

Environmental design of hydropower to meet requirements in the EU Water Framework Directive











Atle Harby, SINTEF Energy Research and CEDREN





- ▶ 10 large research projects
- 7 Norwegian research partners
- ▶ 16 Industry partners and 2 management partners
- Budget: ~35 MEuro (4 MEuro in 2016)
- 24 PhD and 7 Post-doc positions
- International student and professional exchange
- ► 2009-2016, three projects still running until 2018

Renewable energy respecting nature



Hydropower technology







Environmental impacts of hydropower







Environmental impacts of wind power and power transmisson







How to reconcile energy and environment policy?











How much water is needed?

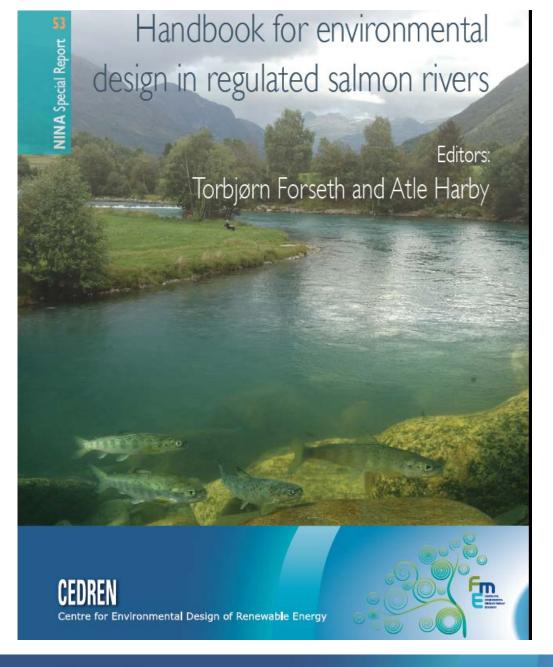


for hydropower and ecology





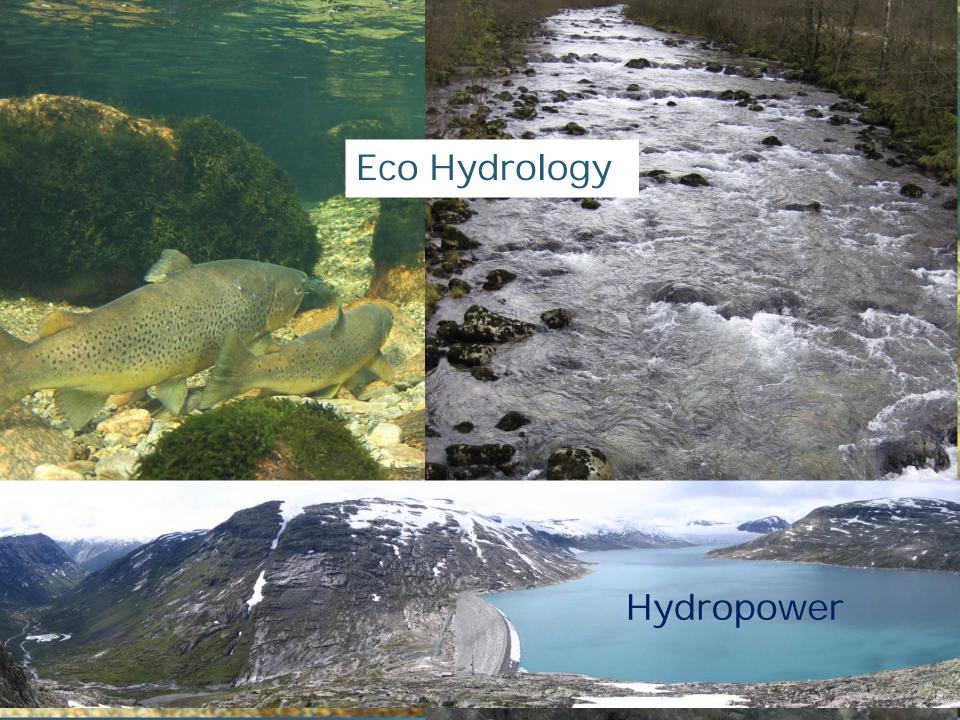


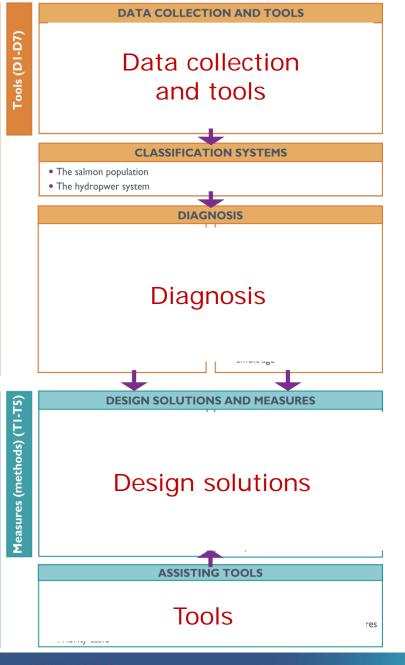


- Guidance developed for Atlantic salmon
- Methods suitable for other species and end users
- Download free copy:

www.cedren.no







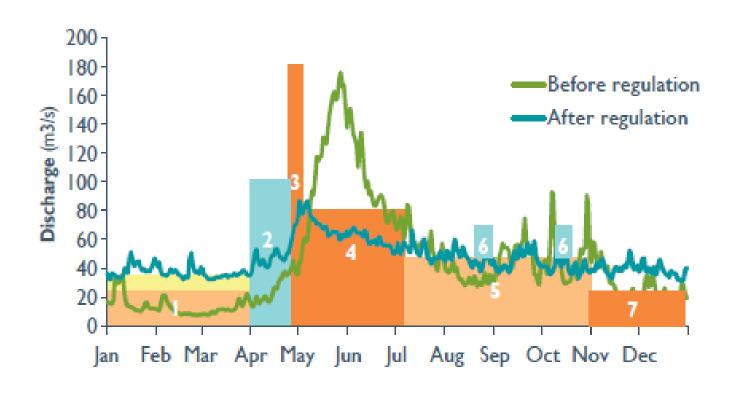
...take the river system to the doctor!







Water use – building blocks





Habitat measures

| Reach | Length (m) | Segment | Length (m) | Population regulation stage | Habitat bottleneck | Productivity (1-3) |
|-------|------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 4000 | - 1 | 800 | Fry | Spawn | I |
| | | 2 | 1000 | Fry | Spawn | - 1 |
| | | 3 | 600 | Fry | Spawn | |
| | | 4 | 900 | Fry | Spawn | 2 |
| | | 5 | 700 | Fry/Parr | Both | ı |
| 2 | 3500 | 6 | 500 | Fry/Parr | Both | ı |
| | | 7 | 600 | Parr | Shelter | 2 |
