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**Announcement of intent to undertake an expedited scope extension assessment of the Irikla Reservoir Perch fishery to include pikeperch (*Sander lucioperca*) as target (Principle 1) species.**

MRAG Americas intends to carry out an expedited assessment of Irikla reservoir perch fishery to add pikeperch (*Sander lucioperca*) as target (Principle 1) species. As the fishery certified for perch currently catches this as a main retained species, the assessment will primarily entail assessing pikeperch against Principle 1 of the MSC Standard. Rescoring will possibly also be needed for the retained and bycatch components of Principle 2 due to differences in catch composition using a different mesh size of gear and fishing in a different season; the ETP component of Principle 2 also due to different mesh size and fishing season; and some of Principle 3 fishery specific management due to a separate fishery management plan for pikeperch, as identified by a preliminary gap analysis.

The currently certified Irikla reservoir perch fishery has pikeperch assessed under Principle 2 as a “main retained” species in the fishery. The assessment of Principle 2 habitat, and ecosystem and Principle 3 ‘governance and policy’ components leading to the existing certification for perch will remain unchanged when considering pikeperch for Principle 1, as fishing areas, vessels, and overarching management will not change.

The preliminary gap analysis has identified the following components as held in common between the two assessments: Principle 2 Habitats and Ecosystems, and Principle 3 governance and policy. However, the assessment of the retained and bycatch species and ETP components have to be considered for amendment when pikeperch are targeted within this fishery. Those components found not to be held in common are as follows: Principle 1 Outcome and Harvest Strategy, Principle 2 Retained and Bycatch species (possibly), Principle 2 ETP species, and Principle 3 Fishery Specific Management. We will make a final determination of components needing assessment following the information gathering and site visit phase of the scope extension assessment.

**Table 1: Preliminary overview of planned treatment of each PI in the expedited assessment of the Irikla reservoir perch gillnet fishery to include pikeperch as a P1 target species.**

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Consideration during scope extension</b>
1.1.1. Stock Status	New assessment of pikeperch
1.1.2. Reference Points	New assessment of pikeperch
1.1.3. Stock Rebuilding	New assessment of pikeperch
1.2.1. Harvest Strategy	New assessment of pikeperch
1.2.2. Harvest Control Rules and Tools	New assessment of pikeperch
1.2.3. Information and Monitoring	New assessment of pikeperch
1.2.4. Assessment of stock status	New assessment of pikeperch
2.1.1. Retained species outcome	New assessment of retained species as a result of removing pikeperch as a retained species and considering them under Principle 1 as well as potentially different catch composition while fishing for these targets.
2.1.2. Retained species management	Possible new assessment depending on changes to catch composition from larger gillnet (50 – 70 mm) and fishing season.
2.1.3. Retained species information	Possible new assessment depending on changes to catch composition from larger gillnet (50 – 70 mm) and fishing season.
2.2.1. Bycatch species outcome	Possible new assessment depending on changes to catch composition from larger gillnet (50 – 70 mm) and fishing season.
2.2.2. Bycatch species management	Possible new assessment depending on changes to catch composition from larger gillnet (50 – 70 mm) and fishing season.
2.2.3. Bycatch species information	Possible new assessment depending on changes to catch composition from larger gillnet (50 – 70 mm) and fishing season.
2.3.1. ETP species outcome	New assessment of ETP due to change in fishing gear and season.
2.3.2. ETP species management	New assessment of ETP due to change in fishing gear and season.
2.3.2. ETP species information	New assessment of ETP due to change in fishing gear and season.
2.4.1. Habitat outcome	No new assessment
2.4.2. Habitat management	No new assessment
2.4.3. Habitat information	No new assessment
2.5.1. Ecosystem outcome	No new assessment
2.5.2. Ecosystem management	No new assessment
2.5.3. Ecosystem information	No new assessment
3.1.1. Legal and customary framework	No new assessment

3.1.2. Consultation roles and responsibilities	No new assessment
3.1.3. Long term objectives	No new assessment
3.1.4. Incentives for sustainable fishing	No new assessment
3.2.1. Fishery specific objectives	New assessment due to different FMPs for pikeperch (TAC species)
3.2.2. Decision making processes	No new assessment. Decision processes are the same.
3.2.3. Compliance and enforcement	New assessment due to possible differences in compliance and enforcement with differences in fishing activity (gear/season) while targeting pikeperch
3.2.4. Research plan	New assessment due to different FMP for pikeperch (TAC species)
3.2.5. Monitoring and management performance evaluation	New assessment due to different FMP for pikeperch (TAC species)