



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

# NGO accreditation

## ICH-09 – Form

### REQUEST BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO BE ACCREDITED TO PROVIDE ADVISORY SERVICES TO THE COMMITTEE

**DEADLINE 30 APRIL 2019**

Instructions for completing the request form are available at:

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

#### 1. Name of the organization

##### 1.a. Official name

Please provide the full official name of the organization, in its original language, as it appears in the supporting documentation establishing its legal personality (section 8.b below).

Ålakustens kulturarvsförening

##### 1.b. Name in English or French

Please provide the name of the organization in English or French.

The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO

#### 2. Contact of the organization

##### 2.a. Address of the organization

Please provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled (see section 8).

Organization: The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO

Address: c/o Mrs. Maria Blombärg, Yngsjövägen 1299, 296 92 Yngsjö, Sweden.

Telephone number: +46 (0)70-3541775

Email address: [info@alarv.se](mailto:info@alarv.se)

Website: [www.alarv.se](http://www.alarv.se)

Other relevant  
information: -

## 2.b Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this request.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):	Mrs
Family name:	Blombärg
Given name:	Maria
Institution/position:	Chairman of the NGO's board
Address:	Yngsjövägen 1299, 296 92 Yngsjö, Sweden.
Telephone number:	
Email address:	
Other relevant information:	-

## 3. Country or countries in which the organization is active

Please identify the country or countries in which the organization actively operates. If it operates entirely within one country, please indicate which country. If its activities are international, please indicate whether it operates globally or in one or more regions, and please list the primary countries in which it carries out its activities.

☒ local

☒ national

☐ international (please specify: )

- ☐ worldwide
- ☐ Africa
- ☐ Arab States
- ☐ Asia & the Pacific
- ☐ Europe & North America
- ☐ Latin America & the Caribbean

Please list the primary country(ies) in which it is active:

Sweden

## 4. Date of its founding or approximate duration of its existence

Please state when the organization came into existence, as it appears in the supporting documentation establishing its legal personality (section 8.b below).

The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO started working in 2012 as an organisation and was formally established in 2013-03-29.

## 5. Objectives of the organization

*Please describe the objectives for which the organization was established, which should be 'in conformity with the spirit of the Convention' (Criterion C). If the organization's primary objectives are other than safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, please explain how its safeguarding objectives relate to those larger objectives.*

*Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information*

The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO was established in order to preserve, protect and spread information about the eel and the intangible cultural heritage, traditions, folklore, music, craftsmanship and knowledge surrounding eel fishing along the traditional eel fishing coast between Åhus and Stenshuvud in eastern Scania, Sweden. Traditional, small scale eel fishing involves the inheritance of craftsmanship from father to son.

These cultural traditions are documented dating back to the 14th Century, when Scania was part of the Danish realm. However, eel fishing along this coastal line can be dated through archaeological findings back to the Bronze Age. During the Danish era in Scania, all eel fishing rights were established as legal estates, and the Swedish king inherited these rights when Scania became part of Sweden by the mid 1600's. The eel fishing rights, some owned by the castleowners, are still registered and taxed as legal estates by the Swedish authorities.

Originally, the eel festivals took place at the fishermen's cottages. After the eel fishing season had ended in late November, the fishermen served eel to the fishing rights holders, as one form of paying the rents to the goods. From these old traditions, the modern eel festivals from the 1900's derive. Today, they have become a popular, annual meeting for visitors coming from everywhere around every autumn, where the old songs and folklore of eel fishing are performed together. Traditional eel fishing has become an important cultural meeting place as well as an income bringing event from tourism. An increasing amount of both national and international tourists visit the eel festivals annually.

The eel fishing in this region was proclaimed a national intangible cultural heritage in Sweden in 2015. But the preservation of the eel fishing traditions is threatened, even though it is a small scale, coastal near, ecological and sustainable fishing, in complete accordance with the 17 global sustainability goals of the UN and UNDP, where it is established that the rights of local, small scale and coastal near fishermen must be guaranteed, thus enabling culture to become part of the regional economy and development e.g. through tourism.

## 6. The organization's activities in the field of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage

*Sections 6.a to 6.d are the primary place for establishing that the NGO satisfies the criterion of having 'proven competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding (as defined in Article 2.3 of the Convention) intangible cultural heritage belonging, inter alia, to one or more specific domains' (Criterion A).*

### 6.a. Domain(s) in which the organization is active

*Please tick one or more boxes to indicate the primary domains in which the organization is most active. If its activities involve domains other than those listed, please tick 'other domains' and indicate which domains are concerned.*

- ☒ oral traditions and expressions
- ☒ performing arts
- ☒ social practices, rituals and festive events
- ☒ knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- ☒ traditional craftsmanship
- ☐ other domains - please specify:

## 6.b. Primary safeguarding activities in which the organization is involved

Please tick one or more boxes to indicate the organization's primary safeguarding activities. If its activities involve safeguarding measures not listed here, please tick 'other safeguarding measures' and specify which ones are concerned.

- ☒ identification, documentation, research (including inventory-making)
- ☒ preservation, protection
- ☒ promotion, enhancement
- ☒ transmission, formal or non-formal education
- ☒ revitalization
- ☐ other safeguarding measures – please specify:

## 6.c. Description of the organization's activities

Organizations requesting accreditation should briefly describe their recent activities and relevant experience in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, including those demonstrating the capacities of the organization to provide advisory services to the Committee. Relevant documentation may be submitted, if necessary, under section 8.c below.

Not to exceed 550 words; do not attach additional information

We have established a more accessible eel fishing intangible cultural heritage to visitors in the region. Every year we and the Eel Academy arrange an Eel Festival, where the public may taste different eel dishes and learn more about the intangible heritage, folklore, music, craftsmanship and traditions. We have also made an informative school material and are making an eel cookery book.

For 21 years an annual guided tour along the eel coast and fishermen's cottages has been arranged by the Eel Academy. A few years ago we started a wide cooperation regarding this tour between the Academy, our NGO and the Eel Fishing Fund. During the tour we tell about the traditions, folklore and craftsmanship.