| | | 8 | 800 | Parr | Shelter | 2 |
| | | 9 | 500 | Parr | Shelter | 2 |
| | | 10 | 600 | None | None | |
| | | Ш | 500 | None | None | 3 |
| 3 | 2300 | 12 | 1000 | Fry | Spawn | 2 |
| | | 13 | 800 | Fry | Spawn | ı |
| | | 14 | 500 | Fry | Spawn | 2 |
| etc. | | etc. | | | | |

The right measures in the right place!





Environmental design of regulated rivers



Constructing habitats

Increasing both salmon and power production





Adapting downstream flow



Increasing power production





Hydromorphological quality elements



| Class | Code | Description |
|-------|------|----------------------|
| 1 | | Near-natural |
| 2 | | Slightly modified |
| 3 | | Moderately modified |
| 4 | | Extensively modified |
| 5 | | Severely modified |

- 1. Hydrological changes
- 2. Morphological changes
- 3. Migration / river continuity



Hydrological changes – long-term changes (1/3)

Table 3.1. Changes in water flow due to regulation, and corresponding class values. The changes should be assessed based on changes in annual median flow values, derived from data records of at least 10 years before regulation and 10 years after regulation. The numbers given are percentage change.

| Status | Code | Classification values |
|----------------------|------|--|
| Near-natural | | Increase ¹ to 10% reduction |
| Slightly modified | | 10-20% reduction |
| Moderately modified | | 20-40% reduction |
| Extensively modified | | 40-80% reduction |
| Severely modified | | More than 80% reduction |

- Why is this factor important?
- How to calculate?
- Measurements, modelling?

