

	<p style="text-align: center;">International Atlantic Salmon Research Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Annotated Agenda</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ICR(25)02A</p>
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***Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the International
Atlantic Salmon Research Board***

Cardiff Holland House Hotel & Spa by Sunday, Cardiff, Wales

2 & 5 June 2025

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 (Cardiff local time)

The Board will meet at the following times:

- Monday 2 June: 09:30 – 12:30 hrs
- Thursday 5 June: 08:30 – 09:30 hrs

Order of Business

Agenda items will be taken in the following order:

1.	Opening of the Meeting
2.	Adoption of the Agenda
8.	Election of Officers
3.a)	The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study: Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board
3.b)	The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study: Responses to the Questions for Parties to Further the Board's Discussions on the Feasibility of a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study
3.c)	The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study: Decisions Taken in Light of the Discussions on the Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study
4.	Review of the 2024 Inventory of Research

5.	Finance and Administrative Issues
6.	Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work
7.	Other Business
9.	Date and Place of the Next Meeting
10.	Report of the Meeting
11.	Close of the Meeting

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Secretary will open the meeting.

- *no decision is required.*

2. Adoption of the Agenda

A Draft Agenda, [ICR\(25\)02](#), was made available on 9 May 2025. 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\(25\)02](#).

3. The Inter-Sessional Process to Consider a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study

At its 2024 Inter-Sessional Meeting, [ICR\(24\)03](#), the Board tasked the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) with drafting an outline for the requirements of a basin-wide marine growth project based on adult scales and adopted Terms of Reference for this work, [ICRIS\(24\)08](#). At the Board's 2024 Annual Meeting, the SAG Chair (Peder Fiske, Norway) presented the work of the SAG in addressing its Terms of Reference, [ICR\(24\)13](#). It was agreed that a series of online meetings would be held as an initial scoping workshop, led by Nora Hanson (UK) with assistance from Tim Sheehan (USA), with the objectives to agree the standardisation of obtaining images from scale samples, consider the tools to extract data from the images and further plan the project. The SAG met and produced a report for consideration by the Board inter-sessionally.

a) Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board

The Board met in April 2025 to consider the report of the scoping workshop 'Report of the Scientific Advisory Group of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board on its Evaluation of the Proposed Atlantic Salmon Marine Growth Study Outline', [ICRIS\(25\)02](#). The SAG Chair (Peder Fiske, Norway) presented the report as 'Atlantic Salmon Marine Growth Study Outline', Annex 3 in [ICR\(25\)01](#). The SAG report contained a preliminary project proposal and a list of questions for further information from Parties / jurisdictions to develop the proposal further. The Board agreed that its members would consult with their respective Parties / jurisdictions to answer the questions proposed with additional questions to assess Parties' / jurisdictions' resource availability and requirements, and any potential sources of funding.

The Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Board will be presented under this Agenda item.

- *no decision is required.*

The following paper is available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(25\)01](#).

b) Responses to the Questions for Parties to Further the Board's Discussions on the Feasibility of a Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study

The SAG's report included a list of questions to develop the proposal, which the Board agreed should be addressed by Board members consulting with their respective Parties / jurisdictions. A small working group of the SAG (Canada, the UK and the United States) agreed to develop the request for the information required from Parties / jurisdictions to identify the resources each has available or requires to take part in the project. Following the meeting, this 'gap analysis' request was developed by the small working group to achieve this and circulated to all Board members for completion by their respective Parties / jurisdictions.

Responses received have been collated to allow consideration at the Board's Annual Meeting on 2 and 5 June, and will be available in 'Gap Analysis Responses to the Questions for Parties', ICR(25)06.

- *no decision is required.*

The following paper will be available:

- Gap Analysis Responses to the Questions for Parties, ICR(25)06.

c) Decisions Taken in Light of the Discussions on the Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study

The list of questions proposed by the SAG broadly covered how the project would be led / co-ordinated, to what extent Parties / jurisdictions would need to collaborate and share resources and the level of involvement required from the Board in allocating resources. Additional questions assessed the level of resources available to each Party / jurisdiction and any requirement for additional resources, and sources of potential funding.

