

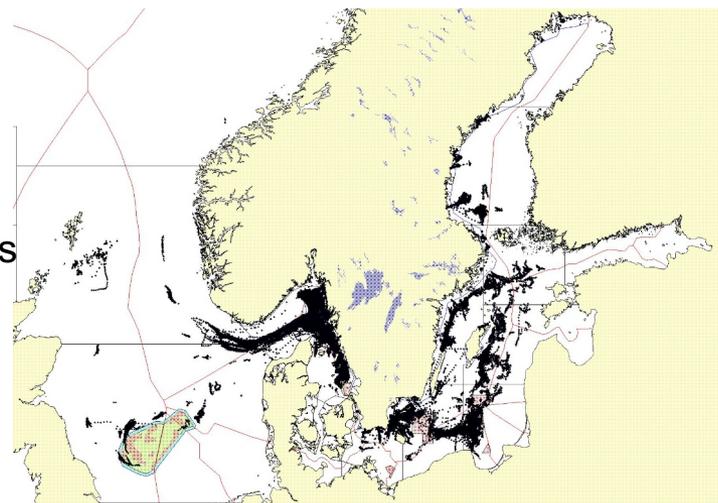
# Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Swedish blue bioeconomy



## The Swedish blue bioeconomy sector in numbers (primary production)

### Commercial fishing

- ❖ About 1400 fishing vessels (marine and inland water)
  - ≈ 75 % less than 10 meters
  - ≈ 1700 employees
  - ≈ 900 full time equivalents
- ❖ Total landed weight in 2019 about 176 000 tonnes
  - ≈ 94 % pelagic species
  - Herring, Sprat, Mackerel, Cod
- ❖ Total landed value ≈ 110 million
  - ≈ 55 % pelagic species
  - Herring, Norwegian lobster, Shrimp, Sod, Vendace,  
Pike perch



## The Swedish blue bioeconomy sector in numbers (primary production)

### Aqua culture

- ❖ About 120 facilities  
≈ 400 full time equivalents
- ❖ Total production in 2019 about 10 000 tonnes  
≈ 99 % for food production  
About 70 % in inland areas
- ❖ Total value in 2019 about 48 million €  
≈ 87 % from food production

Rainbow trout, mussels, oysters



## Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

### Commercial fishing

- Closed market
  - Hotels, restaurants and export market
- Reduced demand
- Reduced market value for several species

### Aquaculture

- Closed market
- Additional costs for feed
- Environmental permits exceeded
- High risk of production loss



## Measures to reduce negative impact of COVID-19 in a short term perspective

- ❖ Support for short term layoffs
- ❖ Support for conversion and adaption of businesses
- ❖ Support for temporary cessation of fishing activities
- ❖ Temporary reduced requirements in environmental legislation related to aqua culture
- ❖ Temporary reduced requirements in administration
- ❖ Search for new markets and value chains
- ❖ Rationing of fishery landings as an adaptation to a reduced demand

## Positive side effects of COVID-19

- Increased demand of ecosystem services provided by aquatic ecosystems such as recreation
- Increased demand for locally produced products
- Increased interest and awareness of the local market



## Lessons learned - Openness and inclusiveness

- Cooperation and information exchange
- Focus on the solutions rather than the problems
- Importance of organizations, platforms, networks etc.

