

Provisional declaration of disease-free status in accordance with chapter 4 of part II of Regulation (EU) 2020/689 and Article 11 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002

<i>Requirements/information needed</i>	<i>Information/further explanation and justification</i>
1. Date of submission	13 June 2024
1.1. Type of declaration	Disease-free status of an establishment which commence with its activities (Article 80 (1) of Regulation (EU) 2020/689) Relevant general criteria in accordance with point (a) of Article 73(1) of Regulation (EU) 2020/689 are complied with.
2. Declaring Member State	SLOVENIA
2.1. 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: uvhvvr@gov.si Contact: Vida Znoj, acting CVO (e-mail: vida.znoj@gov.si) Contact for the provisional declaration: Tina Arič, animal health expert (e-mail: tina.aric@gov.si)
3. Name of the disease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VHS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IHN
4. Territorial scope with a description and demarcation and the names of the zones or compartments	Independent compartment - Pond "BPT": registration number GMID100094054, approval number SIRIB050121, geocoordinates (Lat: 46.3650, Long: 14.3051) Photo 1
5. A description of the epidemiological situation for each zone, compartment or	

region if more than one region is included in the territorial scope of the programme:	
a) the number of approved aquaculture establishments and the number of registered aquaculture establishments keeping animals of the targeted animal population, by type of production and by health status (2) at 31 December	<p>Establishment is a pond (pond “BPT”), managed by operator Fishing family Tržič. Approval number SIRIB050121.</p> <p>The main occupation will be breeding sterile rainbow trout and brown trout for repopulation of open waters and for human consumption. The pond itself is of older origin (1908) and was originally intended for cooling water used in older compressors and for irrigating wooden rollers in a factory. The factory had stopped working a long time ago and the pond was no longer in use. Fishing family Tržič sanitized, cleaned and disinfected the pond few years ago and have already bred pure gene brown trout in it, originating from their fish farm with VHS/IHN free status. The pond has been empty for the last one and a half year. The pond is concrete, triangular, the water depth is approx. 2.5m, the water temperature varies from 8°C in winter to about 14°C in summer (photos 2 and 3).</p> <p>Operator Fishing family Tržič has another fish farm “Besnica”, already declared free of VHS/IHN (since 2012). Source of all fish are farms free of VHS/IHN.</p>
b) listed species kept in the aquaculture establishments referred to in point (a) by health status;	Rainbow trout and brown trout – origin are fish farms declared free of VHS/IHN
(c) maps indicating: (i) the geographical location of the aquaculture establishments referred to in point (a) and the relevant water catchment areas; and (ii) the geographical distribution of cases of infection with the relevant category B or C disease covering at least the past 5 years;	<p>Photo 1</p> <p>/</p>
(d) information as regards the epidemiological situation in wild aquatic animals, where relevant.	/
6. A description of the disease control strategy of the eradication programme in accordance with Article 46 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 including at least:	
a) the sampling schemes and diagnostic methods to be used in accordance with Annex VI to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 for:	Pond “BPT” is classified as low risk establishment and health visits and sampling for the maintenance of the

