

U.S. Atlantic Salmon Assessment Committee
BRIEF of Annual Report of Report No. 23 - 2010 Activities
Portland, Maine March 8 - 10, 2011

1. Status of US Stocks
 - a. US Returns = 1,650 adult salmon: ranked 11/44 year time series
 - i. Marine Phase 1991 to present: return median = 1,717
 1. 2010 returns ranked 11/20 year time series
 - ii. Benchmark - Conservation Spawning Escapement = 29,199 spawners
 1. 2SW returns = 1,078 were < 4% of CSE
 - b. Contributions of each stock complex to US total - Fundy (<1%), Gulf of Maine (93%), Central New England (4%), Long Island Sound (3%).
 - i. Penobscot River population accounted for 80% of total
 - ii. US sea age composition. -
 1. 33% 1SW and 1% 3SW and repeat
 2. 66% 2SW
 - iii. Origin of returns - 85% hatchery smolt origin and 15% naturally-reared from fry or parr stocking and natural reproduction.
2. Fishery Reporting
 - a. Recreational Fisheries – Closed
 - i. Exception Merrimack Retired Brood Fishery(about 1,400 licenses sold annually)
 - b. Commercial Farm production – 11,117 mt
 - i. Production ranked 6/20 year time series
3. Hatchery Production
 - a. A total of 11.6 million juvenile salmon stocked in 16 river systems
 - i. Total is typical of decade
 - ii. Fry stocking – 10.9 M in 15 systems
 - iii. Parr stocking – 388K in 4 systems
 - iv. Smolt stocking – 775K smolts in 6 systems
 1. 567K in the Penobscot River
 - b. Adult stocking – 4,011 stocked mostly post-spawn
 - i. pre-spawn adults
 - ii. hold and stock 119 – Penobscot River
 - iii. support sport fishery - Merrimack River (1,180)
4. Emerging Issues
 - a. Regional Assessment Products – expanded status summaries beyond adult to provide regional time series of large parr densities and smolt abundance
 - i. Parr Subsidy- problem unmarked hatchery returns credited to smolts; new marking program to measure impacts implemented DMR – CWT all parr; NOAA 1/3 smolt cohort
 - ii. Regional juvenile production indicates variable productivity but some emerging trends: investigating variance could increase production
 - b. Marine Alternative Energy More data on marine habitat use- migratory paths and time/space use needed by managers for assessing impacts of offshore development, telemetry and hydroacoustic data used in marine planning and Section 7.

