



**International Atlantic Salmon Research Board**

**ICR(23)01A**

*Annotated Agenda*

***Twenty-Second Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board***

***Delta Beausejour Hotel, Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada***

***4 June 2023***

***Annotated Agenda***

The purpose of this paper is to provide the background, decisions and links to papers for each item on the Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board (the Board).

Papers for the meeting are available on the Board's [website](#).

This Annotated Agenda references papers that the Secretariat is aware of at the time of writing. If additional papers are issued, they will be posted on the website and delegates will be informed by email.

As agreed in 2022, Parties / NGOs were invited to submit questions on Agenda items, in advance to the relevant Party. The Secretariat requested that it be copied into any questions asked, to allow the questions to be included in the Annotated Agenda. No questions were received.

A summary of the decisions before the Board is contained in Annex 1.

**Time of the Meeting (New Brunswick local time)**

The Board will meet at the following time:

- Sunday 4 June: 09:30 – 12:30 hrs

**Order of Business**

Agenda items will be taken in the following order:

1.	Opening of the Meeting
2.	Adoption of the Agenda
4.	The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider the Overall Vision, Scope and Purpose of the Board
8.	Finance and Administrative Issues
7.	Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work
5.	Review of the 2022 Inventory of Research
6.	Final Update of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea
9.	Other Business
3.	Election of Officers
11.	Date and Place of the Next Meeting
10.	Report of the Meeting
12.	Close of the Meeting

## 1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chair, Martha Robertson (Canada) will open the meeting.

- *no decision is required.*

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

A Draft Agenda, [ICR\(23\)01](#), was made available on 28 February 2023. No supplementary items have been proposed by the members of the Board.

- *the Board may wish to adopt its Agenda.*

The following paper is available:

- Draft Agenda, [ICR\(23\)01](#)

## 3. Election of Officers

The Chair will come to the end of her first term of office at the close of the 2023 Annual Meeting and is eligible for re-election.

- *the Board may wish to elect / re-elect a Chair.*

No background papers are produced for this item. Work to seek candidates and support has been conducted by the Secretary.

## 4. The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider the Overall Vision, Scope and Purpose of the Board

During the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Board, the ‘Report of the Review of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea’, [ICR\(22\)03](#), was considered. It recommended that the Board may wish to:

- consider its overall vision, scope and purpose;
- assess whether the funding available to the Board is commensurate with its vision, scope and purpose;
- identify the priorities the Parties now have for the Board; and
- consider establishing a process for requesting and reviewing proposals.

An inter-sessional process, including a meeting of the Board in January, took place to work on this, [ICR\(23\)02](#). Since the inter-sessional meeting, additional work has been conducted, to enable the Board to take a number of decisions at its Annual Meeting, as set out below.

### a) Review of ‘Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board and its Scientific Advisory Group’, ICR(20)03

During the inter-sessional meeting, [ICR\(23\)02](#), the Board agreed that it would recommend to the Council of NASCO that the Terms of Reference of the Board be revised. Prior to seeking agreement for the revisions from the Council:

- the revised text of paragraphs one and two of the Terms of Reference, agreed at the inter-sessional meeting, have been subject to minor edits by the Secretariat and Chair; and
- the revised text has been circulated to the Board with the rest of the Terms of

Reference for review.

***The Board may wish to:***

- ***agree Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board and its Scientific Advisory Group; and***
- ***recommend that Council adopt Revised Terms of Reference for the Board and SAG.***

The following papers are available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(23\)02](#);
- Draft Revised Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board and its Scientific Advisory Group, [ICR\(23\)03](#).

**b) Terms of Reference for the Scientific Advisory Group to Develop a List of Research Needs**

During the inter-sessional meeting, [ICR\(23\)02](#), the Board agreed that the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) would be asked to identify a prioritised list of research needs, guided by Terms of Reference developed specifically for the task. The Board member for the United States has worked with the Chair and Secretariat to develop Draft Terms of Reference.

