



SI_ARCTIC

The Arctic Ocean Ecosystem

Institute of Marine Research, Norway



Background

- Baseline information in the Arctic Ocean ecosystem is lacking
- Commercial fish species are moving north
- Fisheries might follow?

Strategic Initiative – The Arctic Ocean Ecosystem (SI_ARCTIC)

- 5-yr project (2014-2018) funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries (channeled through the Norwegian Research Council)



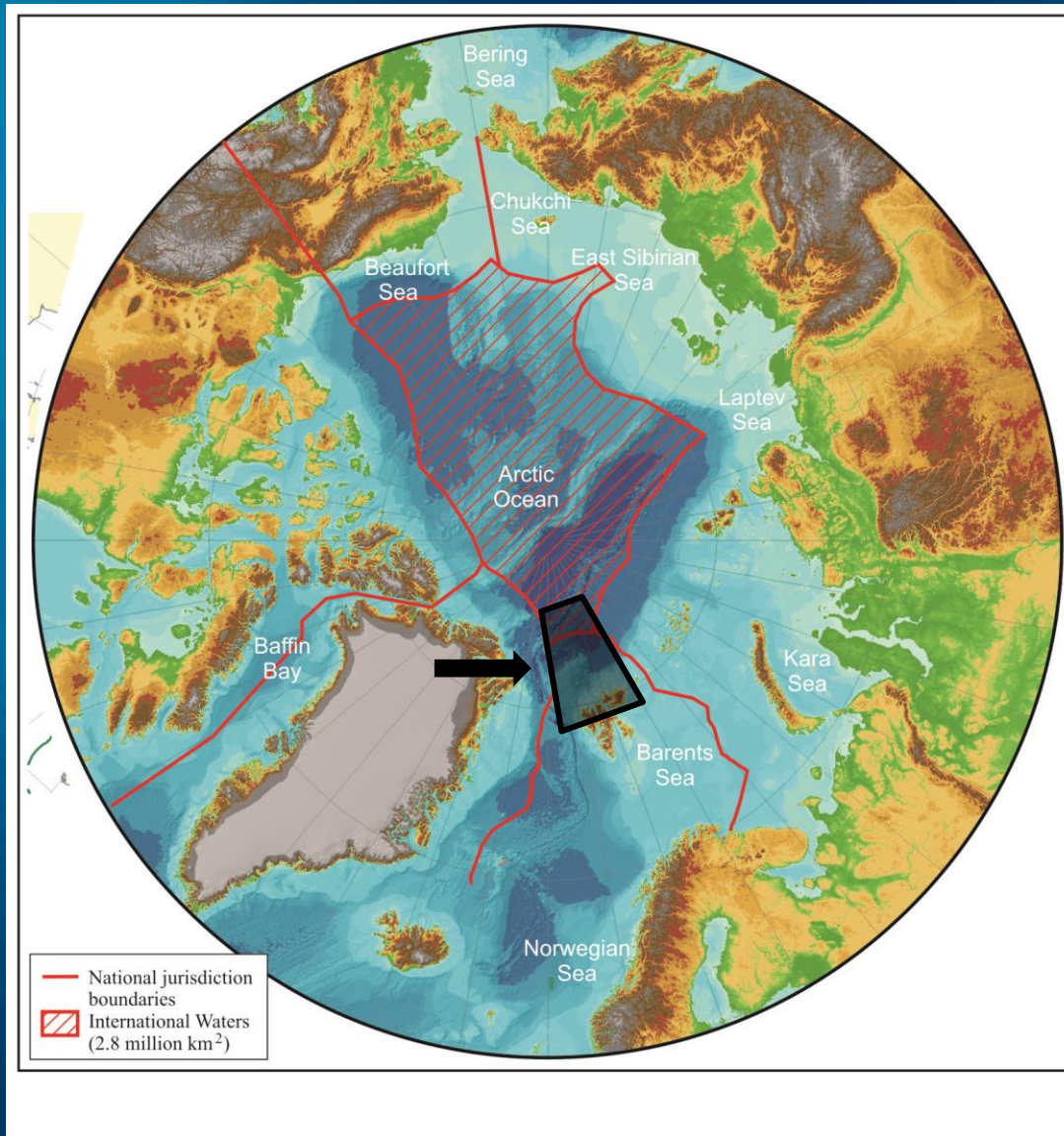
Overall objective of SI_ARCTIC

To develop a **knowledgebase on the state and variability** of the present and future Arctic Ocean ecosystem.

