



To Whom it May Concern:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on the process for considering whether or not the following species should be listed (the “listing decision”) under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA):

Designatable Unit (DU)	COSEWIC Status (Assessment Date)	Conclusion Date of SARA Listing Consultations
Atlantic Salmon, Eastern Cape Breton (ECB)	Endangered (November 2010)	March 2014
Atlantic Salmon (Gaspé-Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence population)	Special Concern (November 2010)	March 2013
Striped Bass (Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence population)	Special Concern (November 2012)	February 2015

When the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assesses a species, the Government of Canada undertakes a process to support the Governor-in-Council’s decision on whether or not to list it under SARA, or alternatively whether to refer the assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration. Consultations for these DUs were undertaken and concluded on the dates indicated in the above table. Feedback received during these processes has been included in the development of the listing advice.

DFO is in the final stages of developing listing advice for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to support the Minister of Environment and Climate Change in making a recommendation to the Governor in Council on a listing decision for these DUs. At this time DFO is projecting that a proposed listing decision could come forward in Fall 2021.

The listing advice that will be provided to the Ministers has been the subject of significant analysis by the Department. We have taken into consideration science advice in the form of the COSEWIC Status Report and the Recovery Potential Assessments; management scenarios that outline options the Department will take in the event of, or not of, a listing; Cost-Benefit Analyses for each of these listing scenarios; and the outcomes of consultations with Indigenous partners, key stakeholders, provincial governments, and the Canadian public, including the feedback you provided earlier in the process.

The status of these DUs, as assessed by COSEWIC, has not changed since we completed our consultation processes on the potential listing of these species. We are advancing this process on the assumption that you have not changed your previous position on a possible listing. If your group or organization's previous position has changed as a result of new developments, please provide that information to DFO's SARA Program at DFO.NCRSARAListing-InscriptionLEPRCN.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca by January 15th, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Stewart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julie Stewart
Director, Species at Risk Program