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GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

NATIONAL BOARD OF FISHERIES

FISKERIVERKET

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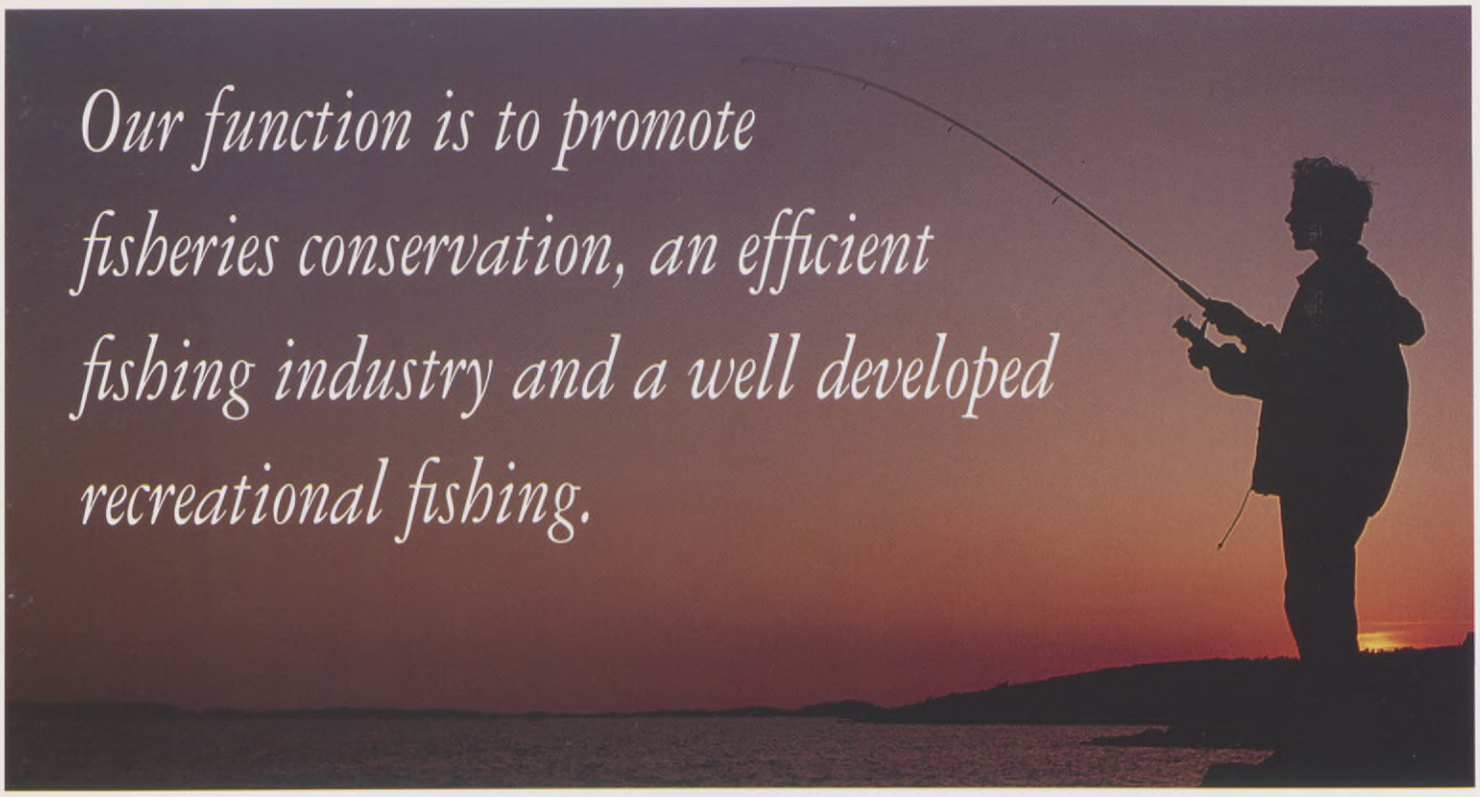


The National Board of Fisheries is the central, governmental agency working with fisheries and fisheries conservation matters. The Board devotes itself to a responsible use of the fish resources in a way contributing in a long-term perspective to the Swedish food supply and general prosperity. The Board also works for biological diversity and thereby for abundant and diverse fish stocks. Other important tasks are to contribute to the establishment of an efficient fishing industry including aquaculture, to work towards increased and adequate fishing opportunities for the public and to see to that the supply of fish of a good quality to the benefit of he consumer.

