Mattilsynet

Statens tilsyn for planter, fisk, dyr og næringsmidler

# Follow-up concerning the "*Final report of the EFTA's Surveillance Authority's mission to Norway from 20 to 29 May 2019 in order to evaluate animal health controls in relation to aquaculture*"

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, SCoPAFF
Section Animal Health and Welfare, AHW
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# The EEA agrement

**The Agreement on the European Economic Area extends the principles of the European Union internal market to three out of the four EFTA countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. As a result, the four fundamental freedoms of the internal market - free movement of goods, services, capital and persons -apply in the EEA in the same way as they do in the European Union.**

- As a result of the agreement, EC law on the four freedoms is incorporated into the domestic law of the participating EFTA States
- All new relevant EU legislation is introduced through the EEA Agreement so that it applies throughout the EEA, ensuring uniform application of laws relating to the internal market
- The EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) monitors compliance with the EEA Agreement
- EU Member States are supervised by the European Commission; while the participating EFTA States are supervised by the ESA
- ESA regularly preform on-the-spot inspections to ensure that the EFTA Countries apply EEA legislation correctly within the field of food and feed safety, animal health and welfare. Findings are published in reports by ESA
- Since 2006 over 60 inspections has been carried out in Norway
- Observers from Directorate F/National experts from the EU often participate in the inspections

# ESAs recommendations

- The Norwegian Food Safety Authority will continue with the self-imposed voluntary suspension of the certification of live aquaculture animals, until the recommendations of the report from ESA are satisfactorily addressed.

# Self imposed voluntary suspension

All compartments and zones listed as Category I health status for ISA are at the moment subject to a voluntary self imposed suspension.

- During the suspension period all zones and compartments have been subject to a comprehensive scrutiny and evaluation based on the following criteria:

- The requirements set out in Decision (EU) 1554/2015 with regard to:
  - The number of health inspections (Annex 1, Part 3, Table 3b)
  - The number and quality of samples and laboratory examinations (Annex 1, Part 3, Table 3b and Annex 1, Part 3, Points II.1 and II.)

- The requirements laid down in Directive (EC) 2006/88 with regard to:
  - The quality of official controls (Article 7)
  - The need for additional measures to prevent introduction of ISA into the compartment (Annex V, Part II, Point 2.4)

# Determination of the need for additional measures

The requirements of Directive (EU) 2006/88 foresees a risk based approach. i.e. Evaluation of the compartment risk of being exposed to ISAV HPR-deleted.

## The most important criteria:

- Distance to other farms keeping species susceptible to ISA
- Distance to slaughtering or processing plants processing species susceptible to ISA
- Distance to a known outbreak and an established containment area for ISA
- Distance to frequently used sailing routes for well boats
- The need for transport through an unknown or infected area of live fish for the purpose of restocking of the Category I compartment or zone.

# Determination of the need for additional measures

## The most relevant actions:

- The establishing of a buffer zone including one or more of the following measures:
  - Increased number of health inspections
  - Increased surveillance for ISAV HPR-deleted
  - Restrictions with regard to restocking of fish (only Category I material is allowed)
  - Specific requirements with regard to the use of transport vehicles, equipment etc.
- Similar increased biosecurity requirements within the ISA-free compartment or zones

# Criteria for further listing as ISA-free compartments or zones

- All farms keeping susceptible species for ISA must have fulfilled the previous mentioned requirements set out in Decision (EU) 2015/1554 with regard to health inspections, sampling and laboratory examinations for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

- The requirements concerning official control laid down in Directive (EC) 2006/88 must have been fulfilled for each of the units/farms of concern.

- The need for additional measures, including the need for establishing a buffer zone has been evaluated and addressed. Only farms where this need has been considered to be unnecessary or such measures has been imposed for an appropriate period, will be kept on the list.