CSSI Research Conversation on Sustainability with Gustavson Post-Docs Dara Kelly, Camille Meyer, and Viviana Pilato

Tuesday, April 24, 2018 from 12:00-1:30 PM in the David Strong Building, Room C113

ABSTRACT

Wild salmon is an essential economic and cultural resource in the North American Pacific region. It provides jobs and revenue for fisher people, cultural and spiritual well-being for coastal First Nations and Native Americans and is a major element of local wildlife as a provider of food for bears, whales, and eagles – to name but a few. Wild salmon stocks are common-pool resources (CPRs) shared by many constituents, and as such, face traditional challenges of CPRs such as overexploitation. Overfishing is just one of the challenges faced by wild salmon, since habitat degradation, pollution and the introduction of new practices also challenge traditional equilibria. In particular, the salmon farming industry is considered as a vector of disease, sea lice and general degradation of the ecosystem that has shown to affect the health of wild salmon stocks.

This research project investigates how to manage both wild and farmed salmon. To do so, it adopts three complementary perspectives:

(1) The first perspective proposes to analyze the complex governance of the wild salmon social-ecological system, with special focus on how different actors’ timeframes, knowledge and objectives can influence the type of collective governance required to establish sustainable use and conservation of wild salmon.

(2) The second perspective aims to investigate the traditional knowledge of Indigenous communities for salmon fishing, and how First Nations conceptions of stewardship can inform both sustainable management practices and shared meanings of intergenerational and wildlife connection.

(3) The third perspective focuses on analyzing the sustainability controversy of salmon farming, from the economies of worth (EW) perspective, and how stakeholders from government, civil society, industry and First Nations mobilize modes of justification, with the aim to maintain the moral legitimacy of salmon farming.

To RSVP please contact Sheryl at GSB facultysupport@uvic.ca or call 250-472-5647