

Sea lice monitoring report for Inverianvie estuary (Gruinard Bay), 1st July 2025

Peter Cunningham (WRFT Biologist) 2nd July 2025

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Sea trout and other fish data

Location:	Inverianvie estuary																				
Date:	01-Jul-25	Time:		first sweep at 1.30pm ish																	
*Counts:	Nic Butler and Peter Cunningham																				
Team:	6 helpers																				
Weather:	bright and sunny; light south westerly wind																				
Other notes:	3 sweeps of shore to mid tide at just before 3pm. Trout caught on 3rd sweep																				
	Inverianvie river running medium high																				
	No sandeels seen from net nor seabirds within 1 mile of estuary; flock of gulls with gannets about 3km away																				
	Peter C unable to lead;																				
										Caligus	Lepeophtheirus salmonis										
No.	Location	Date	Method	Riv/Est/B each	Fish	length (mm)	weight (g)	condition factor	total	Copepodid & Chalmus (estimate)	Pre-adult & adult	Ov. female	Total L. salmonis sea lice	*estimated lice/g fish weight	Dorsal fin damage	Cryptocotyle lingua spots per cm2 of caudal fin	Predator damage	Photo	scale sample?	Comments	
1	Inverianvie	01-Jul-25	Sweep Net	est	Sea trout	395	600	0.97	0	2	7	1	10	0.017	2	0	Y	Y	y	bird beak; many lice scars	
					Averages	395.00	600.00	0.97	0.00	2.00	7.00	1.00	10.00	0.02	2.00	0.00					
											total lice		10								
											number of fish		1								
											number infested		1								
											prevalence		100%								
											total lice		10								
											abundance		10.00								
											intensity		10.00								
											fish with >0.3 lice / g		0								
											fish with >0.3 lice / g		0%								
No.	Location	Date	Method	Riv/Est/B each	Fish	length (mm)															
2	Inverianvie	01-Jul-25	Sweep Net	est	Flatfish sp	100															
3	Inverianvie	01-Jul-25	Sweep Net	est	Flatfish sp	105															
4	Inverianvie	01-Jul-25	Sweep Net	est	Flatfish sp	130															
5	Inverianvie	01-Jul-25	Sweep Net	est	Flatfish sp	115															

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Summary of sea lice infestation score

Sea trout no	≥13 lice/fish?	Lice/g fish weight	Range	Mortality category	Number of fish in category	Total number of fish in sample	% of sample in category	projected mortality for category %	projected mortality of fish in sample %
1	No	0.017	>0.3	100%	0	1	0.00	0.00	
			0.2-0.3	50%	0		0.00	0.00	
			0.1-0.2	20%	0		0.00	0.00	
			<0.1	0%	1		100.00	0.00	0.00

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/266672998> Risk assessment of the environmental impact of Norwegian Atlantic salmon farming

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Netting team photo Inverianvie (Gruinard Bay) 1st July 2025



Acknowledgements

Monitoring to inform the Ardmair salmon farm Environment Management Plan supported by MOWI

For permissions to sweep net for sea trout, thank to Eilean Darach Estate. Thank you to all helpers.

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Photos: all ©WRFT unless otherwise indicated. All fish in photos were lightly sedated for inspection.

Sea trout 395mm, 600g. 10 lice. Scarring and damage to dorsal fin indicative of higher lice burden earlier in year.

