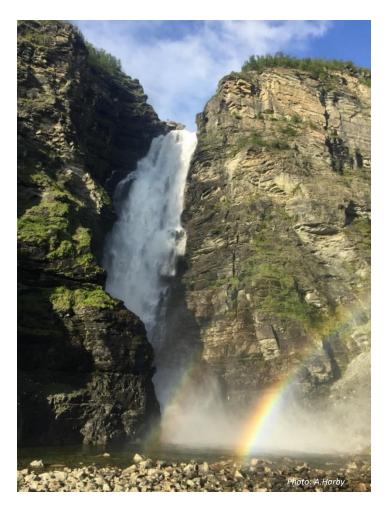
License to operate - Environmental design of hydropower

Atle Harby, SINTEF Energy Research







... from the perspective of:



biodiversity

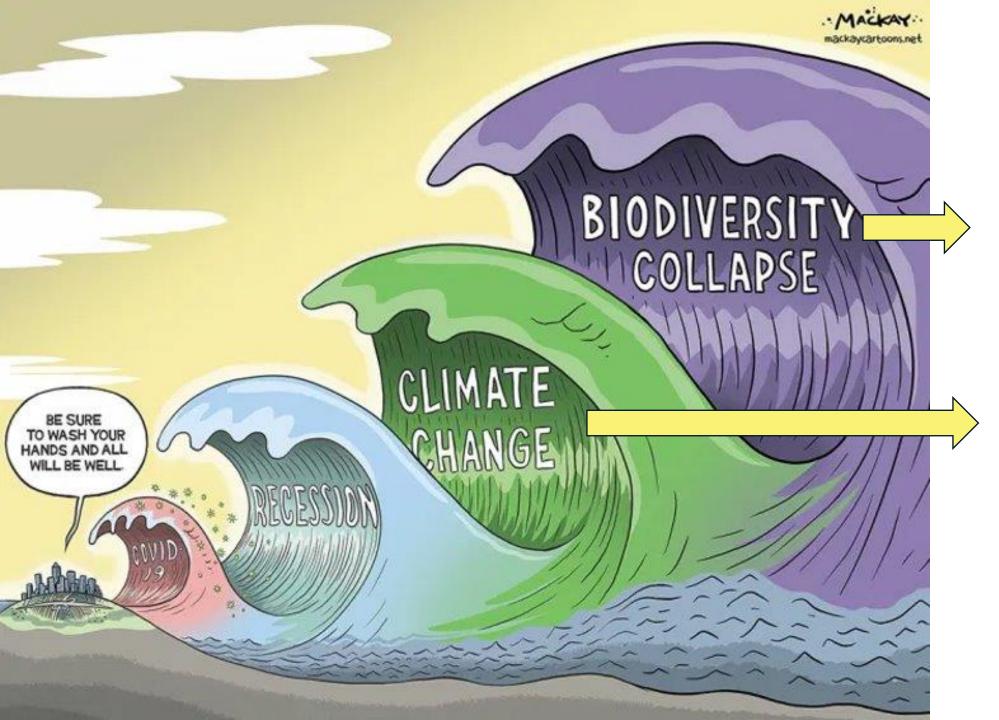


people

THE EU TAXONOMY

regulations



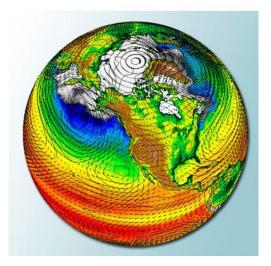


By 2030: Protect 30 % and restore 30 % of nature on land and sea

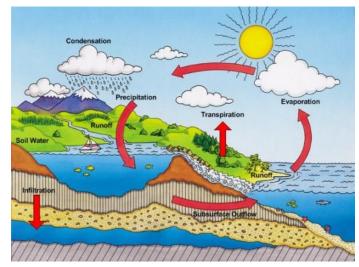
Stop emitting CO₂ Increase use of electricity Carbon neutral by 2050

() SINTEF

Climate change



Impacting hydrology



Mitigation



Replacing fossil energy with low-carbon sources



Adaptation



Flood protection and drought management



SINTEF



State-of-the-art for nature in Norway

4957 species on the Red List (21%), and half of all nature types.... Norwegian nature index < 0.5



