



Agenda item 6.3
For information

Council

CNL(17)32rev

***Annual Progress Report
on Actions Taken Under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2016***

EU-UK (Scotland)

(Revised 2 May 2017 to include catch statistics)

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Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2016

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 **no later than 24 March 2017**.

Party:	European Union
Jurisdiction/Region:	UK (Scotland)

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>
No revisions were made
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.
<p>On 1 April 2016 the Scottish Government introduced a range of legislative measures designed to improve the conservation status of salmon by managing the pressure of exploitation through fishing within Scotland's domestic waters. They are designed to complement, not replace, other management activities being undertaken at local, national and international level in the interests of conservation. The objective of the measures is to ensure harvesting in Scottish domestic waters is sustainable and that fishing does not damage vulnerable stocks or cause damage to the network of Special Areas of Conservation in place across Scotland. The killing of Atlantic salmon in inland waters is now managed on an annual basis. Mandatory catch and release has been introduced for those districts (or rivers) where stocks are below their conservation limits. The 2015 Annual Progress Report detailed the proposed statutory measures introduced on 1 April 2016.</p> <p>Throughout 2016 significant progress has been made in refining the annual assessment model to allow the 2107 assessments to be made at river level, where the data is available. This has been achieved by working with local biologists to steer the development of the methodology behind the conservation status system.</p>

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.

The conservation status of Scottish salmon stocks is assessed as the probability of that stock meeting its conservation limit over a five-year period. Stocks are allocated to one of three categories; 1 (greater than 80% chance of meeting CL), 2 (between 60% and 80%), 3 (less than 60%).

Status of stocks in 2016 was assessed using data for the return years 2011 to 2015, and has been used to develop management measures for these stocks for the 2017 season.

Assessable stocks comprised those associated with SACs and individual river stocks where reported fishery data supported identification of catch to the river level. Where this was not possible, groups of rivers were assessed together although improvements to the reporting system have been put in place to improve future assessment by river stock.

Of the 168 stocks assessed in 2016, areas assessed 47 (28%) were categorised as grade 1; 48 (29%) as grade 2 and the remaining 73 (43%) as grade 3. Weighting these data by reported catch in the areas assessed, 76% of the Scottish salmon stock was associated with grade 1 areas, 19% with grade 2 areas and 5% with areas categorised as grade 3.

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’).

	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2016 (tonnes)	16.8	9.8	0.2	26.8
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2015 (tonnes)	27.7	9.4	30.9	68.0
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2016 (tonnes)				3
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2016	49,512 – 90%			

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)	(a) Instigate an independent review of the management of salmon and freshwater fisheries in Scotland with the aim of creating a management system which is robust, sustainable and fit for purpose in the 21 st century. (b) Commission independent research to provide an overview of the economic and financial contribution of wild fisheries in Scotland.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP)	(a) Modernised management system which has greater alignment of responsibility with accountability and facilitates management of fisheries in context of modern requirements and challenges. (b) Updated baseline information covering the economic value of salmon and freshwater fisheries, including rod and line fisheries and salmon netting, which can be used to inform future policy development.
	Progress on Action to Date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)	b)A public consultation on the draft legislation to take forward Wild Fisheries reform took place in 2016. A full analysis of that consultation can be found in this report http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/fishreform/billanalysis b) An analysis of the value of wild fisheries in Scotland was published http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/fishreform/sectorvalue
	Current Status of Action	A)Ongoing b) Complete
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	b) YES
Action F2:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP)	(a) Implementation of local fishery management plans with agreed actions to monitor, mitigate and improve conditions for salmon. (b) Develop Scottish salmon counter network to improve assessment of salmon stocks.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP)	(a) Determination of the need for changes to regulatory controls or other measures on salmon fishing by nets and rods and implementation of changes. (b) The project should provide the information required to plan a strategic counter network. It is anticipated that data gathered from a future counter

