

The future of Arctic biodiversity assessments: exploring new ways to shorten the time between information and action

**A few blunt reflections on the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment
process and looking forward to new ways to mainstream biodiversity
in decision making**

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Windows of opportunity open

**Be prepared; keep up-to-date with
policy fashion trends**



Windows of opportunity close

**Deadlines are not indicative
timelines that are open for
interpretation and negotiation**

Lena river, Sakha republic (Yakutia), Russia

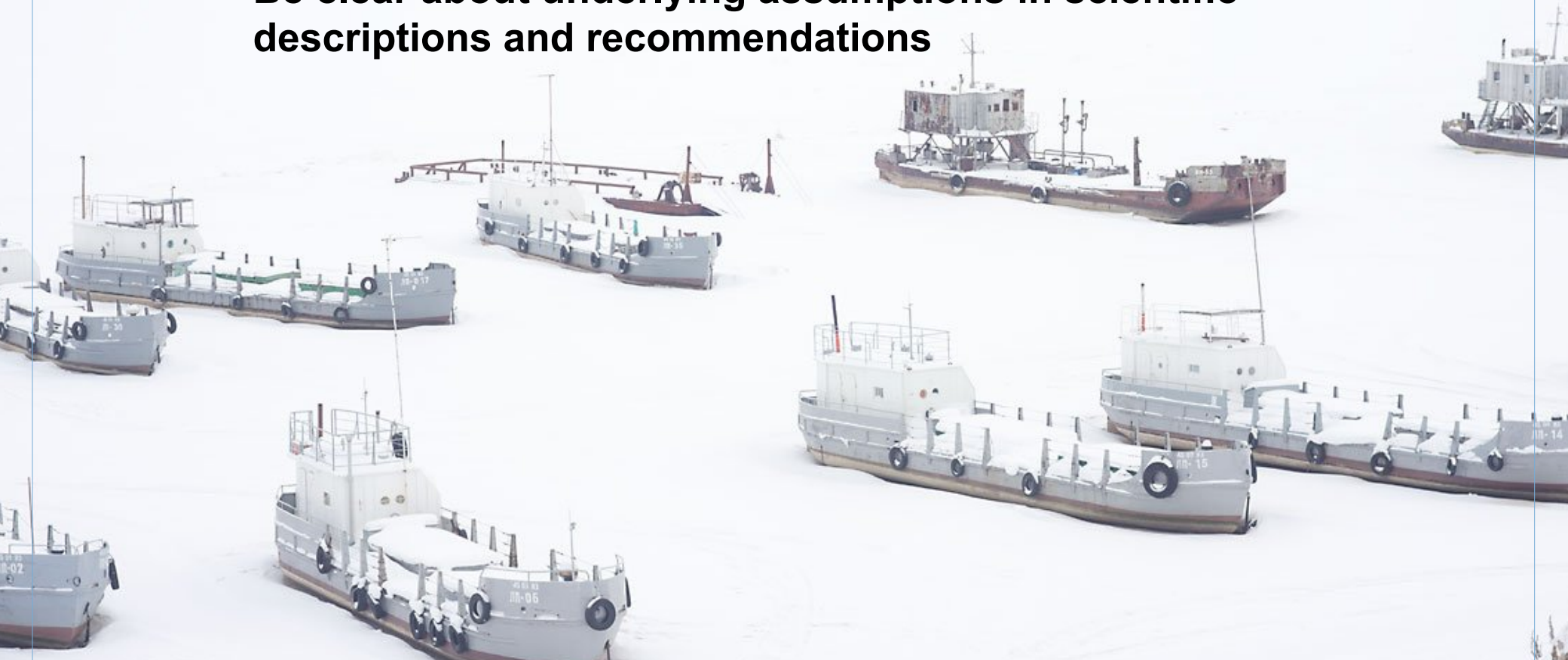


Perfection is a luxury

Often, "good enough" is
good enough – dare to give an
answer when asked a question

Scientists tell the things as they are, politicians choose how they should be

Be clear about underlying assumptions in scientific
descriptions and recommendations



Evaluate successes as well as failures

Do not only concentrate on how much is left to be done, but make sure to also present "good examples" – we pay lots of money to environmental policy; surely something must have been accomplished



It's all in the data

- **Make data available!**
- **Open data: open means anyone can freely access, use, modify, and share for any purpose (subject, at most, to requirements that preserve provenance and openness)**
- **Quality, traceability**
- **Citizen science, crowd sourcing data**



Thank you, and good luck to all of us
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