

ONE OCEAN WEEK 2026

CRISPR Gene-Editing at Sea: Trust, Transparency and Transformation

Advances, Expectations & Dialogue on Emerging Biotechnology for the Ocean

📅 Wednesday 22 April 2026 · 🕒 12:30–14:00 CET · 📍 Literaturhuset, Fosse-Stova, Bergen

Gene-editing technologies like CRISPR are moving from the laboratory to the sea — reshaping what's possible in aquaculture, marine conservation, and ocean biotechnology. This 90-minute session brings together leading researchers, regulators, investors, and social scientists to ask: **are we ready?** Join us for an honest, forward-looking conversation about innovation, responsibility, and what comes next.

Open to all!

PROGRAM

12:30
5 min**WELCOME & FRAMING****Opening & Goals for the Session****Moderator: Dorothy Dankel** · SINTEF Ocean & Nordic Marine Think Tank

- › Connecting technology, regulation, investment, and society
- › Introduction of speakers and session format

12:35
15 min**OPENING KEYNOTE****“Global Perspectives on Ocean Innovation and Aquaculture Futures”****John Buchanan** · CEO & President, AquaTech Center, San Diego

- › Global innovation trends in aquaculture technology
- › Strategic opportunities for cross-Atlantic collaboration
- › How technological acceleration shapes industry needs, investment priorities, and societal expectations

12:50
15 min**RESEARCH PRESENTATION****Gene-Editing in Salmon and the Norwegian Technology Frontier****Anna Wargelius & Rolf Edvardsen** · Institute of Marine Research, Norway

- › Latest Norwegian research on marine biotechnology, gene editing, and aquaculture innovation
- › Key breakthroughs and remaining challenges
- › Norway's role in the global R&D landscape

13:05
15 min**POLICY & REGULATION****Regulatory Landscape: Where Do We Stand?****Petter Frost** · Bioteknologirådet (Biotechnology Council of Norway)

- › Overview of Norwegian and EU regulatory frameworks for marine biotech
- › Outlook for upcoming regulatory changes
- › Societal considerations informing policy

13:20
15 min

INVESTMENT PERSPECTIVE

What Investors Are Looking For

Eric Siegel · Impact Investor, Cuna del Mar, California

- › Investor expectations for transparency, risk governance, and ROI
- › Global investment trends in aquaculture & ocean biotechnology
- › Where Norwegian innovations can stand out

13:35
15 min

SOCIETAL RESEARCH PREVIEW

What Society Expects: A Multi-Country Survey on Gene-Edited Salmon — study in preparation

Andreea-Laura Cojocaru · University of Stavanger

- › Planned survey design and prospective societal insights from the USA, Germany, and Japan
- › Anticipated public attitudes toward emerging marine biotechnologies
- › Implications for responsible innovation and social license to operate

13:50

DEBATE & AUDIENCE Q&A

Panel Discussion & Audience Questions

All speakers + political invitees (TBA) · Moderated by Dorothy Dankel