The Board of Fisheries falls under the jurisdiction of the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and is headed by a Director-General, who also chairs the Board of Directors. The Agency is organized in the following way:

- Department of Resources and Environment
- Department of Markets and Structures
- Department of Fisheries Control
- Department of Research
- Department of Administration

In addition to these departments there is a unit for development assistance programmes on an international basis (SWEDMAR; Swedish Centre for Coastal Development and Management of Aquatic Resources) and a unit for consumer information (Swedish Fish).

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Resources and Environment is responsible for fisheries conservation and environmental matters and matters related to recreational fishery. The main task is to work for viable and abundant fish stocks in Swedish waters. Two Fisheries Research Offices belong to this Department.

The fisheries conservation work includes general protection matters aiming at good environmental conditions for the fish fauna and measures to enhance the fish stocks.

The Department also favours work such as direct measures in waters (restoration of spawning areas, construction of fish passes, releases of fish etc.) and decides on fishery regulations aiming at a good fishery management (fish quotas, gear regulations, closed areas, minimum sizes etc.).

The Swedish sea fishery is regulated by international agreements within the framework of the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union. The Department is represented in international negotiations on e.g. catch quotas and fishery rules.

Concerning the recreational fishery the Department works towards increased fishing opportunities for the public, i.a. by various conservation and management measures. In addition to this the fishing tourism is developed.

There are two Fisheries Research Offices, in the cities of Luleå and Jönköping respectively. These offices are responsible for matters related to the Water Act and the Environmental Act and they perform special investigations. They also carry out commissioned activities related to fisheries conservation.

DEPARTMENT OF MARKETS AND STRUCTURES

The Department of Markets and Structures is responsible for issues related to the economy and structure of the fishing industry. The work deals with the commercial fishery and the aquaculture as well as the fish processing industry.

In order to regulate the Swedish commercial fishery there is a system of fishing licenses and vessel permits. Without these there is as a rule no possibility to carry out a commercial fishery.

In order to achieve a more efficient fishery there are possibilities to obtain financial aid within the framework of the EU system of structure measures in terms of aid according to the Structural Fund 5a and within the Community "PESCA" initiative. Financial aid can be granted for e.g. purchase of new vessels, modernization of vessels, scrapping of vessels, investments in fish processing industries and aquaculture plants and marketing of fish products. The financial aid based on the EU system requires national co-financing.

The EU also has market regulation of fish and fish products comprising:

- common marketing norms
- a common system for pricing
- common rules for trade with non-member countries

Companies buying fish from fishermen for further sale have to be authorized by the National Board of Fisheries.

Compensation is paid for fish which cannot be sold to the established lowest price by a financial EU contribution.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES CONTROL

The Department of Fisheries Control is responsible for quota control and control of the catches and landings of fish.

The Department of Fisheries Control monitors the Swedish commercial catches and landings in order to prevent quotas being exceeded. This procedure is carried out by controls and analyses of logbooks, landing declarations and sales notes. The statistical information is also used in the Board's stock assessment investigations. In the harbours the marketing standards are controlled by random sampling. In addition there is a careful control of the fish landed for reduction purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH

The research and investigations carried out by the Board of Fisheries provide the biological basis for the work to preserve and exploit the fish resources.

