



Agenda item 6.1
For information

Council

CNL(16)31

***Annual Progress Report
on Actions Taken Under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015***

EU - Finland

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Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015

The primary purposes of the Annual Progress Reports are to provide details of:

- any changes to the management regime for salmon and consequent changes to the Implementation Plan;
- actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year;
- significant changes to the status of stocks, and a report on catches; and
- actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention

These reports will be reviewed by the Council. Please complete this form and return it to the Secretariat **by 1 April 2016**.

Party:	European Union
Jurisdiction/Region:	Finland

1: Changes to the Implementation Plan
1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan <i>(Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 December).</i>
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.

2: Stock status and catches.
2.1 Provide a description of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks and, if there has been any significant change in stock status since the development of the Implementation Plan, provide a brief (200 word max) summary of these changes.

2.2 Provide the following information on catches:(nominal catch equals reported quantity of salmon caught and retained in tonnes ‘round fresh weight’ (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or ‘round fresh weight equivalent’).				
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2015 (tonnes)	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
	45			
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2014 (tonnes)	58			
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2015 (tonnes)	4			
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2015.	na			

3: Implementation Plan Actions.

3.1 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (Section 2.8 of the Implementation Plan).

Note: The reports under ‘Progress on Action to Date’ should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action F1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Preparation of the new fishery agreement between Norway and Finland is underway (concerning river fisheries, coastal fishery is the responsibility of Norwegian national management).
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	New restrictions, decrease in fishing mortality in relation to reference point achievement.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	<p>Negotiations are underway. Finland’s primary goal is to reach an agreement that includes modern management measures consistent with the NASCO Guidelines. The agreement is planned to come into force for the fishing season 2017.</p> <p>Finland and Norway have come to a conclusion on regulation measures for salmon fishing based on biological reference points and scientific assessments of their attainment, including a reduction of fishing pressure by about 30%.</p> <p>Completing the negotiations requires further work on the legal issues. Among these, the interests and fishing rights must be treated in a way that is in line with the legal frameworks both in Finland and in Norway.</p>
	Current Status of Action (e.g. ‘Not started’; ‘Ongoing’; ‘Completed’):	ongoing

	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action F2:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Spawning targets have been established and annually assessed for five tributaries of the Teno river. Bilateral collaboration between Finland and Norway is underway for defining targets for more tributaries.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	More accurate spawning targets in more rivers enable better coverage in stock status assessment in the large, versatile Teno system.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	Spawning targets have been established for nine tributary populations and the main stem of the Teno river and assessed for stock status evaluation. Bilateral collaboration between Finland and Norway is underway for defining targets for more tributaries.
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	

3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (Section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan).

Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action H1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Recommendations have been given to road constructors and regional authorities responsible for road-building to avoid small migration barriers and erosion.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	No new problematic areas.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	Recommendations have been applied
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

3.3 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (Section 4.8 of the Implementation Plan).

Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action A1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Continue the spread of information. New legislation in Finland 2010.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Spread of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> is prevented.

	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	Yearly measures include setting up a network of disinfection stations (24 units) and training of the personnel of these stations and fishing license sales points for the spread of information about <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> and its prevention. This was implemented also in 2015.
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action A2:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Continuation of monitoring. Other measures are mostly Norwegian responsibility. No new actions planned.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

4: Additional information required under the Convention
4.1 Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification.
<p>The Parliament of Finland has adopted a new Fishing Act that entered into force on 1 January 2016. The guiding principle of the new Fishing Act is knowledge-based sustainable exploitation of fish stocks, with special focus on migratory fish. http://finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/2015/en20150379.pdf</p> <p>The new Fishing Act is not applicable to salmon fisheries management in the Rivers Tenjoki and Näämäjoki, because the bilateral fishing agreements with Norway overrule the general, national act. If national statutes were needed, the new Fishing Act allows the issue of special decrees for migratory fish to protect their stocks and to manage their fishery in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>The new Fishing Act specifies the use of local traditional fishing rights in northernmost Finland more accurately than the previous act and gives better tools to manage the aspects of fishery in the River Näämäjoki and in the tributaries of the River Tenjoki that are not included in the bilateral agreements.</p>
4.2 Details of any new commitments concerning the adoption or maintenance in force for specified periods of time of conservation, restoration and other management measures.
4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.

4.4 Details of any new actions to invite the attention of States not Party to the Convention to matters relating to the activities of its vessels which could adversely affect salmon stocks subject to the Convention.

4.5 Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.