



## International Atlantic Salmon Research Board

### *Guidelines on Submitting Proposals for Support by the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board*

ICR(24)12

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### **Background**

The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) is the inter-governmental organization charged with conserving, restoring, enhancing and rationally managing salmon in the North Atlantic Ocean. In 2000, in response to concerns about increased marine mortality of salmon, NASCO established the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board (the Board). The purpose and scope of the Board are to promote and initiate collaboration and co-operation on research into the causes of marine mortality of Atlantic salmon and the opportunities to counteract this mortality through a number of identified activities, see [ICR\(23\)18](#). Additionally, the Board has agreed its vision:

*‘Factors causing salmon mortality at sea are understood to the level that supports the development of management actions by Parties to reduce mortality to recover, protect and conserve salmon stocks’).*

The Board has established and maintains an inventory of research (the Inventory) relating to the mortality of salmon at sea, which is available on the Board’s website, [www.salmonatsea.com](http://www.salmonatsea.com).

### **Proposals for Research**

In the past, the Board has funded major international research, workshops and symposia related to improving understanding of mortality of Atlantic salmon at sea, such as [SALSEA](#). In addition, it has endorsed initiatives, such as 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\(22\)15](#).

Proposals submitted to the Board in support of the Board’s scope, purpose and vision will be evaluated by the Board’s Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) in relation to a number of criteria including relevance to the Board’s research priorities ([ICR\(24\)01](#)), the extent of collaborations, value added (in relation to research included in the Inventory) and potential to be successful (in terms of making progress towards the Board’s vision).

Proposals for research, workshops, symposia or other activities may be submitted to the Board, that:

- seek only endorsement by the Board; or
- seek funding support from the Board.

The Board will consider major multi-disciplinary and collaborative research projects but also smaller projects and support for workshops and symposia. Where funding is provided from the Board it may be in full or on a partial or matching basis, subject to the Board’s ‘Revised Financial Rules of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund’ [ICR\(23\)15](#).

## **Application Procedure**

### ***1. Research Projects and Other Activities Seeking Endorsement by the Board.***

Proposals to the Board should be sent to the Secretary. Submissions will be evaluated and a decision taken by the Board.

A detailed proposal is not required for applications seeking only endorsement by the Board. However, the following information is required:

- Project title;
- Name(s) and details of appropriate expertise of leading Scientist(s) and details of co-operating organizations;
- Project summary (including objectives, timelines, methods, costs); and
- Perceived relevance to the Board's scope, purpose, vision (see [ICR\(23\)18](#)) and research priorities (see [ICR\(24\)01](#)).

### ***2. Applications Seeking Funding from the Board***

It should be noted that the Board often has very limited funds to support proposals.

Proposals to the Board should be sent to the Secretary by 1 March. The Secretariat will then conduct an initial review of the proposal to ensure that all the information sought in Annex 1 has been provided. If the application is complete, the Board will be asked, by correspondence, to agree Terms of Reference for the SAG to evaluate each submission. Submissions will be evaluated by the SAG in late April or early May (to be decided by the SAG Chair in consultation with the Secretariat) and a decision taken by the Board at its next Annual Meeting.

In the case of proposals for research projects, the applicant should provide the information detailed in Annex 1, as is proportionate to the funding requested.

Proposals for funding of workshops or symposia must provide the same information as required for endorsements (see above), together with details of how the output from the workshop or symposium will be disseminated.

## ***Guidance on Applications for Research Proposals Seeking Funding by the Board***

The detail required in any application for funding must be commensurate with the funding being requested. An application may include the information below, as appropriate and proportionate to the proposal.

### ***Summary Project Information***

#### **1. Project title**

Give the application a brief title which describes the work to be done.

#### **2. Applicant – Institution / Company Responsible for the Project**

As a general rule, an institution or company should be the formal applicant, with legal responsibility for ensuring that the conditions attached to an allocation of funds are met.

#### **3. Project Leader**

This should be the name of the person responsible for the project.

#### **4. Project Summary**

Provide a brief project description, with an emphasis on describing the objectives of the project, the most important R & D challenges and the potential for application of the project results to address the Board's scope, purpose, vision (see [ICR\(23\)18](#)) and research priorities (see [ICR\(24\)01](#)).

The project summary will be made available on the Board's website. For this reason, the text should be capable of being understood by non-experts and should not exceed 200 words.

#### **5. Principal Goal and Sub-Goals**

Describe the results that are expected to be obtained during the project period. Formulate individual demonstrable and SMART sub-goals which lead to the principal objective.

Describe the legacy anticipated from the project once the funding has ceased.

#### **6. Milestones and Timetable**

Indicate milestones for the principal activities that fulfil the principal goal and sub-goals of the project (e.g. data acquisition, fieldwork, main activities in study plan and final report) and include a calendar or Gantt chart).

#### **7. Cost Summary**

The cost plan for the project should be summarised and broken down into sub-costs (e.g. capital costs, contracts or services, consumables, travel and subsistence). Costs should be presented in £ sterling.

#### **8. Finance Summary**

The finance plan should summarise how the costs shown in the cost plan are to be financed and the amount sought from the Board, and the amounts sought from other funders, if relevant.

## **9. Partners**

Enter national and international partners who will participate in the project, either through providing matched funding, benefits in kind, or directly contributing to deliverables. Provide names of persons, universities, institutes, companies, programmes, bodies, etc.

## **10. Project Publication Plan**

The Board considers that dissemination of information about the projects it supports is very important. Provide brief details of the dissemination plan, including identification of the options for making data available publicly (e.g. [FAIR](#) data standards).

Please provide details of how the visibility of Board funding will be included in the project dissemination / publication plan.

Should a proposal be funded, annual updates to the Board should be provided to the NASCO Secretariat when requested.