Declaration of a compartment free of Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA) in Norway.

Requirements/information needed	*Information/further explanation and justification*
1. Identification of the programme	
1.1. Declaring Member State	Norway
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	The Norwegian Food Safety Authority, Head office, Fish health and Welfare Section, Felles postmottak, postboks 383, 2381 Brumunddal. postmottak@matilsynet.no
1.3. Reference of this document	Council Directive 2006/88/EC, Article 50, Annex V
1.4. Data sent to the Commission	**29.08.2018**
2. Type of communication	
2.1. **X** Declaration of disease-free status 2.2. Submission of application for disease-free-status	
3. National legislation[1]	**Acts:** The Food Act of 19 December 2003 No. 124 **Regulations:** • Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 819 on the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and product thereof, prevention and control of infectious diseases in aquatic animals. • Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 823 on the establishment and expansion of aquaculture establishments, pet shops etc. • Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 822 on operation of Aquaculture Establishments (Aquaculture Operation Regulation). • Regulation 27 October 2007 No. 1254 on animal by-products not intended for human consumption.
4. Diseases	
4.1. Fish	□ VHS □ IHN **X** ISA □ KHV
4.2. Molluscs	□ infection with *Marteilia refringens* □ infection with *Bonamia ostrae*
4.3. Crustaceans	□ White spot disease
5. Grounds for disease free-status	
5.1. □ No susceptibles[2]	
5.2. □ Pathogen not viable[3]	
5.3. □Historic free-status[4]	

1 National legislation in force applicable to the declaration of and application for disease-free status.

2 Applicable if none of the species susceptible to the disease(s) in question is present in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source.

3 Applicable if the pathogen is known not to be able to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source. Provide the scientific information supporting the inability of the pathogen to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment.

4 ~~Applicable if susceptible species are present, but where there has not been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least a period of 10 years before the date of declaration of application for the disease-free status, despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, and if it complies *mutatis mutandis* with the requirements laid down in Part 1.1. of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC. This ground for disease-free status~~

Norwegian Food Safety Authority
Head Office
Fish Health and Welfare Section

Official in charge: Odd A. Brimsøe
Phone: +47 22 77 87 61
Location: Thormøhlensgate 49A, Bergen
E-mail: postmottak@mattilsynet.no
(Remember recipient name)

Postal address: Head Office
P.O. Box 383
N - 2381 Brumunddal
NORWAY
Telefax: +47 23 21 68 01

5.4. **X** Targeted surveillance[5]	31837 Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is a new continental farm independent of the health status of the surrounding natural waters. Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg consists of 5 separate departments: HALL 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The farm will have the facilities to keep and produce salmon fry, smolt, brood stock fish and eggs. The main objective for the site is to produce salmon eggs of high biosecurity standards by growing brood stock fish in tanks on land. Each of the 5 departments (HALL 1-5) at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is regarded an epidemiological unit independent of the health status of the other departments at the land base. Consequently, the 5 departments will be declared as individual, independent ISA free compartments situated at the same land base. This document concerns the declaration of the compartment **HALL 2** at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg. HALL 2 is a new compartment independent of the health status of the surrounding natural waters and the other departments at the land base. HALL 2 is populated with fish from ISA-free compartment 14556 Lønningdal III, and meet the requirements in 2006/88/EC, Annex V, part II point 4.1. HALL 1 and HALL 4 are populated with fish from non-ISA-free sea farms, and will have to be declared based on targeted surveillance.
6. General information	
6.1. Competent authority[6]	The competent authority organizing and surveying health control for aquaculture industry in Norway is the Norwegian Food Safety Authority (NFSA). The NFSA has two administrative levels, the head office and five regional offices. The Norwegian Food safety Authorities has about 1300 employees. The 32 local offices carry out practically all of the active inspections. Having offices throughout the country means that the NFSA is close to both consumers and the relevant businesses. Approval of establishments of aquaculture farms in Norway has been compulsory since 1985. The national legislation (regulation 17 June 2008 NO 819) concerning the placing on the market and imports of aquaculture animals for farming or restocking in Norway is in the accordance with the requirements of Directive 2006/88/EC. For more information about the NFSA please read the presentation in Annex 1.
6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the	The NFSA supervise all farms, aquatic animal health services and laboratories involved in the surveillance program and coordinate the measures taken to fulfil the requirements to achieve disease free status.

