

Declaration of an individual farm free of Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA) in Norway

<i>Requirements/information needed</i>	<i>Information/further explanation and justification</i>
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, Section for fish health and fish welfare, Felles postmottak, postboks 383, 2381 Brumunddal. postmottak@mattilsynet.no
1.3. Reference of this document	Council Directive 2006/88/EC, Article 50, Annex V
1.4. Data sent to the EFTA Surveillance Authority	11.07.2014
2. Type of communication	
2.1. Declaration of disease-free status	X
2.2. Submission of application for disease-free-status	
3. National legislation¹	<p>Acts: The Food Act of 19 December 2003 No. 124</p> <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulations 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. • Regulations 17 June 2008 No. 823 on the establishment and expansion of aquaculture establishments, pet shops etc. • Regulations 17 June 2008 No. 822 on operation of Aquaculture Establishments (Aquaculture Operation Regulations). • Regulations of 27 October 2007 No. 1254 on animal by-products not intended for human consumption.
4. Diseases	
4.1. Fish	<input type="checkbox"/> VHS <input type="checkbox"/> IHN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ISA <input type="checkbox"/> KHV
4.2. Molluscs	<input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Marteilia refringens</i> <input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Bonamia ostreae</i>
4.3. Crustaceans	White spot disease
5. Grounds for disease free-status	
5.1. <input type="checkbox"/> No susceptibles ²	
5.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Pathogen not viable ³	
5.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Historic free-status	
5.4. X Targeted surveillance ⁴	In Council Directive 2006/88/EC Annex V, Part II, 4 there are outlined <i>special</i>

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.

	<p><i>provisions for individual farms which commence or recommence their activities.</i></p> <p>However, in the model for submissions of declarations of disease-free status in Annex IV of Commission Decision of 31 October 2008 implementing Council Directive 2006/88/EC as regards surveillance and eradication programmes and disease-free status of Member States, zones and compartments, such ground for disease-free status is not described. Norway has decided that the grounds for this kind of declarations are best described under “<i>targeted surveillance</i>”..</p> <p>The health history of the farm has been known for more than four years and it has been and is subject to sufficient health controls in accordance with the Norwegian legislation. The farm in question has been emptied for fish and water, cleaned and disinfected, followed by a fallowing period of more than six months. After recommencing the activity only biological material from farms in Category I for ISA has been introduced. The farm has not been subject to animal-health measures in respect of diseases listed in Part II of Annex IV of Directive 2006/88.</p> <p>Description of the health surveillance on the farm; In accordance with the Norwegian legislation the farm is obliged to be subject to a minimum of 12 health inspections by veterinarians or aqua medicine biologists (animal health professional) annually.</p>
<p>6. General information</p>	
<p>6.1. Competent authority⁵</p>	<p>The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (NFSA) has 1316 employees on three administrative levels. The head office is located in Oslo. There are eight regional offices and 51 district offices. The 51 district 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.</p> <p>For more information about the NFSA please read the presentation in Annex II.</p>
<p>6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the programme to achieve disease free status⁶</p>	<p>In accordance with the Norwegian legislation the farm is obliged to be subject to a minimum of 12 health inspections by veterinarians or aqua medicine biologists (animal health professional) annually.</p> <p>The Norwegian Food Safety Authority is responsible for the control and supervision of a possible subsequent recommencement process and will supervise the cleaning, disinfection and fallowing of the facility, risk-based- surveillance and regular inspections.</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Dåfjorden Klekkeri AS located at Stord Island in Stord Municipality, and is a site for hatchery and start feeding of Atlantic Salmon fingerlings which meets the requirements in annex V, Part 2, Point 4.2 of Directive 2006/88/EC to be considered free of ISA. There is no other aquaculture activity within 5 km of the farm.</p> <p>History</p>

⁴ Applicable if targeted surveillance complying with Community requirements 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).

⁵ A description shall be provided of the structure, competencies, duties and powers of the competent authority involved.

⁶ A description shall be provided of the competent authority in charge of the supervision and coordination of the programme and the different operators involved.

	<p>Dåfjorden Klekkeri AS (registration number Hsd-002, Site number 11565) started producing fingerlings for sale to other smolt farm in 2006. The production is based on buying eggs from producers with ISA-free status twice per year. The production period in the hatchery is from January until June. After emptied, the hatchery is cleaned and disinfected, and stays empty and dry for about 6 months.</p> <p>The start-feeding brings the fingerlings up from the size of 0.2 gram to 5 grams before they are sold. The start-feeding zone of the farm is in use from April to September each year, and then emptied, cleaned and disinfected and fallowed for more than 6 months.</p> <p>Other relevant information</p> <p>At the site it is also a RAS-production zone which is not part of the declared disease free farm and is separated from the disease free parts by physical barriers. There are strict biosecurity measures approved by the Competent Authority, in place at the farm to prevent the introduction of pathogens from the RAS- production zone. This implies separate clothing, footwear and equipment. The different parts of the site has separate water inlet and outlet that prevent the spread of pathogens from the RAS-production zone into the Category I parts of the farm.</p> <p>Dåfjorden Klekkeri AS is Global Gap certified yearly, (last time 25.10.2013) OPT 1- Individual Producer with GGN Number: 4050373982423</p> <p>Maps of the farm are attached in Annex I to the declaration.</p>
<p>6.4. The notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>According to the legislation The competent authority must be notified in case of suspicion and confirmation of the disease in question. 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. The EFTA Surveillance Authority' Decision No 226/04/COL of 9 September 2004).</p> <p>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 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 zone/compartment and to prevent spread of disease to other aquatic animals. Each zone/compartment that has been suspended from ISA-free areas based on trade and not disease outbreaks would be placed under extended surveillance involving at least one official inspection annually, samples from at least 2 x 30 fish, risk based surveillance and sampling.</p> <p>Monitoring is carried out by Norwegian Food Safety Authority and by fish health services as described in 5.4..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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>6.5. Early detection system in place throughout the Member States, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective</p>	<p>Approval of establishments of aquaculture farms has been compulsory in Norway since 1985. The national legislation (Regulations of 17 June 2008 No. 819) on the placing on the market and imports of aquaculture animals for farming or restocking, is in the accordance with the requirements of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p>