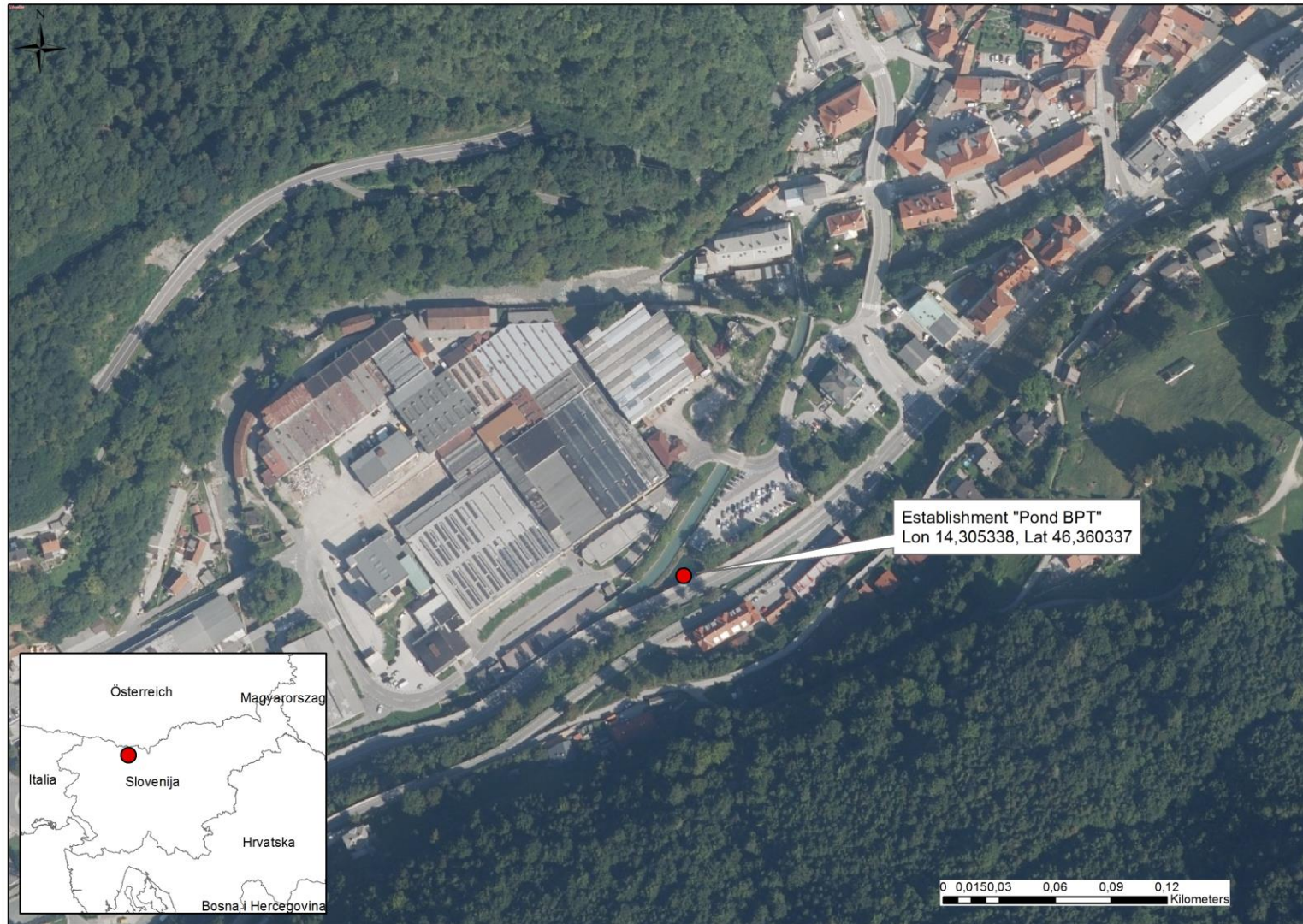
<p>i) health visits and sampling in aquaculture establishments ii) targeted surveillance in wild populations, where relevant;</p>	<p>health status will be performed in line with Delegated Regulation 2020/689.</p>
<p>b) the disease control measures to be applied in the event of a confirmed case</p>	<p>VHS and IHN have been compulsory notifiable in Slovenia since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)</p> <p>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 (WOAH), and other member states using ADIS.</p> <p>According to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (points 1(b) and 1(c) of Article 18 operators are obliged to notify to specialists for fish diseases at National veterinary institute (NVI) 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 Regulation (EU) 2020/687.</p>
<p>c) the biosecurity and risk mitigating measures to be implemented</p>	<p>According to national legislation in place, each aquaculture establishment that applies for approval, needs to send a plan of hygiene measures before the approval. Biosecurity measures must be in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2016/42.</p> <p>All movements of fish will be documented. For each repopulation a special record will be issued with all the relevant data. Only fish from free status can enter the pond.</p> <p>The pond will be regularly checked for the presence of dead or moribund fish. Data will be entered in the log present at the farm.</p> <p>The disinfection barrier is placed at the entrance to the establishment.</p> <p>The source of water is several springs (water flows from the wall) from where water flows to the pond through a pipe (photo 4 and 5). Outlet of the water is directly from the pond to the industrial channel (photo 8).</p> <p>The migration of fish from and to the pond is prevented by three nets placed one after the other on the outlet from the pond (photo 6 and 7). The pond is also placed higher than the industrial channel (photo 3), so the water can only flow in the direction of the industrial channel and not in reverse.</p> <p>Flooding at this location is not possible, because the industrial channel (photo 3), into which water from the pond flows, is regulated by a barrier.</p>
<p>7. A description of the organisation, supervision and roles of the parties involved in the eradication programme including at least:</p>	

