



International Atlantic Salmon Research Board

ICR(22)01A

Annotated Agenda

Twenty-First Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board

Dalmahoy Hotel & Country Club, Edinburgh, Scotland

5 & 7 June 2022

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.

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

Timings of the Meetings (all timings are UK Local Time)

The Board will meet at the following times:

- Sunday 5 June: 10:30 – 12:30 hrs
- Tuesday 7 June: 08:30 – 09:30 hrs

Order of Business

Agenda items will be taken in the following order:

Sunday
1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
6. A Potential Successor to SALSEA-Track
4. Report of the Review of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea
5. Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work
3. Review of the 2021 Inventory of Research
7. Finance and Administrative Issues
8. Other Business
10. Date and Place of the Next Meeting
Tuesday <i>(Please note that any decisions to close any outstanding items of business will need to be taken in the Tuesday meeting)</i>
9. Report of the Meeting <i>(if possible)</i>
11. 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\(22\)01](#) was made available on 1 March 2022. No supplementary items have been proposed by the members of the Board.

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

3. Review of the 2021 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 [ICR\(20\)07](#). 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.

The Board may wish to:

- *ask members to check the information held in the Inventory relevant to their Party / jurisdiction;*
- *consider the website metrics for the Inventory webpage;*
- *ask the Secretariat to update the Inventory in 2022 / 23.*

The following paper is available:

- Review of the 2021 Inventory of Research, [ICR\(22\)04](#).

4. Report of the Review 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](#).

Terms of Reference for the review, [ICR\(21\)15](#), were agreed at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Board. A Working Group reviewed the Metadatabase in November 2021.

The Board may wish to consider:

- *whether the Metadatabase should continue to be maintained and, if not:*
 - *whether the Metadatabase webpage should remain but with caveats related to when it was last updated; and*
 - *whether a single excel spreadsheet should be provided on the webpage rather than a series of PDF links; and*
 - *that Parties / jurisdictions are asked for one final update before the Metadatabase is put ‘on ice’*
- *the recommendations of the Working Group related to other areas of the Board’s work, including:*
 - *the overall vision, scope and purpose of the Board;*
 - *whether the funding available to the Board is commensurate with its vision, scope and purpose;*
 - *the priorities the Parties now have for the Board; and*

- *establishing a process for requesting and reviewing proposals.*

The following papers are available:

- 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](#).

5. 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 new and emerging projects that would be of interest to the Board and its work.

The updates provided on projects in the first category are contained in the document ‘Projects of Interest to the Board and its work’.

The United Kingdom has tabled a paper on a proposal for a new Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) genetic baseline to assign Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) sampled at Greenland, and seeks the Board’s endorsement of the concept of composing such a baseline.

- *the Board may wish to endorse 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.*

The following papers are available:

- Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work, [ICR\(22\)07](#).
- Proposal for a New Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) Genetic Baseline to Assign Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) Sampled at Greenland, [ICR\(22\)08](#)

6. 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.’

The Secretariat asked Board members whether they were aware of any potential successor programmes to SALSEA-Track, and, if so, to provide information that would be collated into a paper for the Board meeting. In response to this request, an update has been received on the ROAM project and will be considered under this Agenda item.

In response to the request for a potential successor to SALSEA-Track in 2021, a project proposal on ‘Developing an International Atlantic Salmon Modelling and Management

Initiative' (ISMMI) was provided to the Board for consideration at its 2021 Annual Meeting. At that meeting, the Board agreed to refer the proposal to its Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) for a technical evaluation and the SAG's report would be considered inter-sessionally by the Board.

The Board considered the Report of the SAG, [ICR\(22\)02](#), inter-sessionally by correspondence. The correspondence had two components:

- one relating directly to the ISMMI proposal. The Board agreed not to fund or endorse the ISMMI proposal; and
- one relating to more general issues of the Board's funding and endorsement of projects. Many members felt that the Board should not consider funding or endorsing the preparation of research proposals. However, there was no overall consensus in this regard. Therefore, during the period of correspondence it was proposed that this could be discussed during the Annual Meeting under the agenda item 'A Potential Successor to SALSEA-Track'.

In considering this issue, the Board may wish to take into account one of the recommendations of 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](#) (see agenda item 4 above), namely that the Board consider establishing a process for requesting and reviewing proposals.

The Board may wish to:

- *agree that the Secretariat should continue to seek a potential successor to SALSEA-Track;*
- *agree whether the Board should fund or endorse the preparation of research proposals; or*
- *agree that the funding or endorsement of research proposals should be considered alongside the recommendation of the Report of the Review of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea under item four above.*

The following papers are available:

- A Potential Successor to SALSEA-Track, [ICR\(22\)05](#).
- 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](#).

7. 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 2021 the Board considered and accepted the 2020 audited accounts, [CNL\(21\)12](#). The Board decided not to have its 2021 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 2021 was £506,868.94. Of the Funds available at the end of 2021, €494,995.52 is grant

funding in the Euro account and £415,313.48 is the sterling equivalent. 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;
- £41,910, provided as a voluntary contribution by Canada in 2020, to provide funds for the research programme to tag Atlantic salmon at Greenland with popup satellite tags.

Thus, approximately £86,000 of the £91,555 in the Sterling accounts is unavailable to spend on other projects, leaving approximately £5,500 available.

The Board may wish to:

- *accept the 2021 accounts*
- *decide whether to have the 2022 accounts audited.*

The following paper is available:

- 2021 Accounts for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund, [ICR\(22\)06](#).

8. Other Business

No other business is anticipated.

9. 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.*

10. 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. In 2021, it was agreed that the Secretary would investigate options for a second meeting of the Board at future Annual Meetings. A second Board meeting is, therefore, scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 7 June 2022.

The Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Council will be held during 6 – 9 June 2023; the location has not been agreed yet.

The Board may wish to:

- *agree whether one or two sessions, schedule permitting, should be allocated to the Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the Board;*
- *agree to hold its next Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Council.*

11. Close of the Meeting

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

Secretariat
Edinburgh
27 May 2022

Summary of International Atlantic Salmon Research Board Decisions

Agenda Item	Decision	Paper No.
2. Adoption of the Agenda	Adopt the Agenda.	ICR(22)01
4. Report of the Review of the Metadatabase of Salmon Survey Data and Sample Collections of Relevance to Mortality of Salmon at Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether to continue to maintain the Metadatabase; and • whether any further action is required following the recommendations of the Working Group related to other areas of the Board's work. 	ICR(22)03
5. Projects of Interest to the Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether to endorse 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. 	ICR(22)08
6. A Potential Successor to SALSEA-Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether to ask the Secretariat to continue to seek a potential successor to SALSEA-Track; and • whether the Board should fund or endorse the preparation of research proposals (or whether this should be considered under item 4 above). 	ICR(22)05
7. Finance and Administrative Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to accept the accounts for 2021; and • whether to have the 2022 accounts audited. 	ICR(22)06
9. Report of the Meeting	Adopt the Report	Issued at meeting
10. Date and Place of the Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of sessions allocated to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Board; and • to hold the next Annual Meeting of the Board in conjunction with the next Annual Meeting of the Council 	