<p>disease investigation and reporting since when (date)?⁷</p>	<p>Basic biosecurity measures have been in place continuously since 1990 in the Norwegian legislation. The implementation of requirements for the placing on the market and import to prevent introduction of the disease into Norway is effective.</p> <p>An early detection system for all listed diseases, including exotic diseases, has existed since 1990 (cf. Act of 22 June 1990 No. 44).</p> <p>To maintain zones/compartments with ISA-free status Norwegian Food Safety Authority carry out at least one inspection annually and take/arrange to have taken samples from 30 fish.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Anyone participating in aquaculture activities covered by Regulations 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. (ii) The competence must be documented through practical and theoretical training. <p>All on-growing farms in Norway obliged to be subject to a minimum of six health inspections by veterinarians or aqua medicine biologists (animal health professional) annually.</p> <p>The NFSA has full access to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating all listed diseases.</p> <p>At a minimum an operating journal at the production level must contain updated information on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Stocking of fish: date, species, number of fish, cohort and origination, b) Slaughtered quantity: date, species, number of fish, slaughter weight and slaughter condition, c) 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, d) Real volume, e) 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, f) mortalities
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⁷ 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.

	<p>g) Relevant parameters for water quality and water quality measures,</p> <p>h) Attacks by predators, algae or jellyfish and other measures taken.</p> <p>These data must monthly be reported electronically to the Competent Authority every month.</p>
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.
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice ⁸	<p>Regulations 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.</p> <p>Handling of dead fish is done in accordance with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulations 17 June 2008 No. 822 Regulations relating to Operation of Aquaculture Establishments (Aquaculture Operation Regulations) - Regulations of 27 October 2007 No. 1254 on animal by-products not intended for human consumption.
7. Area covered	
7.1. Member State	
7.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (entire water catchment area) ⁹	
7.3. Zone (part of water catchment area) ¹⁰ 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (more than one water catchment area) ¹¹	
7.5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compartment independent of the surrounding health status ¹²	
Identify and describe for each farm the water supply ¹³ Described in the enclosed documents.	<p>Well, borehole or spring X Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen¹⁴</p> <p>The water supply to Dåffjorden Klekkeri AS consists only of fresh water from the lake Petterteigvatnet (map in Annex I). There are no other aquaculture activities in connection with the water source, and anadromous fish has no possibility to reach the lake.</p> <p>All intake- water is disinfected in a water treatment plant before it is used in the farm.</p>
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 watercourses.	There are two different barriers between the sea and the freshwater source;

⁸ A description shall be provided in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC

⁹ An entire water catchment area from its sources to its estuary.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ More than one water catchment area, including their estuaries, due to the epidemiological link between the catchment areas through the estuary.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ 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.

		<p>(i) From the sea it is a 4 meter waterfall about 100 meter from sea level and</p> <p>(ii) a 3 meter fall from the lake Petterteigvatnet into the river 350 meter from sea level. It is impossible for anadromous fish to enter the lake.</p> <p>The waterways have been inspected of Geir Helge Johnsen, at Rådgivende Biologer AS. The water pipes from Petterteigvatnet to the landsite are totally closed. It is impossible for fish to pass these barriers.</p>
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding		The bottom of the lowest placed fish tank is 2.5 meter above sea-level. It is not possible for seawater or freshwater from outside the facility to backwash into the facility. The tanks are safe against flooding.
7.6. <input type="checkbox"/> Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status ¹⁵		
One epidemiological unit due to geographical localisation and distance from other farms/farming areas ¹⁶		
All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system. Describe the common biosecurity system. ¹⁷		
<input type="checkbox"/> Any additional requirements ¹⁸		
8. Geographical demarcation ¹⁹		
8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)		
8.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free buffer zone ²⁰	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status ²¹)	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free zones or compartments ²²	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers geographical situation and health status ²²)	
8.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States ²³	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	

- ¹⁵ 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.
- ¹⁶ 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.
- ¹⁷ A description shall be provided of the common biosecurity system.
- ¹⁸ 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.
- ¹⁹ 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.
- ²⁰ 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).
- ²¹ Health status in accordance with Part A of Annex III to Directive 2006/88/EC.
- ²² Relevant in cases of declaration of disease-free Member States, where minor areas of the Member State are not considered disease-free.
- ²³ 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

8.5. <input type="checkbox"/> 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 activities²⁴		
9.1. <input type="checkbox"/> New farm		
9.2 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommencing farm	<input type="checkbox"/> Health history of farm known to Competent authority	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Not subject to animal health measures in respect of listed diseases	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm cleaned, disinfected and, as necessary, fallowed	

that zone. In that case both Member States concerned shall apply for approval for the part of the zone situated in their territory.

²⁴

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