- *the Board may wish to consider the next steps in respect of the basin-wide marine growth study.*

The following paper is available:

- Report of the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board, [ICR\(25\)01](#).

The following paper will be available:

- Gap Analysis Responses to the Questions for Parties, ICR(25)06.

4. Review of the 2024 Inventory of Research

As agreed in 2020, [CNL\(20\)12](#), changes to the process of collecting Inventory data and to the presentation of the Inventory on the website have been implemented. 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.

Following the Board's agreement of its future research priorities as contained in [ICR\(24\)01](#), the Board agreed at its 2024 Annual Meeting, [ICR\(24\)17](#), that information on how future projects reported on in the Inventory relate to the agreed priority research

areas should be added to future Inventory update requests.

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

The Board may wish to:

- ***ask members to check and update the information held in the Inventory relevant to their Party / jurisdiction;***
- ***ask the Secretariat to update the Inventory in 2025 / 26.***

The following paper is available:

- Review of the 2024 Inventory of Research, [ICR\(25\)03](#).

5. 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 2024 the Board agreed not to have its 2024 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 2024 was £329,823.72 (exchange rate of £1: €1.20589 from [www.xe.com](#) at close of business on 31 December 2024).

Of the Funds available at the end of 2024, €309,614.57 is ring-fenced grant funding in the Euro account. A further €68,093.09 was paid mistakenly from the Board's Euro account in December 2024 to the 'IMPAS' and 'NASCO24' projects. The sum was reimbursed to the Board's Euro account from the NASCO current account early in January 2025.

In the Sterling accounts, a voluntary contribution of £40,150 provided by the United States in 2019, with the purpose of funding projects under the SALSEA-Track or ROAM initiatives, is ring-fenced.

Thus, approximately £32,920 of the £73,071.80 in the Sterling accounts is available to spend on other projects.

The Board may wish to:

- ***accept the 2024 accounts; and***
- ***decide whether to have the 2025 accounts audited.***

The following paper is available:

- 2024 Accounts for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Fund, [ICR\(25\)04rev](#).

6. Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work

Updates on Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work

In 2020, [CNL\(20\)12](#), 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. 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\(25\)05](#). There will be no presentation on this document. However, the Chair may allow questions and comments, time permitting.

- *no decision is required.*

The following paper is available:

- Projects of Interest to the Board and its Work, [ICR\(25\)05](#).

7. Other Business

No other business is anticipated.

8. Election of Officers

The Chair has resigned her post in advance of the 2025 Annual Meeting. A new Chair will, therefore, need to be elected at the start of the 2025 Annual Meeting to enable them to Chair the Meeting.

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

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

9. 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 date and location of the 2026 Council Annual Meeting will be considered during its 2025 Annual Meeting.

The Board may wish to:

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

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. Close of the Meeting

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

Secretariat
Edinburgh
23 May 2025

Summary of International Atlantic Salmon Research Board Decisions

Agenda Item	Decision	Paper No.
2. Adoption of the Agenda	Adopt the Agenda.	ICR(25)02
3.c) Decisions Taken in Light of the Discussions on the Basin-Wide Marine Growth Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agree the next steps in respect of the basin-wide marine growth study. 	ICR(25)01
4. Review of the 2024 Inventory of Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ask members to check and update the information held in the Inventory relevant to their Party / jurisdiction; ask the Secretariat to update the Inventory in 2025 / 26. 	ICR(25)03
5. Finance and Administrative Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> accept the accounts for 2024; and whether to have the 2025 accounts audited. 	ICR(25)04rev
8. Election of Officers	Elect a Chair	
9. 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	
10. Report of the Meeting	Adopt the Report	Issued at meeting