To explore potential options for providing **ecosystem-based advice** in a changing climate context.



Study region



Approach

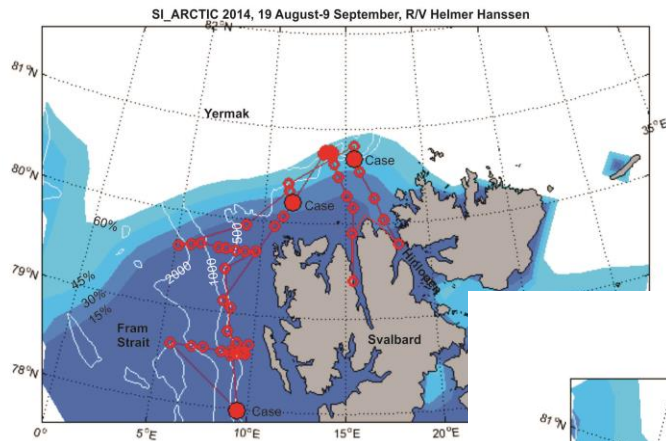
- Review of historical data and literature, field observations, numerical modelling and analytical approaches.
- Field observations:
 - Extension of Barents Sea Ecosystem survey into the ice free part of the Arctic Ocean
 - Baseline studies into the ice
 - Annual surveys 2014-2017



2014 and 2015 Surveys

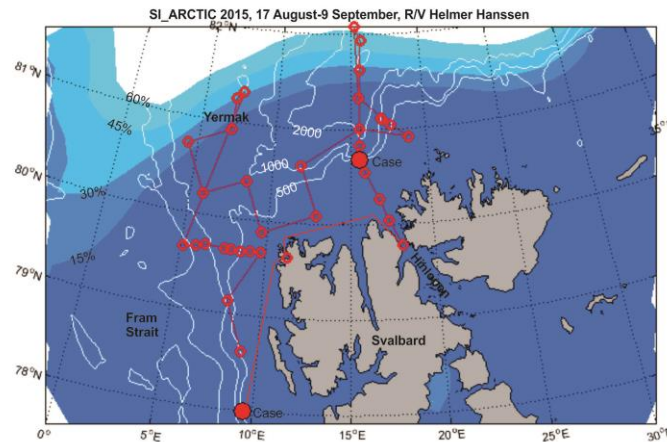
- Aim of surveys: Conduct baseline studies of the marine ecosystem in the in the Arctic Ocean/the region north of Svalbard

Cruise track and sea ice conditions



Observations of:

- Physical and chemical oceanography
- Phyto- and zooplankton
- Fish (pelagic and demersal)
- Benthos
- Marine mammals and birds





Possible activities in the future:

Nansen Legacy

- large research program with 8 Norwegian governmental institutions involved
- focus area in the northern Barents Sea and adjacent Arctic Ocean



INTAROS - WP6

**Demonstrate the performance of the IAOS
towards stakeholders**

Geir Ottersen, IMR, lead Mikael Sejr, AU, co-lead



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WP6

Main objective

To demonstrate the economic value and societal benefit of the IAOS through a suite of selected applications towards industry, governance, local communities and research.

WP6

Ambition

Show the IAOS' capability for providing enhanced search and retrieval, scientific analysis, assimilation into models, validation of estimated and projected climate parameters, decision-support and policy-making on local, regional and global scale.

INTAROS concept, seen from WP6