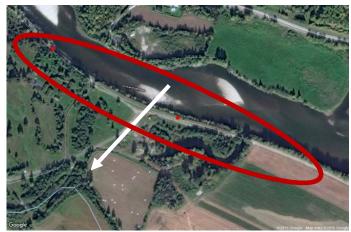
Table 3.2. Changes in the lowest weekly average flow comparing the regulated with the unregulated situation in *winter*, and corresponding class values. Source: Forseth and Harby (2013).

| Status | Code | Classification values |
|----------------------|------|---------------------------------------|
| Near-natural | | Increase ² to 5% reduction |
| Slightly modified | | 5-10% reduction |
| Moderately modified | | 10-30% reduction |
| Extensively modified | | 30-50% reduction |
| Severely modified | | More than 50% reduction |





Four categories of HyMo



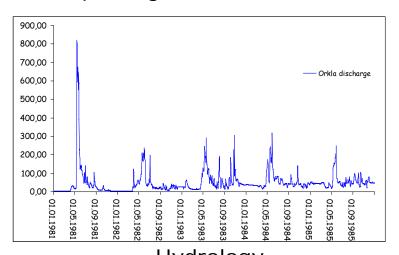
Along the river - impacting lateral connectivity



Across the river - impacting longitudinal connectivity



Inside the river - impacting in-channel habitats

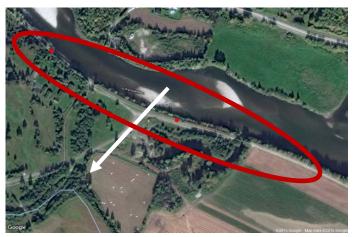


Hydrology - impacting all factors





Lateral connectivity and embankment



Along the river



- Access to floodplain, side arms and oxbow lakes
- Possibility to move laterally
- Erosion and sediment balance impacts
- Riparian zone
- Channelization
- Incision

Indicators:

- % of river length with levees (above land surface)
- % of river length with embankment
- % of river length without trees along bank (only below tree-line)
- Incision need to measure in field





Changes across the river



Across the river

- Barriers for fish migration
- Barriers for sediments, ditrius and nutrients
- Fragmentation of habitats
- Have to include barrier in upstream water body





Indicators:

- Degree of fragmentation
- Barrier effect
- How much of the water body is backed up by weirs?
- Degree of regulation in catchment







Changes inside the river

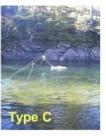


Inside the river

- Wetted area, surface pattern, water velocity, depth (mesohabitats/geomorphic units, i.e. river type in handbook)
- Substrate and shelter
- Structures in the river
- Removal of sand and gravel

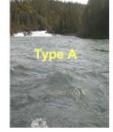














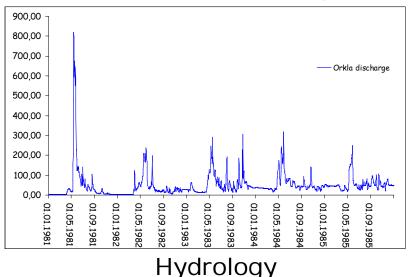
Indicators:

- % of river length impacted by structures (aerial photos, maps, etc)
- % of river length of removed gravel/sand (recorded by local authorities)
- Substrate and shelter: Measure in situ
- Changes in river types: only possible if pre-impact studies exist

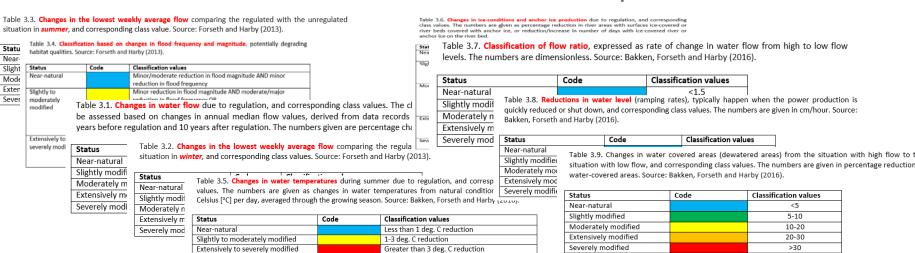




Changes in hydrology



- Total amount of flow
- Lowest weekly flow
- Floods of 1 and 10 years return period
- Peaking: Ratio, ramping rate and dewatered area
- Ice cover
- Water temperature

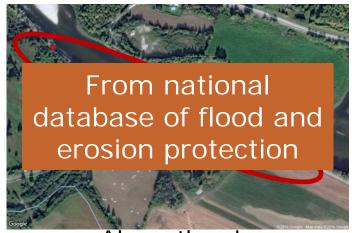


Calculate changes based on 30 years of flow data, with and without pressure

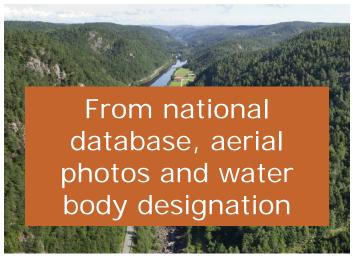




Where to find indicators and data?



