



Agenda item 7.1  
For information

**Council**

**CNL(18)35**

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

***EU-Spain (Navarra)***



## CNL(18)35

### *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**.

<b>Party:</b>	<b>European Union</b>
<b>Jurisdiction/Region:</b>	<b>Spain (Navarra)</b>

<b>1: Changes to the Implementation Plan</b>
<b>1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan</b> <i>(Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 December).</i>
No changes to the Implementation Plan have been proposed
<b>1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.</b>
Under the framework of the LIFE IREKIBAI project (LIFE14 NAT/ES/000186), two dams have been demolished in two streams tributaries of the Bidasoa River: one dam in Txaruta stream (Donamaria dam) and another one in Ezkurra stream (Ituren dam), both located in the upper basin. In addition, two more dams have been demolished through own funds of the Government of Navarra: one in Ezkurra stream (old fish farm dam) and another one in Zalain stream, one of the tributaries of the Bidasoa River in the lower basin.

<b>2: Stock status and catches.</b>				
<b>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.</b>				
There have not been new factors which may affect the abundance of salmon stocks.				
<b>2.2 Provide the following information on catches:</b> <i>(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').</i>				
(a) provisional nominal	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total

catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2017 (tonnes)	0.102			0.102
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2016 (tonnes)	0.188			0.188
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2017 (tonnes)	0			0
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2017.	Unknown, but catch and release is not a common practice in recreational salmon fisheries in Bidasoa River			

### 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.*

<b>Action F1:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Data analysis for the establishment of the necessary reference limits.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Reference limits for every indicator of conservation status.
	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>	Continues data collection for evaluation of the reference limits, that has not started due to be unable to invest the necessary financial resources
	Current Status of Action	Not started
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action F2:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) To collect biometric and biological data of every salmon captured on recreational fishing.</li> <li>(2) To collect biometric and biological data of every spawner salmon passing the salmon trap.</li> <li>(3) Electrofishing surveys on juvenile production areas.</li> <li>(4) Monitoring of redds and spawners.</li> <li>(5) To collect biometric and biological data of every salmon passing the salmon trap.</li> <li>(6) Setup of a rotary screw trap.</li> <li>(7) To collect biometric and biological data of smolts captured in the rotary screw trap.</li> <li>(8) Estimate annually the conservation status of the salmon stock.</li> <li>(9) Monitoring of the sanitary status.</li> <li>(10) Preparation of protocols for the above actions.</li> </ol>

	<p>Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i></p>	<p>Data for stock trend analysis and evaluation.</p>
	<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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Biometric data (LF and weight), scale samples and biological samples for sex determination, collected for 33 salmon fished in 2017. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(2) Biometric data (LF and weight), scale samples and biological samples for sex determination (until august), collected for 261 spawning salmon passing the salmon trap in 2017. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(3) There have been 31 electrofishing surveys on juvenile production areas. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(4) During the 2017 reed monitoring campaign, 22 redds and 8 spawners were observed in spawning areas. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(6) The rotary screw trap was installed in February in the canal of a hydropower plant, but a flood event damaged the trap. It was fixed and reinstalled in March, but the trap reduced the electric production of the hydropower station. Therefore it was decided to remove it. Future use of the rotary screw trap has been discarded due to the many problems that have been encountered in its set up and use. The expected outcome of this action will not be achieved (0%).</li> <li>(7) As a result, collection of biometric and biological data of smolts could not be carried out in 2017. At the moment, other ways of achieving the data of the smolts (different to the use of rotary screw trap, such as fish counters, etc.) are being studied to be used in the future. At the moment, 0% of the expected outcome of this action has been achieved.</li> <li>(8) In 2017, according to the tentative limits, the conservation status of the Bidasoa salmon stock remains unfavourable. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(9) All spawners transferred to the fish farm have been treated preventively with antibiotics. On the fish farm there is a protocol for sanitary status monitoring and prophylactic treatments. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(10) All protocols to carry out the above actions have been prepared. 100% of the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> </ol>

