**Facing the challenge of Arctic fisheries management within a context of spatially differentiated ecological-economic externalities.**

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Abrupt and rapid climate change in combination with increased human disturbance in Arctic marine ecosystems is becoming one of the most prevalent concerns among the scientific community, particularly regarding non-native species introductions and the threats they are posing to the overall marine habitat and its economic productivity. The former environmental conditions had so far prevented extended introduction and establishment of non-native species. It is thus the same characteristics that have previously made the Arctic less open to the spread of invasive species that are now responsible for the expansion of the problem. Unique species are at stake while co-evolved systems that have taken millennia to develop are also subject to unprecedented pressure. Even small-scale disturbances in the pristine and fragile Arctic ecosystems are likely to have outsized impacts both on an ecological and on an economic level. The current work discusses optimal management approaches regarding threats from invasive species on an international scale, targeting at eventually minimizing overall damages and costs. The purposeful introduction of the Red King Crab (RKC) together with the accidental introduction of the Snow Crab (SC) in the Barents Sea and the RKC’s identification in Icelandic waters are used as a basis for the discussion of the tradeoffs, local, regional and international governance opportunities and failures as well as intervention possibilities. The challenges of effectively managing these species are particularly high, mainly because of their twofold role as invasive species and market commodities. Part of the balancing act needed for a solution to the spread of the RKC has been directed at spatial containment, where the containment procedure depends on economic incentives of open access fisheries. Such solutions are thoroughly examined regarding whether they would be feasible for the newer but more rapidly expanding SC invasion.

**Keywords:** Arctic fisheries, non-native species, management