Visitors may book the guided tour separately, and can also get a personal meeting with an eel fisherman to see the cottage and learn more about the craftsmanship and traditions.

To preserve the eel itself, visitors are asked to pay a contribution fee, and most eel fishermen pay a fee from their own annual income to the Eel Fund. Together we preserve the eel by annually releasing eel fry into the Baltic Sea – to this day 1 million fry.

We have made a short film, called "Eel Coast – a future intangible heritage", describing our cultural heritage. The film was made by a professional film maker, and is available in both Swedish and English at our website and on youtube. It was sponsored by a local bank.

In 2013 we contacted the Swedish National Heritage Board and the Swedish Institute for Language and Folklore, to establish cooperation, and we handed in our application to become a national intangible cultural heritage. In 2015 our application was accepted.

In November 2015 we, in cooperation with the municipality of Kristianstad, arranged a conference about the Eel Coast. It was held in the town hall and with the participation of leading local politicians and experts in the field.

Our website [www.alarv.se](http://www.alarv.se) is well provided with information about eel, eel fishing, cultural heritage and craftsmanship. An increasing amount of visitors come to our website as well.

The oldest known eel fisherman's cottage has been preserved as a museum, showing visitors how eel fishermen lived and worked in the old days. The cottage is kept by a local NGO, with which we have a well-developed cooperation.

In 2016 we established cooperation with The Museum of Kivik, the oldest museum in the eel coast



region. Together with the historians at the museum we have created a permanent eel fishing exhibition at the museum, and the staff is involved in the guided tours. We also cooperate in arranging local water conferences.

We are continuously documenting the traditional eel fishing, folklore, music and oral traditions. We are working with a map covering all eel fishing boats and cottages along the coast, including the abandoned and forgotten, using old maps and stories. The information is kept available at our website and in the exhibition at The Museum of Kivik. We have also made a tour, by using QR-codes, making the information available to visitors all year.

In September 2017 we provided the Swedish government with information and knowledge about the eel and eel fishing situation in a consultative meeting between representatives from our Board and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation.

#### **6.d. Description of the organization's competence and expertise**

*Please provide information on the personnel and members of the organization, describe their competence and expertise in the domain of intangible cultural heritage, in particular those that demonstrate the capacities of the organization to provide advisory services to the Committee, and explain how they acquired such competence. Documentation of such competences may be submitted, if necessary, under section 8.c below.*

*Not to exceed 200 words; do not attach additional information*

Maria Blombärg, Chairman, one of the leading eel tourism experts in the region. Maria has organised eel festivals since 1986. She is an entrepreneur, author and member of the Eel Academy Board.

Per Malmer, vice Chairman, lawyer, member of The Swedish Bar Association, with a special focus on law concerning eel fishing and coastal near questions.

Carl-Eric Ericsson, secretary, former university teacher. He has a high competence in eel fishing and local culture questions.

Eva Hylander, treasurer, former chief administrator and teacher.

Sten Duvhök, Board member, former engineer, eel fisherman's first hand. One of the experts of eel fishing in the region.

Dafvid Hermansson, Board member, lecturer in history and human geography, museum director at The Museum of Kivik, teacher, author, publisher and entrepreneur.

Daniel Andersson, Board member, sixth generation eel fisherman and a leading expert on the eel fishermen's tools, nets, etc.

Bengt Jönsson, Board member, former engineer, Board member of the local heritage NGO. Responsible for preserving the eel fisherman's cottage, used as a museum.

Hans-Inge Olofsson, associate Board member, third generation eel fisherman and the region's leading expert of eel fishing, its history and methods, eel biology, eel politics and marine reports.

#### **7. The organization's experiences in cooperating with communities, groups and intangible cultural heritage practitioners**

*The Committee will evaluate whether NGOs requesting accreditation 'cooperate in a spirit of mutual respect with communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, practise and transmit intangible cultural heritage' (Criterion D). Please briefly describe such experiences here.*

*Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information*

As aforesaid, our NGO has a broad and wide network and cooperation with individuals, other NGOs and authorities working to preserve the cultural heritage. Two of the most renowned eel fishing experts in the entire region are directly connected to the NGO. We know all eel fishermen

personally along the coast line and we all work together in planning and marketing events, following up information about the eel and the Baltic Sea, writing debate articles and documenting whatever happens in the area concerning the eel, the eel fishing and the marine biology. We also work together in preserving both the eel itself, by releasing young eels, and preserving, documenting and transmitting the cultural heritage surrounding eel fishing.

We have an established and very good relationship with The Eel Academy; The Eel Fishing Fund; The Swedish National Heritage Board and The Swedish Institute for Language and Folklore. In 2015 we were accepted as a Swedish national intangible cultural heritage. The contact with The Museum of Kivik has resulted in an eel exhibition and in a deep cooperation, where the Museum Director is a member of our Board, and the Museum's staff takes part in our guided tours and other events.

We also cooperate with The Biosphere Area of Kristianstad and marine biologist Sven-Erik Magnusson; local and regional NGOs preserving the cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible; the fishing unit of the County Administrative Board; The Swedish Sea and Water Authority; The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and their eel researching team lead by scientists Willem Dekker and Håkan Wickström; The Swedish Coast and Sea Centre; The Leader Team of Scania, the municipalities of Kristianstad (see above section 6.c.) and Simrishamn and many others.

