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Management and local participation: A comparison of Kosterhavet National Park and Ytre Hvaler National Park

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Declaration

I, Mari Reistad, declare that this thesis is a result of my research investigations and findings. Sources of information other than my own have been acknowledged and a reference list has been appended. This work has not been previously submitted to any other university for award of any type of academic degree.

Signature.....

Date.....

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Abstract

Kosterhavet National Park and Ytre Hvaler National Park is situated across the border to each other in the south of Sweden and Norway. The parks were established ten years ago, and has from the beginning had a strong focus on involving local participation in their management strategies. The purpose of this thesis is to examine and compare how local participation has taken place in Kosterhavet and Ytre Hvaler National Parks, and to try to understand if this has had an impact of the effectiveness of the park.

The study is performed using qualitative methods. Eleven semi-structured interviews were performed in the parks on stakeholders and managers. The stakeholders identified was cabin owners, farmers, fishers, and tourism actors, along with managers.

In the establishment of the park, several stakeholders were sceptical to the parks. In both countries, fishers were the most sceptical. These worries were eased through informational meetings and specific meetings for stakeholders. This cooperation has continued throughout the lifespan of the parks. The participants are satisfied with their level of involvement and thinks that the park management is easy to cooperate with. The managers also believe that the participation works well. A local governance structure is seen as one of the most important aspects of why participation has worked well within the parks. The local structure makes it possible to build good personal relationships between management and stakeholders. This allows for a level of trust between actors, which again leads to the parks having high level of legitimacy among the local population.

The main differences between the parks are found in the establishment process and in the level of participation that has been achieved. Kosterhavet was wanted among local inhabitants, as a way to bring tourists and income to the area. Ytre Hvaler National Park was decided by the government, and had no local support at the beginning. The management of Kosterhavet National Park has higher degree of local participation, with locals being part of the decision-making board in the park. In Ytre Hvaler, the same level of participation has not been achieved. The main findings of this study is that involvement and participation brings on high levels of trust and legitimacy, and that this is important for how positively local populations view a protected area.

Key Words: local participation, legitimacy, cooperation, local management, adaptive management, national parks

Table of contents

Acknowledgements	iv
Abstract	v
List of tables	viii
List of figures	viii
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Background.....	3
2.1 Marine conservation	3
2.2 Conservation in Norway and Sweden	4
2.3 Study area	5
2.3.1 Kosterhavet National Park	6
2.3.2 Ytre Hvaler National Park.....	8
3. Conceptual framework.....	11
3.1 Resilience.....	11
3.2 Adaptive management	11
3.2.1 Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation	13
3.3 Local participation.....	15
4. Method.....	19
4.1 Sample	19
4.1.1 Sample size.....	19
4.2 Data collection.....	20
4.2.1 Qualitative interviews	20
4.3 Limitations.....	21
5. Results.....	22
5.1 Kosterhavet National Park.....	22
5.2 Ytre Hvaler National Park	29
6. Discussion	37

7. Conclusion	43
8. References	45
9. Appendix.....	51
9.1 Interview guide for stakeholders	51
9.2 Interview guide for managers	52

List of tables

Table 1 Typology of participation.....	17
Table 2 Typology of participation, emphasis on the levels achieved in the parks.....	39
Table 3 Important aspects for successful participation and management of the park.....	42

List of figures

Figure 1 Map of Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet National Parks	5
Figure 2 Components of adaptive management	12
Figure 3 The Open Standards Management Cycle	14
Figure 4 Management cycle from Kosterhavet National Park.....	14
Figure 5 Management cycle from Ytre Hvaler National Park	15

1. Introduction

In trying to meet international conservation goals, together with a better understanding on national level of the importance of protecting more natural environments, there is a big expansion in the number of protected areas around the world. This also means that there is a greater chance of conflict between conservation and use (Hovik et al 2010). Marine protected areas have the potential to affect local populations and stakeholders, as they are often part of complex socio-ecological systems. People live in, rely on it for their livelihood, and use the areas for recreational purposes. Because of the likelihood that a protected area will affect local populations to some degree, it is becoming more widely recognised that there needs to be some degree of support from stakeholders to make conservation measures successful (Dehens&Fanning, 2018). Pushing a marine protected area on the community without their support might make the process of implementing the protected area easier, but it also raises the likelihood of angering the stakeholders and making the marine protected area an area of conflict (Chuenpagdee et al, 2012). Because of this, cooperation and dialogue between stakeholders and the marine protected area management is key to make protected areas successful. Participation in varying levels can help alleviate any conflicts caused by the differing values and goals that local populations and management might have. Kosterhavet National Park and Ytre Hvaler National Park were established in 2009 and have focused on involving local voices in their management plans. Their goal is to use participation as a tool to achieve management with more support from the local population and less conflict. Understanding how participation works, and what elements of participation is most important to get a successful outcome, is vital to make management effective and inclusive, and is what I will try to examine in this thesis.

Research objective

The purpose of this thesis is to examine and compare how local participation has taken place in Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet National Parks, and to try to understand if this has had an impact on the effectiveness of the park.

Research questions

- 1) To what extent have users and stakeholders been invited to participate in the establishment and daily work of the parks?
- 2) How well do managers and stakeholders feel that the dialogue and cooperation function?

- 3) Has the local participation had an effect on the management outcome since the establishment of the parks?
- 4) Are there differences or similarities between the two parks in how local participation has been done, and what issues or problems they have been facing?

2. Background

2.1 Marine conservation

Marine conservation can take many forms and will have different levels of regulations and enforcement. Marine protected areas (MPAs) emerged as a management strategy in the 1960s (Fouqueray & Papyrakis, 2018), and is among the most common terms used today in marine conservation. A marine protected area is defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as “*any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment*” (Kelleher, 1999). IUCN describes how conservation areas can be categorized into the six following categories:

Category I Ia: Strict Nature Reserve, Ib: Wilderness Area	Protected area managed mainly for science or wilderness protection
Category II National Park	Protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
Category III Natural Monument	Protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
Category IV Habitat/Species Management Area	Protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
Category V Protected Landscape/Seascape	Protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
Category VI Managed Resource Protected Area	Protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

Table 1: IUCNs categorization of protected areas (Dudley, 2008).

The two MPAs discussed in this thesis both fall in under category II, national parks. As there are different categories of MPAs, there are also different ways of looking at what level of protection an MPA should set out to achieve. Some believe that MPAs should be closed for all human activity, while there are also MPAs that are open for recreational or commercial use (NOAA, 2018). MPAs can be used as a tool for sustainable use of an area (Fouqueray & Papyrakis, 2019), as was a way to manage fisheries, or reach biodiversity conservation goals (Sanders & Cochrane, 2014). With this range of ways of looking at MPAs, the amount of protection these marine areas have will vary greatly. As of December 2019, 4,8 per cent of the world's oceans are protected by MPAs (Marine Conservation Institute, 2019). While the UN with the Convention on Biological Diversity has an aim of protecting 10 per cent of

marine areas by 2020 (CBD, n.d), this may be too low to adequately protect the oceans. A study shows that closer to 35 per cent might need to be protected to fully “*protect biodiversity, preserve ecosystem services, and achieve socioeconomic priorities*” (O’Leary et al, 2016, p. 398).

2.2 Conservation in Norway and Sweden

Both Norway and Sweden have pledged to protect at least 10 per cent of their respective coastal and marine areas by 2020 in agreement with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (CBD, n.d.; Regjeringen, 2013). For both countries, marine protection is a focus area, and they are both working towards protecting more areas and having more effective management of coastal and marine areas (Klima- og Miljødepartementet, 2015; Sveriges Riksdag, 2017).

Norway protects 4566 square kilometres of their marine areas, and have six marine protected areas, as well as multiple nature reserves and other forms of protection relating to marine areas. Norway also have four marine national parks, Ytre Hvaler, Færder, Jomfruland and Raet National Parks (Miljøstatus, 2019). 3,1 per cent of marine areas in Norway are protected as of today (Miljøstatus, 2019). This means Norway is far away from reaching the goals set in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

In Sweden marine conservation is done mostly through marine nature reserves, as well as Natura 2000-areas, biotope- and biosphere protected areas. They also have Kosterhavet National Park, which is Swedens only marine national park (Havs- och Vattenmyndigheten 2014). Sweden could in 2017 report that they have managed to protect 13,6 per cent of their marine areas (Regeringskansliet, 2017), thereby reaching the targets set by the Aichi goals.

2.3 Study area



Figure 1 Map of Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet National Parks (Copyright: Mickaël Delcey)

2.3.1 Kosterhavet National Park

Area

Kosterhavet National Park consists of an area of 389 square kilometres. It is situated in the municipalities of Västra Götaland, Strömstad and Tanum. The park is connected to Ytre Hvaler through a deep trench that goes through Hvalerdjupet and Kosterfjorden (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). All land in national parks are owned by the state in Sweden, meaning that there are several areas within the park borders that are not included in the park (Havs- och vattenmyndigheten, 2017).

Timeline

Establishing a national park in the area of archipelagos around the Koster islands was first proposed by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) in 1988/89 (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). However, it would take several years before any plans were put into action. In 2003 establishing a national park was suggested again by the county government, but an official proposition to establish the park was not sent out by SEPA before the year 2007 (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). In the following year, the municipalities worked on involving members of the communities through public meetings and with informational brochures, as well as establishing a dialogue with fishers in the area (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). The park was approved by the Swedish parliament (Riksdag of Sweden) on the 19th of March 2009 (Riksdagen, 2009), and was opened later that year on 9th of September (Naturvårdsverket, 2009).

