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Seafood giants Grieg, Mowi, Leroy and SalMar trial transporting salmon by ship in bid to cut emissions

One immediate way to lower emissions is to change transportation models.

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By [Hanna Gezelius](#) 

Norwegian seafood companies Grieg, Leroy, SalMar and Mowi are currently trialing various routes and methods to take their fish off the road and transport it instead by sea in order to cut emissions.

Today, Norwegian cargo transport is dominated by road transportation to Europe and air transportation to Asia and North America, both of which are heavily reliant on fossil fuels.

About 65,000-70,000 trucks bring salmon from Norway to Europe every year, while hardly anything is transported by ship.

For seafood companies, changing modes of transport can be an immediate way of cutting a large percentage of emissions, unlike with feed, which is far more complex and time consuming to modify, according to DNV Vice President and Director of its Green Shipping Program (GSP) Narve Mjos.



Leroy Seafood CEO: 'We are not doing enough in terms of sustainability'

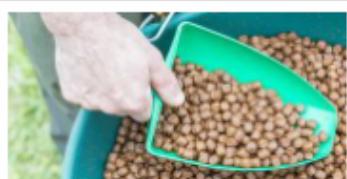
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Changing from road to sea can cut 50 percent of a company's overall emissions, and by adding green fuel to the vessels a further 70-80 percent of emissions can be saved, Mjos said.

Results from a route operated in 2020-21 between mid-Norway and North Europe reduced greenhouse gas emission door-to-door by 60-80 percent when comparing ships and trucks. GSP has not compared green ships with green trucks, but it envisions that the difference in energy

consumption will be similar to that seen using conventional fuels.

Going by sea also significantly reduces microplastic pollution from truck tires, Mjos said, and a normal container ship can take between 300 and 1,000 containers, which is similar in terms of volume to between 150 to 500 trucks, he said.



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DNV launched GSP in 2015 together with parts of the Norwegian maritime industry and Norwegian authorities in a response to increased interest from cargo firms in switching from road and air to sea.

The initiative is a public-private partnership program that aims to establish the world's most efficient and environmentally friendly shipping.

The program has so far initiated 43 pilot projects, of which four are aquaculture related.

The Norwegian government will increase tax on carbon emissions to €200 (\$201.80) per metric ton in 2030. Most zero-emission fuels, such as hydrogen and ammonia, will be competitive by this point, Mjos said.

"Green competition is coming to the seafood sector very quickly," he said.