## **8. Documentation of the operational capacities of the organization**

*The Operational Directives require that an organization requesting accreditation submit documentation proving that it possesses the operational capacities listed under Criterion E. Such supporting documents may take various forms, in light of the diverse legal regimes in effect in different States. Submitted documents should be translated, whenever possible, into English or French if the originals are in another language. **Please label supporting documents clearly with the section (8.a, 8.b or 8.c) to which they refer.***

### **8.a. Members and personnel**

*Proof of the participation of the members of the organization, as requested under Criterion E (i), may take diverse forms such as a list of directors, a list of personnel and statistical information on the quantity and categories of the members; a complete membership roster usually need not be submitted.*

*Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.a'.*

### **8.b. Recognized legal personality**

*If the organization has a charter, articles of incorporation, by-laws or similar establishing documents, a copy should be attached. If, under the applicable domestic law, the organization has a legal personality recognized through some means other than an establishing document (for instance, through a published notice in an official gazette or journal), please provide documentation showing how that legal personality was established.*

*Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.b'.*

### **8.c. Duration of existence and activities**

*If it is not already clearly indicated in the documentation provided under section 8.b, please submit documentation proving that the organization has existed for at least four years at the time it requests accreditation. Please provide documentation showing that it has carried out appropriate safeguarding activities during that time, including those described above in section 6.c. Supplementary materials such as books, CDs, DVDs or similar publications cannot be taken into consideration and should not be submitted.*

*Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.c'.*

## 9. Signature

*The application must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization requesting accreditation. Requests without a signature cannot be considered.*

Name: Maria Blombärg

Title: Chairman of the Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO

Date: 2019-01-28

Signature:



**Bevis  
om tilldelat organisationsnummer**

Datum

2018-02-07

Reçu CLT / CIH / ITH

Beställarens namn och adress

ÅLAKUSTENS KULTURARVSFÖRENING

c/o CARL-ERIK ERIKSSON

ÅHULTSVÄGEN 21

297 91 VITTSKÖLE

N°

29 JAN. 2019

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Organisationsnummer <b>802471-1247</b>	
Juridisk form <b>61 IDEELLA FÖRENINGAR</b>	
Namn <b>ÅLAKUSTENS KULTURARVSFÖRENING</b>	
Adress <b>c/o MARIA BLOMBÄRG YNGSJÖVÄGEN 1299 296 92 YNGSJÖ</b>	
Registreringstidpunkt <b>2013-03-18</b>	
Län <b>SKÅNE</b>	
Kommun <b>KRISTIANSTAD</b>	
Expeditionsavgift <b>180 kronor</b>	Uppgifter enligt detta bevis har registrerats i Skatteverkets organisationsnummerregister.  (Handläggare) <b>Anne-Mari Kallatsa</b>

**The Swedish Tax Agency**

593 85 Västervik  
+46 (0)771-567567

**Records**

Date  
2013-03-18

Registration number  
802471-1247

FÖRENINGEN FÖR ÅLAKUSTENS  
ÅLAFISKE SOM VÄRLDSARV  
c/o MARIA BLOMBÄRG  
YNGSJÖVÄGEN 1299  
296 92 YNGSJÖ

**You are registered at the Swedish Tax Agency according to the following**

Legal form  
61 - NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION

## **LEGAL STATUTES OF THE EEL COAST CULTURAL HERITAGE NGO**

Adopted by the general assembly when the association was founded in 2013-03-29.  
Revised by the Association's Annual Meeting 2015-04-19.

### **§1. Legal name of the association**

The legal name of the association is **Ålakustens Kulturarvsförening (The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage NGO)**.

### **§2. The purpose of the association**

The association is a non-profit, non-governmental association.

Along the coast between Åhus-Stenshuvud (in eastern Scania, Sweden), the so called Eel Coast (Ålakusten), people have been fishing for eel since ancient times. The purpose of the association is to disseminate the traditions and history of the eel fishing and to preserve the traditional eel fishery. The association will also work for the official listing of the cultural heritage of the eel coast's traditional eel fishing on UNESCO's international list of intangible cultural heritage and on the Swedish list of intangible cultural heritage.

### **§3. The seat of the association**

The association is based in the municipality of Kristianstad, Scania County, Sweden.

### **§4. Membership**

A registered membership of the association may be granted to those who wish to work for the purposes of the Association and in accordance with its statutes. The Board decides on the admission of a member. The Board is responsible for keeping a list of members.

A physical or legal person who wishes to promote the Association's activities may be adopted by the Board as a support member. Support members do not have voting rights at the annual general meeting.

### **§5 Membership fees**

Member and support member shall pay the membership fee to the association determined annually by the association's annual general meeting.

### **§6 Association's Board of Directors**

The Board consists of at least 4 but no more than 6 regular members and 2 deputies. The Board appoints a vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer and other officials who the Board considers necessary. In the case of absence of a regular member, a deputy takes his/her place. If a member of the Board resigns before the end of the term of office, a deputy will be present in his place for the time up to the next annual meeting.

### **§7 Tasks of the Board of Directors**

The Board represents the association, monitors its interests and manages its affairs. The Board decides on behalf of the Association, unless otherwise is stated in these Statutes. The

Board of Directors shall effect the decisions taken by the annual general meeting, maintain the financial affairs of the association and keep accounts, as well as submit the annual report to the Annual General Meeting for the last financial year.

The Board meets when the chairman finds it necessary or if at least two Board members request this.

The Board is decisive if at least half of its members are present. Board decisions are taken by simple majority. In case of equal votes, the opinion of the chairperson applies.

#### **§8. The Association's signatories**

The association's signatories are the association's chairman and treasurer individually.

#### **§9. Association accounts**

The Association's financial year shall be calendar year.

#### **§10. Accountants**

The Board of Directors shall be audited annually by an auditor appointed by the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting also appoints an auditor's deputy. The auditor shall submit his audit report by the latest at the Annual General Meeting.

#### **§11. Annual General Meeting**

The Ordinary Annual General Meeting, which is the Association's highest decision-making organ, is held annually before the end of April at a time determined by the Board. Summons to the meeting shall be sent by e-mail or other appropriate means to all members no later than a fortnight before the Annual General Meeting and no later than 7 days before the Extraordinary Annual Meeting.

