

## Provisional declaration of eradication programme under Article 83 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689

<i>Requirements/information needed</i>	<i>Information/further explanation and justification</i>
<b>1. Identification of the programme</b>	
1.1. Declaring Member State	SLOVENIA
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection (AFSVSPP), Dunajska 22, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Fax: +386 1 300 13 56 Phone: +386 1 300 13 00 e-mail: <a href="mailto:uvhvvr@gov.si">uvhvvr@gov.si</a> Matjaž Guček, director general and CVO (e-mail: <a href="mailto:matjaz.gucek@gov.si">matjaz.gucek@gov.si</a> ) Contact point: Tina Arič, Section for animal health and animal welfare ( <a href="mailto:tina.aric@gov.si">tina.aric@gov.si</a> )
1.3. Type of declaration	Eradication programme for VHS/IHN in accordance with chapter 3 of part II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 and Article 10 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002
1.4. Date of submission	15 July 2022
<b>2. National legislation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (Official Gazette of RS, No. 93/05, 90/12 and 23/13)</li> <li>• Rules on animal diseases (Official Gazette of RS, No. 81/07 and 24/10)</li> <li>• Rules on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals (Official Gazette of RS, No. 6/14)</li> </ul>
<b>3. Listed diseases</b>	
3.1. Name of Category C disease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VHS

X IHN

#### 4. Territorial scope with a description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas covered by the eradication programme and the names of the zones

##### 4.1. Proposed zone

Proposed zone “Vjerb” consists of stream “Mrcinova grapa” from 2 springs to the natural barrier (waterfall). There is one fish farm in the zone.

##### 1. Fish farm Vjerb

- registration number (GMID100094038) and approval number (SIRIB100115)

- lat: 46.03255, long: 13.83302

It is a new fish farm, which consists of :

- 4 round tanks, 3 m deep and 7 m in diameter, each volume of 100 m<sup>3</sup>; Each tank has 2 shafts (1,2 m in diameter) for inflating of air and one shaft (2 m in diameter) for bio-filter,

- 3 sedimentation shafts (2 m in diameter) and one sedimentation shaft with bio-filtration (10 m long and 1,5 m wide) and

- borehole for dissolving of oxygen and ozon.

The system is half recirculation and the capacity is 20 tonnes per year. The fish species reared is rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). In the future, the operator intends to rear also marble trout (*Salmo marmoratus*). Fish reared at the fish farm are intended for human consumption, selling to other fish farms for further growth and for repopulation.

##### 2. Part of the stream “Mrcinova grapa” from the springs to the natural barrier (waterfall)

The stream has 2 springs, approx. 800 m upstream from the inlet for the fish farm. Both springs come into one stream approx. 260 m above the inlet. This part of the stream is managed by Fishing family Tolmin. According to their written statement, there is no active management of the stream and no repopulation.

End of the proposed zone is a natural barrier - waterfall approx. 3m high (Lat: 46.0318, Long: 13.8353), which is situated 200 m downstream from the outlet from the fish farm.

spring 1- Lat: 46.0337, Long: 13.8249; spring 2 – Lat: 46.0295, Long: 13.8250

Photos: 1,4,6,7

#### 5. Description of the disease control strategy of the eradication programme in accordance with Article 46 of Delegated Regulation

