

The development of the wrasse fishery along the Skagerrak coast

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During the last decade, the Skagerrak coast of Norway and Sweden has seen the development of a new fishery for cleaner wrasses. In contrast to most fisheries, wild caught wrasses are transported and released into salmon net pens for the biological control of salmon lice infestation. Catch for wrasses has increased dramatically in recent years; however, our knowledge on their biology and ecology is still limited. A major concern relies on the fact that the environmental conditions along the Skagerrak coast differ significantly from those experienced in the northern coast of Norway, where salmon farms for translocated wrasses are located. Moreover, recent studies have revealed differences in phenotypic traits as well as genetic structuring in the two main cleaner wrasses caught in Norway. Here, I will provide a general overview of the development of the wrasse fishery in the Skagerrak coast of Norway. I will also present recent findings on corkwing wrasse *Symphodus melops*, one of the main species used by the salmon industry, and discuss these advances in relation to adaptation of translocated fish to climate change.

Keywords: fishery; cleaner fish; translocations; corkwing wrasse; *Symphodus melops*