

Preface

As I have navigated the difficult waters of market-based fisheries management, many people have helped and influenced my path. Privatization of fishery resources has continuously been on the political agenda in many countries and thus been the object of discussion in fishing communities, at academic conferences and parliamentary hearings as well as in public media. It has been my privilege to bridge and bind together many of these diverse and genuine debates. Thus, I am deeply grateful to the many people who have contributed to my work and journey. Although I am indebted to many, the ideas and conclusions presented here are my responsibility alone.

There are many people that I would like to thank. Surely, friends, family, and colleagues have been exposed to a lot of talk on “fish quotas,” and your many questions have constantly led me to find new ways to explore and explain my arguments. Throughout the process, my supervisor Professor Thomas Højrup has shared his immeasurable knowledge and passion for the field, of which I am deeply indebted and inspired. In addition, I am very grateful for the financial support from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, the University of Copenhagen and from the Research Council, as well as the many funds for traveling I have received from, among others, DANIDA, The European Parliament, OCEAN 2012, and Solarfonden. This book is based on my PhD thesis from 2013. Since then, the manuscript has been revised and improved thanks to a number of peer reviewers. Finally, my girlfriend Katrine has been an outstanding support and has ceaselessly shared her love and optimism.

There are other vessels out there navigating the waters of market-based fisheries and I have learned continuously from the cooperation with NGOs, community entrepreneurs, fishers, and other scholars from all over the world. I hope this work will propel and enlighten your quest as well. There are strong currents in the international environment favoring a privatization of the oceans. Step by step a far-reaching privatization of the ocean is being implemented with undesirable social consequences. *People say don't rock the boat, let things go their own way. I say let's rock the boat.*

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