

AARHUS UNIVERSITY
EXTERNAL SEMINAR
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Frederiksborgvej 399, 4000 Roskilde

28 November 2018. 11.00 – 11.45

Venue: Aarhus University, Roskilde, K1.36, East



Title: Which type of policy instrument do citizens and experts prefer? A choice experiment on Swedish marine and water policy

Speaker: Katarina Elofsson

Katarina is a researcher in environmental economics at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and Senior Lecturer at Södertörn University. Her research is about international, national and regional environmental policy for water quality management, hunted wildlife, large carnivores, invasive species and climate. The studies have applications to agriculture, forestry and energy use.

Abstract: In the choice between alternative environmental policy instruments, economists tend to favor incentive-based policies capable of attaining cost-efficiency, but other considerations may be of importance to stakeholders. We perform a choice experiment modeled on Swedish water and marine policy to estimate preferences for different types of environmental policy instruments among citizens and municipal experts. To approximate preferences for each instrument per se, each choice set includes several attributes that respondents may otherwise view as correlated with instrument type, such as how costs are shared between taxpayers and farmers. In mixed-logit regressions, we find that both the modal citizen and the modal expert prefer direct regulation and agri-environmental subsidies to nutrient trading. Experts weight costs to taxpayers less heavily, leading to generally larger WTP estimates; in particular, nutrient trading is unlikely to deliver sufficiently large cost savings for experts to prefer it to other instrument types. This potentially explains the low takeup of water quality trading schemes outside the United States.

Authors: Claes Ek, Katarina Elofsson, Carl-Johan Lagerkvist

Host: Doan Nainggolan and Berit Hasler on behalf of SGA Integrated and spatial modelling, AU

External Guests interested in attending the presentation should e-mail Department Secretary Christel Ege-Johansen,, cej@envs.au.dk

