

Statement SkaMik



This statement is regarding the suitability of SkaMik 1.5 on different sizes of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*).

The use of SkaMik 1.5 has been closely monitored and followed up by veterinarians since the method was made available for commercial use. I personally have experience from treatment of several tens of thousands of tonnes and over 30 million fish.

The method is widely applied on a large range of fish size. It has shown to be a successful treatment option on salmon weighing down to 740 grammes as long as it is performed with proper settings, careful handling and suitable temperature conditions.

A project was carried out in 2019 to document fish welfare, efficacy and behavior related to treatment with SkaMik 1.5. Four sites with fish weighing from 1,7-4,1 kg were followed closely during and after treatment. Site C weighed an average of 1,7 kg and site D weighed an average of 1,9 kg. The acute mortality (treatment day + following 2 days) was 0,06 % and 0,14 %, respectively. The mortality 14 days after treatment was 0,17 % and 0,58 %, respectively. The appetite was back to the same level as it had been prior to treatment, the day after treatment; 1,3 % and 0,97 % respectively.

Visual inspection of the pens and physical examination of 20 fish from each pen was performed by a veterinarian 14 days after treatment. The Fishwell standard (Noble et al., 2018) was applied to score the extent of external strain. The main finding was low to moderate loss of scale. No other significant abnormalities were observed.

In addition samples for pH, lactate, histology and biochemistry were taken to assess muscle exertion, muscle damage and acute injury. The results showed no appreciable difference between fish sampled after crowding and fish sampled after treatment with SkaMik. There were no findings of acute injury.

If any questions I can be contacted by e-mail or phone, details below.

Rørvik, 21.07.20

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