Key factors for establishment

The main goal of Kosterhavet National Park is to protect the distinctive and species-rich area of sea, archipelago, and the connected areas on land, and to maintain the area in an unchanged condition (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). Kosterhavet is among the most valuable marine environments in Sweden. There is a unique mix of different environments, as well as floras and faunas that are richer in species than anywhere else in Sweden. The oceans of Kosterhavet National Park hold more than 6000 marine species, and there are close to 6000 species on land, making the park one of Swedens most biologically diverse areas (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). For several of the species, the national park is the only place they are found in Sweden (Liljenström&Bjørk, 2013). More than 200 species are believed to have their only known occurrence in Sweden in the national park (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). The underwater environment consists of hard and soft sea beds, kelp forests, eelgrass, and sandy

beaches, as well as areas with coral reefs (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). While there have been found several coral reefs within the park (Naturvårdsverket, 2009), the only living coral reef is found at Säckan, north of Strömstad (Liljenström&Kvarnbäck, 2010).

The area of Kosterhavet Nationalpark has been affected by human activities. Things such as increased boat traffic, both recreational and shipping, fishing, bottom trawling, nutrient emissions from agriculture, and invasive species are seen as threats to the marine environment in the park, and is something they work actively on in the management of the park (Naturvårdsverket, 2009).

Management

Kosterhavet National Park is run by a delegation, called the Kosterhavs Delegation, made up by representatives from the County Administration, Tanum and Strömstad municipalities, the Koster Board, community associations, local fishery organisations as well Göteborg University. The Kosterhavs Delegation have been given decision making power within the park by the County Administrative Board in West Götaland County (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). The decision of having a national park delegation made up mostly by local people was made to ensure that local users and stakeholders had influence over the park (Kosterhavet nationalpark, n.d.). There are also eight people employed by the park, working with daily task related to the management of the park (Stokke et al, 2017).

Several habitats and species within Kosterhavet National Park are part of the Natura 2000 program (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). Natura 2000 is a network run by the European Union, consisting of breeding and resting sites for rare species, as well as protection for other rare habitat types (European Commission, 2019). The fact that parts of the national park are also considered Natura 2000 sites does not affect the way nature management is performed in the park in any significant way. Natura 2000 does not impose any strict regulations onto the areas, but “*member states must ensure that the sites are managed in a sustainable manner*” (European Commission, 2019, para. 4).

Uses of the park

Important industries within the park are tourism, shipping and commercial fishing. Other uses of the park are recreational fishing and boating, kayaking, diving and other recreational activities in the area (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). The area the park is situated in is among the most popular among visitors in Sweden and had around 90 000 visitors a year in 2006

(Naturvårdsverket, 2009). This makes tourism the most important industry in the area. It is therefore important to ensure a sustainable tourism industry in the area (Naturvårdsverket, 2009).

There is also a small scale fishery industry in the park, mostly after shrimp and langoustine (Naturvårdsverket, 2009). Shrimp fishing is among the most important industries of the region, and around 30 trawlers work in the area, catching around 2000 tonnes of shrimp yearly (Samförvaltningen Norra Bohuslän, 2015). The fishery in the park is regulated both through the national park and the Koster-Väderö Fjord Agreement, which is an agreement made between fishermen and the local municipalities in 2000 (Samförvaltningen Norra Bohuslän, 2015; Naturvårdsverket, 2009). Regulations include reduction of bycatch by using specific trawls, trawling is only allowed on depths below 60 metres and protection of certain areas that are especially vulnerable for trawling (Samförvaltningen Norra Bohuslän, 2015).

2.3.2 Ytre Hvaler National Park

Area

Ytre Hvaler National Park is situated in the county of Østfold, in the municipalities of Hvaler and Fredrikstad. The national park covers an area of 354 square kilometres. 340 square kilometres are marine areas, with only the outstanding 14 square kilometres being on land. 96 per cent of the park is state-owned property, while the remaining 4 per cent is owned by different private landowners (Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011).

Timeline

Protecting coastal areas in the outer Oslofjord was first suggested in 1986 (NOU 1986:13). The actual planning of the park did however not start until 2004 when the municipalities started preliminary studies and public hearings (Miljøverndepartementet, 2009). In the beginning 2009, the work with the management plan started, and relevant actors and agencies were contacted. Meetings were held with key stakeholders to discuss management plans and goals, and the results from these meetings gave important feedback to the planning process (Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). The park was formally established by Royal Decree on the 26th of June 2009.

Key factors for establishment

The main goals for the establishment of Ytre Hvaler National Park are to protect a big and relatively untouched natural environment by the coast of Southeast Norway, preserve a landscape with varied sea bottom topography and to conserve ecosystems on land and in water (Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). Because of the Glomma estuary and the specific bottom topography with depths down to 460 metres, the marine environment of Ytre Hvaler is rich and diverse (Miljøverndepartementet, 2009). Ytre Hvaler National park is species-rich on both land and in water, and many red-listed species can be found in the park. Among the species found is 260 different bird species, and 960 butterfly species (Direktoratet for Naturforvaltning, n.d., Statens Naturoppsyn, n.d.). Ytre Hvaler has coral reefs in several places, which is seen as particularly important to preserve. Tislerrevet, found in the east of the park, is thought to be Europe's largest inshore coral reef (Miljøverndepartementet, 2009). The reef is 1200 metres long and is an important habitat for several species (Direktoratet for Naturforvaltning, n.d.). There are also vast areas of soft, muddy bottoms covered in mud and clay. These areas are populated by crustaceans, worms, starfish, among other things. Other areas are covered in dense kelp forests, that works as a good hiding place for fish, crabs, and shells (Direktoratet for Naturforvaltning, n.d.)

Management

Ytre Hvaler National Park is managed by a national park board, with representatives from Hvaler and Fredrikstad municipalities, Østfold County Council, and the national park manager for Ytre Hvaler. Their tasks are to ensure that the management of the national park is comprehensive and knowledge-based, as well as handling applications for exceptions from the conservation regulations (Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2014). The board also relies on input from an advisory committee, which includes members from different stakeholder groups and organisations in the area (Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2017).

The national park manager is the only person employed by the park (Stokke et al, 2017). The Norwegian Nature Surveillance (NNS) and Skjærgårdstjenesten ([translation?](#)) are also working within the park. They are not directly employed by the park. NNS is tasked by the Norwegian Environment Agency and works with nature oversight, while Skjærgårdstjenesten works with maintaining the recreational areas all around the Oslofjord, Ytre Hvaler National Park included (Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2015a;2015b). The National Park Board, NNS and Skjærgårdstjenesten are all located at "Skjærgårdens hus" ([translation?](#)) a shared office space

located in Skjærhalden. The goal of gathering these agencies is to make a hub for the management of the park and gather knowledge in one place (Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2012).

Uses of the park

Important uses of the park include tourism and recreational use, fishing and shipping. The Hvaler area is among the most important areas for recreation on the Norwegian coast. The use of the area is becoming even more popular, and there is a possibility that increased use can damage the environment (Miljøverndepartementet, 2009). Increased management of visitors is needed. Shrimp trawling is the biggest fishery in the area and is seen as being important. At the same time, the trawling is seen as a threat to the sea bottom and species living there (Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). Parts of the areas, especially the islands, are used as grazing land for animals (Miljøverndepartementet, 2009).

3. Conceptual framework

3.1 Resilience

Resilience is the capacity of a system to recover from a disturbance, or the capacity of a system to rearrange and move into a new steady-state or regime following a disturbance (Gunderson, 2000). The concept was first introduced by C.S. Holling, as a response to the traditional way of looking at nature as something static and unchangeable, where the goal of management is to keep the status quo (C. Holling, 1973). As resilience looks at how a system can recover and change in response to a disturbance or crisis, this was a new way of trying to understand the changes that happen to a system under pressure, and how far you can stretch this system before it changes into something completely new. If a system loses too much of its resilience, either by human intervention or through natural disturbances, the system will in the end no longer be able to withstand any new disruptions (Cumming & Peterson, 2017). The level where a system is no longer able to deal with disruptions is called a threshold, and if crossed the system might not be able to recover (Walker et al, 2004).

Managing a system to be resilient means understanding that socio-ecological systems are prone to change and that management must adapt and respond to these changes to uphold the resilience of the system (Walker et al, 2004). While the goals for management must satisfy the users, it must also maintain the functions of the systems that are needed to be able to handle shocks or dramatic change (Gunderson, 2000).

3.2 Adaptive management

Adaptive management is a management approach born out of resilience, that looks to manage systems in a way that takes the resilience of the system into account and looks at how to build that resilience further so that the system can withstand change and disturbance. Adaptive management “...is a technique by which resource managers work toward a restoration goal, while simultaneously monitoring and studying the effects and impacts of the management techniques” (Newman, 2011).

Adaptive management works in an iterative cycle, with problem definition, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, knowledge sharing and adaption. This enables the managers to find the problem that needs to be mitigated, start implementing actions, to then

evaluate how well it has worked. This also gives room to continually learn from what is working and what is not working, and in that way implement new measures that are better fitted for the situation. The continued monitoring also makes it possible to always learn new things about the system and enables adjustments as new knowledge or new threats are discovered. (Gillson et al, 2019). Management is complicated by uncertainty and social pressures. Adaptive management is a good fit for cases with a great deal of complexity and uncertainty, as the approach works towards a restoration goal while simultaneously monitoring and studying the effects and impacts the implementation of management has. This makes room for changing management goals and actions as new information comes to light from scientific monitoring (Newman, 2011).

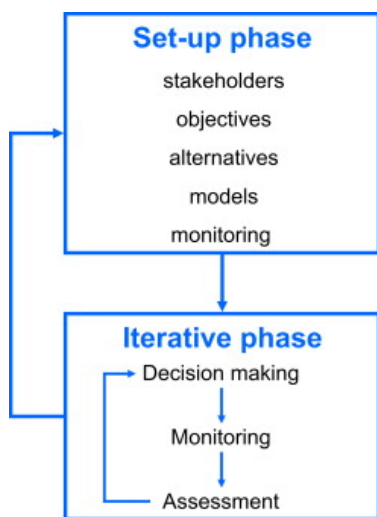


Figure 2 Components of adaptive management (Williams, 2011).