		network, together with local biological information, would allow local stock recruitment relationships to be derived (from which CLs can be estimated) and measures of spawning escapement to be obtained
	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	<p>(a) Fisheries management plans have been developed through the Wild Fisheries Reform process and Marine Scotland and Local Fisheries Biologists Liaison Group (MSLFBLG). A conservation plan template has been developed and distributed to local fisheries managers. The template will tease out a high-level assessment of pressures and proposed responses across Scottish regions. In parallel, a working group including national and local representatives has made substantial progress in development of an agreed fisheries management plan template which will involve a more detailed assessment of pressures and planned responses.</p> <p>(b) A sub-group of the MSLFBLG has commenced plans for a salmon counter network by review of existing arrangements and prioritisations of actions. The first phase will be assessment of potential for counters on SAC rivers. A PIT detector system is being installed in the River Awe to enhance interpretation of data from the existing counter.</p>
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action F3:	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>(a) Develop Scottish salmon counter network to improve assessment of salmon stocks and aid development of meaningful CLs and assessment of spawning escapement (see F2).</p> <p>(b) Develop methods to aid assessment of the precise nature of MSFs.</p> <p>(c) Scoping work on better understanding marine migration routes.</p>
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	(a-c) Improved data on salmon stocks and populations facilitates fisheries management planning, including management of MSFs.
	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	<p>a-c improved data on salmon stocks and populations facilitates fisheries management planning, including management of MSF</p> <p>(a) Please see response to F2b.</p>

		<p>(b) Historic data relevant to assessment of the precise nature of MSF has been identified and is being prepared for analysis.</p> <p>(c) Salmon smolts have been tracked from the Rivers Lochy, Awe and Applecross (West Coast); and Conon (East Coast). A project has been prepared to track smolts and a small sample of kelts from the River Dee (east Coast) and is commencing in 2017. A project is underway to model smolt dispersion vectors as function of currents and potential swimming vectors drawing on the newly available Scottish Shelf Model of coastal currents.</p>
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action F4:	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>(a) On going DSFB fulfilment of obligations to enhance and protect salmon fisheries (including enforcement of legislation). Activities will vary depending on nature of problems but focus on disruption and intervention of illegal fishing, including intelligence-led enforcement in partnership with Police Scotland Wildlife Crime Officers and the Partnership Against Wildlife Crime. Work with DSFBs and IFM in developing tools and training for enforcement, including improving national coordination of enforcement.</p> <p>(b) Scottish Government currently considering proposals around carcass tagging along with the recommendations detailed within the Report from the Independent review of wild fisheries. A full consultation would take place to inform the development of any scheme.</p>
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>(a) Improve professionalism and national coordination in salmon fisheries enforcement.</p> <p>(b) Reduced illegal fishing and corresponding response in salmon stocks.</p>
	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	<p>a) We have introduced a new joint government/sector regulatory enforcement and bailiff development working group which is focussed on ensuring Scotland has a professional, well trained, efficient, effective and well equipped bailiff function. This group has recently agreed a set of proposed amendments to existing enforcement provisions which would make them easier to understand and enforce. In May the group will consider the potential introduction of a national intelligence database and risk assessment process.</p>

		b) Carcass tagging for net caught fish in category 1 and 2 areas came into force on 1 April 2016. A review of its first year of operation will be published later in March and the guidance will be updated for the upcoming season.
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	

Action F5:	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>(a) Development and implementation of monitoring/research strategy for potential marine renewable and salmonid interactions.</p> <p>(b) Through the Ministerial Group for Sustainable Aquaculture(MGSA) machinery and its working groups, helping to ensure that any growth of aquaculture in Scotland is sustainable within the wider Marine environment.</p> <p>(c) Scottish Government and salmon farming industry match-funded research through the Scottish Aquaculture Research forum (SARF) into any measurable impact from sea lice in a Scottish context.</p> <p>(d) enhanced industry-led voluntary sea lice reporting over 30 river catchment areas.</p> <p>(e) Marine Scotland is undertaking a 3-year project to identify areas of opportunity and restriction for aquaculture which will include consideration of the risk to wild salmonids.</p> <p>(f) Scottish Government and SEPA funded work to improve auto DEPOMOD modelling tool to further enhance the sensitivity of the tool for SEPA discharge consents.</p> <p>(g) Scottish Government funded research to develop shelf modelling and sea lice dispersal modelling.</p> <p>(h) Scotland’s Aquaculture Database and Website was developed in partnership by Marine Scotland, The Crown Estate, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and The Food Standards Agency in Scotland. This brings together data collected by regulators about Aquaculture in Scotland and makes it accessible through a data search tool and an interactive map. The website went live in October 2013.</p> <p>(i) Marine Scotland’s FHI have proactively published operational activity since October 2013.</p>
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>(a) Investigation of potential impacts of marine renewable energy generation on Atlantic salmon.</p>

		(b - h) framework to enable delivery of industry sustainable aquaculture growth targets by 2020 with due regard to the marine environment.
	<p>Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i></p>	<p>a) The strategy was published in 2014 and is under on-going review and implementation, now through the Scottish Offshore Renewables Research Framework (SpORRAn) Diadromous Fish Specialist Receptor Group. Studies advanced in 2016 by or with the close involvement of Scottish Government (including planning and publication of reports) include the completion of a consolidated report on work carried out on the hearing of salmon and their responses to pile driving noise; the acoustic tracking of salmon smolts emigrating down the River Conon and through the Cromarty and inner Moray Firths; further trials of a trawl net which incorporates video recording and PIT tag detection which can be used open ended, prior its planned deployment in spring 2017 to provide information on smolt movements further out into the Moray Firth; planning acoustic and satellite tracking work to take place on salmon smolts and kelts in 2017 in the vicinity of the mouth of the Aberdeenshire Dee; and further on-going studies relevant to assessing the extent to which tidal turbines pose a collision risk to salmon.</p> <p>b) The Capacity Working Group is the remaining MGSA Working Group still active. The Independent Consenting Review of Scottish Aquaculture was published in July 2016. www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/07/9269 .The review makes a number of recommendations to improve consenting regime, both identified quick wins and long term options. The Scottish Government’s response to the review was published on 11 January www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/01/9447 which commits to prioritising the quick win recommendations, alongside improvements to Permitted Development Rights (PDR) and guidance, in advance of any long-term structural changes. The Scottish aquaculture industry published their Vision for Aquaculture Growth to 2030 in October 2016. A key recommendation of the report was to establish an Aquaculture Industry Leadership Group (AILG). A key role for this Group - which first met on 27 February 2017 and includes regulators among its members - is to chart how the sector can grow in a sustainable and balanced way over the long-term to 2030.</p>

		<p>http://www.scotlandfoodanddrink.org/news/article-info/7396/boost-for-aquaculture-industry-.aspx</p> <p>The Scottish Government and industry has invested significantly to develop innovative, long-term, sustainable options for the control and management of sea lice on Scottish fish farms, most particularly through the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (SAIC) and also by ensuring that European Maritime Fisheries Funding (EMFF) is targeted effectively to tackle this issue. Examples of recent developments include changes to industry’s management guidance to deliver enhanced use of cleaner fish as a biological solution to sea lice management, investigating and trialling novel techniques for sea lice control, improvements in husbandry more generally and exploring opportunities to make spatial planning for aquaculture more effective. A new sea lice management policy is also being implemented, including a redefining of “satisfactory measures” for the prevention, reduction and control of sea lice on farms as required by the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007. This includes agreed reporting levels and increased monitoring and intervention. Marine Scotland will publish a topic sheet on the enforcement regime in Spring 2017.</p> <p>c) The SARF funded project is ongoing (2015-2018).</p> <p>(d) the voluntary industry-led publication of quarterly sea lice figures across 30 regions continues. The publication continues to operate as expected.</p> <p>e) Marine Scotland are currently producing draft maps of sensitivity for aquaculture sites based on knowledge of the importance and Conservation status of rivers and the potential distance of influence of sea lice. These are being reviewed internally to determine how useful they will be in producing more qualitative and site specific advice on marine fish farm development consent applications, and if useful will be communicated with key stakeholders groups.</p> <p>f) The successful Alpha launch of the functioning initial product was delivered on 7 February, and has received welcome positive stakeholder feedback. Industry field testing (learning use of the new model, converting data files to new format), was carried out, running a series of test simulations to compare with existing model. The product will be signed off at the next New DEPOMOD Steering Group progress meeting on 30 March) completed October 2013.(i)</p>
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		<p>Marine Scotland's FHI continue to proactively publish operational activity http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Fish-Shellfish/FHI/CaseInformation</p> <p>g) A report has been published including connectivity results in the Scottish shelf model. This used a relatively simple particle tracking model to follow the movements of particles representing sea lice (among other pathogens) over periods appropriate to their potential survival time forced by current velocities typical for the time of year to give transport distance at different times of year. This report demonstrates interconnectivity between different DMAs and a general north-east flow associate with prevailing south-west winds (see pages 63-70 of pdf in link below). Strength of interaction is in the process of being weighted by the consented biomass of salmon held within DMA. Dispersal modelling is being refined in co-operation with other groups, for example a recent MASTS funded workshop was held at the Marine Laboratory and MSS is supporting a NASCO project on sea lice dispersal modelling in Killary harbour, Ireland. http://data.marine.gov.scot/dataset/scottish-shelf-model-part-6-wider-domain-and-sub-domains-integration/resource/a3d7ec5b-32e7</p> <p>h) Available http://aquaculture.scotland.gov.uk/default.aspx since October 2013.</p> <p>i) Marine Scotland's FHI have proactively published operational activity since October 2013.</p>
	Current Status of Action	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)	<p>Implement Climate Change Adaptation Plans (produced by both government and private sector).</p> <p>a) MSS to implement a national river temperature monitoring strategy for salmon rivers in collaboration with CAMERAS (co-ordinated agenda for marine, environment and rural affairs)</p>
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	<p>science) partners and local fishery trusts.</p> <p>b) National temperature monitoring network to be used to identify areas of the river network that will be (1) sensitive to climate induced temperature change and (2) appropriate for management action.</p> <p>c) Riparian shade to be increased in sensitive and appropriate water bodies, through collaborative projects undertaken by DSFBs and/or fisheries trusts.</p> <p>d) Influence decisions in the next round of Scottish Water investment plans to ensure climate resilience for both water abstractions and wastewater management, and ensure that due regard is given to their impact on the environment.</p> <p>e) Ensure climate change is considered within strategic environment planning frameworks (eg RBMPs, Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) reform).</p> <p>f) Support the development and regulation of scientifically justifiable and robust thermal standards for freshwater, transitional and coastal (TraC) waters to manage the impact of industries including power generation.</p>
Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	The overall aim is to moderate the effects of climate change in waterbodies through landscape, landuse and discharge management.
Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	<p>a- f) MSS has installed a temperature network in collaboration with fisheries trusts and boards. River temperature models were developed to highlight sensitive areas and areas where riparian tree planting would be desirable within the River Spey as a proof of concept. A national model has now been developed and national temperature predictions and planting opportunity maps are being produced. Full details of the work can be found at: http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/Freshwater/Monitoring/temperature</p> <p>Riparian tree planting has been carried out by a number of fisheries trusts and boards. Examples can be found at: https://www.pearlsinperil.org.uk/Project_Actions</p>
Current Status of Action	Ongoing
If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

