

EIFAAC PROJECT

TITLE¹: Development of eel stocks in Norway and Ireland.

PRELIMINARY	
a. Owner	Eva. B. Thorstad, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research
b. Role of EIFAAC²	EIFAAC is giving advice on eel management to its member states.
c. Advantages for EIFAAC of being involved in this project³	The results from the project will improve EIFAAC's knowledge basis for giving advice.
1. OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOME Please mention here at least one of the seven EIFAAC strategic objectives listed in Appendix A (below) to which this project is linked	
1.1 Purpose	Perform comparative analyses of long time-series on eel from River Imsa (Norway) and Burrishoole (Ireland), and thus obtain new information and knowledge for other scientists, the EIFAAC/ICES Working Group on Eel, and EIFAAC members. Relevant EIFAAC strategies: I, IV, VII
1.2 Objective⁴	a) Compare the development of number of out migrating silver eel from two watersheds in Norway and Ireland from the 1970s until present. b) Discuss to what extent the development in these stocks are coinciding the development in elsewhere Europe. c) Study effects of environmental parameters and climate change on the migration pattern.
1.3 Rationale⁵	The European eel is distributed in Europe and non-European areas around the Mediterranean Sea. The eel stock is regarded as panmictic, and has greatly declined since the 1970s and 1980s. There are relatively few long-term monitoring data series on eel, especially in northern areas. The eel in these

¹ Please use Annex 1 to list all acronyms used in this template

² Explain what is the specific, unique role of EIFAAC compared to other groups/organisations that may deal with this subject, too? Has EIFAAC the role of being “lead agency”, “participant” or other role?

³ How will the results of this project contribute to the achievement of the EIFAAC strategic objective(s), and contribute to/consolidate the reputation of EIFAAC as *the reference institution of competence* in the field of inland fisheries and aquaculture?

⁴ Statement of the objective/objectives (PLEASE NOTE: objectives need to be **SMART**: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound).

⁵ Reason for the project; why the project is important and key outcomes and stakeholders.

	parts of the distribution area may suffer less from human impacts such as pollution and contaminants, and may be more important components of the European population now than they used to be. To understand the causes for the decline, and develop mitigation measures, it is important to analyse the long-term data series that are available.
1.4 Benefits	
2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT	
2.1 Project Manager or Chair	Dr. Eva B. Thorstad, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)
2.1.1 Management responsibilities ⁶	Arrange a meeting in the project group in February 2016 and contribute to the data being analysed and made available through publications together with the project participants.
2.2 Participants⁷ and stakeholders	
2.2.1 Identify potential participants	Dr. Russell Poole, Marine Institute, Ireland Dr. Caroline Durif, Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Norway The scientists involved are eel scientists who are responsible for collecting the data series (R. Poole and E.B. Thorstad), and who have worked with analyses of these data series in the past and also reported them to the ICES/EIFAAC/GMCM working group on eel (R. Poole, E.B. Thorstad and C. Durif).
2.2.2. stakeholders concerned and involved (answer not immediately needed but think about it and address it in the course of the project)	Norwegian Environment Agency
2.3 Time frame⁸	The project work will be done mainly during 2016, and scientific publication expected to be finalised in 2017.
2.4 Expected deliverables⁹	Scientific report. Report and recommendations to national management authorities. Use of data in the

⁶ e.g., serve as chair, report to appropriate bodies, set agenda and work plan, coordinate country reports and running of the meeting, edit report, edit draft advice.

⁷ Identify potential participants, include details of relevance of the participant to the project and the capacity in which participation is carried out.

⁸ Expected/intended duration of the project

⁹ List potential project deliverables, e.g. Policy guidelines; best-practice guidelines; recommendations; scientific report; project report; etc

	ICES/EIFAAC/GMCM working group on eel.
2.5 Outline of Working Methodology¹⁰	The participants met during the ICES/EIFAAC/GMCM working group on eel in Turkey in November 2015 for initial planning of the project. The participants plan to meet again in Trondheim, Norway, in February 2016. The participants will all contribute to analyses of data and writing of scientific report, and outside the meetings, this will be done through e-mail and skype-communication. The participants expect to be able to meet again during the ICES/EIFAAC/GMCM working group on eel in 2016 (dates and place for meeting not yet decided, but likely some time during September-November).
3. BUDGET	
3.1 Budget¹¹	
3.1.1 available	Yes. NOK 400 000 (approx. 43 000 Euro) available as working hours provided by the institutes of the participants. NOK 53 000 received from the Norwegian Environment Agency.
3.1.2 possible	Yes. NOK 47 000 applied to the Norwegian Environment Agency.
3.1.3 required	Yes. NOK 500 000 (approx. 54 000 Euro), total budget.

¹⁰ How the project work is to be conducted, e.g. meetings, workshops, literature review, research. A methodology should be provided for and closely linked with each of the objectives.

¹¹ In relation to budget, answer each of the three categories with “yes” or “no”, and provide details if appropriate/needed.

EIFAAC STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Select one of below list:

I.	Management-related issues and principles for inland fisheries and aquaculture	X
II.	Interactions and avoidance or resolution of conflicts in inland fisheries and aquaculture	
III.	Harmonization of cross-border and cross-sectoral governance and legal aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
IV.	Protection and restoration of the environment and species	(x)
V.	Trade and economic aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VI.	Development of databases on inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VII.	Climate change	(x)

Please list ACRONYMS used in the above template