North American Commission *North American Commission Annual Report (Tabled by the United States)*	**NAC(26)04** **Agenda item: 7**

North American Commission Annual Report

(Tabled by the United States)

United States, 2025 Activities
Submitted by: National Marine Fisheries Service
Date: 2026

1. Summary of Salmonid disease incidences

Conservation Hatcheries:

Annual health screenings of Atlantic salmon are conducted at Craig Brook and Green Lake National Fish Hatcheries each year. These screenings include necropsies on nearly all incidental mortalities and the collection of ovarian fluid samples from nearly all females during spawning to ensure eggs are disease-free before transfers or egg planting. A 60-fish sample is also collected from each lot of smolts and fry prior to stocking. For sea-run broodstock, blood samples are specifically taken for Infectious Salmon Anemia virus (ISAv) analysis. In 2025, three sea-run brood fish tested positive for HPRO, a non-pathogenic variant of ISAv. These fish were released back into the river in the fall.

Peter Gray Hatchery update:

In 2023 and 2024, Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) was detected at the privately owned Peter Gray conservation hatchery on the East Machias River in Eastern Maine (*see* NAC(25)03. For both years, all the fish on station were destroyed and the facility was disinfected. No fish were raised at the facility in 2025.

Commercial Aquaculture:

Cooke USA had three detections of *Yersinia ruckeri* (carrier status) at its Bingham Hatchery in 2025. At its saltwater facilities, there was one PCR positive for Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD) at Cross Island (none clinical outbreaks) and a total of 45 ISAv detections. Cooke's South Bay facility had one fish test positive to HPRO and the other 44 positive detections were all from its Machias Bay sites (Cutler West, Cross Island and Cross Island North). There was no sign of clinical disease at any of the facilities and individual cages were harvested as positives were detected.

Interim U.S. Point of Contact on Disease:

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2. Summary of breaches of containment of salmonids from net cages

There were no escapes of farmed fish reported at marine net pen sites in Maine in 2025. In addition, no known aquaculture origin fish were captured at handling and counting facilities on GOM DPS rivers in Maine.

Notes:

For commercial aquaculture permits in Maine, a reportable escape is defined as any escape greater than 50 fish at sites where individual fish weigh more than 2 kg. For sites where the individual fish weigh less than 2 kg, operators must report any escape that exceeds 25% of cage biomass.

3. Summary of Salmonid introductions from outside the Commission Area

In 2025, salmonids were brought into the Commission Area as detailed in Table 1. It is important to note that no salmonids originating from outside the North American Commission (NAC) area were stocked directly into salmon rivers within the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment (GOM DPS). Fish introduced from outside the Commission Area were stocked in isolated inland ponds and lakes (e.g., private farm ponds). These stocking locations have no connectivity to waters inhabited by wild Atlantic salmon and, therefore, pose no identifiable risk to the wild population.

Furthermore, any potential risks to the receiving environment are mitigated through strict adherence to both state and federal fish health regulations, which require obtaining a stocking permit from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Table 1. *Salmonid Introductions from outside the North American Commission area*

Species (strain, if applicable)	Number	Life Stage	Origin [1]	Destination [2]	Purpose [3]	Date
Rainbow Trout	25,000	Eyed Eggs	Riverence, WA	Maine	Private Ponds, Recreational Fisheries	2025

4. Summary of Transgenic activities within the Country

The United States had no transgenic activities to report for 2025.