It was also agreed that there would be further consideration at the Meeting of the Board in June 2023 about what the Board would do with the information provided by the SAG.

***Report from the Performance Review Panel***

The Report of the Third NASCO Performance Review, [CNL\(23\)17rev](#), was published in March 2023. Consideration will take place during the Annual Meeting of the Council, following the Board's Annual Meeting. However, one of the recommendations in the report may link to the work of the SAG being considered under this Agenda item. Recommendation 13 states:

*'The Panel recommends NASCO to encourage efforts to extend and improve knowledge of the distribution of salmon in the sea. Such efforts could, building on SALSEA and other recent initiatives, include experimental long-line fisheries, telemetric and genetic-based distributional studies, combining their respective strengths, and using them to develop, parameterize and test migrational models such as those based on particle tracking.'*

The Board may be asked if it has any comments on the recommendation.

***A Potential Successor to SALSEA-Track***

At the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Board, it was agreed that the SALSEA-Track Programme should be closed, [CNL\(20\)12](#). It was further agreed at that meeting that the any successor to the SALSEA-Track Programme should have the following attributes:

*'be problem focused with a clearly defined internationally relevant question, which is not solely developed based on the newest technology available; have clear SMART objectives; have clear timelines; have a clear budget; be at the basin-scale; and have an identified owner / co-ordinator. Additionally, it should address issues such as: data gaps / climate change / commonalities across the jurisdictions / mechanisms for supporting new technologies.'*

In previous years, the Board's Agenda has included an item on 'A Potential Successor for SALSEA-Track'. However, this was removed from the Agenda in 2023 as any decisions taken under the current agenda item may affect the criteria for a potential successor programme.

*The Board may wish to:*

- *agree what it will do with the results of the SAG's work, when the prioritised list of research needs is presented to the Board prior to the 2024 Annual Meeting;*
- *agree Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board's Scientific Advisory Group;*
- *ask that the Secretary work with the Chair of the SAG to facilitate the SAG's work in addressing these Terms of Reference inter-sessionally to report back to the Board in advance of the 2024 Annual Meeting; and*
- *postpone seeking proposals for a potential successor to SALSEA-Track until such time as the Board can consider the results of the SAG's work to develop a prioritised list of research needs / topics.*

The following papers are available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(23\)02](#);
- The Report of the Third NASCO Performance Review, [CNL\(23\)17rev](#);
- Draft Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board's Scientific Advisory Group to Identify Potential Research Priorities, [ICR\(23\)04](#).

c) **Review of Financial Documents ICR(01)10 and ICR(01)11**

During the inter-sessional meeting, [ICR\(23\)02](#), the Board agreed that the following financial documents would be reviewed and revised with ethical guidance included: 'Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions to the International Cooperative Salmon Research Fund', ICR(01)10 (Annex 4 in [ICR\(01\)12](#)), and 'Financial Rules of the International Cooperative Salmon Research Fund', ICR(01)11 (Annex 5 in [ICR\(01\)12](#)).

The Board member for Canada worked with the Chair and Secretariat to develop draft revised documents.

*The Board may wish to agree the revised documents:*

- *Revised Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions to the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund; and*
- *Revised Financial Rules of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund.*

The following papers are available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(23\)02](#);
- Proposed Revised Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions to the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund, [ICR\(23\)05](#); and
- Proposed Revised Financial Rules of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund, [ICR\(23\)06](#).

d) **Review of ‘Guidelines on Submitting Proposals for Research, Workshops, Symposia and Other Activities for Support by the IASRB’, ICR(09)10**

During the inter-sessional meeting, [ICR\(23\)02](#), the Board agreed that the following document would be reviewed and revised: ‘Guidelines on Submitting Proposals for Research, Workshops, Symposia and Other Activities for Support by the IASRB’, [ICR\(09\)10](#).

The Board member for the UK has worked with the Chair and Secretariat to draft a revised document. However, it has become clear that the document cannot be finalised until the Board has agreed what it will do with the results of the SAG’s work and until the results of the SAG’s work are available.