Adaptive management is done through a cyclical process. Williams describes this cycle as two phases, a set-up phase and an iterative phase. In the initial phase, the set-up phase (also called the deliberative phase), the main goal is to identify the issues that need managing. This involves identifying stakeholders, objectives, what management alternatives are available, models, and how to monitor the actions that are taken. This is followed by the iterative phase. This phase uses the issues and elements found in the set-up phase to manage, monitor and assess the whole management regime (Williams, 2011). The process is iterative, meaning that the management is continuously assessed based on new knowledge, and management strategies will be changed in answer to what is learned by monitoring and assessment, to continuously improve the management to better fit the situation (Allen & Garmenstani, 2015). Based on this, adaptive management may for some look like an approach based on trial and error approach, where actions are taken based on what one thinks might work, and if they

don't work, it is just changed continuously. However, this is not the case. Adaptive management has clear goals and objectives and uses the iterative cycle to learn and evaluate to best possible management strategies, that fits best within the situation (Allen & Garmestani, 2015).

In adaptive management, including the local populations is seen as a key element of ensuring successful management (Williams, 2011). This includes involving resource user and key stakeholders in the area that is to be managed. Involving local populations makes it more likely for the conservation project to garner wide public support, and makes it possible for local knowledge, meanings and values to be taken into account when it comes to management questions (Newman, 2011). In the case of Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet National Parks, using adaptive management is first and foremost seen as an approach that makes it possible to access knowledge and meanings from users and stakeholders (Naturvårdsverket, 2009; Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). The participation of local users and stakeholders will be mentioned further in chapter 3.3, where local participation and its effect on management and conservation efforts will be discussed.

3.2.1 Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation

Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation (OS), is a management guide made for use in conservation projects. It was created by the Conservation Measures Partnership based on information from studies and insight from their members, to find an approach on how to make project design, management and monitoring that work well and are easily transferable to different cases (CMP, 2013). A goal for the approach is to create a community of connected conservation projects and to create a community of knowledge and experience (Schwartz, 2012).

The OS builds on adaptive management, and uses the same idea of a cyclical approach, with objectives and goals, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. The management approach includes the following five management steps, which works in a circular fashion: Step 1) conceptualize the project vision and context, step 2) plan actions and monitoring, step 3) implement actions and monitoring, step 4) analyse data, use the results, and adapt, step 5) capture and share learning (CMP, 2013). While the OS provides a structured guideline on how to plan and perform management, there is a lack of flexibility that might be necessary for the many different applications the management approach sets out to cover (Schwartz, 2011).



Figure 3 The Open Standards Management Cycle (CMP, 2013).

These same five steps are in use in the two national parks and were part in informing the work with creating the management plans of the two areas (Naturvårdsverket, 2009; Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). One of the key aspects of the OS is realistic goal-setting, that should be measurable and impact-orientated (Schwartz, 2012). This has been done in the two parks, by setting clear goals for each management area, where the issues are identified and the desired outcome is set (Naturvårdsverket, 2009; Fylkesmannen i Østfold, 2011). The main reasons for the two parks to choose this management approach are the focus on local participation, the possibility of easy comparison between protected areas and the goal-oriented methodology (Naturvårdsverket, 2009; Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2017)

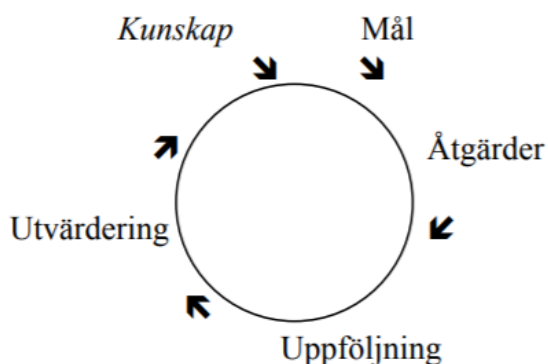


Figure 4 Management cycle from Kosterhavet National Park. Translation: goal – action – follow-up – evaluation – knowledge (Naturvårdsverket, 2009).



Figure 5 Management cycle from Ytre Hvaler National Park. Translation: *planning – measures – monitoring – reporting* (Ytre Hvaler Nasjonalpark, 2017).

3.3 Local participation

Participation from users and stakeholders can make the conservation efforts more efficient, accurate and legitimate (Schultz et al, 2011). It allows the people who will be affected by the regulations to participate in the discussions surrounding the management, which might make people more likely to follow regulations, as they themselves have had a part in the decision process. A participatory process will also bring a larger knowledge base to the discussion (Schultz et al 2011). Deheens and Fanning (2018) similarly found that MPAs with a high degree of local participation led to a higher degree om legitimacy among users and stakeholders. While the degree of involvement from stakeholders varies, deciding user rights and educating the locals were found to be important in determining how legitimate the protected area is seen by local populations (Deheens&Fanning, 2018). Participation might give the stakeholders a feeling of ownership or involvement in the project, making it partly theirs.

In areas with common pool resource characteristics, there is a high likelihood of conflict between biodiversity conservation and human interests (Hovik et al, 2010). While encouraging participation is very important in nature management, and especially within adaptive management, it is important that the conservation goals come first. To ensure that the protected areas manage to reach the protection goals as well as being a good fit for the local users and stakeholders, there needs to be an appropriate balance in the power distribution. The state, municipality, or another management actor must retain some control in order to fulfil international obligations to protection (Hovik et al, 2010). Promoting local participation in

protected areas requires a careful balance between the representation of local values and needs with global preservation values and goals (Hovik, Sandström & Zachrisson, 2010).

Participation in adaptive management can take many forms. There does, however, not seem to be an agreed upon level of how much participation is needed for local involvement to be successful. While it is agreed upon that participation from local users and stakeholders is important to incorporate within conservation management, the way this is done can vary greatly (Stringer et al, 2006). Experiences from marine protected areas around the world show that it is important to allow for the time and effort it takes to have a discussion before the implementation process of a protected area begins (Chuenpagdee et al, 2012). In this part of the process, it is important to figure out which stakeholders to include, and how they should be allowed to participate (Chuenpagdee et al, 2012). The IUCN claims that in MPAs the most important actors to include are fishermen (Kelleher, 1999). The rules of participation and the arenas for communication must be agreed upon, to ensure that all stakeholders on every level are included. The people living in the area, as well as the government agencies, all have stakes in the process. For the local population, their livelihood and recreational activities can be affected by a proposed protection. For governmental agencies, their commitment to international agreements is at stake. This means that different stakeholders will have different values and might want a protection strategy that best fits their needs. This can lead to conflicts, as the values and needs may be different for all the groups that are involved in the process, and makes a good working relationship with clear boundaries important (Chuenpagdee et al, 2012). Because of this possibility of conflict, it might also be important to have conflict resolution tools in place for any conflicts that might arise (Hovik et al, 2010).

Table 1 Typology of participation, (Pretty, 1995).

TYPOLGY	CHARACTERISTICS
Manipulative Participation	Participation is simply a pretence under which people are manipulated.
Passive Participation	People participate by being told what has been decided or already happened. Information being shared belongs only to external professionals.
Participation by Consultation	People participate by being consulted or by answering questions. Process does not concede any share in decision-making, and professionals are under no obligation to take on board people's views.
Participation by Material Incentives	People participate in return for food, cash or other material incentives. Local people have no stake in prolonging technologies or practices when the incentives end.
Functional Participation	Participation seen by external agencies as a means to achieve project goals, especially reduced costs. People may participate by forming groups to meet predetermined objectives related to the project.
Interactive Participation	People participate in joint analysis, development of action plans and formation or strengthening of local groups or institutions. Learning methodologies used to seek multiple perspectives, and groups determine how available resources are used.
Self-Mobilisation	People participate by taking initiatives independently of external institutions to change systems. They develop contacts with external institutions for resources and technical advice they need, but retain control over how resources are used.

The typologies of participation were originally used to describe participation in agricultural development programs (Pretty, 1995). While originally created for use in agricultural participation, I believe that the typologies of participation fit well in a situation with adaptive management in marine conservation. The different types of participation explain different ways of how locals can participate in projects, and to what extent they are allowed to participate in decision making and management of an area, and I believe this can be applicable also in cases with participation by local users and stakeholders in marine protected area management. Later on in the thesis I will try to ascertain what level of participation they have achieved in Kosterhavet and Ytre Hvaler national parks.

Information and communication is an important aspect of participation. A good personal relationship between stakeholders and management can positively affect the participation process, and make it easier to work together on cases related to the conservation project (Stringer et al, 2006). Communication and dialogue can build trust between users and management, and this, in turn, can create a shared vision of the area and how it best should be cared for (Folke et al, 2005). The locals understand the need for protection, but they are also afraid that their lives will be strongly affected by the protection measures (Bachert, 1991), and it is, therefore, important to include and inform stakeholders about the reasons behind management actions so that they fully understand the reasons behind protection measures put in place.

4. Method

In this chapter I will discuss my choice of method and sampling, and describe the decisions taken while undertaking the research for this thesis.

4.1 Sample

This study was performed using a non-probability sampling approach. A combination of two sampling methods was used in this study; purposive sampling and snowball sampling.

According to Bryman (2012), purposive sampling is a method where participants are chosen due to their relevance to the research questions being posed. I chose this method because I wanted to ensure that I talked to different actors that could have been affected by the changes and regulations that came with the park. I identified four stakeholder groups that I imagined would have been affected by changes after the establishment of the national parks. The four groups I identified were fishermen, cabin owners, farmers, and the tourism industry. These groups were also among the ones who were invited to participate in discussions before the establishment of the park and could therefore have interesting information about how the process had seemed to them. I also wanted to interview a park manager within each park, to ensure that I got information from both sides, from both the people who are deciding rules and regulations and the people who will be affected by these regulations. I also used snowball sampling to get in touch with participants. This is a sampling method that involves finding and interviewing participants that fit into the characteristics that have been decided, before asking them for referrals of other possible individuals that will be relevant for the study (Berg & Lune, 2012).

