



Agenda item 7.1
For information

Council

CNL(18)26

***Annual Progress Report
on Actions Taken Under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2017***

Russian Federation

CNL(18)26

Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2017

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 29 March 2018**.

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| Party: | Russian Federation |
| Jurisdiction/Region: | |

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| 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 to the Implementation Plan are planned. | |
| 1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight. | |
| In accordance with the Fisheries Regulations for the Northern Fisheries basin (Order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 414, 30.10.2014) fisheries for Atlantic salmon are banned in the Barents Sea, in the White Sea Throat, in the Kandalaksha Gulf of the White Sea and along the Karelian coast of the White Sea (see action F2). The Murmansk Regional Commission on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish established additional restrictions to salmon fisheries in 2017 (see action F1). | |

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| 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. | |
| In 2015 during salmon spawning run a massive mortality of spawners was observed in the Kola river, Murmansk region caused by disease, diagnosed as ulcerative dermal necrosis (UDN). In 2016, continued spawner mortality caused by this disease was observed in the Kola river again and in the Tuloma River which outlet is located 10 km from the Kola River mouth. Both rivers drain into the inner part of the Kola Bay (see APR for 2016). In 2017 more than 200 salmon with UDN were | |

detected in the process of recording in the fish-trap of the Lower Tuloma fish ladder. Diseased salmon, including fish in bad conditions, were further found in the Lower Tuloma Reservoir and its tributaries. For the period of observation from July 10 to August 4, 2017 at the counting fence of the Kola River 163 dead fish were collected and disposed of. Salmon mortality was 14.5% of the number of registered salmon.

In 2017 the introduction of the parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* to the salmon rivers Pak and Shovna in the basin of the Lower Tuloma Reservoir (Murmansk region) was confirmed. It's believed that the introduction of parasite was caused by transfers of rainbow trout to the cage-aquaculture farms in the reservoir.

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 2017 (tonnes) | 33,9 | 0,0 | 12,9 | 46,8 |
| (b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2016 (tonnes) | 32,3 | 0,0 | 23,5 | 55,8 |
| (c) estimated unreported catch for 2017 (tonnes) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| (d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2017. | 10110 salmon were caught and released in 2017 which was 72% of the total recreational catch. | | | |

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.

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| Action F1: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Determine problem areas. Estimate the level of unreported catches. Take further measures to reduce unreported catches. |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Reduced level of unreported catches in problem areas. |
| | 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> | The level of unreported catches was estimated for some areas and presented in the APR for 2014. No other estimates of unreported catches were available for 2017. The Murmansk Regional Commission on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish closed salmon recreational catch-and-take fisheries in some fishing sites of the Varzuga and Kola rivers and established |

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| | | <p>“no fishing” periods for coastal, in-river commercial and recreational fisheries for 2017 season.</p> <p>Recreational and commercial fishing sites were protected by fish guards hired by the fishing sites managers.</p> <p>Protection patrols were carried out using different methods on lakes and rivers by fish inspectors of the Regional Directorate of the Federal Agency for Fisheries.</p> <p>Protection patrols in coastal areas of Barents and White seas were carried out using different methods by fish inspectors of the Border Guard Department of the Russian Federal Security Service.</p> |
| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If ‘Completed’, has the Action achieved its objective? | |
| Action F2: | Description of Action (as submitted in the IP) | <p>Develop genetic baseline for Atlantic salmon populations. Characterise the exploited stocks in mixed-stock fisheries.</p> <p>Develop recommendations for management measures for coastal salmon fisheries.</p> |
| | Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP) | <p>Comprehensive genetic database of Atlantic salmon baseline for management purposes.</p> <p>Stock specific migration model of various salmon stocks migrating along Norwegian and Russian northern coastal areas.</p> <p>Recommendations for management measures for the coastal salmon fishery to minimize mixed-stock fishing.</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>The genetic baseline for Atlantic salmon populations was developed in the Kolarctic Salmon project in 2011-2013. The development of the genetic baseline allows for further studies on the marine distribution, migration routes and exploitation of wild salmon.</p> <p>The findings of the Kolarctic Salmon Project were used for developing recommendations for the Murmansk Regional Commission on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish. The catch limit allocations for coastal salmon fisheries in the White Sea were made on the basis of data on salmon stock contributions to the fisheries. In 2017 the Murmansk Regional Commissions on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish set “no fishing” periods for coastal fisheries in the White sea.</p> |