At the Annual General Meeting, the following matters shall be dealt with:

1. Election of chairman and secretary of the meeting.
2. Determination of the voting length of the meeting.
3. Election of protocol adjusters and vote counters.
4. Question if the meeting has been announced correctly.
5. Determination of the meeting's agenda.
6. a) Board of Directors' report for the last fiscal year.  
b) Board of Directors' report (balance sheet and income statement) for the last fiscal year
7. Audit report for the financial year.
8. Determination of whether granting of discharge to the Board for the time the audit concerns is due.
9. Determination of membership fees.
10. Election of a chairman of the association for a period of 1 year.
11. Election of other Board members and deputies for a period of 1 year.
12. Election of auditor as well as alternate for this.
13. Election of election committee and convener in this.
14. Consideration of the Board's proposals and resolutions.
15. Other questions.



## **§12. Extra Annual Meeting**

Extra Annual Meeting is held when the Board or auditors find it necessary or when at least 1/10 of the members of the association require this by a written request to the Board. The request must state the question(s) that the members want the meeting to handle. At an Extra Annual Meeting, only the matters mentioned in the summons may be dealt with.

## **§13. Voting rights**

At the Annual Meeting each member has one vote. Voting rights may be exercised by a proxy with written authorisation.

## **§14. Decisions, voting procedures and decisiveness at the Annual Meeting**

Decisions are made by acclamation or, if requested, by voting.

Voting will be open, except for elections where written voting will take place if someone requests this. Decisions are made, unless otherwise stipulated in these statutes, by simple majority. In the case of equal votes, the sentence which the chairman assists applies. However, in case of elections, the decision is made by lottery.

The meeting is decisive by the number of members with voting rights present at the meeting.

Member with voting rights is the one who has been registered as a member by decision of the Board prior to the meeting.

## **§15. Rules for amendment of the statutes**

Changes to these statutes require the decision from an Annual Meeting with at least 2/3 of the number of votes in order to be passed. Proposals for amendments to the statutes of the association may be submitted by both members and the Board.

## **§16. Exit from membership**

A member who wishes to withdraw from the association must report this to the Board in writing and is hence after deemed to have left the association immediately.

## **§17. Exclusion of member**

A member may not be excluded from the association for any reason other than neglecting to pay membership fees, opposing the association's activities or purpose, or obviously harming the interests of the association. Decisions on exclusion are taken by the Board.

## **§18. Resolution of the association**

Resolution of the association requires the decision of an Annual Meeting by at least 2/3 of the number of votes in order to take place. If the association is dissolved, the association's assets will be handed over to The Eel Academy to be used for projects to improve the eel's survival possibilities.

# The eel coast cultural heritage association

Organisation number: 802 471-1247

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2013

### The purpose of the association:

The association is a non-profit association with the purpose of promoting **that** the eel coast eel fishing is listed on the UNESCO list of intangible world heritage sites. **that** the old eel fisherman's cottage "Rompeboden" is established as a cultural reserve on the eel coast.

Members 2013-12-31: 23 paying members.

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Lars Wergeni, Calle Ericsson, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson.

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 2

Board meetings: 9

Informal meetings: 14

### January

Planning of the annual meeting and the formation of the association.

Background matrix for upcoming information folders.

Final discussions with Leader Skåne for a preliminary study.

Contacts with the Institute for Languages and Folklore regarding the concept of "Intangible Cultural Heritages".

Information from the Regional Museum in Kristianstad about the desire to make the Old Rompeboden a culture reserve.

### February

Annual meeting, association formation and constitution.

Decision on:

- \* Application for money for a preliminary study at Leader Skåne.
- \* Creating our own web page, [www.alarv.se](http://www.alarv.se)
- \* Editing information folder
- \* Need for sponsors.

### March

Final work with folder design together with Per Erik Tell.

### April

Organisation number from the Swedish Tax Agency.

Web page ready.

Folder layout ready.

### May

Strategy meeting - future goals and tasks.

The folder printed and ready, about 55,000 SEK, which is largely paid for by Leader Skåne.

## **June**

Bank meeting with the "Development Foundation" from Sparbanken 1826 - application for financial contribution to information film.

Press release for our information folder for all media in Skåne and other major media.

Pre-information that we are welcome to the next meeting on Intangible Cultural Heritages at the National Heritage Board.

Distribution of the information folder to all political organizations and other essential organisations and authorities.

Pre-contact with filmmaker Ulf Jonasson about production of information film about the eel culture.

Final report of the preliminary study to Leader Skåne.

## **July**

Continued distribution of the information folder.

Sten Duvhök undertakes to make an updated list of legal estates concerning the eel fishing between Åhus and Stenshuvud.

## **August**

Offer from filmmaker Ulf Jonasson.

Recording of the information film.

Eel fishing festival at the "Tvillingaboden".

## **September**

Kristianstad Agricultural Society is sponsoring us with 15,000 SEK.

TV4 records part of an entertainment program about sights in Skåne with among other things the eel fishing along the eel coast, including a genuine eel fishing festival at the Tvillingaboden.

Sven-Erik Magnusson at Kristianstad's Biosphere Reserve - Vattenriket retires and is thanked.

## **October**

Lyktan sponsors us with SEK 5,000.

Invitation from the National Heritage Board to participate in the "Node Meeting" on November 8.

In August, the association sent a PM to the Swedish Sea and Water Authority with a claim on regulatory changes to enable generational change, and that other license holders should be able to take care of the catch in case of illness or other impediment to those who have eel fishing permits.

The letter was successful in that the Sea and Water Authority on October 15 gave a dispensing possibility so that other license holders also can take care of the catch.

## **November**

The "Development Foundation" Sparbanken 1826 gives us a grant of SEK 75,000.

Participation in the "Nod-meeting" at The National Heritage Board in Stockholm.

Sten Duvhök presents a compilation of the list of legal estates between Åhus and Stenshuvud.

## **December**

Continued contacts and information from the National Heritage Board.

We examine the possibilities of accreditation as an NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation at UNESCO, which according to the regulations can be made only in 2016.  
Planning of a meeting with the Regional Museum in Kristianstad regarding the formation of a cultural reserve.

## **The eel coast cultural heritage association**

Organisation number : 802 471-1247

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

Members 2014-12-31: 23 paying members

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Lars Wergeni, Calle Ericsson, Sten Duvhök, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 2

Board meetings: 9

Informal meetings: 15

#### **January**

Information meeting at the Regional Museum in Kristianstad about our activities.

