

RED SKIN DISEASE – A NOVEL SYNDROME AFFECTING MIGRATING WILD ATLANTIC SALMON IN NORTHERN EUROPE

Charlotte Axén

Acting state veterinarian, Swedish National Veterinary Institute

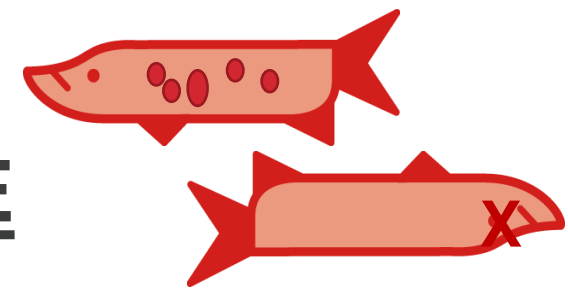
charlotte.axen@sva.se

Perttu Koski¹, Joachim Sturve²

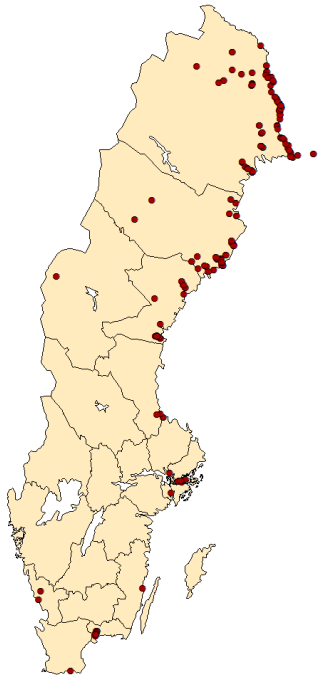
1. Finnish Food Authority Ruokavirasto, Oulu, Finland, 2. University of Gothenburg,
Sweden, joachim.sturve@bioenv.gu.se



REPORTING SITE: [HTTPS://RAPPORTERAFISK.SVA.SE](https://rapporter.afisk.sva.se)

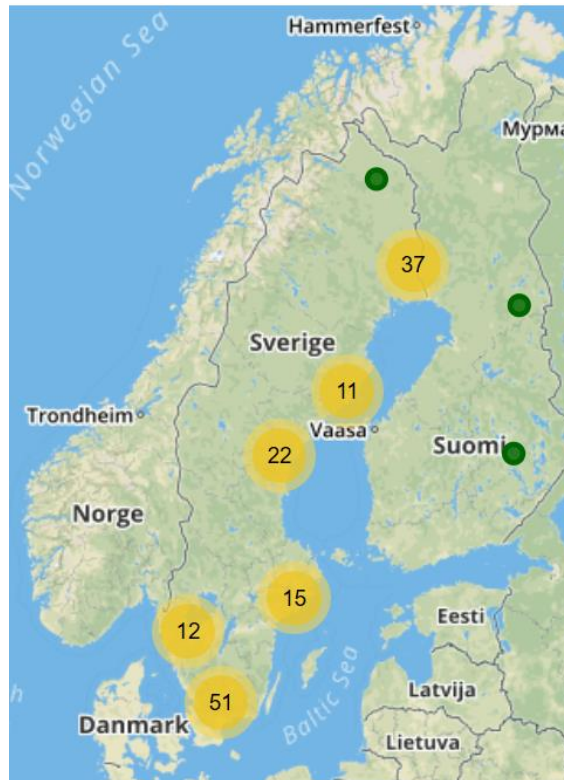


2016 (from May)



