

Title of PhD thesis:

Shades of green: Calculating natures, infrastructures and futures

Candidate:

Irene Øvstebø Tvedten

Abstract

In her PhD thesis, Tvedten asks the following research question: How do economic valuation devices assemble environmental matters of concern for potential intervention? This thesis examines how common economic valuation devices render environmental matters of concern available for intervention. In three case studies set in Norway, Tvedten examines the negotiation of three environmental matters of concern: 'Green shipping', 'green transitions' and 'greenhouse gas emissions'. The thesis is composed of three articles that take either economic analysis or tax regulation as a point of departure, following economic valuation devices as they move and negotiate future alternative ship fuels, energy infrastructures and emissions. Taking a socio-material approach to environmental matters of concern, Tvedten's thesis finds that economic valuation devices stabilise disputed dimensions of environmental matters of concern in material movements. A central point in the thesis is that the monetary valuation of emissions is key to these stabilisation efforts. The three articles contribute to the STS (science and technology) field by opening up partly unexplored empirical spaces, such as green shipping and the valuation of emissions in economic analysis.