

PROPOSITIONS

1. Ecosystem-based management (EBM) constitutes a demanding approach to mandated decision-makers as it asks to combine generation of knowledge reflecting socio-ecological complexity and organization of adaptive management. (this thesis)
2. Successful decision-makers tend to apply different approaches to knowledge governance, reflecting varying expectations about how much and how often knowledge should be shared, what types of knowledge should be included, whom should learn from whom and whom should be defining the knowledge questions. (this thesis)
3. Whether or not a knowledge governance approach is successful depends on the operational context wherein it is applied, being defined by the level of available knowledge and conflict. (this thesis)
4. Successful decision-making however is not necessarily connected to high quality of ecosystem management. (this thesis)
5. Taking into account as much knowledge sources as possible increases quality of EBM decisions. (this thesis)
6. The use of organic residues as agricultural manure is an important practice to foster the ecological value of agricultural land, as it gives back part of primary production to the ecological system.
7. If something good can be taken from the Corona crisis, as serious and dreadful as it was (and still is), it should be its ecological benefits and its highlighting of scientific utility for society.
8. Sometimes decision-makers can be more adaptive than scientists like them to be.
9. “In der Beschränkung zeigt sich erst der Meister” (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)
10. In the Netherlands, nature is a concept.
11. „Zo ik dan íets ben, ben ik een Hagenaar.” (Louis Couperus)