

### 3 DATA MANAGEMENT

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#### 3.1 Databases

A wide variety of data are collected during the ecosystem surveys. All data collected during the ecosystem survey are quality controlled and verified by specialists from IMR and PINRO during the survey. The data are stored in IMR and PINRO national databases, with different formats. However, the data are exchanged so that both institutions have access to each other's data in their respective databases (i.e. both institutes use equal joint data).

Age readings and fish stomach analyses will be finished by April 2019 and the data will be subsequently downloaded to the joint databases.

A joint database ("Sjømil") for aggregated time series is accessible as a web resource; <http://www.imr.no/sjomil/index.html>.

#### 3.2 Data application

The main aim of the BESS is to cover the whole Barents Sea ecosystem geographically and provide survey data for commercial fish stock estimation. Stock estimation is particularly important for capelin, because capelin TAC is based on the survey result, and the Norwegian-Russian Fishery Commission determines TAC immediately after the survey. In addition, a broad spectrum of physical variables, ecosystem components and pollution are monitored and reported. The survey data will be used by ICES working groups (AFWG, WGWIDE, NIPAG, WGCRA, WGMME, WGIBAR, WGZE, WGOH and WGPDMO) as well as the Norwegian ecosystem status report on selected indicators from the Norwegian EEZ of the Barents Sea.

This survey report is based on joint data and contains the main results of the monitoring. The survey report is published on the BESS web page ([http://www.imr.no/tokt/okosystemtokt\\_i\\_barentshavet/nn-no](http://www.imr.no/tokt/okosystemtokt_i_barentshavet/nn-no)), and will be assembled into a complete pdf-report when the main components are completed. This web page is dedicated to collating all information from the BESS, including all the previous reports, maps, etc. It will also include post-survey information, not included in the written report (e.g. plankton and fish stomach samples which need longer processing time). These additional data will be included into the web-based report when ready.

#### 3.3 Time series of distribution maps

Maps from this and previous year's surveys can be found at:

[http://www.hi.no/tokt/okosystemtokt\\_i\\_barentshavet/utbredelseskart/nb-no](http://www.hi.no/tokt/okosystemtokt_i_barentshavet/utbredelseskart/nb-no).

Some groups are missing but will be published when available.