N=321

2017



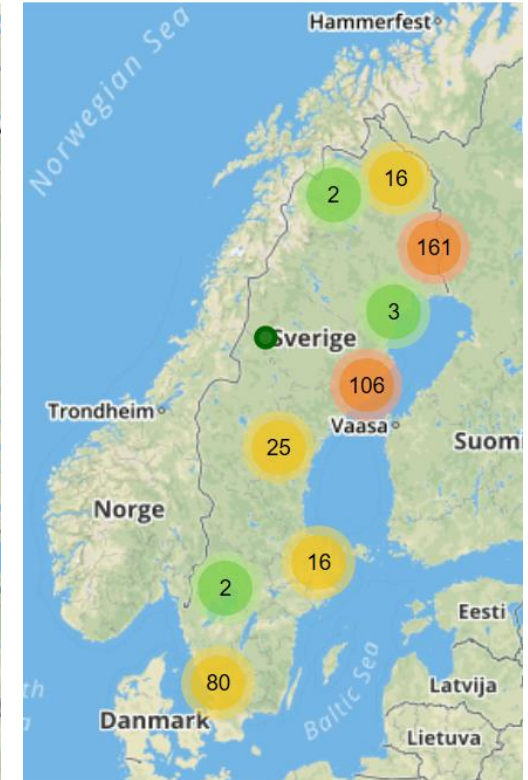
N=166

2018



N=238

2019

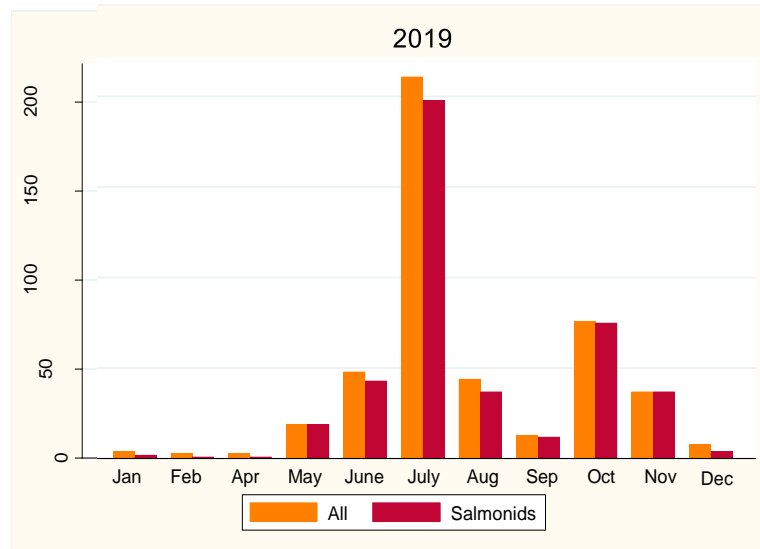
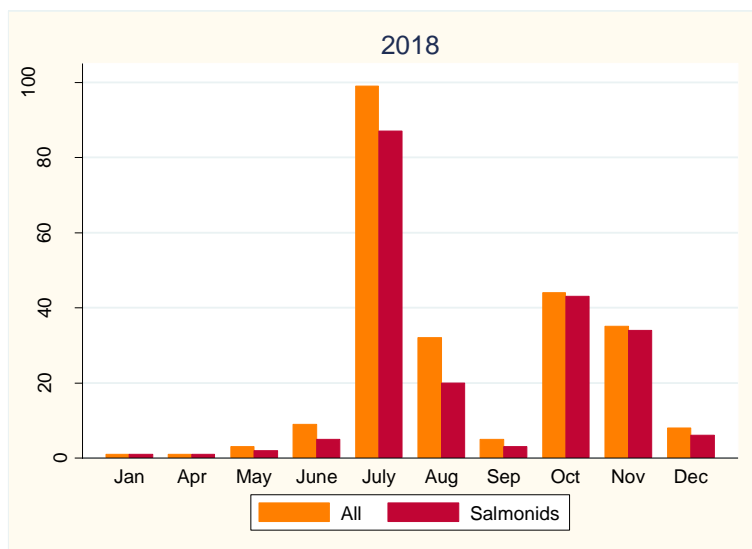
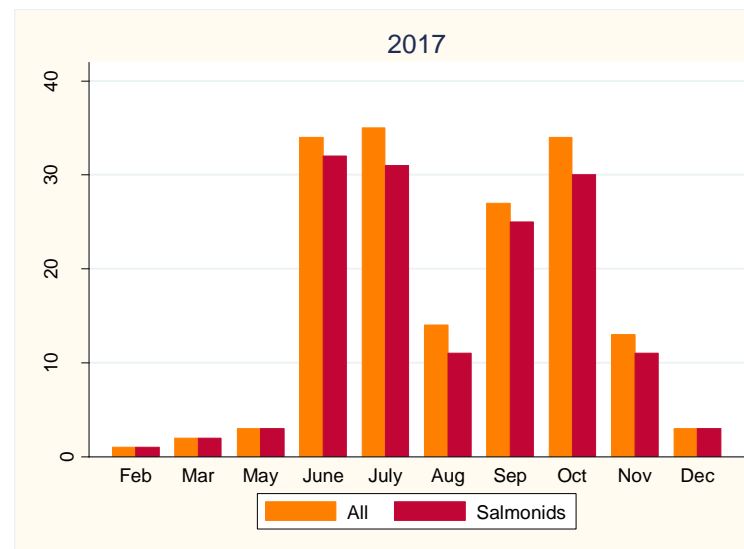
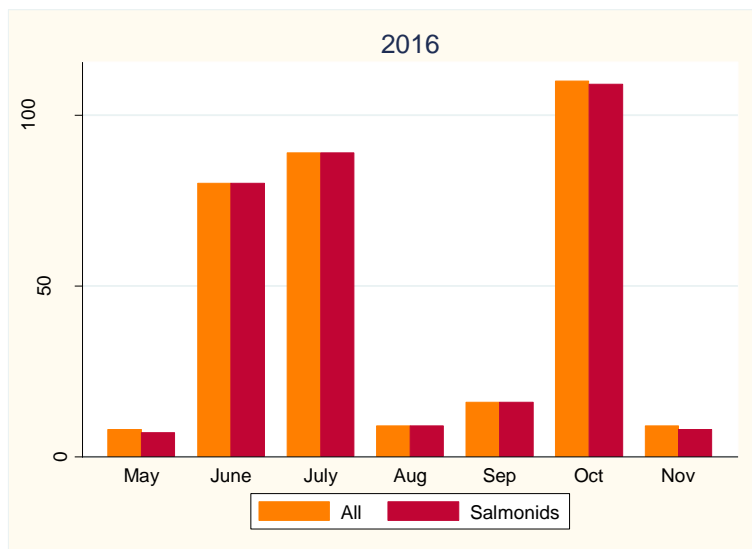


N=466

WHAT IS REPORTED?