4.1.1 Sample size

The goal for sample size in this study was to interview at least one representative for each stakeholder group, as well as one manager for each park. I ended up performing 11 interviews in total, with representation from all the stakeholder groups identified. Five interviews were performed in Sweden, with representation from all groups that was identified in the previous section. In Norway, six interviews were performed. All groups were interviewed, but I had two interviews with tourism actors. The minimum number for sample size is discussed thoroughly in academia, yet there is no agreed-upon number for what counts as a valid sample size (Bryman, 2012). While 11 participants might be on the lower end of the spectrum on what is needed to be valid, I believe that with the in-depth interviews I performed coupled with the fact that multiple of the people I interviewed were members of organisations

associated with their stakeholder group and therefore had knowledge and viewpoints from what has been shared in these organisations, made up for the small sample size.

4.2 Data collection

I performed the interviews throughout 2019. It turned out to be harder than imagined getting hold of participants that fit into the criteria of the study. Finding and getting in touch with the possible participants ended up being significantly more time consuming than what I first planned for. This was partly due to the hardship of identifying participants that fit into the criteria, and partly due to difficulties in getting in touch with people once I had identified the right people. This made the interview process take a considerably longer amount of time than originally planned.

4.2.1 Qualitative interviews

I chose to perform semi-structured interviews for this study. Some of the interviews took place on location in either park or surrounding area, while others were performed over the telephone for convenience sake. The interviews lasted between 30 and 75 minutes. I created interview guides for the interviews, one to use in interviews with park managers and one to be used in interviews with stakeholders. The reason for using different guides for the two groups, is that while I wanted to ask each group their perception on how the cooperation between management and local stakeholders works, I also wanted to ask the park managers more in-depth questions about the structure and management of the national park. The first part of the interview for both groups was designed to learn about what kind of connection the individual had to the park. The rest of the interview guide had questions pertaining the management strategies of the park, local participation and cooperation, and what the participants wants the park to be in the future. I tried to keep the questions as open as possible to get a more in-depth understanding of the participants' views and opinions on the different topics. Using semi-structured interview guides made it possible for me to follow up on interesting topics that were brought up by the participants, and by doing this I feel like I got a deeper understanding of what the stakeholders and managers found important outside of topics I had thought of while planning the interviews. This did however mean that I did not always get to ask all questions I had in each interview, but I still feel like during the conversations I managed to obtain enough data to cover most

topics that I wanted to learn about through letting the participants talk about what they found most important.

I chose to audio-record the interviews with the participants' permission. All participants were willing to be recorded and did not seem to mind or feel uncomfortable by being recorded, which Bryman (2012) mentions might be an issue when using recording devices. The topics discussed in this study is not particularly sensitive, which I assume plays into the participants willingness to be recorded. Recording the interviews, rather than taking notes throughout, allowed me to be more engaged in the conversation, and better be able to follow up interesting points being made during the interview. I later transcribed the full conversation. This ensured that I fully captured what had been said during the interview and it allowed me to go through the conversation thoroughly while analysing the data.

4.3 Limitations

By using qualitative methods, some limitations arise. Using purposive sampling typically makes it impossible to generalize based on the data collected, as it is not a random sample that reflects the whole population (Berg & Lune, 2012). This means that the data collected in this study can only reflect how things are in the two cases of Ytre Hvaler National Park and Kosterhavet National Park.

As mentioned previously, the small sample size of this study can be problematic, especially when it comes to data saturation. Reaching data saturation can be defined as “the number of interviews needed to get a reliable sense of thematic exhaustion and variability within [the] data set” (Guest et al, referenced in Bryman 2012, p. 426). Johansen et al (2016) mentions that it is more important to get a relevant selection of participants rather than having many participants. Having relevant participants give a rich and detailed description of the phenomena that is being explored can give equal amounts of valuable information as a larger group that has a less direct connection to the subject. Another aspect of the sample that limits the study is the individuals selected. To make this study richer, it might have been a good idea to also involve participants from other groups. This could be inhabitants of the coastal area where the parks are situated, groups who uses the area for recreational activities etc. This would have given an even more in-depth understanding of the parks and its cooperation with the local stakeholder groups. However, with limited time to complete the study, I chose to

include the actors I feel would be the most affected by the changes brought on by the implementation of the parks, as they have livelihoods and businesses that are affected.

5. Results

5.1 Kosterhavet National Park

Establishment

According to the park manager, the Kosterhavet National Park was established in cooperation between the county and the people of the Koster Islands. Exactly who took the initiative, the locals or the state, its hard to tell as it was more of a cooperation. They wanted to find a way to handle the increased tourism to the island, and better care for the environment. Because the laws in Sweden state that all land in national parks must be owned by the state, the government had to go in and see if people wanted to sell land in the area so that it could be included in the park. They tried to negotiate with people, but never forced anyone. *“30 years ago you could go over the head of people, but that isn’t something we do any more,”* the manager I spoke to said, as they did not want to force people into selling. Information meetings were held at the beginning of the process, and people were invited to give feedback on the proposed plans for the park.

While the people on the Koster Islands was positive to the park, some were sceptical to the park and how it would affect their use of the area. People were wondering if they would be allowed to fish, pick berries and mushroom among other things. *“[People] thought the park would just become a dead area,”* the park manager I spoke to said. The cabin owner said: *“You know what you have, but not what you will get,”* which is telling to the uncertainty that can be the experience of such a process. Especially the trawl fishers were sceptical to what regulations there would be and how it would affect them, and this would be the group that could make or break the park. *“With getting the fishers onboard, we got the municipalities to follow. If the shrimp fishery had said no, I think the municipalities had said no as well,”* the park manager explained. Getting the trawl fishermen to be involved in the process was very important, as the park would most likely not have happened if they were not on board.

The fishing was already managed through the Koster-Väderö Fjord Agreement, and the regulations that were agreed on in this agreement was continued in the work on the park. The fishers had the people behind them: *“At the start, it was very one-sided[...]but we had the*

*whole society behind us, and the Kosterhavs Delegation, so they understood that they could not just do as they pleased[...]*So all of that caused change,” the representative from the fishery association stated. The fishers felt that they were not really listened to, but this changed quickly when the park understood that it would be vital to get them on board if they wanted the park to be established. The fisher I talked to also believed that some of the fuzz around the park was because Sweden was yet to establish a marine national park, and that this is why it became so important to get the plans through. For the fishermen, the biggest change after the park is that they now have to take a class in sustainable fishing and get a licence to fish in the area, as well as additional areas that are no-fishing zones. A problem for the area before was that outside fishers would come and not have a good enough understanding of where to fish and where not to fish. With this class, this problem has disappeared, and it is no longer an issue.

Cabin owners, farmers and the tourism industry have also been involved in the process from the beginning. They were invited to informational meetings and was informed of the process step by step as things went along. The level of involvement in this process varied, and the tourism actor and cabin owner I talked to was not part in the process in any large way, other than to follow the discussions that were around the park. For the cabin owner, it did not feel like the park would affect his use of the area in any way. As the rules in Sweden are that no privately owned land can be part of national parks, no cabins are situated within the borders of the park. This means that the effect the park has on cabin owners is limited to any regulations that relate to recreational activities such as fishing or boating, and ultimately will not affect them in any significant ways. While some were sceptical in the beginning, as mentioned before, my informants mostly felt like the process of establishing the park worked well, and that the information they got and their possibility to raise their concerns were adequate. They say that while people were sceptical at first, they soon understood that both the need to protect the area and that the regulations would not affect them too harshly in any way.

Communication and cooperation

Communication and dialogue between the park and the users and stakeholders have been important for the park from the beginning. “*We don’t just look at nature, but also the human uses and values,*” the manager said about the reasoning behind choosing an adaptive management approach in Kosterhavet National Park. Having the Kosterhavs Delegation, with

members from the different associations is an important part of the cooperation between the park and the users. While the park management only talks to a few of the many people who are affected in these meetings, the members of the delegation are representatives for the whole group and are able to bring topics to the discussion that is brought to them by other members. Involving locals in the process of establishing the park and in the further work with the park, was important for the management to be able to build trust with the stakeholders and users. According to the park manager all of this takes up a lot of time, but it is still important to ensure their credibility. They do not want to just go in and decide things without listening to the voices of the people it will affect first, as they believe that this would not create good management of the park in the long run. For the cabin owner, there had not been much direct dialogue between himself and the park, but it did not feel like it would be hard to contact them if he was wondering about something or having any kinds of issues. He would most likely first contact the association for the people living in the area, as they have a closer connection to the park, but felt sure that any issues he might have would be dealt with.

Involving the local people in decision making has also turned out to be a good way to avoid conflict. When the park wanted to protect another area of seafloor they contacted the fishery association to discuss it. It turned out that this area was used by a fisherman. In order to be able to turn his boat when he was out trawling he needed to use a small piece of the area that was supposed to be protected to turn his boat around. Instead of making a big conflict out of this, the management found a way for him to be able to continue to fish in the area and turn his boat around, while still protecting almost all of the area that they wanted. This speaks to a flexible system that is willing to include the local voices and knowledge in the management.

The dialogue between the tourism industry and the park works well. There has not been too much cooperation between them earlier, but the relationship has always been very good. The tourism operator I talked to was very pleased with how easy the park management is to talk to, and how they feel comfortable with bringing up any issues they might be having. This is in large due to a good personal relationship to the management. Recently, the cooperation between tourism actors and the park has become tighter, with the park inviting different actors to a meeting to talk about cooperation going into the future. There is talk about making cooperation between park management and tourism actors more official. The tourism operator was very pleased with this, as he feels this will legitimize his place in the park. It will also enable him to have more power when it comes to letting people know about unwanted behaviour within the park borders, as this has been an issue before when trying to talk to

people he sees who does not follow the regulations in the park. Creating more cooperation and stronger bonds between the park and the tourism actors was something everyone was very positive for, and they all were pleased with how the dialogue between park and actors have worked up until now, the tourism actor said to me.

The farmer was also very happy with how their relationship with the park has been. *“They are helpful, I get all the help I need. I think everything works very well! And the animals are doing a good job as well,”* she said in relation to how cooperation between the farm and the park works. Getting animals out and in from pasture, fencing and so on is things she gets help from the park with, and this works very well. The park is very happy to help, as having grazing in the park is seen as a way to keep cultural landscapes open. Deciding on where to put the animals to best suit both humans and animals is something the park and the farmer work on together.