~~must be declared of or applied for by 1 November 2008. Provide detailed information on the compliance with Part 1.1. of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.~~

5 Applicable if targeted surveillance complying with Communityrequirements has been in place for at least a period of two years without the detection of the disease agent on farm, or in mollusc farming areas that rears any of the susceptible species.
Where there are parts of the Member State, zone or compartment in which the number of farms or mollusc farming areas is limited, but in which there are wild populations of susceptible species, information on the targeted surveillance in those wild populations shall be given.
Describe diagnostic methods and sampling schemes. When OIE or EU standards are applied, reference must be made to them. If not, describe them. Name the laboratories involved in the programme (National reference laboratory or designated laboratories).

6 A description shall be provided of the structure, competencies, duties and powers of the competent authority

programme to achieve disease free status [7]	To maintain zones and compartments with ISA-free status the Norwegian Food Safety Authority carry out at least one inspection annually and take/arrange for necessary samples to be analysed according to Commission implementing decision (EU) 2015/1554 of September 11th 2015. In addition to the surveillance programme all fresh water and brood stock farms in Norway are obliged to be subject to a minimum of twelve health inspections by veterinarians or aqua medicine biologists (animal health professional) annually. The National Reference Laboratory (NRL) is the Norwegian Veterinary Institute. For details on the early detection system and diagnostic methods see section 6.5. The Norwegian Food Safety Authority is responsible for the control and supervision of the actions taken in case of a disease outbreak and will supervise the cleaning, disinfection and fallowing of the facility, risk-based surveillance and regular inspections.
6.3. An overview of the structure of the aquaculture industry in the area in question (disease-free Member State, zone or compartment) including types of production and species kept	**Compartment details** 31837 Sørfjorden Stamfiskanlegg is a new land base situated in Sørfold municipality in Nordland County. The main objective for the site is to produce eggs of high biosecure standards by having broodstock fish in tanks on land. The farm will keep and produce salmon fry, smolt, broodstock fish and eggs. The smolt and fish that go into the site will originate from ISA free compartments as smolt or salmon at 4-6 kg. The production is in closed buildings in separate biosecure halls and compartments. Each of the 5 departments (HALL 1-5) at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is regarded an epidemiological unit independent of the health status of the other departments at the land base. This declaration concerns ISA free compartment HALL 2 at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg. **Presentation of compartment HALL 2 in relation to other departments at the site**: **HALL 1 and 3:** Two identical halls for on-growing. There will always be only one group of fish in compartment HALL 1 and 3. Both halls are emptied, fallowed and disinfected each year. The fish will originate from sea sites situated in ISA free compartments where they have been reared for approximately one year before transfer to land. The halls 1 and 3 are run on flow through (FT), either freshwater (FW) or saltwater (SW) or in a mix. At the moment, HALL 1 is populated with fish in category III for ISA, and will be declared based on targeted surveillance. HALL 3 is empty. **HALL 2 – RAS (biofilter):** Hall for on-growing. In HALL 2 there will be two groups of 0+ smolts transferred from other land based ISA free compartments. Hence, these fish will be produced on land from egg to egg. HALL 2 (RAS) does represent an elevated risk as there will always be fish in this hall, although one period each year one of the groups will be graded and transferred to HALL 4. When transferring one group of fish the intention is that the remaining group will be put on FT while the RAS is closed, cleaned and disinfected. HALL 2 commenced its activity populated with fish from ISA-free compartment 14556 Lønningdal III, and meet the requirements set in 2006/88/EC, Annex V, part II, point 4.1. HALL 2 will have inputs of 0+ smolts once a year transferred from ISA-free compartment 14556 Lønningdal III. The two generations will be produced simultaneously for about 7 months per year. In case of in-balance in the biofilter it is possible to re-use water on a tank level by stripping CO2 and adding O2. The biofilter will be cleaned, fallowed and restarted each year. **HALL 4:** Maturation hall. In this hall the light and temperature is manipulated to synchronize maturation. There will be 2 groups of fish in the tanks at any given time, and 3 groups of fish for a short period of time. At the moment, HALL 4 is populated with fish in category III for ISA, and will be declared based on targeted surveillance. **HALL 5:** Incubator room. The incubator room consists of mostly single incubators (4L), but also incubators with larger volume. There will be a hatching closet so it is possible to hatch eggs. These yolk-sac larvae can be used for the ISA screening, in addition to the required sampling according to Decision 2015/1554. **GRADING:** all individual pipes which transports the fish in the site (i.e. from hall 1, 2 and 3 for grading and over to hall 4) may be closed, washed and disinfected as well as inspected by ATP. All equipment used for grading of fish is designed in stainless steel for easy cleaning and disinfection. Dead fish will be transported in a separate pipe to the collection tank.
6.4. The	According to the legislation The competent authority must be notified in case of suspicion and

notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?	confirmation of the disease in question. Notification has been compulsory since 1990. All suspicions and diagnoses of ISA are handled according to the approved scheme for the withdrawal of all fish in Norwegian farms infected with infectious salmon anaemia (ISA) (cf. EFTA Surveillance Authority' Decision No 394/06/COL of 13 December 2006). Monitoring is carried out by Norwegian Food Safety Authority and by fish health services. In the event of suspicion or confirmation of ISA within ISA-free areas, trade with susceptible species and vector species to other areas with a higher health status for ISA will immediately be suspended in accordance with Article 53 of Directive 2006/88/EC and the ISA-free status will be withdrawn. In the case of suspicion of fish being infected with ISA, an official investigation to confirm or rule out the presence of the disease will be carried out as quickly as possible, involving at least one inspection and one sampling of about 10 fish. ISA diagnostics are done at The Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NRL) according to the methods outlined by the OIE. If ISA is confirmed, the Norwegian Food Safety Authority will impose the control measures which are needed to eradicate the disease from the compartment and to prevent spread of the disease to other sites. Sampling will be performed by Norwegian Food Safety Authority in connection with inspections and by veterinarian and aqua medicine biologists performing the monthly inspections in the compartment.

[7] A description shall be provided of the competent authority in charge of the supervision and coordination of the programme and the different operators involved.

6.5. Early detection system in place throughout the Member States, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective disease investigation and reporting since when (date)?[8]	An early detection system and compulsory notification system for all listed diseases, including exotic diseases, has existed since 1990 (cf. Act of 22 June 1990 No. 44). Basic biosecurity measures have been in place continuously since 1990. The implementation of trade and import conditions to prevent introduction of the diseases into Norway is effective. To maintain zones and compartments with ISA-free status the Norwegian Food Safety Authority carry out at least one inspection annually and take/arrange for necessary samples to be analysed according to Commission implementing decision (EU) 2015/1554 of September 11th 2015. All fresh water and brood stock farms in Norway are obliged to be subject to a minimum of 12 health inspections by veterinarians or aqua medicine biologists (animal health professional) annually. There is a broad awareness among the personnel employed in aquaculture businesses or involved in the processing of aquaculture animals of any signs consistent with the presence of a disease, as they are obliged to keep daily records of the health status and to have the following competence: (i) Anyone participating in aquaculture activities covered by Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 819 is obliged to have the necessary professional knowledge to perform those activities. The person responsible for the daily operation of aquaculture establishments must be educated in aquaculture business including knowledge about management, animal health and welfare.

[8] The early detection systems shall in particular ensure the rapid recognition of any clinical signs consistent with the suspicion of a disease, emerging disease, or unexplained mortality in farms or mollusc farming areas, and in the wild, and the rapid communication of the event to the competent authority with the aim to activating diagnostic investigation with minimum delay. The early detection system shall include at least the following:
(a) broad awareness, among the personnel employed in aquaculture businesses or involved in the processing of aquaculture animals, of any signs consistent with the presence of a disease, and training of veterinarians of aquatic animals health specialists in detecting and reporting unusual disease occurrence;
(b) veterinarians or aquatic animal health specialists trained in recognising and reporting suspicious disease occurrence;
(c) access by the competent authority to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating listed and emerging diseases.

