

***Forty-Third Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Commission******Macdonald Aviemore Resort, Scotland******2 – 5 June 2026******Annotated Agenda***

The purpose of this paper is to provide the background, links to papers and decisions for each item on the Agenda for the Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Commission.

Papers for the meeting are on the [website](#).

This Annotated Agenda references papers that the Secretariat is aware of at the time of writing. If additional papers are issued, they will be posted on the website and delegates will be informed by email.

As agreed in 2022, Parties / NGOs were invited to submit questions on Agenda items, in advance to the relevant Commission member. Under NASCO's new T&Cs for accredited observers, Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions (IPRIs) are now able to attend NASCO meetings and in 2025, Council agreed, [CNL\(25\)80rev](#), paragraph 2.10, it would be happy to include a provision for IPRIs to ask questions in advance, in addition to Parties and NGOs. The Secretariat requested that it be copied into any questions asked, to allow the questions to be included in the Annotated Agenda. No questions were received.

A summary of the decisions before the Commission is contained in Annex 1.

**Timings of the Meeting**

The Commission will meet on:

- Tuesday 2 June: 13:00 – 14:30 hrs
- Wednesday 3 June: 14:30 – 16:00 hrs
- Thursday 4 June 13:30 – 14:30 hrs

**Order of Business**

Business will be taken in the order in the Agenda.

**1. Opening of the Meeting**

The Chair, Robert Floyd (UK), will open the meeting.

Members of the Commission, NGOs and IPRIs may make verbal Opening Statements, as is usual in years when new regulatory measures are negotiated.

- *no decision is required.*

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

A Provisional Agenda, [NEA\(26\)01](#), was issued on 9 February 2026. No supplementary items were proposed by the Parties. The Draft Agenda, [NEA\(26\)02](#), was issued on 10 April.

- *the Commission may wish to adopt its Agenda.*

### 3. **Nomination of a Rapporteur**

- *the Commission may wish to nominate a Rapporteur.*

### 4. **Report of the ICES Advisory Committee on Salmon Stocks in the Commission Area**

In 2022 the Council agreed that full ICES Advice should be presented in Council only in future, [CNL\(22\)53rev](#), paragraph 4.34. Therefore, there will be no presentation of ICES advice during the Commission meeting.

However, Article 9 of the Convention states that ‘*In exercising the functions set out in articles 7 and 8, a Commission shall take into account: the best available information, including advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and other appropriate scientific organizations...*’

This agenda item allows for questions and comment on the ICES Advice, if required. The Chair of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon (WGNAS), Alan Walker (UK), will be available to answer questions, if required.

- *no decision is required.*

The following papers are available:

- the Report of the ICES Advisory Committee (ACOM), [CNL\(26\)06](#);
- the [Report of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon](#) is on the ICES website.

### 5. **Mixed-Stock Fisheries Conducted by Members of the Commission**

This is essential business under Articles 7 and 15 of the Convention. Additionally, in 2024, the Council agreed, [CNL\(24\)88rev](#), paragraph 6.12, to include an agenda item in each of the Commissions to allow for an annual update on coastal, estuarine and in-river mixed-stock fisheries and the justification for their continued prosecution. Each member of the Commission with mixed-stock fisheries (MSF) was requested to provide papers in 2026 with a brief description of any mixed-stock fisheries still operating, the most recent catch data for these fisheries, any changes or developments in their management **and the justification for their continued prosecution.**

- *no decision is required.*

The following papers are available:

- Mixed-Stock Fisheries (Tabled by the European Union), [NEA\(26\)07](#);
- Mixed-Stock Fisheries (Tabled by Norway), [NEA\(26\)06](#).
- Mixed-Stock Fisheries (Tabled by the Russian Federation), [NEA\(26\)04](#); and
- Mixed-Stock Fisheries (Tabled by United Kingdom), [NEA\(26\)05](#).

