



# NTNU Bridgehead Frøya

## Contact

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NTNU Bridgehead Frøya was established as a regional development programme upon the initiative of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and the secondary school of Frøya. The main objectives are to strengthen the recruitment of high-qualified candidates to the aquaculture sector and to ensure an education and research that is consistent with the latest technologies and methodologies.

The coastal region of mid-Norway is a particularly productive area, representing a complete cluster of land- and sea-based salmon farms, harvesting and processing plants, technology providers, service suppliers and public authorities. Frøya secondary school is at the centre of this network, with strong links to the aquaculture industry in the coastal area. Hence, Bridgehead Frøya has allowed university students and researchers to establish a direct dialogue with aquaculture company representatives. The latter get access to the competence from highly educated students with expertise in a wide range of disciplines. At the same time, researchers and students get acquainted with the many facets of the industry and with the challenges the companies are facing. Pupils are encouraged to engage in higher marine related studies at the university, and

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teachers implement marine science projects into their classes.



Figure 1. Excursion to salmon farm (photo: Sett Sjøbein)

Since its establishment in 2012, Bridgehead Frøya has involved about 1000 persons in its activities. Marine students have visited secondary schools to interact with pupils on marine issues. Excursions to fish farms and aquaculture supplying companies have been combined with speed-date sessions between students and industry representatives. This has led to several student projects and master theses addressing issues forwarded by specific companies, and to summer jobs giving the students valuable practical experience. Twice a year, Bridgehead Frøya invites pupils, teachers, students, researchers, and industry professionals to the Bridgehead Conference, where research results are presented and future collaborative opportunities are discussed.

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