REPORTS



2019.....

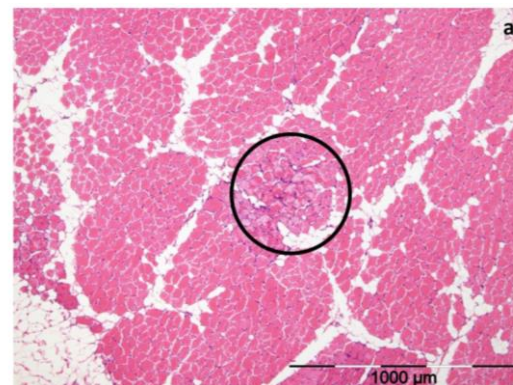
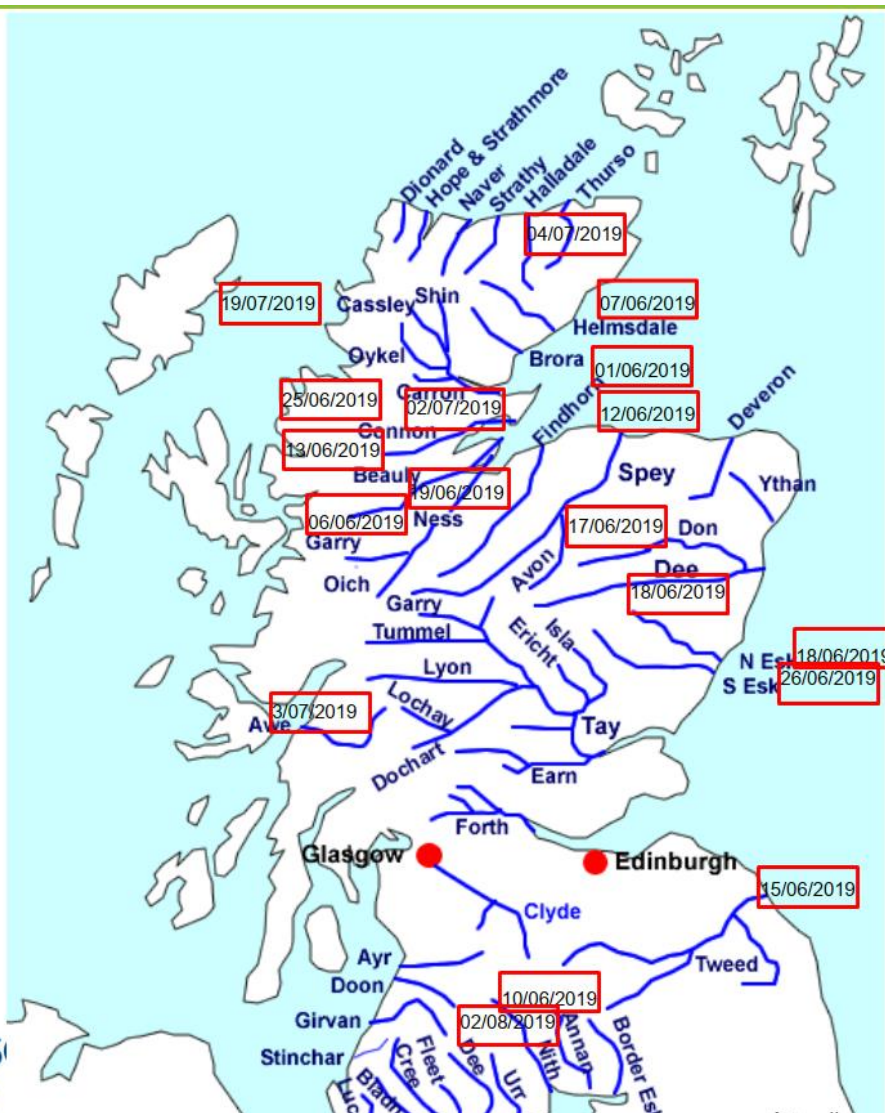


RUOKAVIRASTO
Livsmedelsverket • Finnish Food Authority



SCOTLAND

2



Muscular lesions as circled above observed from multiple rivers. Not related to *Saprolegnia* sp. infection.