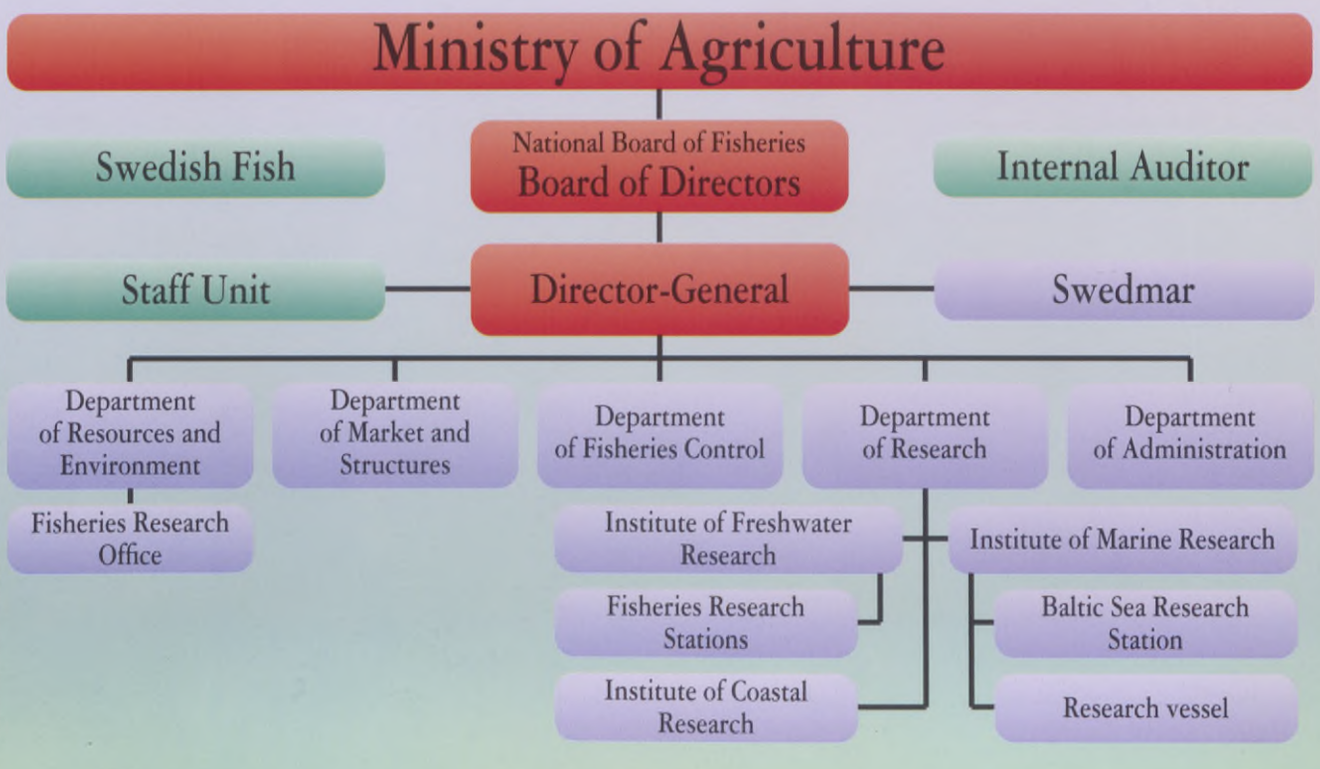
The activities are mainly carried out at the Board's three institutes with field stations and two fisheries research stations. In addition there are two research vessels. One of the main tasks is the continuous monitoring of the fish stocks, which constitutes the basis for the work of the Department of Resources and Environment.

THE SEA

The Institute of Marine Research in Lysekil with a branch laboratory in Karlskrona is the centre of the Board's sea research and investigations.

The work is, to a large extent, based on the data gathered by the research vessels Argos and Ancylus. The commercially most important species of fish such as cod, herring, sprat, Norway lobster, *Pandalus* and plaice are carefully examined with regard to age-composition, growth, recruitment and distribution. From this work there is a basis for Swedish international fishery cooperation within the framework of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), EU and other bodies/organizations.