	(ii) The competence must be documented through practical and theoretical training. The NFSA has full access to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating all listed diseases. **At a minimum an operating journal at the production level must contain updated information on;** a) Stocking of fish: date, species, number of fish, cohort and origination, b) Removal of live fish: date, species and quantity. If fish are removed a journal entry shall be made of the aquaculture establishment to which the fish have been moved, c) Real volume, d) Health and welfare status of the fish: number of health checks, number of autopsied fish, sampling, examinations, diagnosis, injuries, treatments and known or probable causes of injuries and production diseases, e) Mortalities f) Relevant parameters for water quality and water quality measures
6.6. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming.	The entering of species susceptible to ISA into the ISA-free compartment is only allowed from other ISA-free Member States, zones or compartments. All consignments must be accompanied by a health certificate from the place of origin declaring the source to be disease free of ISA. Only fish from sites with ISA-free status will be allowed to enter the compartment **HALL 2**. The only species kept in compartment HALL 2 will be Atlantic salmon.
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice[9]	Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 819 relating to the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products thereof, prevention and control of infectious diseases in aquatic animals, give guidelines on hygiene practices for handling of fish with suspected or diagnosed animal disease and on the fish farmers own supervision, including good hygiene practices in farms. Handling of dead fish is done in accordance with; - Regulation 17 June 2008 No. 822 Regulations relating to Operation of Aquaculture Establishments (Aquaculture Operation Regulation) - Regulation 27 October 2007 No. 1254 on animal by-products not intended for human consumption. 31837 Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg has strict procedures for handling of dead fish. All dead fish is obliged to autopsy by qualified person (veterinarian, aqua medicine biologist or other educated and trained person on the plant). In case of suspected disease appropriate sampling and diagnostic investigation will be performed immediately. Official authorities will be informed with no delay.
7. Area covered	
7.1. Member State	
7.2. □ Zone (entire water catchment area)[10]	

[9] A description shall be provided in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC

[10] An entire water catchment area from its sources to its estuary.

7.3. □ Zone (part of water catchment area)[11] Identify and describe the artificial or natural barrier that delimits the zone and justify its capability to prevent the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.	
7.4. □ Zone (more than one water catchment area)[12]	

7.5. **X** Compartment independent of the surrounding health status[13]

Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is a land base independent of the surrounding health status, as there are no other aquaculture activities in connection with its water sources. The nearest sea site is 29576 Kalvik, approximately 15 km in distance from Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg.

Also, **HALL 2 of** Sørfjorden Stamfiskanlegg is independent of the health status of the other departments at the same land base, as HALL 2 has a separate water supply (water inlet and outake) and implemented biosecurity systems which prevents any contact with the other departments on the site (HALL 1, 3, 4 and 5).

Compartment **HALL 2** at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is a department for on-growing. There will be up to two group of fish in this department. Tanks in HALL 2 are emptied, cleaned, disinfected and fallowed each year. Fish introduced into **HALL 2** will originate from ISA free compartment 14556 Lønningdal III as large fry or smolts.

Each compartment (HALL 1-5) is closed by a strict biosecure barrier with separate changing rooms and clean entry point. Also, each hall has separate rooms for autopsy and fish health inspection. Fish health inspections and autopsies will be conducted in rooms separated from the hall with living fish. The fish may be transported directly from the laboratory to the closed dead fish containment. There will be absolutely no contact between dead fish and living fish after the dead fish is removed from the tank.

The company has internal hygienic procedures for the staff, visitors and equipment entering the compartment. All use of well boats when transporting live brood fish from the sea sites to **HALL 2** will be done according to The Norwegian Food Safety Authority regulations. Fish health professionals (veterinarians or aquamedicine biologists) will perform at least one health control every month and additional controls by increasing mortality, drops in appetite or other deviations in behaviour. The sampling is risk based depending on gross pathology. Laboratory analysis is dominated by PCR, but histology is also performed. Welfare parameters such as mortality and appetite, and environmental indicators like temperature, pH, oxygen and CO_2 levels are continuously monitored in the site.