None of Aichi-targets fulfilled. OECD: Decisionmaking does not consider nature, climate and the environment sufficiently

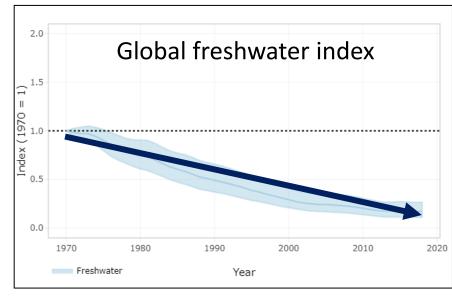
Global biodiversity status

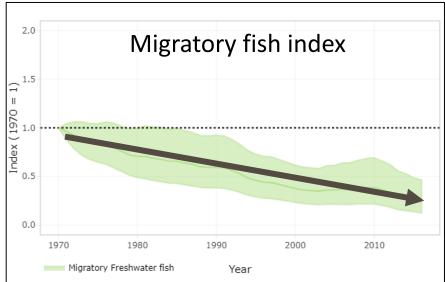
More than 44,000 species are threatened with extinction

RED LIST



from IUCN Red List of Threatened Species





from WWF Living Planet Index 🙀

🕥 SINTEF

Increasing electricity generation with renewables











Hydropower:

- New developments
- More and larger reservoirs
- Refurbishment and modernisation for more capacity
 SINTEF

Hydropower impacts













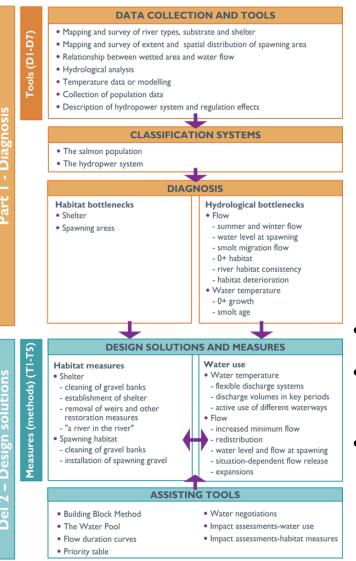
Eco Hydrology

Environmental design

Hydropower

Environmental design – what is it?

- A method to consider power production, societal needs and the environment
- A systematic approach combining recognized and new knowledge
- Handbook, course and a set of tables and graphs for hydropower and salmon
- Under further development to include other species, biodiversity, recreation and other services







- Methods for Atlantic salmon
- These methods also applicable for other species and services
- Printed and pdf available in English, Norwegian and Chinese

