

SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION OF DISEASE-FREE STATUS FOR CATEGORY C DISEASES OF AQUATIC ANIMALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH [CHAPTER 4 OF PART II OF REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/689](#) AND ARTICLE 11 OF [COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/2002](#)

1. Date of submission

September 19th 2023

2. Name of Member State and details of contact point

DENMARK

Contact point:

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3. Name of Category C disease

Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS)

4. Identification of the grounds for recognition of disease-free status:

- (a) absence of listed species
- (b) disease agent's incapacity to survive

(c) historical and surveillance data

(d) completion of an eradication programme

The grounds for recognition of disease-free status is the completion of an eradication programme.

5. Territorial scope:

(a) zone

The territorial scope is the marine waters of Denmark.

In accordance with annex XII of regulation (EU) 2021/620, the whole continental territory of Denmark is already recognized as being free from VHS. The recognition of the marine waters of Denmark as being free from VHS will entail that the whole territory of Denmark is recognized as being free from VHS.

(b) compartment

6. Declarations of disease-free status of compartments shall contain the following information:

Not applicable, because this is not a declaration of disease-free status of compartments.

7. Statement confirming that the relevant general criteria in accordance with point (a) of Article 66 of Regulation (EU) 2020/689 for zones, or with point (a) of Article 73(1) of that Regulation for aquatic compartments, are complied with.

Denmark confirm that the relevant general criteria of point (a) of Article 66 of Regulation (EU) 2020/689 are complied with.

8. When the grounds for recognition of disease-free status are the **absence of listed species**, documentary evidence to substantiate that:

Not applicable, because the ground for recognition of disease-free status is not the absence of listed species.

9. When the grounds for recognition of disease-free status is based on the disease agents incapacity to survive:

Not applicable, because the ground for recognition of disease-free status is not based on the disease agent incapacity to survive.

10. When there are grounds for recognition of disease-free status based on historical and surveillance data because a Member State is new, or concerning infection with *B. exitiosa* or infection with WSSV for existing Member States for a period between 21 April 2021 and 21 April 2023, the following must be supplied:

Not applicable, because the ground for recognition of disease-free status is not based on historical and surveillance data.

11. When the grounds for recognition of disease-free status is based on the completion of an **eradication programme**, for each year of the programme, information must be supplied concerning:

(a) The aquaculture establishments and where relevant, the sampling points in the wild in the zone/compartment:

(i) Number of approved aquaculture establishments in the programme;

The number of approved aquaculture establishments is 23. In addition to the 23 approved aquaculture establishments there are four approved aquaculture establishments which were not included in the eradication programme. These four approved aquaculture establishments are so called “buffer stations”, which are facilities where aquaculture animals

are kept temporarily in connection with movement of fish from freshwater fish farms to saltwater fish farms with net cages, or kept temporarily in connection with movement of fish from saltwater fish farms with net cages to slaughter.

(ii) Number of registered aquaculture establishments in the programme (where relevant);

As describe in the approved eradication program, which is publicly available at the website of the DVFA, there were **no registered aquaculture establishments included in the eradication program.**

There are three *put & take saltwater lakes* and four *aquaculture establishments where aquaculture animals are kept solely for release into the wild* registered in the Central Husbandry Register (CHR). In accordance with point 4 of Article 47 of Regulation (EU)2020/689, these registered aquaculture establishments have been excluded from the eradication programme by the DVFA, as these aquaculture establishments do not pose a significant risk to the success of that programme and are exempted from the obligation to apply for approval.

(iii) Number of sampling points in wild populations (where relevant);

As describe in the approved eradication program, which is publicly available at the website of the DVFA, there were **no sampling points in wild populations.**

(iv) Maps showing approved and registered aquaculture establishments, and where relevant, sampling points in the wild;

See annex A.

(v) Number of aquaculture establishments, and where relevant, sampling points in the wild, out of the total number of aquaculture establishments and sampling points in the wild, which are not infected;

The number of aquaculture establishments, which are not infected is **23**.

(vi) Number of aquaculture establishments, and where relevant, sampling points in the wild, out of the total number of aquaculture establishments and sampling points in the wild, with confirmed cases;

The number of aquaculture establishments with confirmed cases is **zero**.

The last confirmed case of VHS in Denmark was in January 2009.

(vii) Number of new aquaculture establishments, and where relevant, sampling points in the wild, out of the total number of aquaculture establishments and sampling points in the wild, with confirmed cases.

The number of new aquaculture establishments with confirmed cases is **zero**. The last confirmed case of VHS in Denmark was in January 2009.

(b) animal health visits and sampling which have been completed:

(i) Number of health visits per approved and where relevant, per registered aquaculture establishment;

See annex B.

(ii) Number of samplings per approved, and where relevant, per registered aquaculture establishment, or samplings in wild populations;

See annex B.

(iii) Number of animals sampled at each sampling event;

See annex B.

(iv) Species sampled;

[See annex B.](#)

(v) Results from each laboratory examination (positive/ negative for the pathogen in question);

[See annex B.](#)

(vi) Results from each clinical inspection;

[See annex B.](#)

(vii) Water temperature at the time of sampling.

[See annex B.](#)