Information on monitoring of *Gyrodactylus salaris*

(Tabled by the Russian Federation)

In Russia, *Gyrodactylus salaris*, as a pathogenic parasite in Atlantic salmon river, was first recorded in the Keret River (Republic of Karelia, the White Sea basin) in 1992. There are different views on how this parasite invaded into the river, but the most likely reason is an introduction of the parasite due to the fish transfers for hatcheries.

Parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* has been monitored since 1993 in the salmon rivers of the Barents and White Seas. Since 2009, monitoring has been carried out on a regular basis within the framework of the Program of the State Monitoring of Aquatic Biological Resources in Inland Waters. In the Murmansk region, the surveillance has been conducted in the Barents Sea basin – in the Kola River and in tributaries of the Lower Tuloma (Nizhne-Tulomskoye) reservoir (rivers Pak, Pecha, Shovna, Pyaive), and in the White Sea basin – in the rivers Kanda and Kovda.

In the Murmansk region the parasite was recorded for the first time in the Pak River in 2015 and in the Shovna River in 2017. As a source of infestation of Atlantic salmon juveniles, an infected rainbow trout was considered, which escaped from the cages of aquaculture farms located in the Lower Tuloma reservoir.

The brief description of the monitoring program and its results in 2017-2020 was provided to the NASCO Working Group on *Gyrodactylus salaris* in the North-East Atlantic Commission Area in 2021 (GSWG(21)05).

Results of the monitoring program in the Murmansk region in 2021-2024 showed no spread of parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* outside two tributaries of the Lower Tuloma reservoir. Due to low Atlantic salmon parr densities in the Shovna River in 2022-2024 only 1-2 fish a season were examined. No *Gyrodactylus salaris* has been found on Atlantic salmon parr in the Shovna River since 2022. The parasite has not been found in the rivers Kola, Pecha, Pyaive, Kanda and Kovda.