### 6. **Existing Co-Operative Approaches to the Management of Salmon Catchments Shared with Other Jurisdictions**

At its 2025 Annual Meeting, [CNL\(25\)80rev](#) paragraph 6.17, Council considered a recommendation from the Working Group on the Future of NASCO relating to the work of the Commissions and agreed:

*‘to propose that the Commissions consider whether there is a benefit to the provision of information to the Commissions on co-operative approaches to the management of salmon catchments that are shared with other jurisdictions’*

The Commission considered the proposal at its 2025 Annual Meeting, [NEA\(25\)17](#) paragraph 9.7, and agreed to add an item to the 2026 Agenda that would allow members to:

*‘provide papers describing the existing co-operative approaches to the management of salmon catchments that are shared with other jurisdictions as a first step to look for co-operative measures’*

## **7. Regulatory Measures**

In 2024 the Commission adopted ‘Decision Regarding the Salmon Fishery in Faroese Waters in 2024 / 2025 and 2025 / 2026’, [NEA\(24\)14](#). Under this Decision, the Commission agreed:

*‘Not to set a quota for the salmon fishery in the Faroese Fisheries Zone for 2024 / 2025. This decision will also apply in 2025 / 2026 unless any member of the Commission requests its reconsideration based on a review of the scientific advice provided by ICES. Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) retains the right to conduct a scientific research fishery in the Faroese Fishery Zone.’*

Details of previous Decisions / regulatory measures can be found [here](#).

The Commission will discuss a new Decision for the salmon fishery in Faroese waters.

The ICES summary of advice for fishing seasons 2026 / 2027, 2027 / 2028 and 2028 / 2029 for Atlantic salmon from the North-East Atlantic ([CNL\(26\)06](#), p 21) states:

*‘...in line with the MSY approach and the agreed management objective of at least 95% chance of meeting or exceeding conservation limits (CLs) simultaneously across all stock units, the catch of Atlantic salmon of the North-East Atlantic Commission (NEAC) area Northern (N-NEAC) and Southern (S-NEAC) complexes at the Faroe Islands (ICES divisions 2.b, 5.a and 5.b) should be zero in each of the fishing seasons 2026/27, 2027/28, and 2028/29.’*

***The Commission may wish to:***

- ***adopt a new Decision for the salmon fishery in Faroese waters, for either two, or three, years.***

The following papers are available:

- Decision Regarding the Salmon Fishery in Faroese Waters in 2024 / 2025 and 2025 / 2026, [NEA\(24\)14](#);
- the Report of the ICES Advisory Committee (ACOM), [CNL\(26\)06](#); and
- the [Report of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon](#) is on the ICES website.

## **8. Report of the Working Group on Gyrodactylus salaris**

**(Risk of Transmission of *Gyrodactylus salaris* in the Commission Area)**

This Agenda item allows for information exchange and co-operation on monitoring, research and measures to prevent the spread of *G. salaris* and eradicate it if introduced. Commission members were invited to submit papers to this Annual Meeting, to report

on their work on the ‘Revised Road Map to Enhance Information Exchange and Co-operation on Monitoring, Research and Measures to Prevent the Spread of *G. Salaris* and Eradicate it if Introduced’, [NEA\(23\)14](#).

Additionally, it allows the Commission to consider the Report of the Working Group on *Gyrodactylus salaris* (GSWG) in the North-East Atlantic Commission Area, which met in March this year, [NEA\(26\)03](#).

The Working Group proposed minor changes to the Best Practices in relation to Contingency Planning noted at its 2023 Annual Meeting (paragraph 7.7 of [NEA\(23\)13](#)) and recommended that the Commission adopt these changes, along with new draft best practice recommendations, combined in a single document ‘Draft Best Practice Guidance for the Development of *Gyrodactylus salaris* Contingency Plans’, see Annex 8 in [NEA\(26\)03](#). The Working Group also proposed minor changes to the Road Map, that can be found in red in Annex 17 of paper [NEA\(26\)03](#).

The Working Group made additional recommendations, [NEA\(26\)03](#) paragraphs 5.6 and 8.1, that an *ad Hoc* Sub-Group of the Working Group should be convened to:

- produce generic publicity materials, based on those already available within the members of the Group;
- develop the reporting templates, see [NEA\(26\)03](#) paragraph 5.5;
- consider whether recommendations should be made on monitoring methods in relation to Recommendation 3 of the Road Map; and

a standard list of scientific references related to *G. salaris* is compiled and made available on the NASCO website.