	Current Status of Action	Ongoing
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	All completed actions have been successful and the objectives were achieved, except for the actions related to the setup of the rotary screw trap and collection of biometric and biological data of smolts captured in the trap (6 and 7). Therefore, the number of smolts migrating yearly to the sea from the Bidasoa River basin remains unknown.
<b>Action F3:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Establishment of the annual total authorized catch.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Annual estimate of the total authorized catch.
	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 total authorized catch (TAC) for the 2017 season was set at 78 salmon caught and the multi-sea-winter (MSW) protection measure was established at 26 MSW salmon. When 80% of the MSW TAC were caught (20 MSW salmon), the angling season was closed for a week. None of these TAC were reached as only 33 salmon were caught (13 MSW) during the season. Therefore, the expected outcome has been achieved.
	Current Status of Action	Completed
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	Yes: annual catches were below the TAC and there was no need to enter into action the MSW protection measure, as only 13 MSW salmon were caught.
<b>Action F4:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Selection and transfer of wild spawners to the hatchery.</li> <li>(2) Artificial spawning and fry growth in captivity.</li> <li>(3) Differential tagging of fry according to stocking moment.</li> <li>(4) Supplemental stocking in the Bidasoa river and tributaries.</li> </ol>
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Increase of the emigrating smolt population and returning salmons.
	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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) 24 females and 41 males were selected in the trap in 2016 and transferred to the hatchery for the 2017 fry production. Therefore, the expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(2) 193,000 eggs were obtained and they produced 120,500 fry in June. The expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(3) All juvenile salmon fish stocked into Bidasoa River are marked. Fry stocked in July are adipose clipped (ADC) while parr stocked in autumn are marked with CWT+ADC. Differential DCWTsq marking between MSWxMSW, MSWx1SW and 1SWx1SW crossing is carried out. The expected outcome has been achieved.</li> <li>(4) In 2017, 88,000 salmon fry and 39,300 autumn parr were stocked in the Bidasoa River and its tributaries. The expected outcome has been</li> </ol>

		achieved.
	Current Status of Action	Completed
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	Yes

**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.*

<b>Action H1:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Update of the salmonid mesohabitat maps.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	An updated GIS database and maps. This information will be used to report the impact assessment of any construction that could affect the salmonid mesohabitats identified.
	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>	Not started. The evaluation has not started due to be unable to invest the necessary financial resources
	Current Status of Action	Not started
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	
<b>Action H2:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	(1) Evaluation of the successfulness of the 10 fishway projects carried out in the last decade. (2) Preparation and implementation of 5 new projects to improve longitudinal connectivity.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Significant improvement of the river habitat accessible for salmon.
	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>	This action is included in a LIFE project (LIFE14 NAT/ES/000186). (1) During the 2016-17 migration, the first three fishways were evaluated (Murgues, Nabasturen and Iruribieta) in the main Bidasoa River. The analysis of the data revealed that all three fishways could facilitate the salmonids' migration upstream the barriers. During the 2017-18 migration, two more fishways were evaluated (Nazas in Bidasoa River and Molino de Bera in Zia, tributary of Bidasoa). The analysis of the data is ongoing. 50% of the expected outcome has been achieved. (2) During the 2017 summer, four dams (two in Ezkurra, one in Txaruta and one in Zalain streams) have been removed. 120% of the expected outcome has been achieved.
	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.

<b>Action A1:</b>	Description of Action <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	Not applicable.
	Expected Outcome <i>(as submitted in the IP)</i>	
	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>	
	Current Status of Action	
	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.

Since the multi-sea-winter (MSW) salmon protection measure was included in the regional angling regulation in 2015, it has been included in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and will also be included in forthcoming years, unless otherwise is specified.

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.

The ongoing LIFE IREKIBAI project (LIFE14 NAT/ES/000186) has the main objective of improving the connectivity of the Bidasoa River. The project will run until 2020.

4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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

Not applicable