Organization

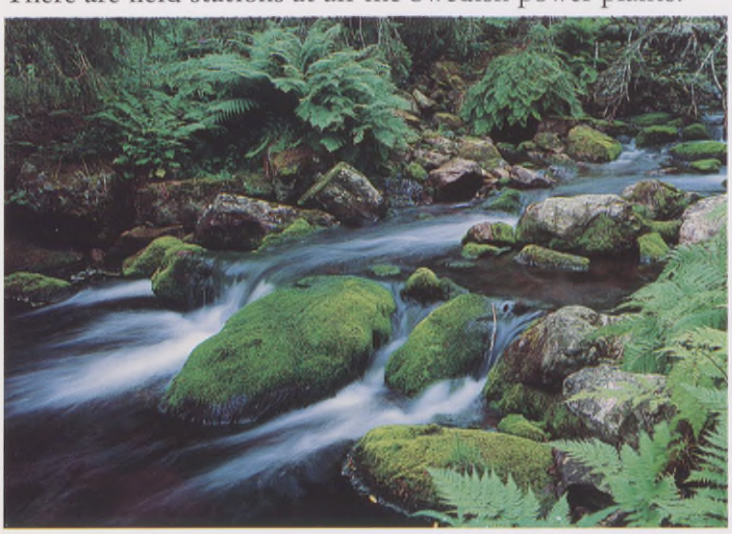


Increased resources have during recent years been allocated to the study of the impacts of fishing activities on the environment.

The Coast

The Institute of Coastal Research in Öregrund with a branch institute in Gothenburg is the centre of the Board's investigations in coastal waters.

The stocks of perch, pike, vendace and other species are investigated. The Institute also carries out investigations lated to the technical development of different gears, e.g. in order to eliminate damage by seals. The Coastal Laboratory has developed methods to monitor impacts of pollution on fish, especially emanating from the forest industries, and on thermal effects of the cooling water discharged by nuclear power plants. There are field stations at all the Swedish power plants.



Lakes and rivers

The Institute of Freshwater Research in Drottningholm, with a branch institute in Örebro, is the centre of the Board's investigations in fresh waters.

An important task is to monitor fish stocks, especially the stocks of the big Swedish lakes, and salmon and sea trout stocks. Other tasks of great importance are the development of fishery conservation methods, biotope conservation, restoration of acidified waters and the preservation of fish resources and threatened fish populations in different watercourses.

The Institute of Freshwater Research runs two research/rearing stations. As well breeding experiments on rainbow trout and Arctic char as, studies on domestication effects on reared fish are carried out at Kälarne in the County of Jämtland.This station is also a centre for preservation of different threatened stocks by gene banks, e.g. salmon from the river Gullspång. At Älvkarleby, situated at the mouth of the river Dalälven, rearing of salmon and sea-trout for compensatory purposes takes place. Research on fish in stream waters is also carried out in a fluvarium here.

SWEDMAR (Swedish Centre for Coastal Development and Management of Aquatic Resources)

SWEDMAR - the international consultant unit of the Board of Fisheries - deals with fishery and coastal management development projects and conservation of the aquatic environment in developing countries.

The aim of Swedmar's work is to support the developing countries in their work to manage their coastal zones and

lakes and rivers. SWEDMAR's projects are mainly commissioned by the Nordic development assistance bodies, the European Commission, UN bodies and the regional development banks.

SWEDISH FISH

Swedish Fish has the responsibility to work for an increased consumption of fish and shellfish in Sweden through information and marketing activities.

By directed campaigns, projects and events Swedish Fish works within a broad field of activities, from information to the consumers with recipes and sales support to education and information directed towards the fishing industry.

The target of Swedish Fish is to double the consumption of fish from one to two meals a week within five years.

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"Our task is to implement the EU and the Swedish fisheries policy. Its goal is to achieve a proper use of the fish resources by means of well balanced conservation and exploitation and by proper care of the waters. Fisheries conservation is an important part of the conservation of the environment and the fishing industry gives directly or indirectly rise to income and employment all over the country. Fish is also an important food with a great nutritional value and in addition to this the recreational fishery is a nation-wide movement of great social and economic importance."

Per Wramner, Director-General

FISKERIVERKET

Swedish fishing industry - In Sweden there are approximately 3 500 full-time commercial fishermen, a few thousand part-time fishermen, about 300 000 recreational fishermen who fish with nets for private consumption and nearly 2 million anglers. About 400 000 tonnes of fish worth more than 1 billion SEK are caught annually in the Swedish commercial fisheries. In addition, fish farming produces fish at the value of about two hundred million SEK.

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