- *the Board may wish to postpone consideration of a revised document on Guidelines on Submitting Proposals to the Board.*

The following paper is available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(23\)02](#)

**5. Review of the 2022 Inventory of Research**

As agreed in 2020, changes to the process of collecting Inventory data and to the presentation of the Inventory on the website have been implemented [CNL\(20\)12](#). It was also agreed that webpage hit statistics and related metrics for the Inventory would be presented to the Board annually to understand the extent to which the Inventory is used.

There will be no presentation. However, the Chair may allow questions and comments, time permitting.

*The Board may wish to:*

- *ask members to check the information held in the Inventory relevant to their Party / jurisdiction;*
- *ask the Secretariat to update the Inventory in 2023 / 24.*

The following paper is available:

- Review of the 2022 Inventory of Research, [ICR\(23\)08](#).

**6. Final Update of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea**

In 2020, the Board agreed that the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea (the Metadatabase) should be reviewed, [CNL\(20\)12](#). After considering the ‘Report of the Review of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea’, [ICR\(22\)03](#), the Board agreed to the following actions related to the metadatabase:

- that the metadatabase should not continue to be maintained. However, the metadatabase webpage should remain on the Board’s website, with caveats related to when it was last updated;
- a single excel spreadsheet should be provided on the webpage rather than a series of PDF links; and

- that Parties and jurisdictions be asked, through the Board members, for one final update to the metadatabase in 2022.

This work has been completed and the final update to the [metadatabase](#) is available on the Board's website.

- *the Board may wish to agree to remove this item from the Agenda in future years.*

## 7. Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work

In 2020, it was agreed to retain an Agenda item focused on projects where NASCO has some ownership (such as EU-funded projects, the SALSEA-Track successor and the Likely Suspects Framework) and that if SAG and Board members knew of other relevant projects, those researchers could be invited to contribute information, [CNL\(20\)12](#). The Board asked the Secretary to provide updates on the first category of projects (i.e. where NASCO has some ownership), and, through the Board and SAG members, to seek information on other projects that would be of interest to the Board and its work.

The updates provided on projects of interest to the Board and its work are contained in the document 'Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work', [ICR\(23\)09](#). There will be no presentation on this document. However, the Chair may allow questions and comments, time permitting.

At its 2022 Annual Meeting, [CNL\(22\)10](#) paragraph 5.8, the Board endorsed the concept of composing a new North-East Atlantic salmon genetic baseline for the purpose of assigning salmon samples from Greenland to region of origin, as contained in document [ICR\(22\)08](#).

The UK has now submitted an updated version of the proposal endorsed last year, seeking strategic funding of €41,000 from the Board's International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund to promote the international aspect of the initiative, [ICR\(23\)11](#).

*The Board may wish to:*

- *agree whether to fund the 'Proposal for an Updated Comprehensive trans-European Genetic Reference Baseline to Assign Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) to Rivers and Region of Origin across the Eastern North Atlantic', [ICR\(23\)11](#).*

The following papers are available:

- Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work, [ICR\(23\)09](#);
- Proposal for an Updated Comprehensive trans-European Genetic Reference Baseline to Assign Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) to Rivers and Region of Origin across the Eastern North Atlantic', [ICR\(23\)11](#).

## 8. Finance and Administrative Issues

At its 2006 Annual Meeting, [CNL\(06\)11](#), the Board recognised that it was not necessary to have its accounts audited annually and agreed that, in future, the Board's accounts should be audited as required in relation to the funds held. For years in which an audit is not conducted, details of the Board's income and expenditure statements would be circulated to the members of the Board and discussed at its Annual Meeting. In 2022 the Board decided not to have its 2022 accounts audited and the Secretary was asked to provide income and expenditure statements.



The total value of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund as at 31 December 2022 was £581,210.56 (exchange rate at close of business on 31 December 2022).