#### **February**

Lecture by MB-PM at NOVA Part Members

Planning of the annual meeting in March

#### **March**

Lecture by MB-LW at Round Table

Swedish speaker text for the film "Eel coast"

Annual meeting

#### **April**

English speaker text for the film "Eel coast"

Web page layout is designed

#### **May**

The film "Eel coast" is ready

Meeting with the county antiquarian and the Regional Museum at Rompeboden

The list of legal estates concerning the eel is complete

#### **June**

Lecture by PM at Lions in Åhus

Letter of work to do to the Institute for Languages and Folklore

#### **July**

Activities on the "Tvillingaboden" during the O-ring

#### **August**

Representation of the association on Ocean Day

## **September**

The web page begins to take shape

## **October**

Participation in an eel lecture at Åhus Lecturer Association

Participation in the Leader workshop in Degeberga

The web page is ready, only lacking the image bank

## **November - December**

Per Malmer gave a lecture at the Rotary club "Snapphanen" in Hässleholm.

A number of planning meetings with the county administrative board, the regional museum and the contractor on the Rompeboden.

# **The eel coast cultural heritage association**

Organisation number: 802 471-1247

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

The prerequisite for a Swedish intangible cultural heritage is that it should be active and that eel fishing may be conducted. If the eel fishing is prohibited, it is no longer an intangible heritage. Then it is a museal heritage.

Members 2015-12-31: 109 paying members

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Lars Wergeni, Calle Ericsson, Sten Duvhök, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 1

Board meetings: 10

Informal meetings: 12 (Work meetings 8, lectures 4)

Members of Ålakademin, Ålfonden, Ålarvgruppen, Kristianstad läns Ålfiskareförening, have met more than 25 parliamentary politicians and about 20 local politicians during the year.

## **JANUARY**

Claes Bergkvist and Hånsa inform about eel fishing at a meeting with the Swedish Sea and Water Authority

## **FEBRUARY**

\* Local MPs from the Alliance met us in late February at "Tvillingaboden". Clearly positive.

\* Care plan for Old Rompeboden is presented to the County Administrative Board.

\* Final list text for the intangible cultural heritage is sent to the Institute of Languages and Folklore.

## **MARCH**

\* The Board decides to buy the "Eel folder file" for its own future free use.

## **APRIL**

\* Gothenburg Swedish Sea and Water Authority (SSWA) - Seminar, Hånsa participates.

- \* In Stockholm, Niklas Sjöberg received doctoral degrees. SLU and SSWA were well represented. Maria and Hånsa participated.
- \* Meeting at "Tvillingaboden" with director of cultural environment Riddarsporre, county antiquarian Romberg, Fishing Director Wagnström, Fredrik Stålberg and Olof Martinsson from the County Administrative Board.
- \* Annual meeting on April 19th.
- \* Maria participates on a conference with Länsbygderådet in Blekinge "All of Sweden will live".
- \* We get information about the planned cycle route Sydostleden that gets a partial distance between Strandridaregården and the New Stockholmsboden in the Friseboda area.
- \* We have a political meeting at the City Hall that results in a conference in November at the City Hall in Kristianstad.

## **MAY**

- \* The association participates at Maglehemsdagen with a table manned by Hånsa and Duvhök.
- \* We met the Social Democrat's MPs from the Environment and Agriculture Committee.
- \* We met the Social Democrat's parliamentarians in Blekinge, Suzanne Svensson, Peter Jeppson. Positive meeting.
- \* Ronneby conference "Coastal fishing" Environment and the Agriculture Committee well represented.
- \* Letter to SSWA.

## **JUNE**

- \* Per M and CE go to "Node meeting" at the National Heritage Board in Stockholm. Department for languages and folklore gives us a preliminary message that we are admitted to the list of intangible cultural heritage in Sweden.
- \* June 4, 349 letters to MPs and departments.
- \* The Social Democrat's parliamentarians Monica Haider Älmhult, Marianne Pettersson Trelleborg and Annelie Karlsson Kristianstad came to "Tvillingaboden" June 22. They were very interested and took a lot of notes, and promised to work for Minister SE Bucht to come down. (This has not yet happened)

## **JULY**

- \* Södra Gälds Hembygdsförening receives a grant of SEK 50,000 from Lions Club Åhus for the restoration of the Old Rompeboden.

## **AUGUST**

- \* Eel festival August 1 - about 550 visitors.
- \* Rompebodsdagen August 8 - at least 125 people.
- \* Cooperation meeting with Ålakademin, Ålfonden, Ålfiskareföreningen and our association.
- \* German-French TV channel ARTE gave us a hard week at Tvillingaboden, but the work will probably benefit our cause. The program can be viewed on YouTube.

## **SEPTEMBER**

- \* After successful discussions within the board about what we mean, in order to reach our goals, we shall work according to the following strategies:
  - Documenting the eel culture and describe the threats to the eel coast culture
  - Incorporating other actors and influence decision makers

**- Recruiting more members, informing about intangible culture, visiting schools, informing municipalities and the region about our cultural work**

\* The Swedish Democrats' party with members of the Parliament, Anders Forsberg and Aron Emilsson from the Environment and Agriculture Committee came on September 4. First sightseeing at Tvillingaboden, Frisebodaboden, Holmaboden, and a meeting at Rompeboden . Clearly positive.

\* Per M gets a good article published in SvD.

**OCTOBER**

\* Left Wing Party leader Jonas Sjöstedt gave a 20-minute audience before holding a speech in Sölvesborg in October. He had read our letter. We presented our background and opinions. Jonas concluded that we must understand that they do not change politics as easy as that. An opponent like that perhaps still understands that our opinions rest on a scientific basis!

\* October 5: 40 letters by mail to the Environment and Agriculture Committee.

\* The endeavours to preserve the Old Rompeboden are secured and a care plan is established by the County Administrative Board. The maintenance and repair work have begun thanks to generous contributions from Lions Club in Åhus. Rompeboden is expected to be open to the public from June 2016.

