



The distribution and status of
sea lamprey in Norwegian
waters
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Gaps of knowledge for sea lamprey in Norway



- No study conducted
- No monitoring
- Some observations/catches made in other studies, mainly for Atlantic salmon

Spawning



- End of May- middle of July
- Lower river parts
- Area with gentle slope
- Substratum: pebble/gravel (see picture)

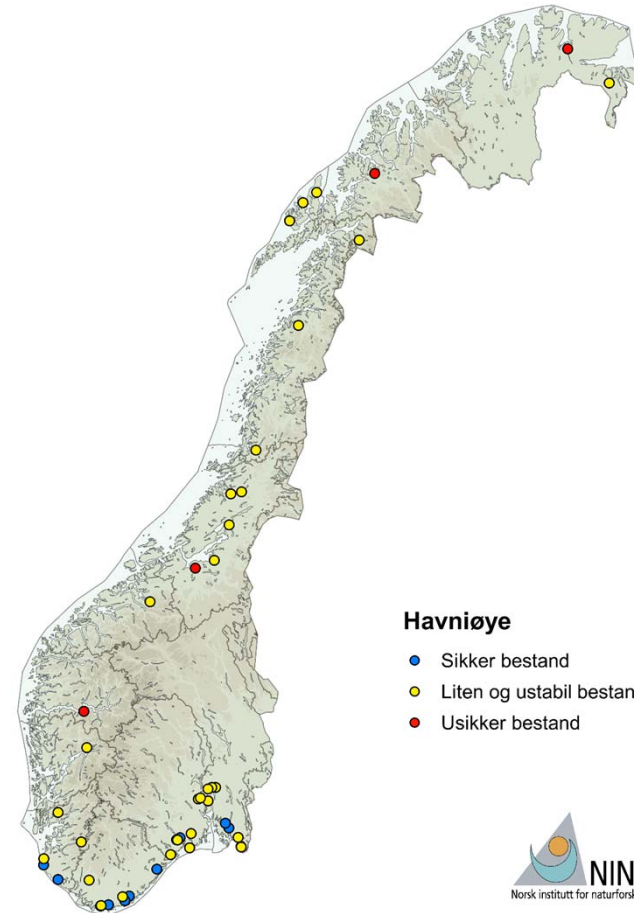
Assessment of distribution and status for sea lamprey (Hesthagen et al. 2020)

- **DISTRIBUTION**

- ▶ Based on written sources, observations, interviews

- **STATUS** (expert judgement)

- ▶ (i) Healthy (repeated observations over time, > 20 specimens). «Sikker bestand»
- ▶ (ii) Small (variable numbers over time, < 20 specimens). «Liten og ustabil bestand»
- ▶ (iii) uncertain (lack of recent observations). «Usikker bestand».



Status for sea lamprey in different counties per 2020, divided into healthy, small and uncertain populations. Total number=51. Most observations in the south

County	Healthy	Small	Uncertain	Total
Oslo	0	1	0	1
Viken	2	11	0	12
Vestfold og Telemark	1	4	0	5
Agder	5	4	0	9
Rogaland	2	3	0	5
Vestland	0	1	1	2
Møre og Romsdal	0	1	0	1
Trøndelag	0	4	1	5
Nordland	0	6	0	6
Troms og Finnmark	0	2	2	4
Total	10	37	4	51

Red List assessment

- Based on D1 criteria: number of mature specimens.
- 50 rivers with about 20 specimens in each, or 50 rivers with 40 specimens: 1000-2000 specimens in total.
- Result: Near threatened (NT).



OSPAR CONVENTION: Norway is in charge of the assessment of sea lamprey this year

- THIS AIMS TO:

- ▶ **1:** Assessment of their status
- ▶ **2:** Assess recent changes in human activities and pressures that are threats to the species
- ▶ **3:** Focus on fisheries, hydropower dams and other migratory barriers