Of the Funds available at the end of 2022, €470,027.76 is grant funding in the Euro account. In the sterling accounts, the following amounts are ring-fenced:

- £4,000 for a second ROAM workshop if required;
- £40,150, provided as a voluntary contribution by the United States in 2019, with the purpose of funding projects under the SALSEA-Track or ROAM initiatives; and
- £71,750 was provided by the United States in 2022 with the purpose of funding the purchase of Wildlife Computers Popoff Satellite Tags.

Thus, approximately £115,900 of the £142,620.98 in the Sterling accounts is unavailable to spend on other projects, leaving approximately £26,700 available.

*The Board may wish to:*

- *accept the 2022 accounts*
- *decide whether to have the 2023 accounts audited.*

The following paper is available:

- 2022 Accounts for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund, [ICR\(23\)10rev.](#)

## **9. Other Business**

No other business is anticipated.

## **10. Report of the Meeting**

A Draft Report of the Meeting will be circulated for review.

- *the Board may wish to adopt the Report of the Meeting.*

## **11. Date and Place of the Next Meeting**

The Board will be asked to confirm the date and venue for its next Annual Meeting.

It is usual practice for the Board to meet immediately prior to the Annual Meeting of the Council of NASCO, and in the same location.

The Forty-First Annual Meeting of the Council will be held during 4 – 7 June 2024; the location will be considered during the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Council.

*The Board may wish to:*

- *agree to hold its next Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Forty-First Annual Meeting of the Council.*

## **12. Close of the Meeting**

The Chair will close the Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of the Board.

Secretariat  
Edinburgh  
29 May 2023

***Summary of International Atlantic Salmon Research Board Decisions***

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Paper No.</b>
2. Adoption of the Agenda	Adopt the Agenda.	<a href="#">ICR(23)01</a>
3. Election of Officers	Elect / re-elect a Chair	
4a. Review of ‘Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board and its Scientific Advisory Group’, ICR(20)03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agree Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board and its Scientific Advisory Group; and</li> <li>• recommend that Council adopt Revised Terms of Reference for the Board and SAG.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">ICR(23)02</a> <a href="#">ICR(23)03</a>
4b. Terms of Reference for the Scientific Advisory Group to Develop a List of Research Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agree what to do with the results of the SAG’s work, when the prioritised list of research needs is presented to the Board prior to the 2024 Annual Meeting;</li> <li>• agree Terms of Reference for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board’s Scientific Advisory Group; and</li> <li>• postpone seeking proposals for a potential successor to SALSEA-Track until such time as the Board can consider the results of the SAG’s work to develop a prioritised list of research needs / topics.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">ICR(23)02</a> <a href="#">CNL(23)17rev</a> <a href="#">ICR(23)04</a>
4c. Review of Financial Documents ICR(01)10 and ICR(01)11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agree Revised Guidelines on Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions to the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund; and</li> <li>• agree Revised Financial Rules of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund</li> </ul>	<a href="#">ICR(23)02</a> <a href="#">ICR(23)05</a> <a href="#">ICR(23)06</a>
4d. Review of ‘Guidelines on Submitting Proposals for Research, Workshops, Symposia and Other Activities for Support by the IASRB’, ICR(09)10	Agree to postpone consideration of a revised document on Guidelines on Submitting Proposals to the Board	<a href="#">ICR(23)02</a>



6. Final Update of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea	Whether to remove this item from the Agenda in future years	
7. Projects of Interest to the Board	Whether to fund the ‘Proposal for an Updated Comprehensive trans-European Genetic Reference Baseline to Assign Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) to Rivers and Region of Origin across the Eastern North Atlantic’.	<a href="#">ICR(23)11</a>
8. Finance and Administrative Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• accept the accounts for 2022; and</li> <li>• whether to have the 2023 accounts audited.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">ICR(23)10rev</a>
10. Report of the Meeting	Adopt the Report	Issued at meeting
11. Date and Place of the Next Meeting	Agree to hold the next Annual Meeting of the Board in conjunction with the next Annual Meeting of the Council	