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A long-awaited victory for the Oslofjord

It is good to see that the government is taking the situation in the fjord seriously, says the Oslofjorden Friluftsråd. Because as the Prime Minister himself says: Now the fjord is crying out for help.

The government's decision to introduce stricter fishing regulations in the Oslo Fjord is both long-awaited and necessary.

– This could have been done a long time ago, but we are happy that it is finally happening. The fact that the government is acting now shows that they are taking the situation seriously – and that is very good, says Espen Søylen, director of the Oslofjorden Friluftsråd.

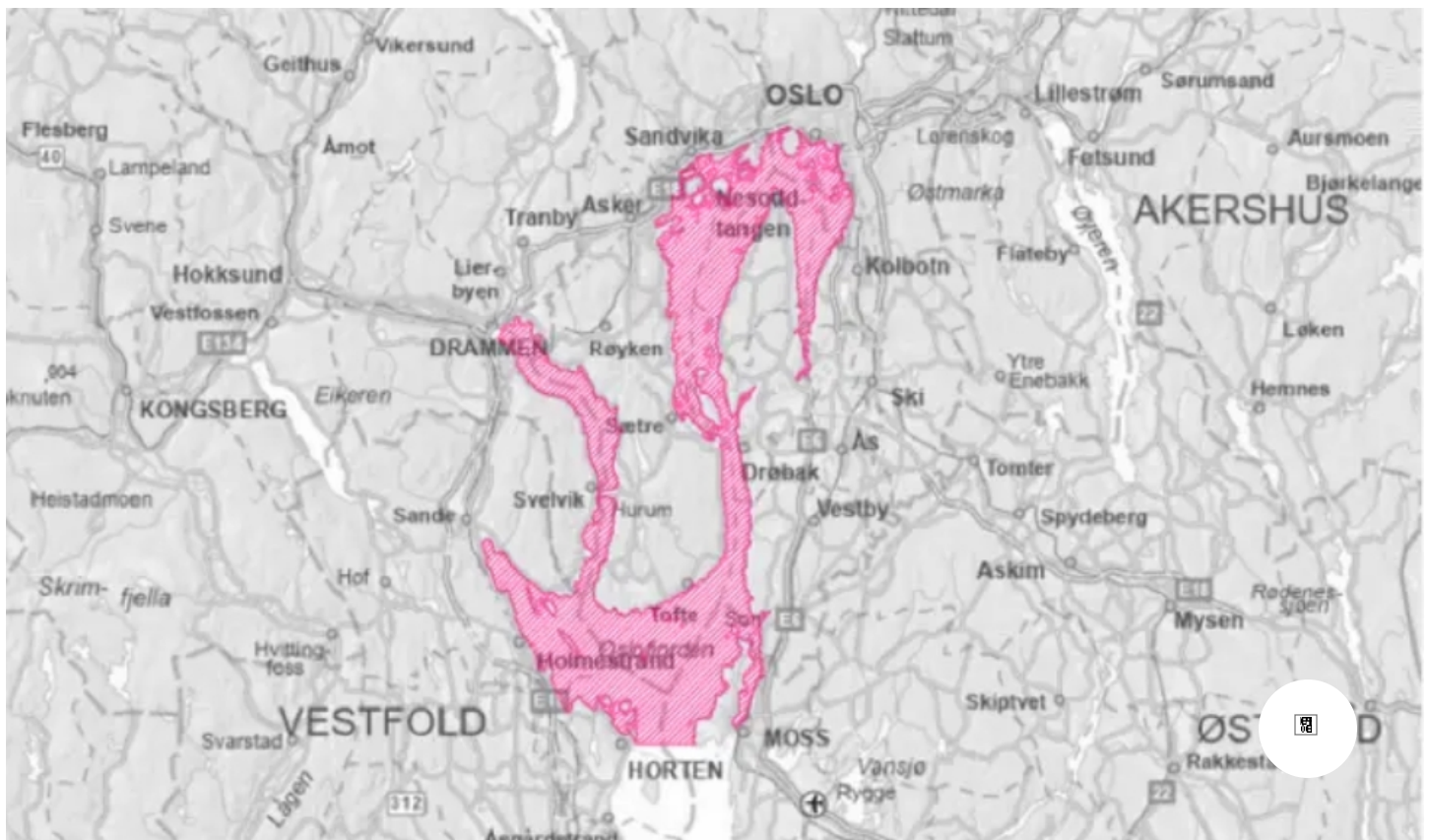
The measures involve extensive restrictions on both commercial and recreational fishing, including a ban on nets and pots. Outside the zero-fishing areas, fishing will only be allowed with handheld gear.

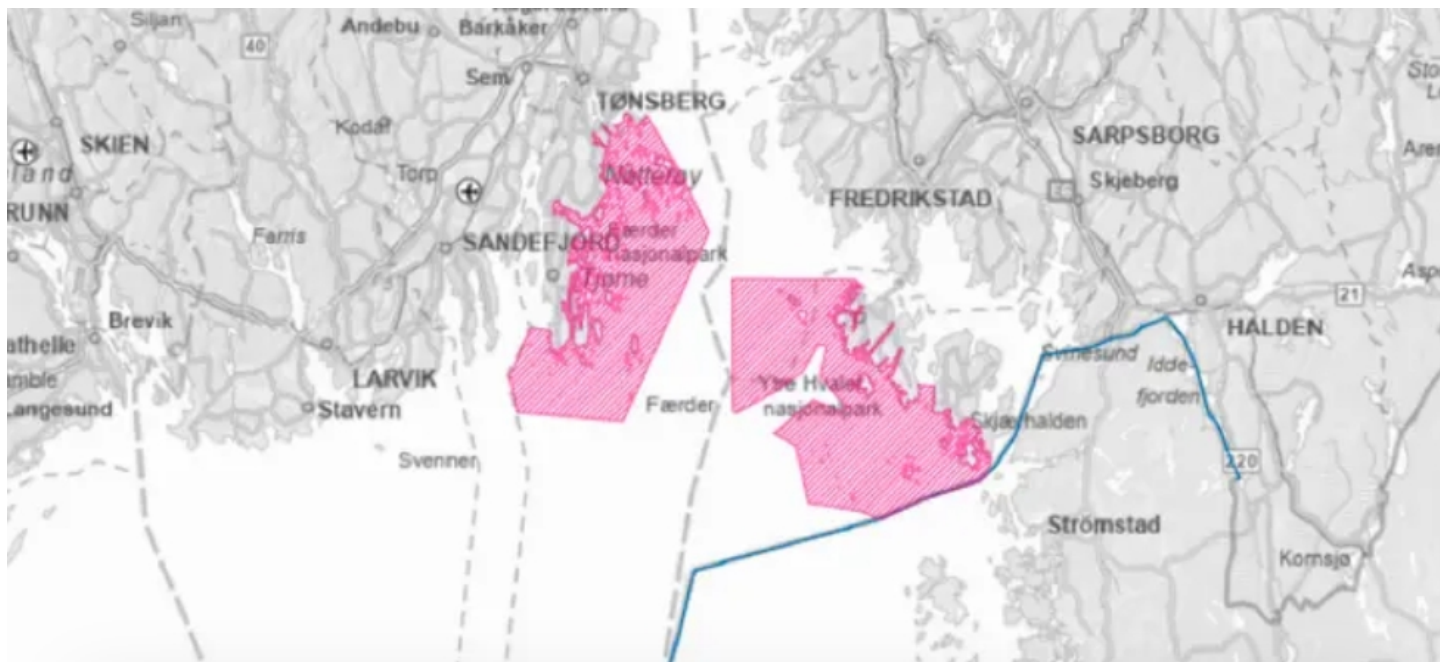
The gear restrictions for recreational fishing will come into effect as early as October 1 this year, while the zero-fishing areas will be introduced from January 1, 2026. The bans will apply for ten years.

– It is very positive that the measures are now actually being implemented – and that several of them will come into effect as early as the autumn and the turn of the year, says Søilen.

Large-scale measures with long-term perspectives are crucial to give vulnerable species populations and an ecosystem in crisis the opportunity to recover. Zero-fishing areas in Inner Oslofjord, Færder and Outer Hvaler will be a powerful and targeted tool.

At the same time, OF emphasizes that a fishing ban alone is not enough. If the Oslo Fjord is to receive a real boost, all parts of the comprehensive action plan must be followed up – with measures also on land, such as better wastewater management, controlled land use and reduced pollution.





The red areas show the new no-fishing zones in the Oslo Fjord. Photo: Government

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The Oslofjord receives water from large parts of Eastern Norway and is affected by everything that happens in the watercourses upstream. To improve the environmental condition, water management must be strengthened and coordinated. Here are our inputs to the plan.

7. august 2025

Oslofjord

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July 29, 2025

We have recently received donations and support from Akershus County Council and the DNB Savings Bank Foundation. The funds will go towards several exciting tasks and projects that will help save the Oslo Fjord and promote outdoor activities.

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