**\* On October 6, the Institute of Languages and Folklore announced that The eel coast cultural heritage association is on the list of Swedish intangible cultural heritages!!**

On October 15, an official website, [www.levandetraditioner.se](http://www.levandetraditioner.se) opened with suggestions for intangible culture.

**NOVEMBER**

\* On November 4 a three-headed delegation travelled to the Parliament to meet Deputy Chairman Christina Yngve (c) and the other Alliance politicians in the Environment and Agriculture Committee. Positive.

\* November 6, our conference at the City Hall, Kristianstad, 66 participants. We informed about the tourist industry / cultural heritage that has a turnover of about 67 million in 3½ months in the municipality.

\* During the autumn, a part stretch (Slussen - Nya Stockholmsboden) on "Sydostleden" completed, planned inauguration in June 2016.

**DECEMBER**

\* Sea and Water Authority does not propose any further in its December report about fishing restrictions. No relief in the regulations either. SSWA is trying to justify continued embargo on generational change amongst eel fishermen, despite the fact that the fishing of 2% of the eel in the Baltic Sea, according to SSWA does not constitute any threat to the eel's long-term recovery. The one-year permits continue. No decision was made on December 1 when the report was submitted.

\* The Eel Coast Cultural Heritage Association has initiated a couple of new projects during the late autumn:

- An **"Eel cookery book"** must be produced

- A documentation of **"The eel coast's fishing boats, in use and at rest"**

\* Several newspaper articles about the eel, eel festivals, cultural heritage have been published during the year.



# The eel coast cultural heritage association

Organisation number: 802 471-1247

## ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Members 2016-12-31: 87 paying members

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Lars Wergeni, Calle Ericsson, Sten Duvhök, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson

Adj. Dafvid Hermansson, Lecturer, Chief of The Museum of Kivik.

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 1

Board meetings: 6

Informal meetings: Numerous

Government contacts: Numerous

### January-February

\* **“Boat and eel fishing cottages project”**: ongoing. Calle has walked from Sissebäck to Stenshuvud. He has documented eel fishing boats and fishing cottages both in writing and in pictures.

\* **Sydstleden**: Maria - the “Southeast Trail” starts in Simrishamn and ends in Växjö. The inauguration in June.

\* **Continued work with The Old Rompeboden**: Bengt has, together with Ingvar Bovide, restored the original look of the Old Rompeboden. A conservation plan overview has been made by the county antiquarian.

### March-April

\* **April 7 “Water seminar”** – Ålakademin.

\* **Continuing strategy discussion**:

The Board constantly discusses the strategy from new angles and practical applications.

- International niche tourism

\* **The eel coast needs a visitor centre**:

One of the arguments is a centre for everything related to the eel culture.

\* **The eel cookery book is structured**: Maria, Sten, Calle.

The idea is that the book should have at least as many spreads as there are eel fisherman cottages. Members who are interested and have good eel recipes are very welcome to present these to the eel cookery book group.

**Annual General Meeting 2016-04-19**

Carried out according to customary practice in Maria’s studio.

Re-election of all members and name adjustment to The Eel coast cultural heritage association.

### May

\* **QR code loop along the coast is planned**: Lars and Sten. Today we have the beginning of a QR code loop. Via the app you can read everything on the web page.

\* **Interview with the eel fisherman Hans Nilsson**: Per Malmer

It has been published in the magazine “We’ll meet in Åhus” but is also available on our website.

\* **Meeting with World Maritime University**: Sten represented us there.



\* **May 2 Maglehemsdagen:** Hånsa and Sten made a successful presentation, which resulted in a visit by Olseröd cultural association in Tvillingaboden, where Hånsa gave lectures on the eel fishing and Maria about the Eel coast cultural heritage association.

\* **No participation of Calle in TV4 food program "Welcome to my place"**

Because Calle maintained the desire to serve an eel menu, and TV4 had its policy reasons!

\* **Collaboration with Kivik's Museum:**

Dafvid Hermansson, lecturer and chief of Kivik's Museum, participated in the board meeting and we decided to expand the association by incorporating the Stenshuvud - Holmaboden section. Dafvid is elected to the board and the Kivik's Museum becomes the southern outpost with information about the eel coast.

\* **June 27 Ålabodsvandring :** Mats

As usual a large participation.

## July-August

\* **August 5 Open house at Ryhl's shipyard:** The association was invited to hold a lecture.

\* **August 6 Eel festival with Eel king election:** Our secretary, Calle Ericsson, was nominated by Ålakedemin for 2016. The crowning took place at Frisebodaboden with academy chairman Mats Svensson as Master of ceremonies.

\* **July 7 Open house at St Annas Gille:** Hånsa sang and lectured about the eel.

\* **August 14 The Rompeboda Day:** The Old Rompeboden was presented to the public.

\* **Eel museums TRILLINGABODEN and THE OLD ROMPEBODEN were nominated to the working life museums of 2017!**

\* **August 17 Menu gustative of eel at Tvillingaboden:** The eel cookery book needed a tasting of various eel dishes. The board was invited along with a French journalist and Dafvid from Kivik's museum. Maria produced 16 different recipes and dishes.

\* **August 24 Information to Simrishamn City Council**

Maria and Calle were the ones who had the opportunity to carry out the information. To our surprise, the meeting hall was filled. We showed our film and presented our work.

\* **School information draft:** Lars and Kerstin

We have for a long time discussed the need of information to schoolchildren. The draft was presented by Lars and Kerstin.

## September

\* **A cooperation with Haväng's Museum association:** Per keeps in touch and is important that we really connect the eel coast.

\* **Association ambassadors:** The task is to increase the interest in supporting the association's work.

\* **Planned interviews with eel fishermen:**

Kalle Danielsson - Mats, TENGHAGEN - Sten, Bo Hellström - Calle, Rolf Färm - Per

## October

\* **SCSC (Swedish Coast and Sea Centre) conference Nov 17-18:** Sten

\* **CBM-SLU workshop - coastal cultures in Uppsala 23-24 Nov:** Calle

Paid by SLU.

