Today, hundreds of wildlife species face the risk of extinction in Canada. Some are symbols in our diverse cultures and heritage; some are the last of their kind in the world – and all of them have an essential role to play in the environments where they live.

ATLANTIC SALMON

Eastern Cape Breton Population “Endangered”

Adding a population to the LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK

The process of listing a species under the Species at Risk Act consists of several steps. It starts with a status assessment by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and ends with a government decision whether or not to add the population to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk.

Status assessment

COSEWIC is an independent committee of experts that assesses and designates which wildlife species are in some danger of disappearing from Canada. The status of various Atlantic Salmon population groups in Canada was assessed in 2010. This assessment was based on the best available information, which includes scientific data, community knowledge and Aboriginal traditional knowledge (where available).

If the population is listed...

If the Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon is listed as endangered, automatic prohibitions would immediately come into effect and it would be illegal to kill, harm, harass, capture, possess, disturb, sell or trade Atlantic Salmon from this population group. A recovery strategy and subsequent action plan(s) would be developed to identify the measures to be implemented to mitigate the known threats. The critical habitat (i.e. the habitat necessary for the survival and recovery of the Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon) would also be protected once it is identified in a recovery strategy or action plan.

Consultation: Let your opinion be heard

The Species at Risk Act acknowledges that Aboriginal peoples, interest groups and all Canadians have a role to play in preventing the disappearance of wildlife species. Before deciding whether this Atlantic Salmon population will be added to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, we would like to hear your opinion, comments and suggestions regarding the potential ecological, cultural and economic impacts of listing or not listing this species under the Species at Risk Act.

Questionnaire

You can make a difference: your comments are important!

For a copy of the COSEWIC Atlantic Salmon Assessment and Status Report or other information, visit the Species at Risk Public Registry (www.sararegistry.gc.ca).
Atlantic Salmon spawn in fresh water, generally in the same river where they were born. Juveniles spend one to eight years in fresh water before migrating to salt water in the North Atlantic. After staying at sea for one to four years, adults return to fresh water to spawn. Salmon rivers or streams are generally clear and cool, with gravel, cobble and boulder river beds.

The abundance of Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon has been variable, with steep declines in some rivers, to moderate declines in some others. Threats to the persistence and recovery of this population in freshwater environments that have been identified include high levels of harassment and poaching. These activities and other threats identified with high levels of overall concern include: 

- changes to ecosystems and related environments identified with high levels of overall concern include: (in no particular order): uncertainties and recovery of this population in freshwater environments that have been identified include high levels of harassment and poaching. These activities and other threats identified with high levels of overall concern include:

- changes to ecosystems and related environments identified with high levels of overall concern include: (in no particular order):

1. What is the Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon: ASSESSED AS ENDANGERED?

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- changes to ecosystems and related environments identified with high levels of overall concern include: (in no particular order):

2. Why is the Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon: ASSESSED AS ENDANGERED?

The abundance of Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon has been variable, with steep declines in some rivers, to moderate declines in some others. Threats to the persistence and recovery of this population in freshwater environments that have been identified include high levels of harassment and poaching. These activities and other threats identified with high levels of overall concern include:

- changes to ecosystems and related environments identified with high levels of overall concern include: (in no particular order):

3. What would be the potential NEGATIVE environmental, social, cultural, and economic impacts of listing the Eastern Cape Breton Atlantic Salmon population as “endangered” on the List of Wildlife Species at Risk?

Your comments are important!

To submit your answers, please contact:

Specialist at Risk Management Division
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
1 Challenger Drive
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
E-mail: TDGTA@mfm-pgc.gc.ca
Tel: (902) 467-7779

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.