<b>(EU) 2020/689</b>	
5.1. Sampling schemes and diagnostic methods to be used in accordance with Annex VI to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689	<p>The programme has been prepared in order to achieve status of a zone free of VHS/IHN. Programme is in line with Model A – two year scheme, Table 1.A of Chapter 1, Part II, Annex VI of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.</p> <p>Diagnostic methods used: according to Section 5, Chapter I, Part II of Delegated Regulation 2020/689</p>
5.2. The notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?	<p>VHS and IHN have been compulsory notifiable in Slovenia since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)</p> <p>Notification of VHS and IHN is in line with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and Regulations (EU) 2020/689 and 2020/2002, which are directly applicable. In line with national Rules on animal diseases (UL RS, 81/07 and 24/10) which corresponds to the provisions of the EU legislation, every suspicion (clinical signs or increased mortality) has to be notified to the specialists for fish diseases at NVI, who are responsible for the fish health. NVI has to notify the suspicion to the Regional office of AFSVSPP. Official veterinarian than performs the epidemiological inquiry and prescribes measures according to the legislation.</p> <p>AFSVSPP must notify the presence of VHS or IHN in line with point 1(c) Article 3 of Regulation 2020/2002/EU to the European Commission, the World organisation for animal health (OIE), and other member states using ADIS.</p>
5.3. Early detection system in place throughout the Member States, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective disease investigation and reporting since when (date)?	<p>Since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)</p> <p>According to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (points 1(b) and 1(c) of Article 18), operators are obliged to notify to NVI specialists for fish diseases every suspicion of VHS or IHN or any increased mortality. NVI has to confirm or rule out the disease as soon as possible and notify the official veterinarian who prescribes measures according to relevant legislation.</p>
5.4. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming.	Rainbow trout – source of fish is a hatchery declared free of VHS/IHN of the same operator
5.5. Biosecurity measures in place	<p>Breeding will be performed on the basis of good hygiene practice (regular cleaning and disinfection of equipment, disposal of dead fish, movement of personnel, protective barriers to prevent the migration of wild fish, rodent control, etc.). Fish farm is fenced and covered with nets which prevent the entrance of predators.</p> <p>According to national legislation in place, each aquaculture establishment that applies for approval, need to establish a plan of hygiene measures before the approval. Biosecurity measures are in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.</p> <p>All movements of fish will be documented in the log which is present at the fish farm. Only fish from free status</p>

	<p>will be able enter the proposed zone.</p> <p>Fish tanks will be checked daily for the presence of dead or moribund fish. Data will be entered in the log present at the farm.</p> <p>Passage of fish from the farm to the open water and back is prevented by metal grids, which are placed at the inlet and outlet from the fish farm.</p> <p>Passage of fish to the proposed zone is prevented by the natural barrier (a waterfall approx. 3 m high) which is also the end of the proposed zone.</p> <p>Photos: 2,3,5,6</p>			
<p><b>6. Description of the organisation, supervision and roles of the parties involved in the eradication programme</b></p>				
<p>6.1. Authorities in charge of coordinating and supervising the implementation of the programme</p>	<p>Competent authority is AFSVSPP, organised as affiliated body to the Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food. AFSVSPP carries out the administrative tasks, inspection and control in the veterinary sector. Within AFSVSPP, these tasks are implemented by the veterinary inspection service, divided between ten Regional Offices and two Border Inspection Posts (BIPs).</p>			
<p>6.2. Responsibilities of all stakeholders involved</p>	<p>Operator of the fish farm in the zone is responsible for maintaining a high level of biosecurity, following restrictions, observation of fish health and notification if needed.</p> <p>Fishing family Tolmin, in charge of stream “Mrcinova grapa” which is part of the proposed zone, is responsible for maintaining a high level of biosecurity, following restrictions, observation of fish health and notification if needed.</p> <p>Specialists for fish diseases from National veterinary institute (NVI) are responsible for animal health surveillance, to confirm or rule out the suspicion, perform clinical examinations at the farm, take samples, give advice to the operator concerning biosecurity measures, etc.</p> <p>Official veterinarian of Regional office of AFSVSPP Nova Gorica is responsible for official control, certification of movements, prescribing measures in case of suspicion and confirmation of listed diseases, etc.</p>			
<p><b>7. Estimated duration of the eradication programme</b></p>		<p>2 years</p>		
<p>7.1. Details of the surveillance scheme</p>	<p><b>2-year programme</b></p>	<p><b>Clinical examinations</b></p>		<p><b>Sampling</b></p>
	<p><b>1. year</b></p>	<p>autumn 2022</p>	<p>spring 2023</p>	<p>autumn 2022: organs of 75 fish (rainbow trout)      spring 2023: organs of 75 fish (rainbow trout)</p>

	<b>2. year</b>	autumn 2023	spring 2024	autumn 2023: organs of 75 fish (rainbow trout)	spring 2024: organs of 75 fish (rainbow trout)
<b>8. Intermediate targets of, and the disease control strategies for implementing, the eradication programme</b>	<p>There is one aquaculture establishment in the proposed zone. It is a new establishment and the source of fish is establishment free of VHS/IHN.</p> <p>2-year surveillance scheme is foreseen according to Delegated regulation (EU) 2020/689 – Table 1.A, Chapter I, Part II, Annex VI</p> <p>It is estimated that the programme will be completed in 2 years.</p>				