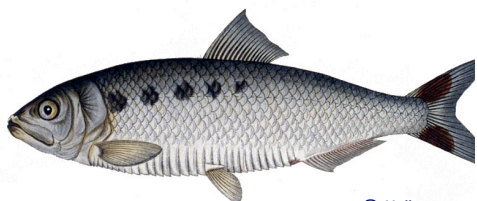


Species: Allis Shad

OSPAR Recommendation 2015/04:

Contracting Parties are required to report progress with implementation of recommendations every six years, with initial more frequent reporting until 2019.

Measures taken by Contracting Parties to protect Allis shad include monitoring, introduction of national legislation and designation of MPAs



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Description

Allis shad (*Alosa alosa*) are anadromous, and have a pelagic-sea life mainly inshore along the coast migrating to the higher, middle watercourse of rivers to spawn. Originally, the distribution of Allis shad extended to the Atlantic coast from Norway to Morocco. Allis shad have declined across Europe and are now absent from many rivers where they once flourished and supported thriving fisheries. Allis shad are still caught and eaten in parts of France and some other European countries. Currently, this species is classified as vulnerable because of the reduction in its distribution and the threats to its freshwater habitat due to dams, pollution and deterioration of the spawning grounds.

77%

Action Highlights

Each Recommendation requires Contracting Parties to report on the methods used to implement the measures. The methods are Legislation, Administrative action and Negotiated agreement, or any combination of these. Some recent examples include:

1. France, Germany, and the UK have introduced national legislation;
2. Action to improve key habitats has been taken by Denmark, France, Germany, Spain, and the UK;
3. Denmark, France, Germany, Spain, and the UK have designated MPAs;
4. Monitoring programmes are in place in France, Germany, Spain and the UK.

Engagement

The engagement index (left) measures how well Contracting Parties have engaged with the national measures in the Recommendation. The higher the score the greater the number of actions that Contracting Parties, which have reported, have taken to implement the measures in the Recommendation. Click here for more information on the index.

References:

- Background Document for Allis shad (OSPAR Publication 418)
- OSPAR Recommendation 2015/04
- OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats (Agreement 2008-06)

Condition

Populations formerly existed in the Rhine and Elbe, but these are thought to be extinct due to pollution and obstructions to migration. It may now only breed in a few French and Portuguese rivers, although recent improvement in a number of rivers oxygen and pollution levels (Seine, Thames), the presence of spawning adults in several northern European rivers is increasing.



© A.F.Lyon (Allis Shad shown in front)