Action H2:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP)	<p>Improve river connectivity through the identification and easing / removal of barriers.</p> <p>a) A joint dataset has been developed by SEPA, MSS and local fisheries trusts that builds on previous barrier mapping exercises by MSS. This dataset is used to identify where there are currently barriers to migration. In combination with the MSS salmon distribution map and local fisheries management plans, barriers can be prioritised for easement or removal. Fish passage is also a requirement of Good Ecological Potential (GEP) under WFD, so there is a general expectation that those activities causing a barrier to migration will be required to fund appropriate solutions (subject to cost and benefits see above). Funding for barrier removal can come from a variety of local, national and EU sources. The SEPA restoration fund has some guaranteed resources for habitat improvement over the period 2013-2018 and barrier removal is associated with high priority subject to assessment of costs and benefits.</p> <p>b) Wider Scottish Government support for the RAFTS Barrier Easement Programme including funding for a central coordination and support to project development role.</p>
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP)	a) Improvements to fish movement allowing greater access throughout rivers, and more water bodies meeting Good Ecological Status/Potential.
	Progress on Action to Date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)	<p>A)5 barriers to fish passage removed this year</p> <p>b) Options development and design has commenced on eight fish barriers and design has been completed for two barriers. We have also completed 29 scoping studies providing a pipeline for works in future years.</p>
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

Action H3:	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Ensure appropriate provision of river flows. a) Providing an evidence base from which to assess the flow requirements of salmon. MSS has a project investigating the hydraulic requirements of salmon and the transferability of hydraulic suitability data among catchments. This type of information is important for objectively identifying the likely effects of changing flow regime. In addition projects are under way within SEPA to assess the discharge conditions associated with poor and bad ecological status / potential in order to prioritise future management action. b) Implementing RBMP process and issue of CAR licenses for abstraction and impoundment where the objective is to maintain / achieve Good Ecological Status / Potential, which will consider salmon as part of the overall process. In addition there will be consideration of salmon flow requirements in the revision of discharge standards under WFD and improvements to WFD fish tools to try and improve detection of ecological problems associated with discharge regime.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved scientific understanding of habitat requirements for salmon to underpin decision making; • Water bodies do not deteriorate from their current status; and • Revision of discharge regimes to support GES / GEP or any other alternative WFD objective set within the overall context of affordability and benefits to society.
	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	A) MSS assessed the transferability of hydraulic habitat models and produced models that can be applied for salmon fry. The effectiveness of the models has been assessed on a regulated river and proved valuable. Future work will depend on priorities for future research. Current outputs can be found at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470160X16302473 b) Research and reviews still ongoing
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