\* **The Association provides grants to SCSC, SEK 10,000**

The Board decided to support SCSC, which is working to identify why the fish in the Hanö Bay disappears.

\* **Appeal Ocean Wind Power Plant:** In 2011, the Environmental Court in Växjö granted Taggen Vindpark AB permission to build a wind power plant in the sea on the coastal line of

Åhus- Maglehem. The permit was appealed to the Environmental Court of Appeal by, among others, three eel fishermen. The eel fishermen were granted right to appeal, which means that the Environmental Court will examine their case.

## **The eel coast cultural heritage association**

Organisation number: 802 471-1247

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

Members 2017-12-31: 98 paying members

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Eva Hylander, Calle Ericsson, Sten Duvhök, Dafvid Hermansson, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 1

Board meetings: 8

Informal meetings: Numerous

Government contacts: Even more

#### **January**

The application as "Non-Governmental Organisation" to UNESCO was discussed and determined.

Ambassador inspiration meeting 2017-01-30.

#### **March-April**

Follow-up of the ambassador meeting could be an eel menu gustative in August.

Maria will give a lecture at Ålfonden and Hånsa will be presenting at Furuboda.

The association reports its interest in participating in the Maglehem Day.

Kivik's Museum starts its eel fishing and eel culture exhibition.

#### **Annual General Meeting 2017-04-09**

Carried out according to customary practice in Maria's studio.

#### **May-July**

The planned riding trail on the shore of the coastline is postponed.

The Old Rompeboden received funding from The Sparbanken Foundation. In addition, the eel fisherman cottage will be supplied with electricity.

Per continues his interviews with Hans Nilsson. Maria and Sten helps out.

Final photography of cottages and boats down to Stenshuvud is carried out by Calle.

The county board visit on Tvillingaboden on May 31 with about 60 persons attending became a successful information day.

No visit from the Minister of Culture. She suffers from time-consuming problems during August.

The work on the Old Rompeboden continues with unabated strength.

Maria announces that there will be an eel menu gustative on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Aug 29 - Oct 11**

**EU Commission's proposal for a ban on eel fishing in the Baltic Sea from January 1, 2018.**

**Aug 29**

<http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=83&artikel=6765724>

**Aug 30** SED Link to Blekinge County newspaper

**Aug 30** PM writes letter to the European Commission and the Council of Ministers on the theme "A violation of human rights".

**Aug 30** MB writes to Willem Dekker at SLU

**Sept 5** PM contacts The Department of Trade and Industry for quick meeting with Minister SE Bucht or department secretary.

**Sept 5** PM Signed letter sent

**September 6** PM Press release is published

**Sept 6** SED have forwarded the link above to Håkan Wikström at The Swedish Sea and Water Authority.

**Sept 6** Maria M-S announces having published an article in Sörmlands Nyheter

**Sept 6** Blekinge county Journal

<http://www.bl.se/debatt/ett-drapslag-foresla-forbud-mot-alfiske/>

**Sept 6** SED letters to Kristianstad

<http://www.fishsec.org/2017/08/29/commission-proposes-baltic-tacscontroversial-rollover-for-western-baltic-code/>

Peter Johansson responds Sept. 12.

**Sept 6** PM collects links: Maria M-S poses an MP question to Bucht

[https://www.riksdagen.se/sv/dokument-lagar/dokument/skriftlig-fraga/forbud-mot-alfiske-i-ostersjon\\_H4111873](https://www.riksdagen.se/sv/dokument-lagar/dokument/skriftlig-fraga/forbud-mot-alfiske-i-ostersjon_H4111873)

**Sept. 8** Answer from the Department of Trade and Industry that a delegation is welcome for a ½-hour meeting with ministry secretary and officials.

**Sept 9** PM publishes articles in Expressen / KvP, defending the eel fishing.

**September 10** PM is provided with extensive list of legal estates for the meeting at the ministry.

**Sept 11** PM reporting the delegation to the department: PM, H, DH, Håkan Arrskog and Daniel Hörvin.

**Sept 13** The delegation travels to Stockholm for the day and is very well received at the Department of Trade and Industry. Half an hour with the Secretary of State and officials, and another half an hour with the officials, who were very interested and wanted as many arguments as possible.

**Sept. 14** A message from the National Heritage Board on the possibility of grant application, that must be submitted no later than September 25. DH announces that he writes the application.

**Sept. 14** PM sends a letter to the Government and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

**Sept. 14** Bucht answers Maria M-S.

**Sept. 14** SED / PM Peter Johansson at Kristianstad municipality board raises Sten's letter on municipality board Sept 19.

**Sept 17** MB shows Dekker pictures of water turbine damaged eel.

**Sept 19** PM forwards Kent Olsson's article to the Cabinet Office

<http://www.kristianstadsbladet.se/debatt/internationella-vilda-vastern-fisket-pa-al-are-the-big-threat/>

**Sept 24** PM and H responds to the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation on the magazine's debate page.

**Sept 24** MB and DH "About the importance of culture, human rights and UN declarations."

**Sept. 25** PM Replica to SNF and the Agriculture Committee.

**Sept 27** PM and H Article

<http://www.kristianstadsbladet.se/debatt/stoppa-inte-det-svenska-ostersjofisket-pa-al/>

**Sept. 28** H writes letters to the Environment and Agriculture Committee and others

**Sept 28** Kristianstad municipal sends letter to Rural Minister Bucht, the same letter was sent to Simrishamn municipality. Karl-Erik Olsson replies that the municipality discusses the question.