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| | | Atlantic salmon fisheries in the Barents Sea, in the White Sea Throat (a 90 km-wide strait separates Kola Peninsula from Mezen Coast, and connects the White Sea in the south-west with the Barents Sea in the north-east), in the Kandalaksha Gulf of the White Sea and along the Karelian coast of the White Sea are banned by the Fisheries Regulations for the Northern Fisheries basin (Order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 414, 30.10.2014) to protect salmon migrating to native rivers for spawning. Any fisheries in river estuaries, 0.5 km from outlet on each side of the river, are also banned. Other restrictions are implemented for coastal fisheries. |
| | Current Status of Action | Completed |
| | If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective? | The Action achieved its objective. Comprehensive genetic database of Atlantic salmon baseline for management purposes was established. Stock specific migration model of various salmon stocks migrating along Norwegian and Russian northern coastal areas was developed. Recommendations for management measures for the coastal salmon fishery to minimize mixed-stock harvesting have been developed. |
| Action F3: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Develop conservation limits for salmon stocks. |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Data on the current status of salmon stocks. Conservation limits for all salmon stocks. |
| | 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> | Conservation limits have been set for salmon stocks in the Murmansk region. In 2016 conservation limits for a number of salmon stocks in the Murmansk region were revised. Estimates of adult returns to rivers were derived by direct counts at barrier fences and fish ladder (3 stocks) and by mark-recapture method in recreational fisheries (5 stocks). In the Arkhangelsk region and in the Nenets Autonomous Region conservation limits have been set for exploited salmon stocks. In the Republic of Karelia no conservation limits are established, however it should be noted that there are no legal coastal, commercial and recreational salmon fisheries in the region allowed due to extremely low salmon returns and parr densities. |
| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective? | |
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| Action F4: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Develop stricter rules to manage the fisheries conducted by indigenous small nations of the North. |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Clearer legislation to manage the fisheries conducted by indigenous small nations of the North. |

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| | <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>The new coastal fishery by Sami communes of the Murmansk region began in 2010 in the White Sea, where it had never been recorded in the past. The fishery continued in the coastal areas of the White Sea in 2011 and 2012. In 2010-2012 the quotas for this fishery were established by the Territorial Directorate of the Federal Agency for Fisheries on the basis of applications from Sami communes which didn't take into account the status of salmon stocks due to unclear legislation.</p> <p>In 2013 new amendments to the procedure rules of the Regional Commissions on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish came into force by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 170, 08.04.2013. The amendments allow the Regional Commissions to establish quotas for indigenous people fisheries on the basis of scientific advice.</p> <p>New Fisheries Regulations for the Northern Fisheries basin came into force in 2014 by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 414, 30.10.2014. There is a clearer legislation now in place to manage the fisheries conducted by indigenous small nations of the North in the new Fisheries Regulations.</p> <p>In 2017 catch limits for salmon fisheries were set for Sami communes of the Murmansk region by the Regional Commissions on Regulation of Harvesting the Anadromous Fish. The fisheries took place at fishing sites in coastal waters of the White Sea in the Murmansk region and the total catch was 0.2 t.</p> |
| | Current Status of Action | Completed |
| | If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective? | <p>The Action achieved its objective.</p> <p>The legislation to manage the fisheries conducted by indigenous small nations of the North came into force by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 170, 08.04.2013.</p> |

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| <p>3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (Section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan). <i>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.</i></p> | | |
| Action H1: | Description of Action (as submitted in the IP) | Develop inventories of salmon rivers. Estimate salmon habitat and productive capacity. |
| | Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP) | Inventories of salmon rivers to provide baseline data on salmon habitat and productive capacity for |

