

Working Group on Effectiveness of Recovery Actions for Atlantic Salmon (WGERAAS)

2012/MA2/SSGEF03 The Working Group on Effectiveness of Recovery Actions for Atlantic Salmon (WGERAAS), chaired by Dennis Ensing, UK (Northern Ireland), will meet at ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark, 9–13 November 2015, to work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

The Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon noted that factors other than fishing are currently constraining and, in some areas, threatening with extirpation, populations of Atlantic salmon throughout the North Atlantic. Factors acting in both the freshwater and marine environment are of concern. A review of successes and failures in wild salmon restoration could lead to a classification of activities which could be recommended under various conditions or threats to the persistence of populations. Such a classification would be of benefit to management tasked with rebuilding and restoration actions.

WGERAAS will report on the activities of 2015 (Year 3) by 15 January 2016 to WGNAS, WGRECORDS, WGBAST and SCICOM.

ToR descriptors

ToR	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	SCIENCE PLAN TOPICS		EXPECTED DELIVERABLES
			ADDRESSED	DURATION	
a	Develop a classification system for recovery / re-building programs for Atlantic salmon, including threats to populations, population status, life history attributes, actions taken to re-build populations, program goals, and metrics for evaluating the success of re-building programs;	Advisory Requirements Rebuilding of salmon stocks is central to international management objectives (NASCO) for increasing salmon stocks to a point where sustainable fisheries can take place. Links to ACOM/WGNAS	344,345,346	Year 1	Review paper and interim report to WGNAS
b	Populate the system by collecting data on recovery / re-building programs for Atlantic salmon populations from around the North Atlantic;	No systematic review of recovery programmes for salmon stocks has been carried out to date. This information will inform on best practice for rehabilitation.	232, 233	Year 1 and 2	Report with response to NASCO TORS for WGNAS
c	Summarize the resulting data set to determine the conditions under which various recovery / re-building actions are successful and when they are not;	No systematic review of recovery programmes for salmon stocks has been carried out to date. This information will inform on best practice for rehabilitation.	311,312	Year 2 and 3	Report with response to NASCO TORS for WGNAS
d	Provide recommendations on appropriate recovery/ rebuilding actions for Atlantic salmon given threats to populations, status and life history.	Definitive recommendations can be built in to catch advcoe and advice on salmon management generally from ICES to NASCO.	313,314	Year 2 and 3	Report with response to NASCO ToRs for WGNAS. Suggestions for Theme session arising with links to activities in North America and Pacific for 2015 ASC.

Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Provide a report outlining progress towards meeting the TORS and any significant findings regarding the current strategies for rebuilding salmon stocks – this report to be available to WGNAS in April 2013
Year 2	Complete a comprehensive review of stock rebuilding practices noting success and failures and provide guidance on best practice for salmon stocks at different levels of conservation limit attainment
Year 3	Prepare a report for the attention of SSGEPD, WGNAS, WGRECORDS which can be used to provide advice requested by NASCO from ICES.