IRELAND

Reported incidences

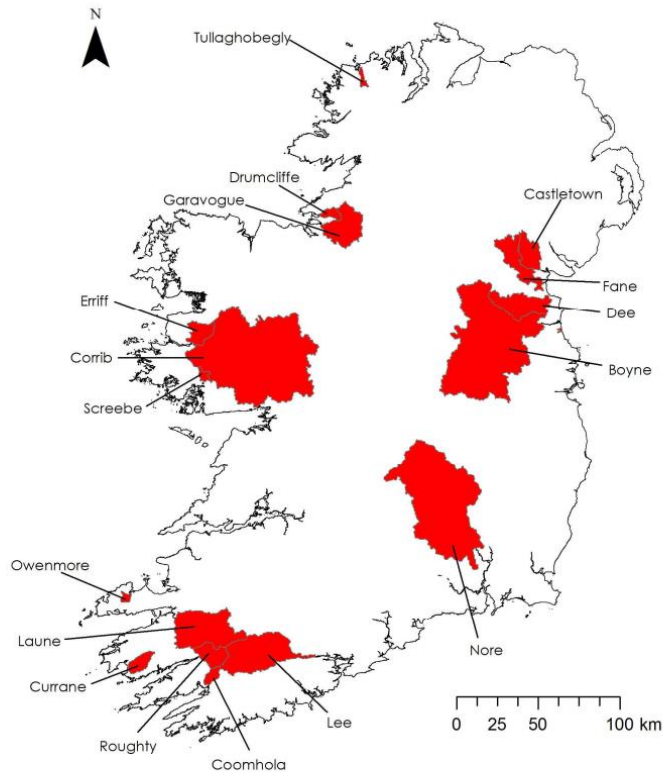
17 rivers

56 fish

Mainly anglers

Also draft, traps

Very low reports nationally (c. 31,000 salmon caught annually in IRL)



Timeline of reports

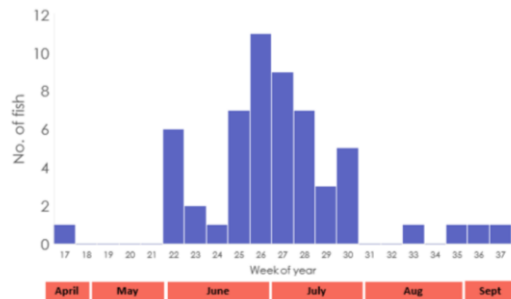


Figure 1 Frequency of reports of Atlantic with signs of red rash skin disease in Ireland in 2019.