Action H4:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP)	<p>Taking an integrated catchment management approach to reduce the impact of land use.</p> <p>Reductions in diffuse pollution and morphological impacts will be achieved through the controlled activity regulations (CAR) and associated “General Binding Rules” and adherence to other guidelines such as the forest and water guidelines. GBRs include requirements for buffer strips to reduce fine sediment and nutrient delivery and encourage the growth of riparian vegetation.</p> <p>a) Working with partners to extend range of activities for which SRDP (Scottish Rural Development Programme) funding can be obtained to further reduce morphological and diffuse pollution pressures beyond that prescribed by CAR.</p>
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Improvements to land management practices and more water bodies meeting Good Ecological Status/Potential, as well as Natura 2000 Protected Area objectives with associated benefits to salmon. Benefits would be obtained within the overall context of affordability and benefits to society.
	Progress on Action to Date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)	SEPA continues to visit farms in priority catchments, and is nearing 100% compliance in a number of these catchments. SEPA has also started work with farmers in number of new catchments
	Current Status of Action	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 to regulate salmonid and freshwater fish stocking in Scottish rivers by implementing and enforcing existing introductions legislation under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation)(Scotland) Act 2003, Wildlife and Countryside Act (Scotland) 1981 and Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP)	Greater transparency in stocking operations and hatchery management

	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	A licensing regime has been managed to enforce managed stocking of freshwater fishes. A total of 391 licenses to introduce fish into Scottish inland waters in 2016.
	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action A2:	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<p>a) Implementing European Council Regulation No. 708/2007 concerning Use of Alien and Locally Absent Species in Aquaculture.</p> <p>b) Encouraging anglers and other water users to remain vigilant to the risk of non-native species and pathogens, to report sightings and to take biosecurity measures (the 'Check, Clean, Dry' campaign).</p>
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Containment and/or eradication of undesirable non-native fish species. • Regulation of other fish species. • Prevention of <i>G. salaris</i> and other parasites and diseases occurring in Scotland.
	Progress on Action to Date <i>(Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</i>	<p>a) The Alien and Locally Absent Species in Aquaculture (Scotland) Regulations 2015 in force. Only 1 application to date which was to a closed facility.</p> <p>b) UK wide contingency exercise in relation to Gs undertaken in Dec 2015. Contingency plan currently being updated with outcomes from exercise. Due to be complete summer 2017. SG rep attending NASCO Gs working group March 2017.</p>
	Current Status of Action	Completed
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	Yes.

<p>Action A3:</p>	<p>Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>The Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2013 aims to ensure that farmed and wild fisheries – and their interactions with each other – are managed effectively, maximising their combined contribution to supporting sustainable economic growth with due regard to the wider marine environment.</p> <p>The Act includes an enabling power for the Scottish Ministers to make regulations prescribing technical requirements for equipment used for and in connection with fish farming; and which make provision to ensure the requirements are complied with. Work on developing a Technical Standard for equipment is at an advanced stage and regulations will be made in 2015.</p> <p>The Ministerial Group on Aquaculture (MGA) was refocused in 2013 to work alongside the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Bill to secure the sustainability of aquaculture growth, principally with regards to salmon farming, and managing its interactions with the wildfish sector, to enable both sectors to flourish in Scotland. Membership includes aquaculture industry, wild fish interests, Environment NGO and regulators. The main body will be supported by the more focussed and project-based working groups including on Interactions; on Science and Research; an Interactions Working Group and an Improved Containment Working Group. Chairs will provide an update on progress of their groups at the next meeting of MGSA.</p>
	<p>Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>The technical requirements will further improve containment, minimise the risk of escapes occurring, and ensure installation and deployment of fish farming equipment that is well maintained and appropriate for the site conditions at which the farm operates and minimise the potential for adverse impact on wild salmonids.</p> <p>MGSA will provide a framework to secure the sustainability of salmon aquaculture growth whilst managing its interactions with the wildfish sector, to enable both sectors to flourish in Scotland. The interactions group will facilitate improvements in the current relationship between the wild and farmed fishing sectors, with a view to establishing closer, productive, cooperative working relationships for the overall benefit of the people of Scotland and the environment.</p>

	<p>Progress on Action to Date (Provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress. Other material (e.g. website links) will not be evaluated.)</p>	<p>As F5 (b) Through the Ministerial Group for Sustainable Aquaculture(MGSA) machinery and its working groups, helping to ensure that any growth of aquaculture in Scotland is sustainable within the wider Marine environment.</p>
	<p>Current Status of Action</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?</p>	

<p>4: Additional information required under the Convention</p>
<p>4.1 Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification.</p>
<p>The Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016 – conservation assessments for 2017 season.</p>
<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.</p>
<p>No additional commitments.</p>
<p>4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.</p>
<p>No additional actions.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>No new actions.</p>
<p>4.5 Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.</p>
<p>No new actions.</p>