*The Commission may wish, as recommended by the GSWG, to agree to:*

- *adopt the ‘Draft Best Practice Guidance for the Development of *Gyrodactylus salaris* Contingency Plans’, Annex 8 in [NEA\(26\)03](#), as Best Practice Guidance for the Development of Contingency Plans;*
- *accept the changes to the Road Map found in red in Annex 17 of paper [NEA\(26\)03](#);*
- *an ad Hoc Sub-Group of the Working Group convening to address the points raised in [NEA\(26\)03](#) paragraphs 5.6 and 8.1; and*
- *the next meeting of the Working Group on *Gyrodactylus salaris* be held after the 2028 NASCO Annual Meeting, reporting to the 2029 NASCO Annual Meeting.*

The following papers are available:

- *G Salaris* Road Map Update - European Union, [NEA\(26\)08](#);
- The Spread of *Gyrodactylus salaris* in Northern Europe, [NEA\(26\)09](#);
- Rotenone and the EU Biocidal Products Directive, [NEA\(26\)10](#);
- Report of the Meeting of the Working Group on *Gyrodactylus salaris* in the North-East Atlantic Commission Area, [NEA\(26\)03](#)

## **9. Recommendations to the Council on the Request to ICES for Scientific Advice**

This item is required under Article 9 of the Convention which requires a Commission

to take into account the best scientific evidence. Advice is provided annually under the [ICES / NASCO Memorandum of Understanding](#).

In 1992, the Council established a Standing Scientific Committee (SSC) to assist the Council and Commissions in formulating their questions to ICES. The SSC comprises two representatives from each Commission, ideally one scientist and one manager. During the Annual Meeting, the SSC will meet to develop a Draft Request for Scientific Advice from ICES for consideration by the Commissions and the Council. The SSC representatives for the North-East Atlantic Commission are Peder Fiske and Sergey Prusov.

The Standing Scientific Committee's recommendations will be available once its work is complete.

The following paper may be available:

- Draft Request for Scientific Advice from ICES

## **10. Other Business**

At the time of writing, the Secretariat had not been made aware of any other business.

## **11. Election of Officers**

The election of officers is required under Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure for the NEAC.

The current Chair, Robert Floyd, is eligible and available for re-election. The current Vice-Chair, Helge Dyrendal has served two terms as Vice-Chair and is not eligible for re-election. An election for a new Vice-Chair, is therefore, is required.

No background papers are produced for this item. The Secretary has conducted work to seek a candidate and provide support.

- *the Commission may wish to elect / re-elect a Chair and elect a Vice-Chair.*

## **12. Date and Place of the Next Meeting**

The Commission will be asked to confirm the date and venue for its next Annual Meeting. It is usual practice for the Commission to meet during the Annual Meeting of the Council of NASCO, and in the same location.

The dates and location for the Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council will be considered during the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Council.

- *the Commission may wish to agree to hold its next Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council.*

## **13. Report of the Meeting**

Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure for the North-East Atlantic Commission requires that 'A draft report shall be considered by the Commission before the end of the meeting.'

A Draft Report of the Meeting will be circulated for review.

- *the Commission may wish to adopt the Report of the Meeting.*

## **14. Close of the Meeting**

The Chair will close the Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Commission.

Secretariat  
Edinburgh  
29 May 2026

*Summary of Commission Decisions*

Agenda Item	Decision	Paper No.
2. Adoption of the Agenda	Adopt the Agenda	<a href="#">NEA(26)02</a>
3. Nomination of a Rapporteur	Nominate a Rapporteur	
7. Regulatory Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Commission may wish to adopt a new Decision for the salmon fishery in Faroese waters, for either two, or three, years.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NEA(24)14</a> <a href="#">CNL(26)06</a> <a href="#">Report of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon</a>
8. Report of the Working Group on <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> (Risk of Transmission of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> in the Commission Area)	<p>The Commission may wish to agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt the ‘Draft Best Practice Guidance for the Development of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> Contingency Plans’, Annex 8 in <a href="#">NEA(26)03</a>, as Best Practice Guidance for the Development of Contingency Plans;</li> <li>accept the changes to the Road Map found in red in Annex 17 of paper <a href="#">NEA(26)03</a>;</li> <li>an ad Hoc Sub-Group of the Working Group convening to address the points raised in <a href="#">NEA(26)03</a> paragraphs 5.6 and 8.1; and</li> <li>the next meeting of the Working Group on <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> be held after the 2028 NASCO Annual Meeting, reporting to the 2029 NASCO Annual Meeting.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NEA(26)03</a>
9. Recommendations to the Council on the Request to ICES for Scientific Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consider the relevant section of the SSC’s recommendation or defer the decision to the Council</li> </ul>	Paper issued at the meeting
11. Election of Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Commission may wish to elect / re-elect a Chair</li> <li>the Commission may wish to elect a Vice-Chair</li> </ul>	

12. Date and Place of the Next Meeting	Agree to hold its next Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council	
13. Report of the Meeting	Adopt the Report of the Meeting	Issued at the meeting