Corrib Cong 10-07-2019



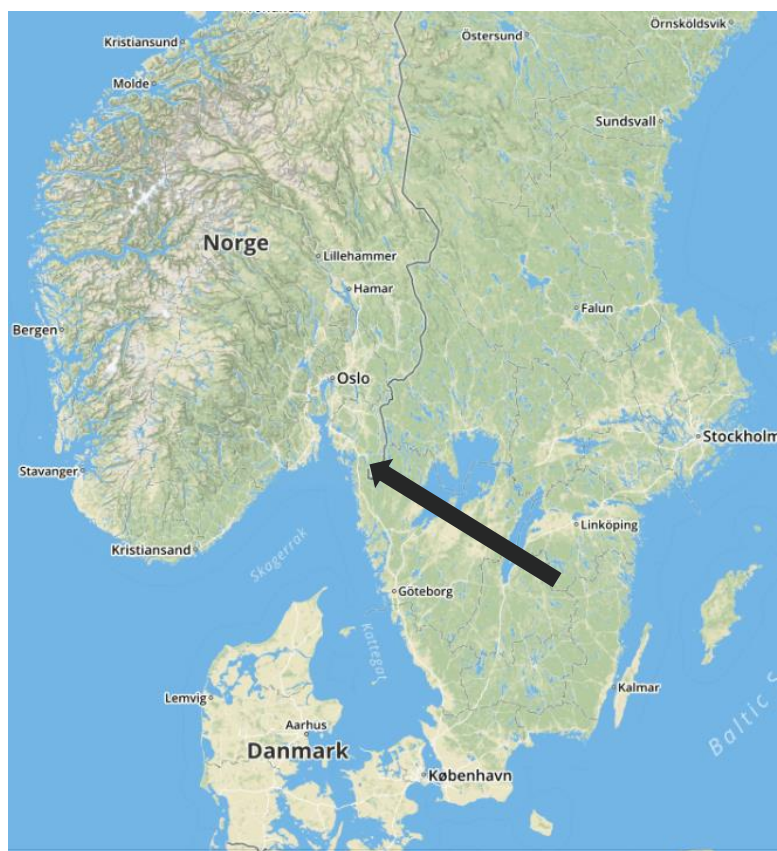
Erriff 21-06-2019



RUOKA
Livsmiddelsverket



NORWAY



DENMARK



A. salmon from Gudenåen



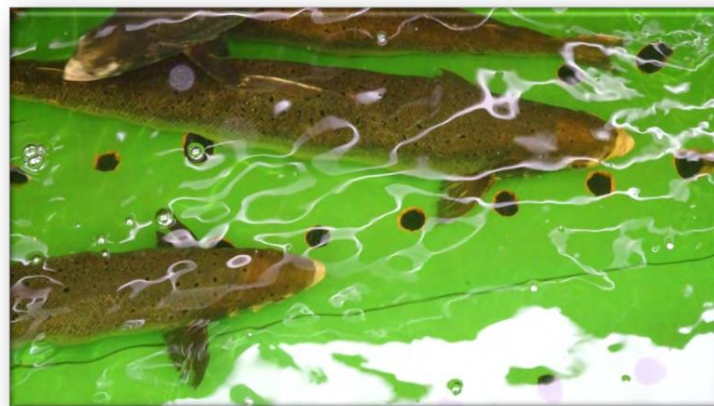
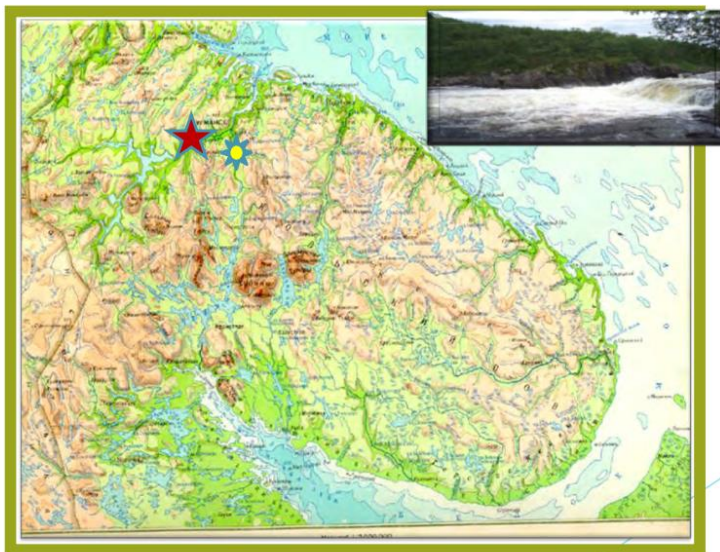
A. salmon from Skjerne å



RUSSIA

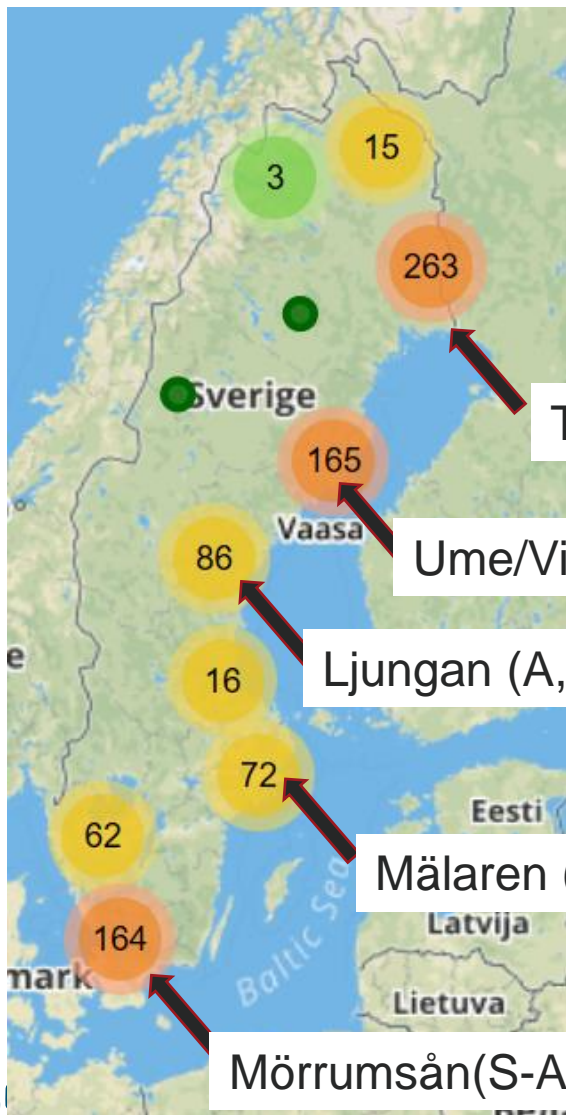
Tuloma riv. ★

Kola riv. ★



INVESTIGATIONS 2016

Total number of reports 2017-2019



Torneälven (S, W)

Ume/Vindelälven (S, W/R)

Ljungan (A, W/R)

Mälaren (A, R)

