

HAB IN NORTHERN NORWAY – WHAT IF WE WOULD HAVE KNOWN EARLIER?

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SINTEF Ocean

Offshore wind

Processing industry

Fisheries

Aquaculture

Environmental modelling & monitoring

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Oil and gas

New marine resources

Maritime



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How can we understand, predict and leverage the ocean in a sustainable way?





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2019 Chrysochromulina leadbeateri



Picture courtesy: NRK, SINTEF

>8 mill. Fish
>16 500 tonnes biomass
12 companies with
dead fish
4 companies who
had to evacuate fish



May & June 1991 May 2008 May & June 2019



Chrysochromulina leadbeateri – common or special?

Common in Norwegian waters	Rather rare harmful blooms		Bloomed at the same locations each time				
Needs N + P	Needs light + CO ₂			Shows vertical movement to nutrient rich layers	Mixotroph: ability to feed on DOM		
37 Chryso- chromulina species	Hemolytic compounds harm gills					Can sustain in deeper, brackish, fresh water	

SINTEF Ocean staff supported monitoring of algae bloom by water

samples



Silje onboard "KV Heimdal" (coast guard) from 22.05, Johanne Arff, IMR

Sampling program planned with IMR, Directorate of Fisheries and farmers based on (near) hourly updates

Sampling strategies planned and maps/models from SINTEF updated for common understanding of the situation



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Chrysochromulina leadbeateri model



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- Integrated with coupled ecosystem-ocean model (SINMOD)
- Species specific: Internal nutrient reserve, vertical movement determined by whether light or internal nutrients are limiting

Current status

New or returned bloom of Chrysocromulina in Ofotfjorden (Cermaq/Ballangen)

- 50 000 fish
- 150 tonnes biomass

Reported dead fish and behavioural change in Troms (Lerøy Aurora, Kvaløya) Still high concentrations of Chrysochromulina and other algae (Phaeocystic)

Shifting current direction and transport regime

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Northern Norway: Karenia, Chrysochromulina, toxic



Alexandrium fundyense. Photo credit: Gary Wikfors, NOAA Alexandrium tamarense. Photo credit: SINTEF

Middle Norway: Alexandrium, PSP



This probably isn't over, yet

Emiliana huxleyi. Photo credit Max Planck institute Skeletonema. Photo credit: Nordic Microalgae

Southern Norway: Emiliana, Skeletonema Gill damage, O₂ depletion



What comes when the crisis is over?
data
technology
(fast) implementation



Flaws of the current system

Sampling only takes place when the situation is serious There is no information for the period before sampling started

Samples are usually sent, causing a time delay Algae communities have a huge variation in time and grow rapidly Sampling results in a **patchy** distribution of algae numbers

→ Information needs to be continuous and (earlier) available
 → Monitor N + P before sampling algae



Technology – spaceborne

DATA OVERVIEW



Small satellites for early warning and a combination of satellite data and ecosystem models for
Planning of sampling and closer monitoring
→ Preparedness
Data assimilation and prediction
→ Early evacuation

Technology – waterborne

Autonomous underwater vehicles can do 3D mapping and identification of algae *in bloom situations* -> in-situ particle imaging with the help of domain experts and machine learning

and before (!)
 → 3D mapping of favourable conditions (temperature, N, P)





Artistic illustration from

https://geminiresearchnews.com/2019/03/ocean-life-in-3-d-mapping-phytoplankton-with-a-smart-auv/

RESPOND – web based information for decision support, COP





So, why haven't we done this already?

Because we do crisis management instead of preparedness ...

Ecosystem / ocean models need to be run operational in high resolution as part of a monitoring system

- Transport and distribution
- Resolution of Fjord topography

Data needs to be analysed and shared





National monitoring program for blue mussel 2018



The weekly public advice given by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority in 2018. The color indicates: **Green** – open for consumption of blue mussel, **Bright blue** – no samples. Closed areas due to: **Yellow** – DST/*Dinophysis* spp.; **Red** – PST/*Alexandrium* spp.; **Blue** – ASP/*Pseudo-nitzschia* spp.; **Pink** – E.coli. * indicates chemical analyses.







This is a team effort

Information gathering

Processing



Forecasts

Information services (maps & context)

Data interpretation

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Algae monitoring 4.0

"Open and public interface": Data from labs to map

Information based on area / water mass systems

Early warning to all stakeholders

Model forecasting

- algae status before and during operations: delicing, transport, etc.
- coordination with national emergency procedures

Meet us at



to discuss further!





Technology for a better society