Identify and describe for each farm the water supply[14]	X Well, borehole or spring X Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen[15]	The water catchment area for the river Sørfjordelva includes the Regine unit 167.2A and precipitation zone 167.2Z, and consists of several lakes reaching from the Swedish border in west to Sørfjorden in the east. The water catchment area includes the lakes Langvatnet, Austervatnet, Nordvatnet, Kolbakkvatnan, Storvatnet, Sørfjordvatnet and some small lakes in-between. Please refer to the maps in Annex 2. There are no other aquaculture activities associated with the water source. The sea water is pumped from two intake pipes at approx.30 and 75 metres depth. Both fresh water and sea water is filtered and disinfected with UV before entering the tanks at Sørfjorden Stamfiskanlegg

11 Part of a water catchment area from the source(s) to a natural or artificial barrier that prevents the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.

12 More than one water catchment area, including their estuaries, due to the epidemiological link between the catchment areas through the estuary.

13 Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is independent of the health status regarding that disease of surrounding natural waters.

14 A compartment which is independent of the health status of surrounding waters, shall be supplied with water:
(a) through a water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level; or
(b) directly from a well, a borehole or a spring. Where such water supply is situated outside the premises of the farm, the water shall be supplied directly to the farm, and be channelled through a pipe.

15 Provide technical information to demonstrate that the relevant pathogen is inactivated in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level.

Identify and describe for each farm natural or artificial barriers and justify its capability to prevent that aquatic animals enter each farm in a compartment from the surrounding water sources.	There are several natural barriers between the water intake and the site. No anadromous fish can enter the water source. The water pipes are totally closed on their way to the production site.
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding	All tanks and all production at Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg are indoors. The lowest point of the tanks are 5.5 m above sea level, and it is not possible for seawater or freshwater to backwash into the facility. The pipes leading water to the site are totally closed.

7.6. □ Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status[16]	
One epidemiological unit due to geographical localization and distance from other farms/farming areas[17]	
All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system. Describe the common biosecurity system.[18]	
□ Any additional requirements[19]	

8. Geographical demarcation [20]

8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)		31837 Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is a continental farm situated in Sørfold municipality, Nordland County. The site is operated by SalmoBreed AS. Sørfjorden stamfiskanlegg is limited by the following coordinates: N: 67° 34.528' E: 15° 52.680' Please refer to map in annex 2.
8.2. □ Non-free buffer zone[21]	Geographical demarcation[26]	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status[22])	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. □ Non-free zones or compartments[23]	Geographical demarcation[26]	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration	

16 Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is dependent on the health status of surrounding natural waters regarding that disease.

17 A description shall be provided of the geographical localisation and the distance from other farms/farming areas that makes it possible to consider the compartment as one epidemiological unit.

18 A description shall be provided of the common biosecurity system.

19 Each farm or mollusc farming area in a compartment which is dependent on the health status of surrounding waters shall be subject to additional measures imposed by the competent authority, when considered necessary to prevent the introduction of diseases. Such measures may include the establishment of a buffer zone around the compartment in which a monitoring programme is carried out, and the establishment of additional protection against the intrusion of possible pathogen carriers or vectors.

20 The geographical demarcation shall be clearly described and identified on a map, which must be attached as an Annex to the declaration/application. Any substantial modification in the geographical demarcation of the zone or compartment to be declared free must be subjected to a new application.

21 In connection with a zone or a compartment dependent on the health status of surrounding waters, a buffer zone in which a monitoring programme is carried out shall be established, as appropriate. The demarcation of the buffer zones shall be such that it protects the disease-free zone from passive introduction of the disease. (Part II.1.5 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC).

22 Health status in accordance with Part A of Annex III to Directive 2006/88/EC.

23 Relevant in cases of declaration of disease-free Member States,where minor areas of the Member State are not considered disease-free.

	numbers geographical situation and health status[22])	
8.4. □ Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States[24]	Geographical demarcation[26]	
8.5. □ Existing disease-free zones/compartments in the vicinity.	Geographical demarcation[26]	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	
9. Farms or mollusc farming areas which commence or recommence their activities[25]		
9.1. **X** New farm		
9.2 Recommencing farm	Health history of farm known to Competent authority	
	Not subject to animal health measures in respect of listed diseases.	
	Farm cleaned, disinfected and, as necessary, fallowed	

[24] Where a zone extends to more than one Member State, it may not be declared a disease-free zone unless the conditions set out in points 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5 of Part II of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC apply to all areas of that zone. In that case both Member States concerned shall apply for approval for the part of the zone situated in their territory.

[25] In accordance with Part II.4 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC