



NORDIC MARINE THINK TANK

Newsletter July 2020



General Assembly 2019

The purpose of this Newsletter is to inform you about on-going activities of the NMTT. If you seek further information you are welcome to contact Carl-Christian Schmidt ccmrschmidt@gmail.com or Odma Johannesson ojo.nmtt@gmail.com.

Nordic Climate Change Forum

Climate change has already moved fish stocks from their traditional areas something we have also observed with certain fish stocks in the Nordic region. The fisheries and aquaculture sectors must prepare to adapt to these changes. Last year the NMTT began to work on a climate change vision which the NMTT Board recently reviewed (see <http://nmtt.org/default.aspx?pageid=49>)

While working on our climate change vision it became apparent that there is no Nordic public platform for fisheries and aquaculture organizations and interests to meet with ocean science with a view to discuss and advance the understanding of the impacts of climate change on their sectors. Against this background the NMTT has started a dialogue with the Nordic Council of Ministers about a potential program for how to address this. We look forward to over the coming months to be able to report in more details on this initiative.

Crew Payment Systems in Nordic Fisheries

Starting earlier in 2020 NMTT manages a Nordic project on crew payment systems involving several Nordic researchers. The work seeks to map out the fisher payment/salary systems in use in fisheries in Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland and Norway, to collect and analyse pay evolution through time series, and to examine the existence and distribution of resource rent among fisher group participants i.e. fishing quota owners, vessel owners and fishermen hired on board fishing operations.

For fisheries policy makers the interest in such work rest in a better appreciation of 1) how the pay between the different fisher groups participating in fishing operations have evolved over the past couple of decades to track influences from changing fisheries management system, 2) to gain a better insight and understanding of incentive structure or motivation of fisheries participant groups and 3) to better understand how different

fisheries management systems may give rise to different outcomes across countries and across fisheries participant groups due to pay system.
(see <http://nmtt.org/default.aspx?pageid=61>)

How much to fish – FMSY project

The current FMSY values used by established fisheries advice are based on traditional single species consideration that ignores ecosystem functioning in terms of carrying capacity, density dependent population dynamics and species interactions. This generally means that current FMSY values are severely in the new reality, where stocks are rebuilding. Modelling work indicates that the bias in FMSY estimates could be as much as a factor of two.

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<http://nmtt.org/default.aspx?pageid=59> and <https://www.fmsyproject.net/>