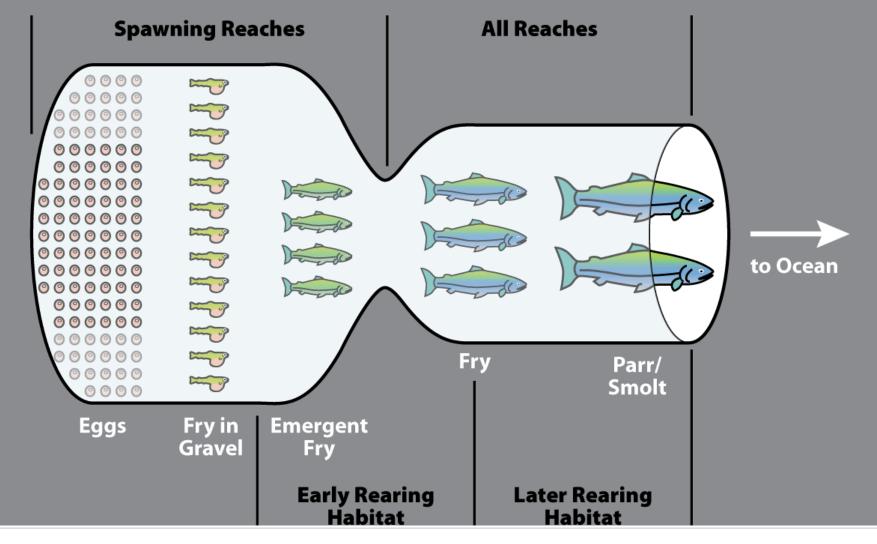
Free download at: www.cedren.no







HABITAT BOTTLENECK

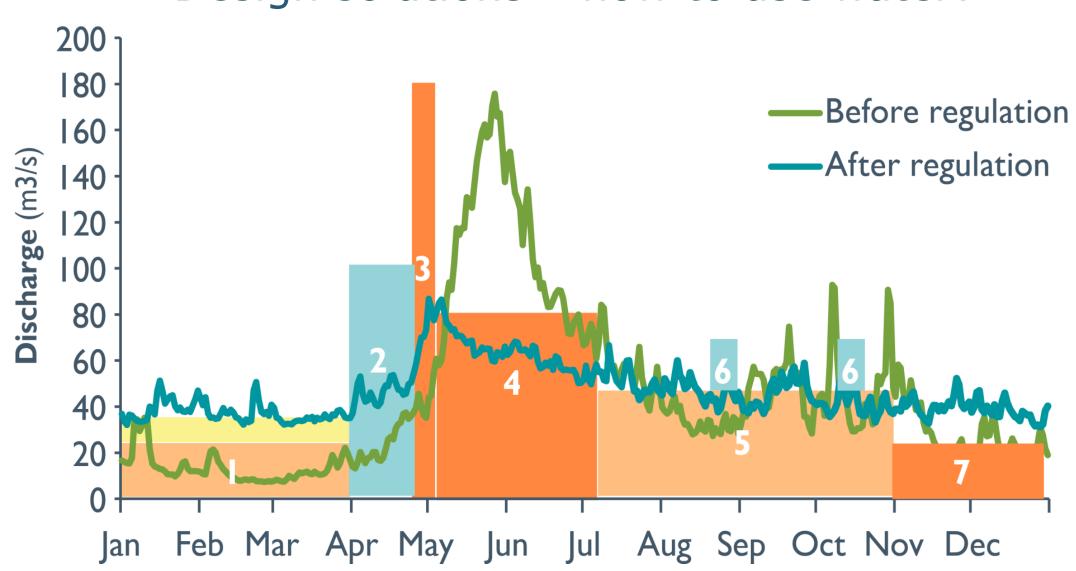




Fish dies only once!







Design solutions – how to use water?

Centre for Environmental Design of Renewable Energy

CEDREN

Mitigation measures – design solutions



Environmental flow release



Two-way migration solutions



Stable temperature and ice cover



Introduce "a river in the river" when water is withdrawn



Improving habitats



"Water bank"



Species, activities and services



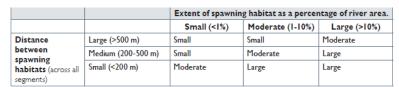
Other species and habitats

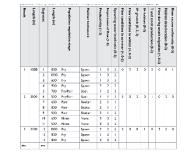
Flood protection

Energy services



Recreation and tourism



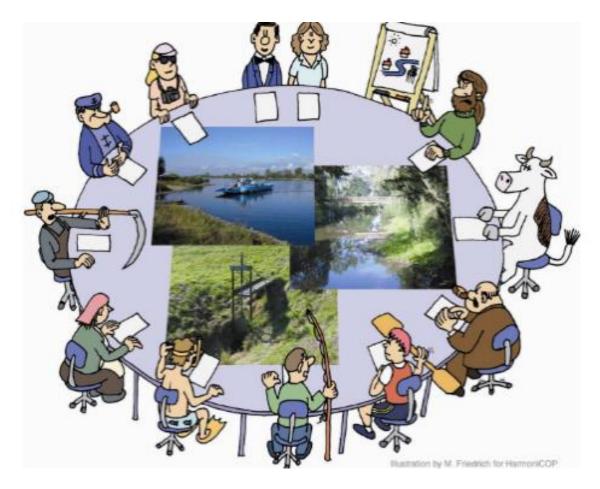




Guidance, methods and tools



Societal acceptance



All stakeholders must be heard



The image of hydropower?



What's in it for me?

