



Employment, Externalities, and Exploitation

Empirical Essays on Maritime Sectors and Renewable Resource
Management

av

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Akademisk avhandling

Avhandling för ekonomie doktorsexamen i nationalekonomi,
som kommer att försvaras offentligt
fredagen den 24 oktober 2024 kl. 13.15,
Hörsal L2, Örebro universitet

Opponent: Docent Håkan Eggert
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Abstract

This thesis addresses empirically understudied and politically significant issues. Specifically, it examines the blue economy and renewable energy, both of which are central to the European Union's economic and environmental strategies.

Essay I examine employment dynamics in the Swedish blue economy, i.e., maritime and maritime-related sectors. By utilizing a novel firm-level dataset covering 1998–2020, the analysis finds that firms within the blue economy generally exhibit higher employment growth and lower job destruction than their counterparts in other sectors.

Essays II and III examine EU fisheries governance. Essay II examines the policy preferences of EU member states, as indicated by bargaining outcomes on Total Allowable Catches (TACs). The findings suggest that the United Kingdom, Ireland, Portugal, Lithuania, and Poland advocate for TACs above scientific advice, while Germany supports lower TACs. Essay III assesses interest group lobbying within the Baltic Sea Advisory Council, demonstrating that fisheries achieve greater lobbying success when scientific advice is more than 20 percent below the status quo or the level of conflict is high. In contrast, other interest groups are more successful when the level of conflict is low and scientific advice is closer to or above the status quo.

Finally, Essay IV presents a meta-analysis of 252 estimates from 21 studies on the impact of wind turbines on property values. The results indicate a negative and significant effect on properties located within 4 km of a wind turbine, with stronger effects at closer distances and in more densely populated areas.

Keywords: European Union; Blue Economy; Employment Dynamics; Fisheries Management; Policy Position; Informational Lobbying; Interest Groups; Political Economy; Wind Turbines; Property Values