

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>International Atlantic Salmon Research Board</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions for Parties to Further the Board's Discussions on the Proposal for a North Atlantic Scale Growth Study</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ICRIS(25)05</b></p>
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***Questions for Parties to Further the Board's Discussions on  
the Proposal for a North Atlantic Scale Growth Study***

The purpose of this paper is to provide questions for the International Atlantic Salmon Research Board (the Board) members to discuss and answer domestically to inform the Board's discussions on next steps for the proposed North Atlantic-wide scale study at its Annual Meeting in June 2025.

Source document: **ICRIS(25)02 – Report of the Scientific Advisory Group**

Target due date: **23 May 2025**

**Please refer to the guideline outlined within the project proposal as endorsed by the Scientific Advisory Group (see Annex 1 of ICRIS(25)02).** Accordingly:

1. Is your Party willing to participate in this study (ignoring resource needs)?
2. What jurisdictions within your Party are willing to participate (if applicable)?
3. For each willing Party / jurisdiction:
  - a. For which Stock Units (see Appendix 1 of ICRIS(25)02) within your Party / jurisdiction can you provide at least one scale sample dataset, which meet the minimum requirements outlined within the proposal?
  - b. Are the scale samples acetate 'pressed' or are they only in the whole state?
  - c. Do you have the equipment resources needed to compile the required images?
  - d. Do you have the people resources needed to compile the required images?
  - e. If not, would you be able to provide the fiscal resources needed to obtain the people and / or equipment resources needed?
  - f. If not, would you have the resources to compile the appropriate scale samples and provide them to a different Party / jurisdiction for imaging?
  - g. If not, do you have an estimate of what fiscal resources would be needed from an external source to compile a single Stock Unit level scale image dataset (i.e. ~3000 images), *recognising there is no guarantee that these would be provided and therefore your participation in this project may not occur?*
  - h. Can imaging be accomplished within a year?
  - i. Are there any details / nuances that should be provided to help explain the above answers?
4. Phase 2 of the proposed project entails hiring an analyst to oversee scale image processing, analysis and manuscript development. Given that:
  - a. Are any Party / jurisdictions able to contribute funds to the Board to support this hiring?
  - b. Are any Party / jurisdictions aware of any funding opportunities that may be considered to support this hiring (e.g. request for proposals)? Please provide details if possible (e.g. call for proposals, timeline)

- c. Do any Party / jurisdictions have other suggestions for consideration to obtain the resources / funds necessary to support Phase 2 of this project?

**If any of these questions are not clear, please do reach out to discuss to ensure that the Parties' / jurisdictions' information can be properly delivered to the Board in time to have a meaningful discussion on next steps at the June 2025 Annual Meeting!**