Sea lice monitoring report for Torridon 27th August 2025

Peter Cunningham (WRFT Biologist) 29th Aug 2025 <u>info@wrft.org.uk</u>

Fish data

Location:		Torridon ri	ver estuary	/																
Date:		27-Aug-25		Time:	from 13:00)	High tide													
*Counts:		Peter Cuni	ningham																	
Team:		6 assistant	s																	
Weather	:				6 cloud, wa	rm. Torrid	on river ru	nning low,	so not so	much freshwater in estuary										
River		low, warm						,				,								
Other no	tes:			after high	tide to low	estuary st	ake													
		trout caught on sweep 1 ar				, ,														
					not so good															
									Caligus	Le	epeophthei	rus salmon	nis							
No.	Location	Date	Method	Riv/Est/B each	Fish	length (mm)	weight (g)	condition factor	total	Copepodid & Chalimus (estimate)			Total L. salmonis sea lice	*estimated lice/g fish weight	Dorsal fin damage	Cryptocotyle ligua spots per cm2 of caudal fin	Predator damage	Photo	scale sample?	Comments
1	Torridon	27-Aug-25	Sweep Net	est	ST	182	55	0.91	0	3	0	0	3	0.055	0	0	N	Υ	Υ	1st sweep
2	Torridon	27-Aug-25	Sweep Net	est	ST	235	128	0.99	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	0	1	N	Υ	Υ	2nd sweep
					Averages	208.50	91.50	0.95	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.03	0.00	0.50				
											total lice		3							
											number o	f fish	2							
											number in	fested	1							
											prevalenc		50%							
											total lice		3							
											abundanc	e	1.50							
											intensity		3.00							
											fish with >0.3 lice / g									
												•0.3 lice / g								
												2.3/ 8	0,0							
No.	Location	Date	Method	Riv/Est/B each	Fish	length (mm)														
3	Torridon	27-Aug-25			Flounder	168		ļ												
4	Torridon	27-Aug-25		est	Flounder	60														
5	Torridon	27-Aug-25	Sweep Net	est	Vip Blenny	220]													

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Summary

Mortality / early returned estimates for sea trout in sample based on method from Taranger et al 2015, Risk assessment for the environmental impact of Norwegian salmon farming (PDF) Risk assessment of the environmental impact of Norwegian Atlantic salmon farming (researchgate.net)

lo.	≥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	0.055	>0.3	100%	0	2	0.00	0.00	
2	No	0.000	0.2-0.3	50%	0		0.00	0.00	
			0.1-0.2	20%	0		0.00	0.00	
			<0.1	0%	2		100.00	0.00	0.00
·									

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Notes:																								
based on	the assun	ption that s	mall salmor	nid post-sm	olts (<150g	body wei	ght) will su	ffer 100%	lice-relate	d marine n	nortality, c	or return pre	maturely t	o freshwate	for sea tro	out in the w	ild if the a	re infected	with >0.3	lice per g of	ish weight.			
Furtherm	ore, the li	ce related n	narine morta	ality is estm	nated to 50%	6, if the in	fection is I	oetween 0	.2 and 0.3 I	ice per g fi	sh weight,	, 20% if the i	nfection ra	ite is betwee	n 0.1 and 0	0.2 lice per	g fish weig	ht, and fina	lly 0% if th	ne salmon lid	e infection is	<0.1 g fish	weight.	
0.05 and 0	.1 lice pe	r g fish weig	ht, 20% for I	ice infectio	ns betweer	n 0.05 and	0.01 lice p	er g fish w	eight, and	finally 0% i	f the salm	on lice infe	ction is <0.0	01 lice g fish	weight.									
													colour cod	de										
Taranger,	G. L., Karl	sen, Ø., Bar	nister, R. J.,	Glover, K.	A., Husa,V.,	Karlsbakk	k, E., Kvam	me, B. O., I	Boxaspen,	K. K., Bjørr	, P. A., Fir	nstad, B.,		100% sea lic	e related r	nortality or	early retu	n to fresh	vater					
Madhun,	A. S., Moi	ton, H. C., a	nd Sva [°] sand	l, T. (2014) F	Risk assessn	ent of the	e environn	nental imp	act of Norv	vegian Atla	antic salm	on farming.		>50% to 99%	sea lice re	lated mort	ality or ear	ly return to	freshwat	er				
– ICES Jou	rnal of M	arine Scienc	e, doi: 10.10	093/icesjms	/fsu132.									>20% to 50%	sea lice re	lated mort	ality or ea	ly return to	freshwat	er				
		<20% sea lice related mortality or early return to freshwater																						
https://w	ww.resea	rchgate.net	/publication	1/26667299	B Risk asse	ssment o	of the env	ironmenta	l impact o	of Norweg	ian Atlan	tic salmon	farming											
1																								

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Thank you to NTS Torridon estate for access and Torridon River fisheries proprietors for permissions to net trout in the Torridon river estuary.

Sea trout sampling carried out to inform the Loch Torridon salmon farms Environment Management Plan for The Highland Council, supported by MOWI, Bakkafrost and WRASFB.

Pics by CH





