	
Resources	
Estimated cost of the research project <i>Details of the full economic costs of each study are requested, including staff costs, equipment and overheads.</i>	
Number of participating scientists	
Name of coordinating scientist in charge of project	
Details of research vessels, e.g. name, registration, call sign and description of vessel	
Type and amount of gear and other equipment to be used	
Details of any collaborating countries	

Russian Research in 2002 as a Contribution to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Programme

At the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Council of NASCO, ICES for the first time presented estimates of by-catch of post-smolts based on data from research fishing in the international waters of the Norwegian Sea conducted by the Institute of Marine Research (Norway) in June 2001. These estimates suggest that the by-catch of salmon post-smolts in the mackerel fishery can be potentially significant, although the estimates by themselves are very preliminary and crude. The Council of NASCO expressed concern about the potential level of by-catch of post-smolts and recognised the need to further improve these initial estimates.

In accordance with the International Cooperative Salmon Research Programme established by NASCO with the aim of identifying and explaining the causes of marine mortality of Atlantic salmon and examining the possibilities of counteracting the mortality, the Russian Federation conducted studies in 2002 to assess the by-catch of post-smolts of Atlantic salmon in the fisheries of pelagic species in the international waters of the Norwegian Sea.

In the period from 29 May to 26 June (59 days), in the course of surveys of juvenile pelagic fish species by the research vessel "F. Nansen" (trip No. 52) in the Barents and Norwegian Seas, the Polar Research Institute (PINRO) carried out studies of the distribution of post-smolts of Atlantic salmon and assessment of by-catch of post-smolts in pelagic fisheries. Hauls by a pelagic research trawl with an opening of 45 x 40 m and 24 mm mesh cover were performed according to standard methods. A total of 112 hauls were conducted with an average duration of 44 minutes per trawl and at varying depths of the headline (including 70 hauls at depths of 0-5m). The entire catch from each haul was screened. Associated costs were US\$ 54,400.

During the Russian fishery for mackerel in international waters of the Norwegian Sea in 2002, 15 fishing vessels (about one third of the fleet which operated there) had shipboard observers provided by PINRO and "Complex Systems" (a science and production company). Apart from other duties, the observers' task was to check the mackerel catch to see if there was a by-catch of post-smolts. In June the observers checked 13% of hauls conducted by Russian vessels, 15% in July and 34% in August. From each haul a sample of up to 300 kg was taken for screening and collection of biological data on mackerel. A total of 866 hauls was checked. All data are now being processed. Associated costs were US\$ 21,600.

In addition, five observers from Murmanrybvod (Regional Directorate for Conservation and Enhancement of Fish Resources and Management of Fisheries) were present on board Russian vessels engaged in the fisheries for mackerel, herring and blue whiting in the international waters of the Norwegian Sea. Their task was to collect information and biological data for Atlantic salmon taken as by-catch. The catches were screened immediately after the trawl heaves during discharge of the fish into bins. For catches exceeding 10 t one to three samples of 3,000 kg each were taken for screening. In addition, catches were examined at the factory during grading; for this purpose the vessel's crew was

engaged. Catches from 228 hauls by 4 fishing vessels engaged in the mackerel fishery (2,078.0 t), 59 hauls by vessels engaged in the herring fishery (838.4 t of herring and 52.3 t of blue whiting) and 11 hauls by vessels in the blue whiting fishery (117.5 t) were examined. The data are now being processed. Associated costs were US\$ 37,500.

The overall expense incurred by Russia in connection with the work undertaken to assess by-catch of post-smolts in 2002 was US\$ 113,500. These costs included salary for observers and operating costs for the vessels.

Detailed results from this research and preliminary estimates of by-catch of post-smolts in the pelagic fishery in the Norwegian Sea will be presented to the ICES North Atlantic Salmon Working Group at its meeting in Copenhagen in April 2003.

In addition to studies to assess the by-catch of post-smolts, Russia carried out tagging studies with adult salmon to estimate the fishing mortality of salmon from rivers of the Kola Peninsula. Overall costs were about US\$ 11,500 and included the salaries for two scientists, two inspectors, four fishermen and expenditure on tags and tagging guns, other equipment and transportation.

Targets for Donations of Cash or Research Resources

1. ***Companies operating in maritime waters of the North Atlantic***
 - 1.1 National or international oil and gas companies
 - 1.2 Shipping companies
 - 1.3 Other maritime-based industries, e.g. fish farming
2. ***Companies whose image might be enhanced by identifying themselves with wild salmon***
 - 2.1 Whisky or other 'high prestige' beverage manufacturers
 - 2.2 International catering or supermarket chains
 - 2.3 Hydro-electricity companies
 - 2.4 Water companies
 - 2.5 Financial organizations
 - 2.6 Travel-related companies, e.g. airlines, hotel chains
 - 2.7 Outdoor clothing manufacturers
 - 2.8 Industrial companies, e.g. pharmaceutical, petrochemical, etc.
3. ***Individuals***
 - 3.1 Wealthy individuals who have benefited from the North Atlantic in their businesses
 - 3.2 Wealthy individuals who are interested in salmon fishing
 - 3.3 Wealthy individuals who are interested in conservation of aquatic environments and of wild species
4. ***Foundations***
 - 4.1 Foundations whose terms of reference include conservation of aquatic environments and of wild species
 - 4.2 Other research foundations

5. *Academic institutions*

5.1 Universities or Colleges concerned with the marine environment and/or wild salmonids

5.2 Other academic institutions with an interest in wild salmon

6. *Fishing companies, fishing lodges and fishing gear manufacturers*

7. *National lotteries*