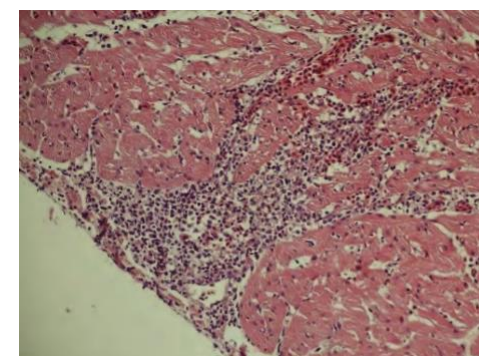
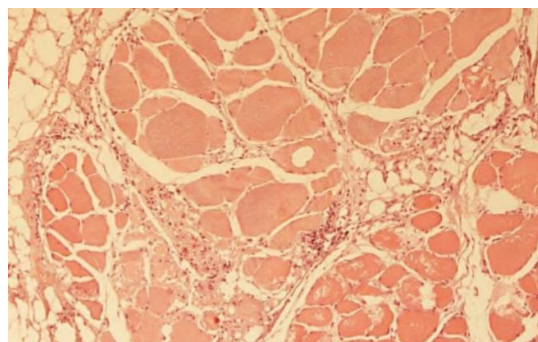
Mörrumsån(S-A, W/R)

S=summer
A=Autumn
W=wild
R=restocking



INVESTIGATIONS 2016

- Viral cultivation negative
 - ISAV neg
 - SAV neg
 - 1 PRV-1
 - DNA-analys: herpes- and iridovirus-like sequences
- A few bacterial infections
- Saprolegnia
- Histopathology
 - UDN
 - Muscle necrosis
 - Inflammation
 - Skin + muscle
 - Heart
- Cytology
 - Immature RBCs
 - WBCs

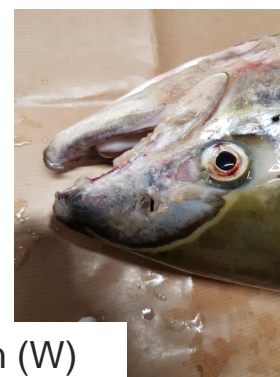
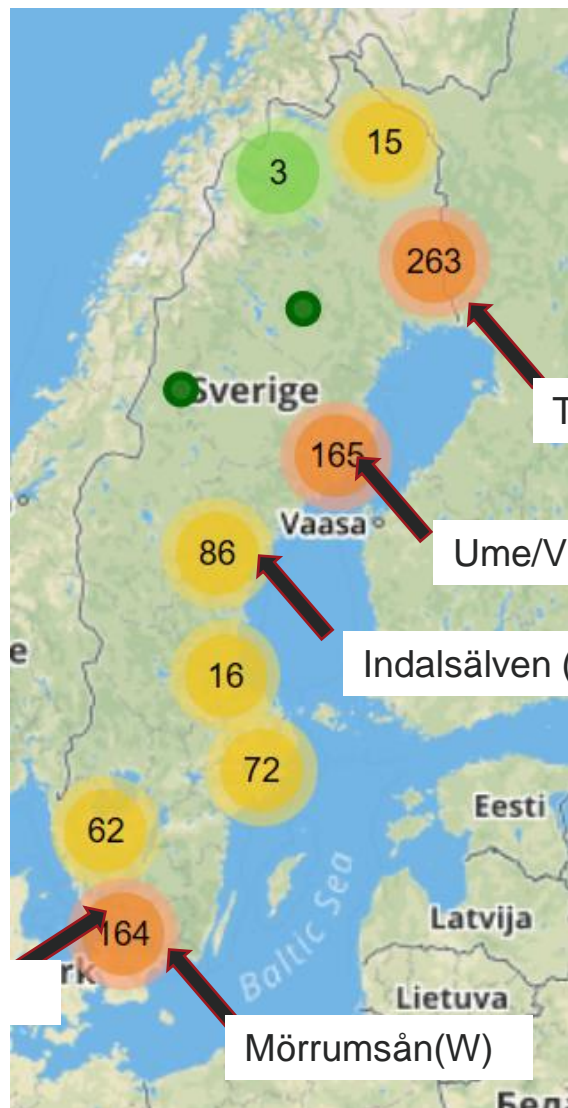


INVESTIGATIONS 2018

- Torneälven (n=20 S, W)
- Ume-/Vindelälven (n=30 S, R/W)
- Indalsälven (n=20 S-A, R)
- Mörrumsån (n=4 S, W)
- Lagan (n=13 A, R (W))

S=summer
A=Autumn
W=wild
R=restocking

Total number of reports 2017-2019



Torneälven (W)



Ume/Vindelälven (W/R)

Indalsälven (R)

Lagan (R)

Mörrumsån(W)