**Sept. 28** SED reminds Sölvesborg municipality to answer.

**Oct 3** H summarises what happened to his fishermen colleagues.

**Oct 4** The Danish government says no to the EU proposal

[http://www.eu.dk/samling/20161/kommissionsforslag/KOM\(2017\)0461/bilag/1/1792890.pdf](http://www.eu.dk/samling/20161/kommissionsforslag/KOM(2017)0461/bilag/1/1792890.pdf)

**Oct 5** SED Link to Natursidan.se

<http://www.natursidan.se/nyheter/eu-narmar-sig-beslut-om-alfiske-ska-forbjudas/>

**Oct 5** The Swedish government says YES to the Commission's proposal on eel fishing ban in the Baltic Sea!!!!

**Oct 5** Kristianstad's, Sölvesborg's and Simrishamn's municipality politicians support us.

The Commission's proposal will nevertheless be declined by the Council of Ministers, when only Sweden voted for it.

**Oct 6** Debate entry in Blekinge County newspaper:

<http://www.bl.se/ledare/rikta-in-jakten-pa-de-riktiga-alskurkarna/>

**Oct 6** SVT News

<https://www.svt.se/nyheter/lokalt/skane/alfiskare-ett-forbud-skulle-vara-dodsstoten>

**Oct 6** Government decision: Sweden alone supports the Commission's proposal, therefore the EU Council of Ministers is expected to vote against the proposal.

**Oct 6** Info from the Government Offices

<http://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2017/10/i-oktober-forhandlas-nasta-ars-fish-quotas-oysters/>

**Oct 8** Environmentalist mocks in the magazine

<http://www.kristianstadsbladet.se/kristianstad/miljopartist-hanar-alfiskare/>

**Oct 10** Radio Kristianstad makes a party statement?

[\\_ http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=101&artikel=6795400](http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=101&artikel=6795400)

**Oct 10** SED Johnsson and Erlandsson writes about how we can save the eel

**Oct 11** SED

<https://www.slu.se/ew-nyheter/2017/10/gemensamma-krafttag-kravs-for-att-radda-all-writing-researcher-in-debate-article/>

## **September**

DH compiles an application for cultural grants to the National Heritage Board

SED acquires an "action camera" to be used in documenting the eel fishing.

## **October**

What to do about the EU misery: Monitoring and information spreading to all EU Commissioners about fishing. Watch the "Agenda 2030" document.

## **November**

Huge information conference at the cinema at Kivik, which Dafvid organized through Marine Centre.

D H compiles and completes the NGO application.

## **December**

The eel coast cultural heritage association now has its own official email address:

[info@alarvet.se](mailto:info@alarvet.se)

official outgoing mail goes through the secretary.

# The eel coast cultural heritage association

Organisation number: 802 471-1247

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Members 2018-12-31: 319 paying members.

Board: Maria Blombärg, Per Malmer, Eva Hylander, Calle Ericsson, Sten Duvhök, Dafvid Hermansson, Bengt Jönsson, Mats Svensson

Auditors: Lennart Johansson, Richard Lehman

Annual Meeting / Member Meetings: 1

Board meetings: 8

Informal meetings: Numerous

Government contacts: Even more

### January

**“Save the Hanö Bay Information meeting”** January 27th

A coherent, very positive opinion was that Dafvid managed to engage a large number of interesting lecturers with a phenomenal time-keeping.

### NGO application / DH

Dafvid's draft to the NGO application was discussed. Review at the next board meeting.

Håsa reported on the political tours in recent months, ministerial meeting, variations in eel fishery statistics for the Baltic Sea, depending on where the information comes from.

**EU and the eel fishing ban**, discussion: What will the Swedish Sea and Water Authority decide? How will the Danes respond? Preserve the coastal fishing? Prohibition months Nov-Dec-Jan? Continuing work for a generational change! If the Swedish Sea and Water Authority decision is wrong, we shall start a legal process.

**The appeal on the Tag project:** PM informed about the legal process. The coastal population must be informed. PM and DH undertook to investigate this and the possibility of a collection of names.

### March 2018

#### **Granted application, Swedish National Heritage Board**

DH reported on the granted application for literature production, 50 000 SEK to the association and the work with documenting the cultural heritage.

### June

#### **Visualisation of the Tag**

Submissions to Kristianstadsbladet are sent, no responses yet. Promise of publication in “We'll meet in Åhus”-magazine.

The eel coast cultural heritage association participated in the EU Commission's Evaluation of the Eel Regulation and wrote a letter with comments to the EU Commission.

In June 2018, at the Land and Environmental Court at Växjö District Court, a case regarding the current permit of a wind power plant was issued. Such a construction would, among other things, cause damage to the eel's marine environment due to digging and drilling in the seabed with the consequent release of environmental toxins and sediment spread, and as a result of this, the migration of the eel to the Sargasso Sea would be adversely affected as well as the fact that high voltage lines have to be buried in the seabed.

## **2018 Summer activities**

- June 25 eel fisherman cottage hike, start at Haväng
- July 1 hiking with Dafvid
- Aug 4 eel festival
- Aug. 12 Rompeboda Day
- Aug 24 at 7 pm Maria invites to eel menu gustative

## **July 15**

The association attended a meeting in Åhus organised by The Hanö Bay Cooperation Network.

## **September 4**

Newspaper article about the eel coast cultural heritage association in "We'll meet in Åhus". The owner of the Anders Andersson fisherman's cottage has donated eel fishing tools and nets to the Old Rompeboden, to be shown at the cottage during the summer months.

## **September 17**

A lecture at Tvillingaboden about the eel coast cultural heritage association to a group of police officers from Malmö.

## **The Tag-misery**

Discussed vigorously in recent month's activities in press and letters. In conclusion, the focus should now be on:

- The installation of the land cable
- Increased risk of beach erosion
- Changed power supply
- Possibility of judicial review, PM examines.

**Invitation to meeting:** The Hanö Bay Cooperation Network Sept 23 in Simrishamn.

## **Oct 2018**

**Coastal Council.** Report from meeting 2018-09-23 with 30 stakeholders and organisations along the coast.

**Baltic Sea,** conference in Simrishamn Nov 15-16. Sten Duvhök and Hånsa report and participate.

Lecture about the eel coast cultural heritage association at monthly meeting at Lions Club, Åhus.

## **November 28**

The association participated in news programs in the radio, answering the demands from environmental organisations on a total eel fishing stop.