Information

Using the knowledge they get from scientific inventories is a valuable informational tool for the park management. When they can use the data and knowledge they have from the inventories, they can better explain and justify why certain actions must be taken and regulations must be made, or else the natural values will be lost. *“It is all about trust, and showing the facts we have,”* the park manager said. The park management wants to be open and explain to people what they are doing and why. They are also very open to cooperate to find good solutions, as they did with the fishers in the establishment of the park.

The common sentiment among the stakeholders I talked to was that the information they get from the park is good and that they have learnt a lot about the nature in the area after the park came. The cabin owner says that he believes that the information has made people more aware of what natural values there are in the area. While people have always thought the area around the Kosterfjord is beautiful, they have not fully been aware of how special Koster actually is. There is information easily available, and the cabin owner especially likes the brochures, which is good to have for guests visiting to teach them about the park. While tourism operator believes that there is a lot of good information out there, he also thinks that the information might not reach everyone. While the people who work closely with the park gain a lot of knowledge from the meetings they attend, not everybody is able to access all this information.

The park helps the farmer to inform visitors about how to behave around the animals. There have been some issues with unleashed dogs and visitors scaring the animals, but with the help of the park on informing the users and visitors of the park, this does not seem to be a major problem. She also feels like she is part of helping inform people about the reasoning behind the park, both to customers and to people she met day-to-day. When selling the meat and furs from the animals, she profiles the advertisement on having had the animals in a national park. This is beneficial for her, but she believes that it is also informing people about the park at the same time.

Knowledge among the users and stakeholders about the adaptive management approach the park uses is limited. While they know the regulations and the reasons behind the protection, they might not fully understand the methods that have gone into deciding on the different actions. This lack of knowledge on this part of the management of the park is not something that seems to worry the people I spoke to much, and for them, the most important part is that the management works and that it does not affect them too strongly.

Enforcement

As mentioned earlier, the farmer has had some issues with visitors and unleashed dogs that scare her animals. This has never become a big problem, as the park has been helpful in putting up signage, fencing and information to visitors about how to behave around the animals. Among the fishers, there is a feeling that recreational fishing could benefit from being more strictly enforced. With the park, stricter regulations have come into being when it comes to lobster traps. Earlier, 14 traps per person were allowed, but this has decreased to only 6. The fisher is positive that this has helped to increase the lobster population again, but feels that it could be even more enforced than it is today.

The tourism operator said that the regulations around anchoring and camping have become stricter with the park and that it seems to be enforced well. For him, the larger issue is the increase in water scooters that have been in the later years. The park manager agrees that this has become an issue. There are regulations in place on how fast they can drive within the park, but these regulations are not enforced well enough. They drive faster than they are allowed to and cause a lot of noise pollution. For the tourism operator, a good solution would be to either ban them completely or enforce the speed regulations better.

Local management and outside interference

For several of the informants, keeping the management at a local level is important. They mention that they have a close relationship with the managers that work in the park today, and that they would like to keep it this way. The fisher mentioned being a bit worried about new people coming into the park, as the personal relationships they have with the current managers work so well. With new people, new relationships need to be made, and he was worried that they would not be able to connect in the same way if new people were employed by the park. The rest also mentioned that these good relationships were what made it feel so easy to work with the park and that there was a level of trust there because the management is locally based.

The only group that mentioned having issues with outside agencies were the fishers. The fisher I spoke to mentioned a distrust to governmental agencies that work with nature conservation. While they are very happy with the outcome of the local management in the park, he was afraid that other agencies would come in to try to protect more areas or make it completely illegal to fish. He said this in relation to the agreement of allowing trawling in the park: *“That’s the thing with the Swedish state, you can never trust them. They can leave the agreement as easy as that.”* He says that any conversations the fisher associations have had with governmental or county agencies when it comes to fishing regulations and protection, is one-sided and that it feels like people are coming in with a lot of academic knowledge thinking they know it all. He says that many have never been there, but still believe they know the best way to protect the area, without listening to local knowledge or interests.

“Unfortunately in Sweden, it is like that knowledge doesn’t count,” he said about these agencies. If this is his meanings alone, or something more fishers believe was not made clear. What is clear is that they find it very important to both fishers, other stakeholders and management maintain a local governance structure, where users and stakeholders are able to have their say. The fisher said this in his interview: *“We are very keen on keeping it local. We have a local co-management with local fishers, municipalities and so on[...]. Keeping a local co-management is, I am sure, the reason why it works so well,”* which seems to be the a sentiment the other stakeholders share.

Management outcomes

The park has brought with it more infrastructure, and the cabin owner states that things such as toilet facilities, parking, and trails have improved significantly after the opening of the park. The tourism operator, who largely does guided kayaking trips, reports that he believes the water quality has gotten better since the park opened. He did not have any proof that the quality had actually improved, but this is how he experiences it.

The manager could not yet tell if the management actions taken have had an effect on the environment of the park. Some of the inventories were not performed before after the park had been opened, and because of that, there is no data to compare for all species and habitats. Another issue is that funding and time are limited, and the management does not feel like they manage to do everything they want to do in terms of inventory and assessments. The park feels like the funding they get is fairly adequate, and they know they get more than many other protected areas, but it still not enough to be able to do all the things they wish to do.

Hopes for future participation

Common to every stakeholder I talked to, is that they want to keep the good relationship they have with the park. Being able to freely talk with the management and discuss issues that arise is important for the stakeholders. Today this dialogue is helped by the fact that the actors feel they have a good relationship with the park management, that they all want to keep. Both managers and stakeholders want to continue to have a local co-management, with the Koster Delegation and the advisory committees. It is important for the stakeholders that the management is kept at a local level, and for the fishers, it was particularly important that outside agencies are not allowed to decide on regulations without addressing the locals first. For the tourism industry, they hope that the work that was started earlier this year is continued. In the initial meeting, making the relationship between the park and the actors more official was discussed, and this was something they hoped would happen. Having meetings between tourism operators and park management has been planned to happen a couple of times a year from now on, and the tourism operator I talked to thought that this sounded like a very good start for good cooperation.

5.2 Ytre Hvaler National Park

Establishment

The establishment of the park was something that came from the government, and not from the local level. It was still important to the County Governor to include local voices in the discussion surrounding the park. Several informational meetings were held during the planning process before establishment, with specific cooperation meetings with certain key stakeholders in the park. *“People are always afraid of new things; I think that is human nature”* was a statement from the person I talked to in the cabin association (P5). This is telling of how many perceived the park in the beginning. While most are quite happy with how the park is run today, many were sceptical right at the beginning. This scepticism was shared between all of the groups I talked to, and describes a hesitation of what was to come. When the park was still just an idea, the inhabitants and users of the area that would become Ytre Hvaler National Park did not know exactly how the park would turn out and what regulations would be put in place. Because of this many were vary of how the park would affect them and their use of the park. With the meetings and information that was given out, most people’s worries were appeased. For most users of the park, the regulations hardly affect their use of the park at all. The park is still open for recreational use, and most activities are still permitted.

According to the park manager, the fishermen were the most sceptical to the park in this process. In the beginning, they were afraid of what restrictions there would be in the park, and how that would affect their livelihood. Participant 3, a fisherman, also supported this statement and said that many fishers were sceptical to the park in the beginning before they knew how it would affect their business. *“Of course, all fishers are sceptical to new things, maybe we are sceptical to all new laws and regulations. But I feel like we’ve come out of this in a way that is liveable. The things that have been done is something we have agreed on.”*

While certain areas were planned to be completely closed for fishing, other areas would still be allowed to trawl. As soon as the fishermen were informed about how the regulations would affect them, they did no longer object to the national park. The fisher reports that the feeling among fishers today is that the process of the establishment was done in a way where they were allowed to have their say in discussions that had the potential to affect them, and that the cooperation between management and themselves worked well in this process.

Another user group that the manager of Ytre Hvaler said there were several discussions with, was the cabin associations. For the cabin owners, the main points that made them sceptical to the park were in what ways they would be able to refurbish or rebuild damaged cabins and if they would continue to be able to access their cabins by car. There are 64 cabins within the park, and for years the owners of these cabins have driven off-road to access their cabins. According to Norwegian law, this has never actually been allowed, as the area is seen as uncultivated land. There is usually only a short distance between the official road and the cabins and it has been seen as completely normal to drive all the way to the cabins, so this has never been an issue for anyone before, but with the national park, the rules tightened. According to the cabin representative, the main issue with this is that many of the cabin owners are old, and they were afraid that they would have a harder time accessing their cabins. They were also afraid that emergency vehicles would not have access to their cabins if needed with stricter enforcement of the regulations around off-road driving. Because of this, there needed to be some clarifications around access rights, and the manager said they needed to clarify what laws were already in place that made driving in the area illegal. While these issues were discussed, and there were disagreements, the cabin representative felt that the whole process worked very well. While the process of participating in a hearing process around the establishment of the park was new to the cabin owners, they felt that the process worked well and that they were heard in topics that related to them. While some restrictions were made in regard to access by car, they are still allowed to keep the area in immediate closeness to their cabins in check, and they are happy with how the management plans turned out in the end.

For the farmer I spoke to, the process of establishment was unproblematic. The farmer I spoke to did not partake in any stakeholder meetings, but the association for farmers with grazing animals in Hvaler was part of the discussion. While she was not part in any of the groups that discussed the park in the start, she did have conversations with management about how the park would affect them. The farm had already had animals out on the islands in the area that would become the park for a few years before the process of establishing the park began and had questions about whether or not this would be allowed to continue. The manager stated in her interview that having grazing animals to keep the cultural landscape in check is important to the park. Because of the quick clarification between farmers and management, there was never any conflicts or big discussions between the two. The implementation of the parks would not affect them in any way.