Along the river



Across the river

From CEDREN handbook, but requires field study when data on river types and shelter are missing.
Aerial photos and remote sensing very promising

Inside the river

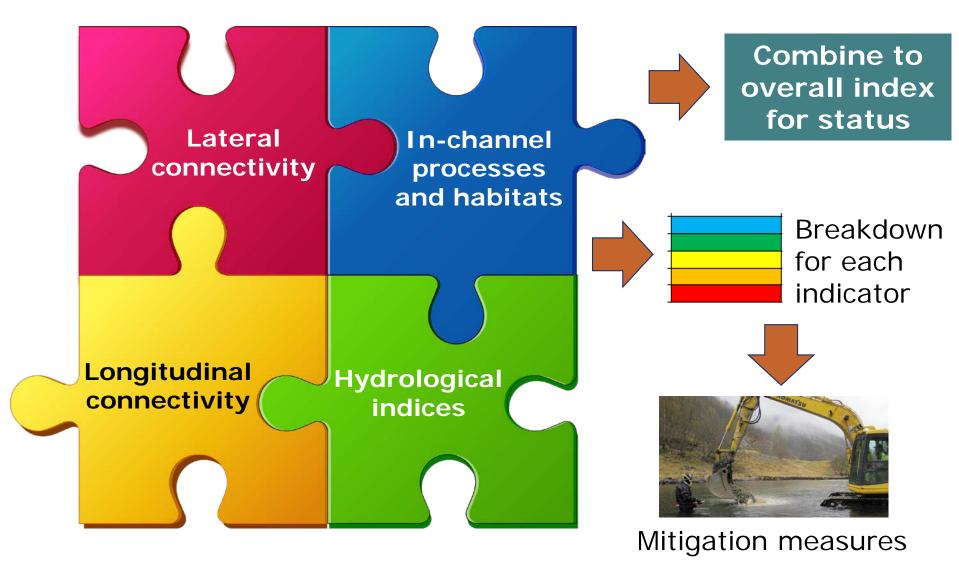
Relevant hydrological indices from CEDREN handbook. Must be based on simulated hydrology with and without pressure

Hydrology

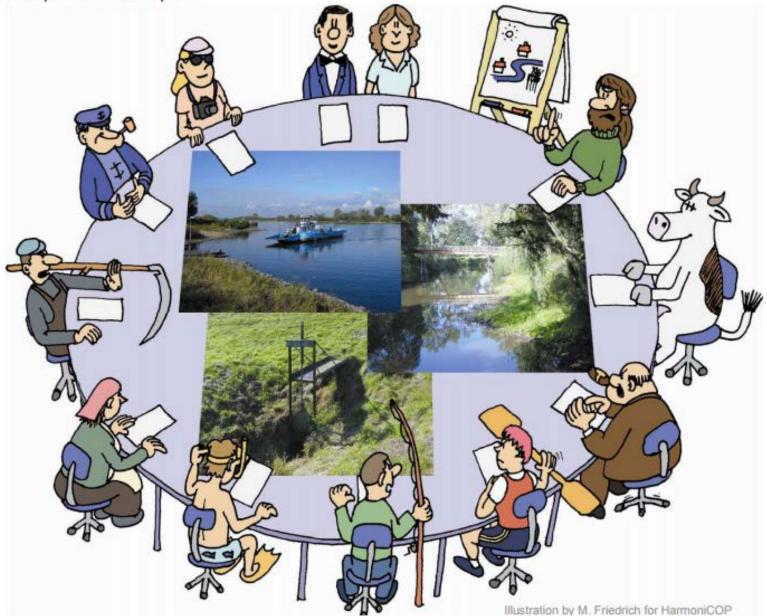




Weighing and combining













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