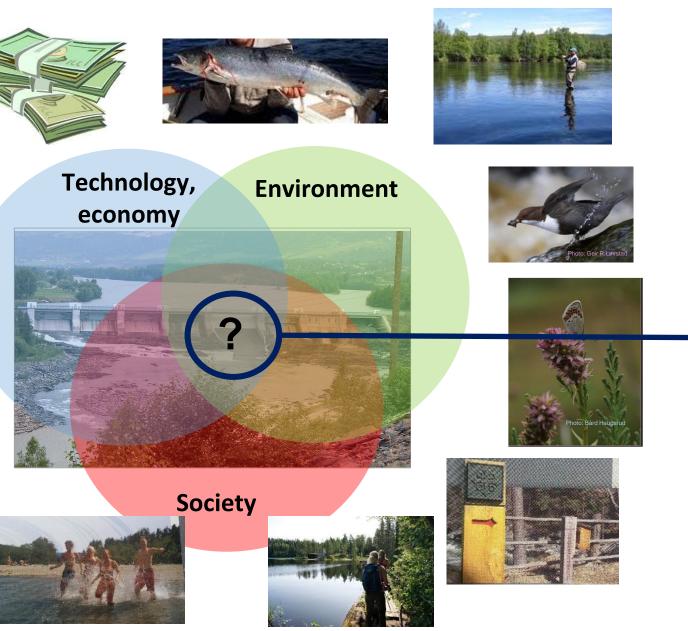


Balancing between interests









Consider that

this balance may change rapidly

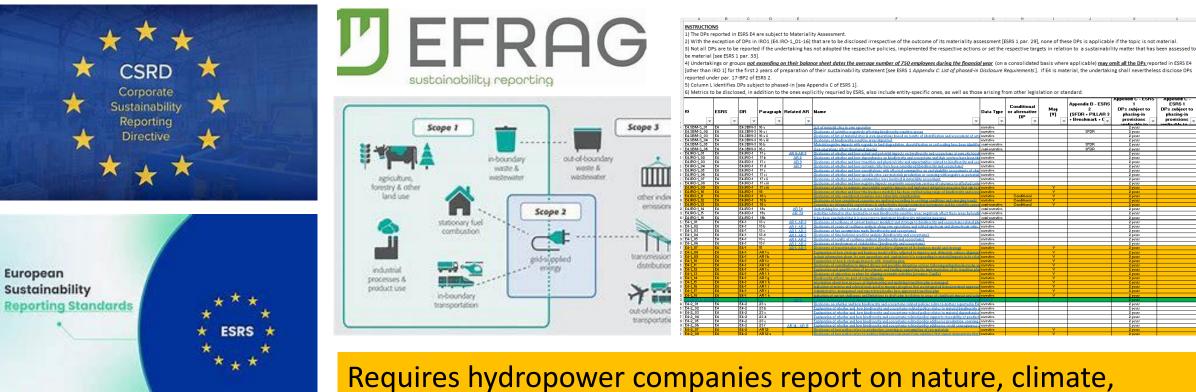
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Our economy and well-being is completely dependent on nature. At the same time, we are harming it



NOU 2024:2





sustainability, GHG emissions, land use, environmental impacts....



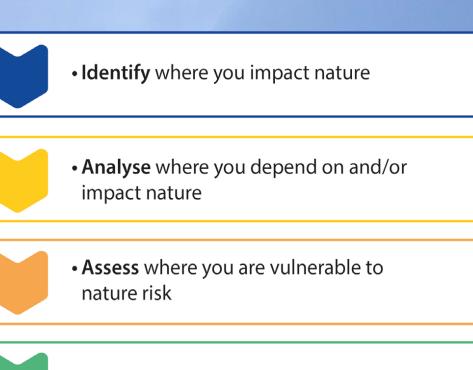
Net0





CSRD, ESRS, Taxonomy and other requirements

- Lack of guidance
- Lack of practice
- Hard to find data
- How to measure impact on nature (climate = CO₂-eq)
- Competence in auditing
- Feedback and collaboration



• Report on significant nature risk

• Decisions in specific cases and courses of action

Licence to operate

Do You Need a License to Operate Your Business?



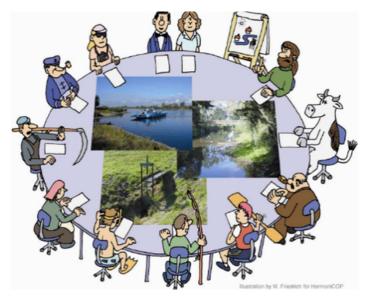
Licence to operate



Avoid, minimize, mitigate, compensate

Hydropower that provides energy, water management for all users and interests and contributes to welfare





Take care of societal needs

We need much more flexible energy and other services from hydropower for energy transition and climate change adaptation



Thank you for your attention!

atle.harby@sintef.no