

The Making of a county - geoh heritage mapping in Nordland, Northern Norway

A. BERGENGREN^{1*}, R. DAHL², A. JURUS² AND T. HELDAL²

¹*Geological Survey of Norway, Postboks 6315 Sluppen, 7491 Trondheim, NORWAY.*

*(*correspondence: anna.bergengren@ngu.no)*

²*Geological Survey of Norway*

In 2015, the Geological Survey of Norway (NGU), launched a new geoh heritage mapping project in Nordland county, Northern Norway. The project is financed by NGU and Nordland County Council, with the County Governor of Nordland and Museum Nord as partners. The project runs over three years and aims to map and present geosites of interest to science, tourism and education. In terms of area, Nordland is the second largest of Norway's 19 counties. The county has about 240 000 citizens, with the town Bodø as the regional Capital city. Nordland is, geologically speaking, a rich county. Several industrial mineral and ore deposits are being exploited, and there are several deposits for potential future mining. The county display a rich geodiversity, ranging from Precambrian basement rocks, through Caledonian nappe sheets to a spectacular landscape formed during the glacial periods. The terrestrial and marine landscape also provides the base for fisheries, a significant industry in Nordland. In the summer 2015, NGU undertok the first fieldwork for the project, in the areas of Vesterålen and Lofoten, the northernmost parts of the county. As a way to systematize how information about geoh heritage is valorized and assessed, NGU used a new proposed framework for assessment of geoh heritage in Norway. The framework describes the geological scientific interest, the typology, the geological importance, and the condition of each site. The aim of the framework is to develop a methodology that could be used as standard for mapping geoh heritage in Norway.

The project is also part of a long-term wish to update the information in NGU's Database for Geoh heritage. The database is based on old registrations from the 1970's, digitalized in early 1990's as a database on NGU. Today, there is a need to update the data, to secure the quality of the information, and to develop a new way to systematize the information.

In this presentation, we aim to present the project, the framework used for mapping, and tell about lessons learned from the first fieldwork, as well as our hopes for how information collected can be used in the future.