INVESTIGATIONS 2018

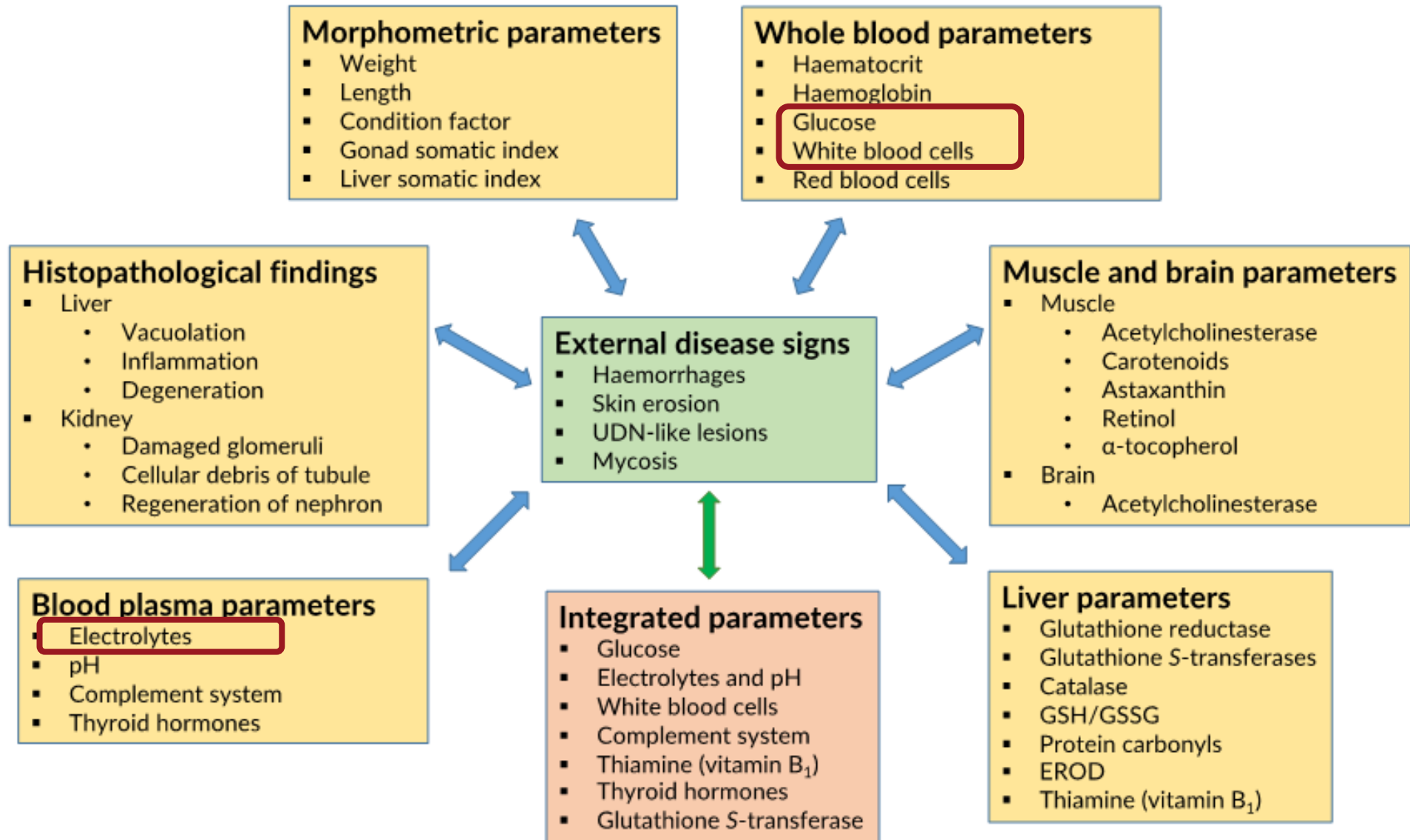
- Biomarkers →
- Disease signs
- HP spleen, kidney
- Fungus
- Vitamins
 - Thiamine
 - α-Tocopherol
 - Carotenoids
 - Astaxanthin
 - Vitamin A
 - Retinol

Parameter	Variabel / biomarker
Energy Growth Condition	Total body weight, somatic weight, length, age, CF
Reproduction	Gonado-somatic index (GSI)
Endocrine disorders	Thyroid hormones (T3 o T4) in plasma + ratio T3/T4
Liver function Detoxification Oxidative stress	Liver somatic index (LSI), liver histology, EROD activity, glutathion reductase, glutathion S-transferase, catalase.
Genotoxicity	Mikronuclei in RBCs
Carbohydrate metabolism Stress	Blood glucose
Oxygen transport	Hematocrit, Hemoglobin, immature RBCs
Immune system	Total WBCs, WBC diff, thrombocytes, complement factors
Osmotic balance Cell damage	Ion levels (chloride, sodium, potassium, calcium) in plasma

BIOMARKERS, VITAMINS

River (No of fish)	Htk	Glu	Na+ Cl-	tT3,fT3	tT4,fT4	Vit B1	Carot	Vit E	EROD	iRBC	
Mörrumsån (4)	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	(→)	Low grade sings
Torneälven (14)	↑	→	→	↑↑	↑→	→	→	→	↑	↑	"Healthy" – pollution?
Umeälven (22)	↑	↑	↓	→	↑↑	(→)	→	→	→	(→)	Diseased
Indalsälven (13)	ND	ND	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	Healthy
Lagan (13)	→	→	→	→	→	↓	↓	↓	→	→	Spawners

MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS



Weichert, F. et al (2020). A multi-biomarker study on Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar* L.) affected by the emerging Red Skin Disease in the Baltic Sea. J fish Diseases. Accepted 7 Oct 2020. DOI: 10.1111/jfd.13288

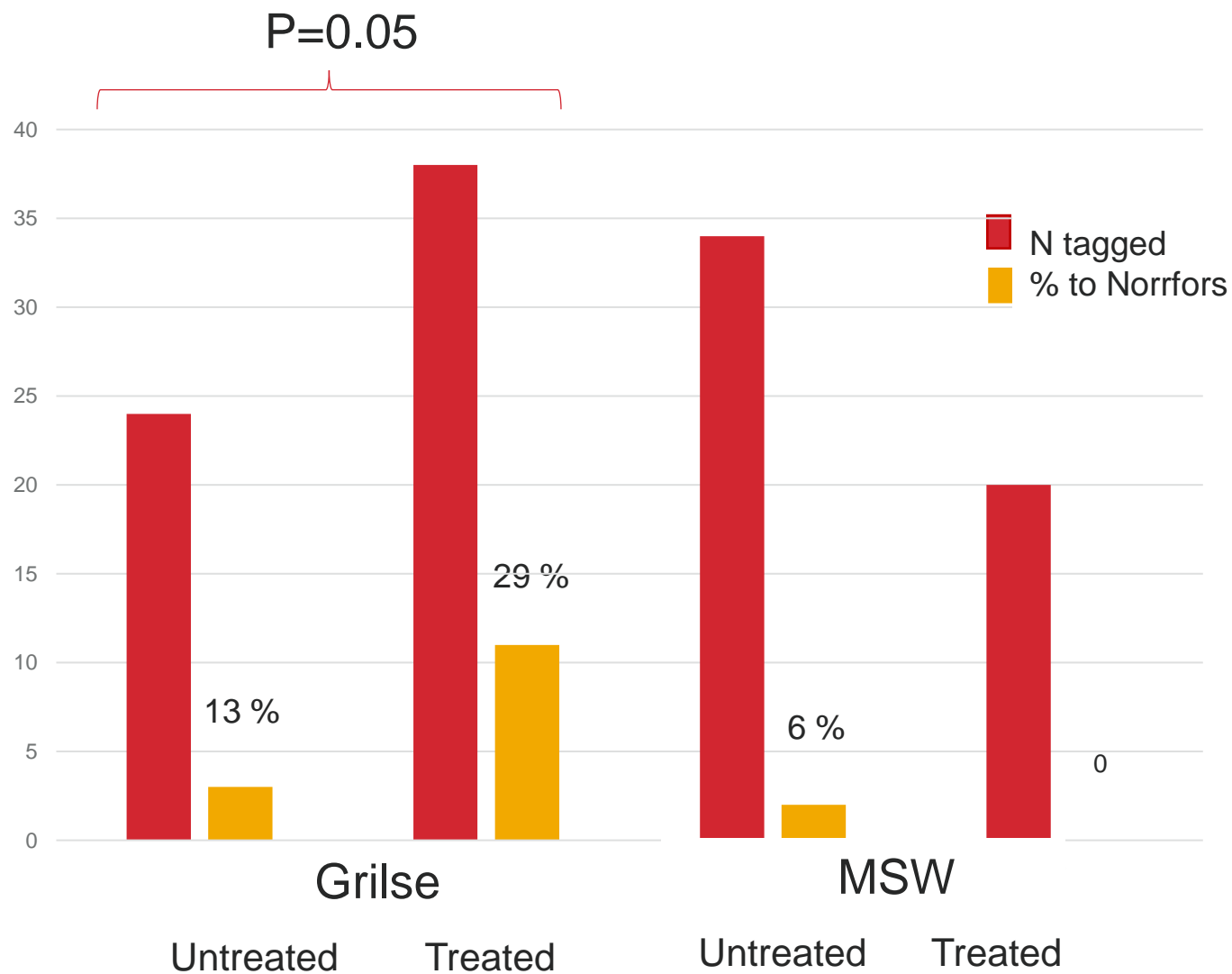


THIAMINE CC TRIAL IN UMEÄLVEN 2018

- Migration monitoring – PIT tagging at the estuary, monitoring at the fish ladder in Norrfors (appr 20 km upstream)
- 2-13 July: Thiamine treatment (50 mg/fish)
 - 116 tagged, 50% treated



RESULTS



WHERE DO WE GO NOW?

- Monitoring program for Swedish salmonids started
 - Samplings 2020, work in progress – HP/cytology, biomarkers, metabolomics, thyreoid status, vit B (B1 & possibly B9, B12)
 - Virus? Exosomes, IgM, skin cell cultures, new cell lines, EM
 - Samplings 2021?
- International network
 - Updates
 - Possibilities to share samples
 - Application in progress, GWAS (RSD and M74)



THANK



YOU



RUOKAVIRASTO
Livsmedelsverket • Finnish Food Authority

