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Variation of dissolved oxygen (DO) in fish cages with shielding skirt for prevention of salmon lice (Lepeophtheirus Salmonis)

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- Introduction
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- Results
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Finnkjerka

Introduction

Shielding skirts are the most important among the preventive measures

Shielding skirts reduce lice infestation

- Skirts reduced lice infestation with an average of 18 % on cage level
- On site level, reduction was on average 54 %

...but the effect varies from site to site

- Cage level: 6-28 %
- Site level: 0-80 %

...Why?





Introduction

The main goal of the SKJERMTEK project is to investigate local conditions, as currents, waves, hydrography, dissolved oxygen (DO) and topography which can influence the shielding effect of the skirts, and maybe give an answer to why ...

The plan is to investigate the condition at 4 different locations for a period of 2 - 3 months.

As a consequence of using skirt as prevention against sea lice, prevents also water circulation and the supply of oxygen within the skirt.

- To get a clear picture of the oxygen distribution you need at least 11 DO sensors for each location.
- To be able to reduce the amount of DO sensors, an investigation has been undertaken to try to find a place within the skirts, which can characterize the worst case situation regards to oxygen and water quality,



Locations



Measurement setup at Korsnes



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Measurement setup at Finnkjerka



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Hydrography at Korsnes 19.02.2018







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Current measurements - Finnkjerka

DO at Korsnes - 19. to 20.02.2018



DO at Finnkjerka - 21. to 22.02.2018



DO at Saltkjelen, Hardanger – 20.11.2014, as a comparison



CFD analysis of a cage with 5 m deep skirt



The worst conditions with stagnant water is in the front of the cage up streams (pos. 1), at the rear of the cage down streams (pos. 5), and in a layer around the depth of the skirt in the middle (pos. 4).

DO at Korsnes 19. - 20.02.2018



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CFD analysis of a cage with 5 m deep skirt



The worst conditions with stagnant water is in the front of the cage up streams (pos. 1), at the rear of the cage down streams (pos. 5), and in a layer around the depth of the skirt in the middle (pos. 4).



Conclusions

- Lowest DO concentration is found in front of the cage up streams in 3 m depth together with 5 m depth in the middle.
- To characterize the worst water quality regards to DO, inside a shielding skirt, it is enough to measure the DO at the front and rear of the cage in 3 m depth or with one sensor in the middle at 5 m depth.