a) the authorities in charge of coordinating and supervising the implementation of the programme	<p>1. Administration for food safety, veterinary sector and plant protection (AFSVSPP), Regional Office Kranj</p> <p>2. National Veterinary institute (NVI)</p>
b) responsibilities of all stakeholders involved	<p>AFSVSPP acts as the competent authority and is organised as affiliated body to the Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food. AFSVSPP – Regional office Kranj, carries out inspection and control of the programme and maintaining the free status.</p> <p>Fish specialists from National veterinary institute (NVI specialists) perform animal health surveillance at the fish farms based on the risk level given. Official veterinarians (Regional office Kranj) will perform inspections based on the given risk and yearly plan prepared by inspection and animal health and animal welfare division.</p> <p>For the purpose of animal health monitoring, AFSVSPP has set up the information technology system called CIS AFSVSPP EPI, which enables the traceability of samples from the point of sampling to a final assessment of test results.</p> <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 to be performed 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 then 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 (WOAH), and other member states using ADIS.</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 eradication measures according to Regulation (EU) 2020/687.</p>
8. The estimated duration of the eradication programme.	New farm
9. The intermediate targets of, and the disease control strategies for implementing, the eradication programme including at least:	

(a) the expected annual decrease of the number of infected aquaculture establishments and where relevant, sampling points in wild populations;	/
(b) the expected annual increase of the number of aquaculture establishments and, where relevant, sampling points in wild populations that tested negative;	/
(c) the expected vaccination coverage, where relevant.	/

Photo 1: geographical location of the aquaculture establishment Pond "BPT"

Establishment "Pond BPT"



Photos 2 and 3: aquaculture establishment Pond "BPT"



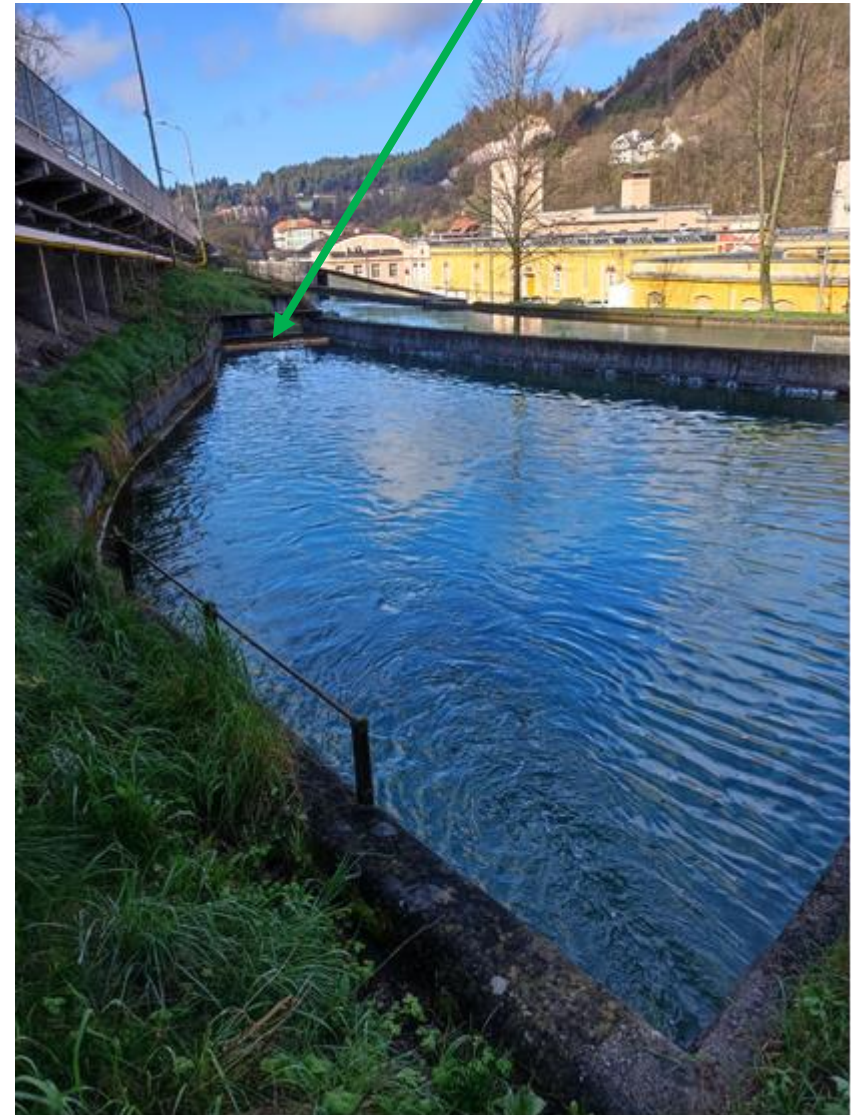
industrial channel

Photos 4 and 5: inlet to the pond



inlet

Photos 6, 7 and 8: outlet from the establishment and barriers



outlet