For the tourism sector, there was little cooperation. While participant P9, from the Tourist Information Centre, said that they were invited to participate in the hearing process before the park was opened, there were not much to discuss. There was not a big focus on visitor strategies in the park, and while there are many visitors in the area, there is not a big tourism industry there. So while the tourism industry was invited to participate and is sitting in the Advisory Committee, there was not much dialogue in the establishment of the park, nor in the following years. Participant 10, who runs a company focusing on informing visitors about recreation and tourism possibilities, was not part of the discussion surrounding the establishment of the park at all, but blames that largely on them being a very new company at the time.

Communication and cooperation

“I think they see that we are possible to talk to when they get in touch. That they get an answer, and that it’s not so scary and difficult to deal with us”, says the manager of the park when it comes to communication with the users and stakeholder of the park. The park management is open for people coming to them with grievances they might have with the park and is ready to have a discussion if something does not seem right. They have not experienced that in high numbers, though, so the park manager believes that most people are quite happy with how things are done currently.

The fishermen are happy with how the park is run and feel that the dialogue between the groups works well. *“They cooperate with us. I don’t think anything is done without asking us.”* The fisher I spoke to said that if the fishers felt that something needed to be discussed with the park management, they would go through the fishery association, as they have a close link to the management. But they also say that they have not had anything to be unhappy with, and feel that the regular meetings that are in the Advisory Committee are enough at the moment. The cabin owner who represents the cabin association is also happy with how the dialogue with the park is working today, and feel that they are approachable and easy to deal with and that the meetings that are held in the Advisory Committee are informational and good.

For the tourism sector, the dialogue between the park management and themselves have been lacking for years. This has changed as of last year when the park was tasked with making a visitor strategy. While Hvaler has been a popular place for cabin and boat owners, there are

few accommodations options. There is a small hotel, as well as a few camping grounds. Because of this, there has not been a big focus from the municipality nor the park itself on building the tourism industry. While this means that the tourism industry does not feel like it has been much of a dialogue between themselves and the park before, they report that after the work on the visitor strategy has started it has picked up. There is a bigger focus on visitors now, and how to best handle tourism in a sustainable way that lets people enjoy the area at the same time as the environment is conserved in the wanted state.

For the tourism sector, the feedback on how the dialogue has been between actors and management is mixed. While both agree that the focus from the park on visitors and tourism has been very low in the beginning, the view on how dialogue and cooperation have evolved is very different. For participant 10, the feeling is that the park is not interested in cooperating with them at all. As they are a company who works with conveying information about recreational and tourist activities in the area, they thought that the park would be positive to cooperation. This has, however, not been the case. While the company multiple times through the years have been in touch with the park to see if there are any possibilities of cooperation between the park and themselves, they feel like the park has shown no interest. What the reason behind this was, he could not say, but he said that he got a feeling that the park might have business with other companies or information portals, and did not want to move out of those agreements. The biggest annoyance for him was that while they had been in many meetings where management or municipality officials seemed positive during the meeting, nothing ever came of it.

For the Tourism Information Centre, the experience has been different. While they agree that cooperation between the tourism sector and the park has been low for many years, this has recently changed. The park has been tasked with writing a visitor strategy and this has had a big impact on the cooperation between the park and the tourism industry. They have had a dialogue over the years, but the cooperation has become closer in the last year, as the park has worked on the visitor strategy. “*We figured it would be smarter to work together,*” the person from tourism information centre said.

The farmer I spoke to felt that the cooperation between them and the park was very good. The islands where they have grazing animals during the summer season are hard to get to, and can make it hard to watch over the animals. The farmer felt that the park was very willing to help with whatever resources they good give, such as funds for transport and fencing, and they also get some help from the Norwegian Nature Surveillance with bringing the animals in and out

from the islands, as well as with monitoring the animals. Every year the farmers who have animals in the park work together with the management to figure out the number of animals that are sustainable out on the islands, and how they should do things the coming season. They were very happy with this and felt that these discussions were easy to have. It was also mentioned that the personal relationship between the farmer and the management was good, and that this was part of why it was so easy to deal with each other.

Information

All participants agree that information about the park, the regulations, and the natural values in the area is important to convey to get people to understand the reasoning behind the park and the protection measures.

For many of the participants, the information they have gotten in the process of working in the park has changed the way they look at the area. *“It is amazing, that we have these enormous values out there! More people need to be aware of, how important they are”*, the cabin association member said. She followed it with *“You can never give out enough information”*, which was something she thought was important. For many of the cabin owners, some of the management actions that are taken are hard to understand. She believed that a bigger focus on informing visitors and cabin owners was needed to make sure that everyone both understands what is being protected and why, as well as why certain management actions are made to reach the goals the park have set out to do. Even the manager has discovered new things about the area after she began working with the park, *“It is very exciting. I’ve discovered this area in a completely new way. I have lived here since I was a girl, but now I know the area in a different way.”*

Both actors from the tourism sector felt that they could play an important part in conveying information about the park, and the regulations in place, to the visitors of the park. As there are many visitors each year, they both felt that getting the information across to everyone who visits the area, both when it comes to what is and is not allowed within the park borders, but also to convey what incredible natural values that are in the park, so that people can fully appreciate the reasoning behind the park. *“That is the kind of things we inform our readers about, we try to help them find nice spots, and give them information about rules and regulations,”* said P10, when asked about what they believe they can bring when it comes to informing the people who visit the park. While their job mostly consists of helping people to

find activities and places to stay in the park, they also want people to use the area in a sustainable way, and to follow the rules of the park.

Local management and outside interference

Keeping management of a local level is important to several people I talked to. This is partly because they feel the closeness to the management is important, both in the way the management office is situated right next to the park, but also in the way the local management has managed to build a trusting relationship with the actors. For farmers and fishers especially, having local management was important.

Recently, a new ban against all fishing for cod was established in the whole of the Oslofjord. This regulation came from the Directorate for Fisheries (DoF) and is part of a project to protect the coastal cod in the area. The fishers felt that this regulation impacted them unfairly hard, as they had to invest in new fishing gear to uphold regulations. The matter was not made any better by the fact that they felt the dialogue with the DoF had been one-sided, and that their thoughts had not been heard at all. The fisher explained: *“There’s supposed to be meetings, but I would call them informational meetings. We are allowed to say what we want, but if we are actually listened to is a completely different matter.”* This project is something Ytre Hvaler National Park has been working on, in collaboration with DoF, the Norwegian Environment Agency, and the Institute for Marine Research (IMR). While the park and IMR wanted to go at this project scientifically, and properly examine what and how to best protect the cod populations, the DoF set up a no-catch zone in almost the entirety of the Oslofjord. This *“put a bit of a spanner in the works for our suggestion that was supposed to be more scientifically based”*, the manager of the park said in regards to the DoF choosing to put in a no-catch zone in the whole area before the assessments were done.

The farmer also mentioned having some issues with outside agencies. Having grazing animals in the park is something that is wanted and needed to keep the cultural landscape in shape, but it can be difficult, time-consuming and costly. Because of this, the farmers have gotten additional financial support from the County, but this year this support was cut dramatically. Instead of getting the additional financial support they have had previously, the farmers got the same as people who have grazing animals in the mountain regions. Without the extra support, it would be impossible to continue, as keeping animals on the islands in the park is more difficult and more costly. *“There was quite a lot of back and forwards in figuring this*

out...having stability, in this case, is important, that we know what we get at all times”, the farmer said. The situation has been cleared now, but for the farmers, it is important that this support continues, and that it cannot be changed suddenly, as this makes life incredibly unpredictable for the farmers.

Enforcement

When it comes to enforcement of the park, what was mentioned as problematic was recreational fishing. Professional fishers especially found this problematic, as it interfered with their work. Catching crayfish and lobster is legal within the season, but the issue with them is that they are often set in the same areas as the fishermen use in their daily work. They believe that there are many who puts out more traps than they are allowed, and they also find traps outside of the season. As the fishing they are doing is so strictly regulated through several agencies, they wish that the funds were there to also enforce recreational fishing to a larger degree than what is the situation today. This does not mean that the fishers want lesser enforcement for themselves, but rather that all fishing is regulated and enforced in the same way. The cabin owner agrees with this statement, and talks about hearing many people brag about catching lobster outside of the season or above the legal amount. This was something she strongly disagreed with and wished for more enforcement so that people would stop doing it.

Management outcomes

Not many changes or improvements have been documented this far in the conservation project. According to the national park manager, this is due to a lack of resources to do the monitoring needed. As not all species, nature types, and habitats were properly inventoried at the beginning, there is limited data to compare with as well. What can be seen is that species that are typically responsible for overgrowth is better managed now, and that management actions are taken to ensure that goals are reached. Funding was an issue related to seeing the effects of management. The park manager wishes for more funding, and especially funding for monitoring and inventories. She says that it is impossible to do all the things she wants with the limited funds she has available as of now. All participant I talked to agreed that they did not feel like they could see much change in the environment from the start of the period

until now, but that it was clear that the area is better managed and cared for today than before.

Hopes for future participation

For the users and stakeholders in the park, continuing a good relationship with the park is important for the future. Being able to continue the dialogue and talk about issues that might arise was stated as important to all informants I talked to. For the people whose livelihood is based on operations within the park, such as the fishers, this seems to be particularly important. If new regulations or changes in the running of the park were to happen, they were very keen to be able to provide input into these situations. To get information as things are moving along, as well as providing their side of the story to the park management. So far in the history of the park, this has worked well, and they have felt that changes have been made based on discussion between the different actors. *“I hope we can be a sparring partner. If there is anything they need input on, that we are allowed to provide our insight,”* said the member from cabin association.

“We hope that we can be a resource for the national park, that we are part of the team and that we can have a good dialogue,” said the participant from the Tourist Information Centre (P9). The tourism sector wishes to be able to work more closely with the park in the future and to continue the cooperation that has developed in the last year. They wish to be a resource for the park, and a place that helps local tourism actors to reach out to a wider audience. Especially now, with the new visitor strategy the park is implementing, the Tourist Information Centre wishes to be a good partner for the national park in the work with facilitating for tourism actors that want to establish themselves in the area.

