



Press Release

North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
Forty-Second Annual Meeting,
Cardiff, Wales
2-6 June 2025

NASCO is deeply concerned about wild Atlantic salmon and commits to take urgent and transformative action to stop its decline

Cardiff, 6 June 2025. The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) convened at a time when wild Atlantic salmon are in crisis. NASCO took significant steps in advancing its Ten-Year Strategy and Action Plan, which aims to achieve transformational conservation and management actions for wild Atlantic salmon across the species' range. Ultimately, NASCO strives to reverse the decline of wild Atlantic salmon populations and recover them to healthy and resilient levels.

Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions attended NASCO for the first time, as a historic step that enables Indigenous Peoples to participate as rights holders. The knowledge, traditions and stewardship of Indigenous engagement in NASCO will enrich the dialogue around solutions for salmon conservation across the North Atlantic.

The meeting saw the launch of the new [Wild Atlantic Salmon Atlas](#), an interactive, online map that provides information on the status of Atlantic salmon in more than 2,000 rivers across the North Atlantic. The message is clear – salmon are in trouble and everyone has a role to play in reversing their population decline.

Climate change, barriers to migration, predation, pollution and aquaculture impacts have been identified as among the most significant pressures on Atlantic salmon across the North Atlantic. Each jurisdiction presented its own analysis and committed to set out clear actions to address its top three pressures. These actions will be the focus of next year's Annual Meeting.

NASCO is enabling the best action to be taken, by developing international best practice for salmon managers and managers of activities that could adversely impact salmon. This year NASCO agreed new guidelines on stock rebuilding and gene banking – to help the salmon community understand when each technique is appropriate and how to maximise its effectiveness.

NASCO's North-East Atlantic Commission confirmed its two-year Decision Regarding the Salmon Fishery in Faroese waters. To implement this decision, which is based on the latest scientific advice, the Government of the Faroe Islands will continue not to permit fisheries for salmon in its waters in 2025 and 2026.

Members of NASCO's West Greenland Commission acknowledged the excellent progress and commitment made by the Government of Greenland to improve management of the fishery, particularly with respect to monitoring and reporting, in recent years. The Commission agreed that the management of the West Greenland fishery should continue as is, for another year.

The Forty Third Annual Meeting of NASCO will be held in the United Kingdom from 2-5 June

2026.

Notes for Editors:

NASCO is an inter-governmental organization formed by a treaty in 1983 and is based in Edinburgh, Scotland. It is the only inter-governmental organization with regulatory competency for wild Atlantic salmon fisheries and it is the pre-eminent convener of the wild Atlantic salmon community throughout the North Atlantic Ocean, including governments, Indigenous Peoples, the non-governmental organizations, fishers, environmental organizations and other relevant actors.

The Parties to the Convention are: Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the European Union, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States. There are 39 non-governmental observers and four Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions accredited to the Organization.

The 2025 Annual Meeting was convened in a hybrid format, with 93 participants joining in-person and 31 joining remotely. The participants included scientists, policy makers and representatives of inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions who met to discuss the status of wild Atlantic salmon and to consider management issues.

The Future of NASCO – a Ten-Year Strategy can be found on NASCO's [website](#), it includes:

NASCO's Vision. The decline of wild Atlantic salmon has reversed and populations are recovering to healthy and resilient levels across their range.

NASCO's Mission. NASCO will support and promote urgent and transformative actions directed at the protection, conservation and restoration of wild Atlantic salmon throughout the species' range.

NASCO's Strategic Goal. Within the next 10 years, NASCO's goal is to prioritise and drive actions necessary to slow the decline of wild Atlantic salmon populations and demonstrate that restoration is possible.

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