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| | | management in relation to estuarine and freshwater habitat. |
| | 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> | The carrying capacity of some Barents Sea rivers of the Murmansk region was revised in 2016 on the basis of new data from spawning and nursery grounds mapping. In 2017 “The inventory of salmon rivers of the Murmansk region. The White Sea basin” was prepared for publication by PINRO. The study to estimate salmon habitat and productive capacity of salmon rivers in the Republic of Karelia began on the basis of available data. |
| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective? | |
| Action H2: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Develop and implement detailed habitat protection and restoration plans for specific rivers |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Detailed habitat protection and restoration plans for specific rivers. |
| | 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> | Recommendations on habitat restoration were updated for a number of salmon rivers in the Murmansk region and developed for Archangelsk region and for the Republic of Komi in 2017. No detailed habitat protection and restoration plans have been developed for specific rivers. |
| | 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.

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| Action A1: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Develop and bring in to force the Federal Law “On aquaculture” and related by-laws. |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | The Federal Law “On aquaculture” and related by-laws. |
| | 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> | The Federal Law “On aquaculture” No. 148-FZ, 02.07.2013 came into force in January 01, 2014. No new amendments to the Federal Law “On aquaculture” came into force in 2017 regarding anadromous fishes. No specific legislation regarding veterinary control and management of sea lice in aquaculture has been adopted. However in accordance with the current rules on veterinary control the regional veterinary authorities monitor salmon farms on the regular basis to check salmon for diseases and parasites. |

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| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective? | |
| Action A2: | Description of Action (as submitted in the IP) | Minimise the risk of further spread of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> . |
| | Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP) | Measures to prevent the introduction or further spread of parasite. |
| | 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>Parasite <i>Gyrodactylus Salaris</i> was found in the Keret River (the Republic of Karelia, the White Sea basin) in 1992, where it caused considerable damage to salmon stocks. Parasite was introduced into the river through aquaculture activities. There's a risk of further spread of parasite in rivers of the Republic of Karelia and a risk of its introduction to the Murmansk region through recreational fisheries and through freshwater aquaculture activities.</p> <p>The Knipovich Polar Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (PINRO) has been conducting parasitological surveys to monitor <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> since 1993 in index rivers of the Murmansk region and in the Keret River of the Republic of Karelia.</p> <p>In 2017 the introduction of the parasite to the salmon rivers Pak and Shovna in the basin of the Lower Tuloma Reservoir (Murmansk region) was confirmed. It's believed that the introduction of parasite was caused by transfers of rainbow trout to the cage-aquaculture farms in the reservoir.</p> <p>Measures to prevent the spread of <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> were undertaken under the veterinary regulations for live fish, eggs and crayfish transfers which came in force by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture of USSR, 31.05.1971. Any live fish, eggs and crayfish transfers require permission from the Chief State Veterinary Inspector. In 2017 the Anti-Epizootic Commission of the Murmansk region restricted live fish transfers from the region of Leningrad and from Republic of Karelia into Murmansk region. The Commission made recommendations to ban the development of new aquaculture sites in the Lower Tuloma Reservoir.</p> <p>Recreational fisheries companies in the Murmansk region implement voluntary programmes to prevent the spread of parasite on fishing equipment, tackle, etc. by use of approved disinfection methods. The regional Barents-Belomorskiy Directorate of the Federal</p> |

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| | | Agency for Fisheries has developed recommendations for users of salmon fishing sites. |
| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective? | |
| Action A3: | Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Control introductions and transfers. |
| | Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i> | Control movements into a Commission area of reproductively viable non-indigenous anadromous salmonids or their gametes. |
| | 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> | The requirements and rules relating to introduction of aquatic species came into force by the Order of the Federal Agency for Fisheries No. 433, 06.05.2010 in accordance with the Federal Law “On fisheries and conservation of aquatic biological resources” No. 166-FZ, 20.12.2004. The Order requires a comprehensive scientific substantiation for any introduction of aquatic species to take place. No movements into the Commission area of reproductively viable non-indigenous anadromous salmonids or their gametes was planned and implemented in 2017. |
| | Current Status of Action | Ongoing |
| | If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective? | |

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| 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. |
| | No additional information. |
| 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. |
| | No new commitments. |
| 4.3 | Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles. |
| | No new actions. |
| 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. |
| | No new actions. |
| 4.5 | Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations. |
| | No actions taken. |