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6. Discussion

The parks have many similarities in their approach to management and participation. In this part, I will try to distinguish between the similarities and differences in the two parks and their approaches to management. I will also try to point out the aspects of participation that the stakeholders and managers found most important in building good cooperation between themselves and the management.

The establishment of Kosterhavet National Park was a wish both from the state and the people of the Koster Islands. While Kosterhavet was wanted from the people on the Koster Islands, people in the area were still sceptical to the new park at the beginning. This was explained mostly with being wary of how regulations would affect different stakeholder groups. When the fishers were unsure about whether or not they would be allowed to continue the shrimp trawling, a lot of people rallied around them. So while the park was wanted from parts of the population, it still did not make people less sceptical of the park at first. In Ytre Hvaler, the establishment of the park was a wish only from the government's side. None of the locals had any wish for a park, and the decision to create a park there was seen as very top-down. People in Hvaler was also very sceptical at first, and was wary of how the national park would affect them.

While the decision to make a park in Koster and Ytre Hvaler was initiated in very different ways, the outcome has not been that different. While the park in Koster initially had more support from locals who believed it could bring visitors and income to the islands, parts of the local population were still sceptical. In Ytre Hvaler where there was no support from the start, they were also sceptical. Both parks managed to quell this scepticism quickly by involving locals in information meetings and cooperation meetings. This helped to inform locals about regulations and how it would affect them.

These meetings also played a part in beginning to build trust between the participants and the management. This trust seems to have continued to grow throughout the ten years the parks have been in operation. Many of the participants talk about how the close relationship between managers and themselves is important for their experience of the process around the park. This is supported by the findings from Stringer et al (2006) and Folke et al (2005), that claims good personal relationships between managers and stakeholders can have a positive effect on cooperation and peoples experience of a protected area. Building this trust has been crucial to creating an environment where people feel comfortable with taking up issues.

It does not seem like the differences in the inception of the two parks has had much of an effect on how the local populations feel about the parks today. Both people in Koster and in Hvaler is mostly happy with the management of the area today. The degree of trust that the parks were able to create at the time of the creation of the parks seem to have grown with the years, and this leads the parks to have what seems like a high degree of legitimacy among the users and stakeholders.

As stated by Stringer et al (2006), participation can take many forms and take place at different stages of the process of protection. In the case of both Ytre Hvaler National Park and Kosterhavet National park, involvement by local users and stakeholders have been a goal for the park management from the beginning. In both parks, one of the main reasons for choosing adaptive management as their approach was to have local involvement to a greater extent than what has typically been done in national parks in the countries before. However, even though participation has been wanted by the management, the level of involvement from different stakeholder groups have differed.

Fishermen in both parks have been very involved from the start. This is logical, as they have a lot to lose if regulations push them out of the area. In Sweden, the fishermen were also crucial to get the park established, so the management was quick to involve them. With the other stakeholder groups, there have been different levels of involvement, based on their involvement in different stakeholder associations, their own interest in partaking and the level of impact the park would have on them.

When looking at Pretty's (1995) typology of participation (table on the following page), I will argue that the level of participation reached within Ytre Hvaler National Park is most similar to what is called *Participation by Consultation*. On this level, the participants are allowed to participate by being consulted in processes around the decision making, but the management has no obligation to take those views into account when it comes to making the final decision. According to the stakeholders I talked to in the park, this process works well today. They have all, outside of one of the tourism actors I talked to, been invited to participate in the establishment of the park. They also feel like the dialogue between the park and themselves work well, and that issues that might affect them will be discussed with them.

Table 2 Typology of participation, emphasis on the levels achieved in the parks (Pretty, 1995)

TYPOLOGY	CHARACTERISTICS
Manipulative Participation	Participation is simply a pretence under which people are manipulated.
Passive Participation	People participate by being told what has been decided or already happened. Information being shared belongs only to external professionals.
Participation by Consultation	People participate by being consulted or by answering questions. Process does not concede any share in decision-making, and professionals are under no obligation to take on board people's views.
Participation by Material Incentives	People participate in return for food, cash or other material incentives. Local people have no stake in prolonging technologies or practices when the incentives end.
Functional Participation	Participation seen by external agencies as a means to achieve project goals, especially reduced costs. People may participate by forming groups to meet predetermined objectives related to the project.
Interactive Participation	People participate in joint analysis, development of action plans and formation or strengthening of local groups or institutions. Learning methodologies used to seek multiple perspectives, and groups determine how available resources are used.
Self-Mobilisation	People participate by taking initiatives independently of external institutions to change systems. They develop contacts with external institutions for resources and technical advice they need, but retain control over how resources are used.

In Ytre Hvaler, the National Park Board is made up by representatives from the park management, the municipalities and the county. The national park boards are responsible for decision making, and while this governance structure still allows for a high level of participation and input from different actors, it cannot be said that the local populations have

any real decision power in the park management. The park manager and the national park board will ultimately be the ones with the final say in any decision. As long as the cooperation between the management and the local users and stakeholders continue in the same fashion as it is today, this will most likely not lead to any large conflicts. The users and stakeholders of the park is happy with today's situation and feel adequately heard in any decision-making processes. Not having any concrete power does not seem to matter as long as the regulations that are decided on do not affect anyone too greatly. This choice of decision-making body might, however, become problematic if a situation arises where the park management needs to make an unpopular decision that will go on to affect any of the stakeholders strongly. If this were to happen, there is a chance that the stakeholder will feel like they have no power, which again might cause conflict.

For the situation in Kosterhavet National Park, I will argue that the level of participation achieved lies somewhere between *Participation by Consultation* and *Interactive Participation*. The Kosterfjord Delegation, which is responsible for management decisions in the park, is made up by representatives from both municipalities and county, as well as representatives from community associations and fishery organisations. This gives the local population a higher degree of decision-making power than what is found in Ytre Hvaler. It does, however, seem to be more important to protect the area than to always make sure the views of the stakeholders are considered. In cases where the goals of the park come in conflict with wishes from the stakeholders, that the protection of the area would ultimately win.

For both Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet, the protection of the area would in most cases be seen as more important than the needs of the users and stakeholders. This is in large due to the laws and guidelines national parks in Norway need to oblige to. Hovik et al (2010) say that in national park management, there needs to be an appropriate balance in the power distribution and that there needs to be an agency in control who can ensure that protection goals are met. For both Ytre Hvaler and Kosterhavet, the management will have this position. While both management services will try their hardest to have an open dialogue to come up with solutions that work for all parties, they will ultimately need to do what is needed to reach the goals that are made in the management plans, and in accordance to national and international protection goals.

When it comes to this balance between protection and local needs, Hovik et al (2010) say that having conflict resolution tools in place is important. As there have been no real conflict between the park management and the stakeholders, it is difficult to say if the conflict

resolution tools they have works sufficiently. So far, the largest conflicts has been in the establishment of the parks. The process of establishing the parks was met with some level of trepidation among stakeholders, as there was some uncertainty as to how strict regulations would be and how they would affect users and stakeholders. This was especially true for the fishers, who were afraid that the protection measures would ban them from fishing in the park completely. These conflicts were quickly sorted, as the park managements could show that no activity would be banned in the parks. If there is an issue where protection is seen as more important than stakeholders needs, the trust between stakeholder and management might help to ease the situation. A lot of this trust is built on information, and it seems like the park managers try to be as open as possible about the actions they are taking and how it will affect local populations. Because of this trust, there is a will from all parties to find a sustainable solution, and both managers and stakeholders have shown willingness to try to solve issues without it becoming a conflict, but if the disagreement becomes too great, solid conflict resolution tools might still be needed.

Table 3, on the following page, lists the aspects that stakeholders and managers mentioned as most important to make the management and cooperation in the park work. The topics that were mentioned as the most important was good involvement, communication between actors, cooperation in issues where the actors can help each other, information sharing, and having a local management structure.

Having a local management structure seem to be the key point in having successful participation within the parks. It seems like having local managers help connect the users of the park to the conservation work, and makes it easier to get people on board with management plans. The local management listen to local knowledge and viewpoints, try to understand them and figure out the best solution to any issues that might arise. For some of the stakeholders, this experience differs greatly from what they have experienced when dealing with outside agencies, where people have been coming in from the outside and made decisions they do not have the knowledge to make. Having a local management makes it easier to trust, and brings a higher degree of legitimacy to the management work.

Table 3 Important aspects for successful participation and management of the park

Theme	Establishment	
Sub-theme	Good involvement	Focus on participation in the establishment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most are happy with their involvement in the establishment • Feel the local values and needs have been heard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to managers to include local voices • Participation is mentioned in management plans as a focus area • Do not want it to be too top-down
Theme	Communication	
Sub theme	Good dialogue	Local knowledge and viewpoints are heard
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management are seen as approachable and easy to communicate with • Continuous dialogue to discuss new topics that might arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both in establishment of the parks and in the daily work, users and stakeholders feel like they are heard and understood • Everyone might not always get it the way they want, but because of good discussions, everyone feels okay with how it turns out
Theme	Cooperation	
Sub-theme	Willingness to help out	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management will work to find solutions if there are problems that they can solve as long as it does not go on accord with management goals • The parks are willing to help where they can 	
Theme	Information	
Sub-theme	Knowledge sharing is important	Information needs to reach wider
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important with information to fully understand what natural values are there, and why they need protection • Important with good information to understand the reasoning behind management actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information must be accessible to all • All information might not reach people coming from outside the park (tourists and cabin owners) • Need to work more closely with the tourism sector, as they are a good information carrier for visitors
Theme	Local management	
Sub-theme	Important with close and local management	Outside interference is unwanted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good personal relationships with the local management • Feels familiar, as they talk with the same people each time • Feels more secure • Local knowledge is taken into account 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too little or no focus on local knowledge • One-sided communication • Makes decisions without listening to the people who will be affected • Decisions not based on knowledge • The people who come in to make decisions does not know enough about the area • Feels more unreliable and untrustworthy

7. Conclusion

Users and stakeholders have been involved with the management of the parks from the beginning. In Kosterhavet, stakeholders and local population are involved in the Kosterhavet Delegation, giving them some level of power in decision making processes. While this is not the case in Ytre Hvaler, the level of involvement they have achieved is still seen as good enough. The stakeholders are able to talk with management and partake in discussions surrounding the management of the area. While the level of involvement in both cases, and especially Ytre Hvaler, does not include all that much decision power, the feeling among stakeholders is still that the involvement they have today is enough, and they want to continue in the same way in the future.

A local management structure is seen as an important piece in why the cooperation works so well. Dialogue and cooperation have been important tools in the participation process. The park managers and stakeholders have worked together to find solutions, and have had a good dialogue from the beginning. Creating a level of trust between stakeholders and managers have been key to the good relationship, and this has led to a high level of legitimacy.

The managers of the two parks do not yet have enough data to see if there have been any significant changes to the environments of the park, so it is hard to tell if the participation of stakeholders has had an impact on the national park. What is clearer to see, is that the participation has had an impact on the management itself. Management in both countries have traditionally been more top-down. In the case of Kosterhavet and Ytre Hvaler, involvement from local stakeholders was a key aspect of the management from day one. This has created an inherent trust between stakeholders and management, which will make implementing new decision easier in the future. The park management has had a valuable source of information in the participants, and because they have been willing to listen the trust has become stronger., which again has strengthened the management of the park.

The main differences between the two parks were in the establishment of the park, and in the level of participation. In Koster, the park was something that was wanted from a local level. Inhabitants of the Koster Islands saw a national park as an opportunity to attract tourism and income. In Hvaler, the park was something the government decided. The process was top-down, and the park was not something the people of Hvaler wanted. While they have nothing against it today, the implementation of the park in this way is something that could potentially create conflicts.

Using an adaptive method, with participation as one of the main approaches, have turned out well in the two parks. While there were some concerns in the beginning among stakeholders, the cooperation between stakeholders and management work well today. Because of the close relationship between the actors, the park has been able to find solutions to issues without creating any big disagreements. This implies that having a greater level of participation is important to create protected areas without conflict, which is supported by earlier studies on this topic.

While the results in this study only illuminates the situation in Kosterhavet National Park and Ytre Hvaler National Park, further studies should be performed to find the best ways to include local populations in conservation projects. There needs to be more research on how participation affects management outcomes, and what level of participation is necessary for the best possible outcome.

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9. Appendix

9.1 Interview guide for stakeholders

Intervjuguide

For lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører

1: Informasjon om samtalen

- Beskriv hva studier handler om, og hva intervjuet skal brukes til
- Forklar personvern og anonymitet i oppgaven
- Informer om, og få tillatelse til eventuelt opptak
- Få underskrift på informasjonsskriv
- Start opptak

2: Generelle spørsmål

- Hva slags arbeid har du? Hvordan er dette tilknyttet nasjonalparken?
 - o Eventuelt: Hvordan er du tilknyttet nasjonalparken på andre måter?
- Hvor lenge har du vært i stillingen du har i dag?

3: Lokal deltagelse i forvaltning og vern

1. Dannelse av parken

- Hvordan opplevde du prosessen med å innføre parken?
- Ble dere invitert til å delta på møter og bestemmelser i planleggingsfasen?
- Følte du at lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktørers bekymringer og tanker ble hørt under prosessen?
 - o Ble det tatt til underretning? Forandret det hvordan forvaltningen ble planlagt?
- Var du/dere fornøyd med hvordan den endelige forvaltningsplanen ble?
- Var du selv aktivt med i noe slags råd el. i anledning dannelsen av parken?
- Føler dere at dere forstår fullt ut hvorfor parken har blitt lagt der den er i dag? Er dette formidlet godt nok?
- Var parken et ønske fra lokalbefolkning, eller følte det ut som det ble bestemt kun på høyere nivå?

2. Dagens forvaltning og samarbeidet med forvaltningstjenesten

- Vet dere på hvilken måte parken forvaltes? Hvilke metoder etc?
- Er du/dere fornøyd med hvordan forvaltningen er i dag?
 - o Har dere inntrykk av at det er generelt tilfredshet eller misnøye med hvordan parken drives i dag blant befolkningen i området?
- Formidles nye tiltak på en god måte, som forklarer klart og tydelig hvorfor et forvaltningstiltak har blitt satt på plass?
- Føler dere at de vernede områdene legger mye press på deres aktiviteter?
- Føler dere at dagens forvaltning påvirker noen grupper mer enn andre?
 - o Hvem og hvorfor?
- Har lokale aktører mulighet til å komme med innspill til hvordan parken drives?

3. Forandringer

- Ser dere noen positive ting med parken? Har noen ting blitt bedre etter mer vern ble innført?
- Har dere merket noen forandringer i naturområdet etter parken ble dannet? (mer/mindre fisk, annerledes flora/fauna etc?)
 - o Har dette hatt noen innvirkning på din jobbsituasjon eller din opplevelse av parken?

4. Forvaltning i framtiden

- Hva er deres håp for hvordan forvaltningen skal fungere i framtiden?
- Hva burde fokuseres på?
- Er det noe du tenker at burde forandres i forvaltningsplanene for å gjøre deres opplevelse bedre?
- Hva slags rolle har du/dere lyst til å ha i framtiden når det kommer til forvaltningen av parken?

4: Oppsummering

- Oppsummere samtale
- Har jeg forstått deg riktig?
- Er det noe mer du vil legge til?
- Opptak avsluttes

Tillegg:

- *Vet du om noen andre som kan være aktuelle å prate med?*

9.2 Interview guide for managers

Intervjuguide

For ansatte i nasjonalparkene, eller andre som jobber med forvaltning/naturvern

1: Informasjon om samtalen

- Beskriv hva studier handler om, og hva intervjuet skal brukes til
- Forklar personvern og anonymitet i oppgaven
- Informer om, og få tillatelse til eventuelt opptak
- Få underskrift på informasjonsskriv
- Start opptak

2: Generelle spørsmål

- Hva er din arbeidsrolle og tilknytning til nasjonalparken?
- Hvor lenge har du jobbet i parken?
 - o Var du deltagende i dannelsen av parken?

- Hva er din utdanningsbakgrunn?

3: Forvaltning og arbeid i parken

1. **Dannelse av parken** (må gå ut/endres hvis personen ikke var deltagende i dannelsen av parken)

- Hva var bakgrunnen for dannelesen av parken?
 - o Hvem var initiativtakeren? Var det etter ønske fra stat eller lokalmiljø?
- Hovedmålet i begge parker er å beskytte et særegent og mangfoldig naturområde
 - o Hva innebærer dette?
 - o Hva ble sett på som hovedgrunnen til å legge parken dit den er i dag i forhold til andre steder?
 - o Hva ble sett på som viktigst å skulle beskytte, og hvorfor?
- Hvordan gikk man fram for å danne parken?
 - o Hvilke prosesser måtte man gjennom for å danne parken?
 - Hvor lang tid tok det?
 - Hva slags beslutninger ble tatt?
 - o I hvor stor grad ble lokalbefolkning tatt med i råd?
- Hvilke problemer møtte man i prosessen med dannelsen av parken?
 - o Var det enkelte grupper som hadde mer imot dannelsen enn andre?
 - o Var det problemer med å få økonomisk støtte eller politisk støtte?

2. **Forvaltningsarbeid**

- Hvorfor ble adaptiv forvaltning (Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation) valgt som forvaltningsmetode?
 - o Hvordan jobbes det med forvaltning i det daglige?
- Hvordan har forvaltningsmetoden fungert?
 - o Er alle fornøyd med måten forvaltningsarbeidet blir gjort på?
 - o Funger adaptiv forvaltning godt i praksis? (med tanke på kostnader, arbeidsmengde, kunnskap etc)
 - o Adaptiv forvaltning innebærer mye lokal deltakelse – hvordan blir dette gjort?
 - Har det vært vellykket?
- Hvor vellykket føler dere selv at forvaltningsarbeidet er?
- Har man sett på forskjeller mellom «tradisjonell forvaltning» i andre parker i landet og adaptiv forvaltning, og sett om det er forskjell i hvor vellykket forvaltningen er?

3. **Utkom av forvaltningsarbeid**

- Har man sett forandringer/forbedringer i naturen etter parken ble dannet?
- Hadde man noen spesifikke mål som skulle nås med forvaltningen – hvis så, har disse målene blitt nådd?
- Hvordan overvåkes parken for utkommet(impact) av forvaltningen i parken?
 - o Er det forvalterne selv som ser etter utkom, eller kommer det andre aktører inn for å se på utkommet?
 - Samarbeid med forskningsinstitusjoner ol.

4. **Mål for forvaltningen i framtiden**

- Hva er hovedmålene parkforvaltningen jobber for i framtiden?
- Hvordan vil forvaltningen av området foregå for å nå disse målene?
- Er metoden man bruker i forvaltningen i dag så velfungerende at man vil fortsette på samme måte som før, eller er det blitt vurdert andre måter å gjøre ting på?

5. Samarbeid med lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører

- Føler dere at lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører forstår målet og meningen bak dannelsen av nasjonalparken?
- Var dannelsen av nasjonalparken støttet av lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører?
- Hvordan føler lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører om parken i dag?
- På hvilke måter har lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører mulighet til å komme med innspill til forvaltningsarbeidet?
- Hvordan påvirkes arbeidet dere gjør av lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører?
- Har dere møtt mye motstand fra lokalbefolkning og lokale næringslivaktører?
 - o I hvilke saker? Hvordan har motstanden kommet fram?

4: Oppsummering

- Oppsummere samtale
- Har jeg forstått deg riktig?
- Er det noe mer du vil legge til?
- Avslutt opptak

Tillegg:

- Er det andre personer du tenker jeg burde snakke med?
 - o Ulike aktører innad i parken – fiskeri, turisme, hytteeiere eller lignende?



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