The Royal Society, the national academy of science of the UK and the Commonwealth, is at the cutting edge of scientific innovation. We support young scientists, engineers and technologists, influence science policy, debate scientific issues with the public and much more. We are an independent, charitable body and derive our authoritative status from over 1400 fellows and foreign members.

During 2010, we are celebrating the Royal Society’s 350th anniversary. As part of this, there will be an exciting programme of activities – exhibitions, lectures, conferences, a new book, a vast science festival on the South Bank in London, television and radio broadcasting and much more besides.

Our mission: to expand knowledge and further the risk of science and engineering in making the world a better place.

The Royal Society’s strategic priorities are to:

• invest in future scientific leaders and in innovations,
• influence policymaking with the best scientific advice,
• promote science and mathematics education,
• increase access to the best science internationally, and
• inspire an interest in the joy, wonder and excitement of scientific discovery.

Cover image: Cod, a top predator in the Barents Sea, experiences good recruitment in warm years through a combination of direct temperature effects on growth and indirect effects through prey. This, in turn leads to heavier predation on smaller fish the following year. In extreme years, cod densities are reported to be 10-fold higher in warm compared to cold years. The resulting high predation pressure on smaller species, like herring, may lead to smaller eggs and, in turn, lower growth rates in future cod generations. This effect is likely to be even more pronounced in the North Sea, where cold-water species such as cod are sympatric with warm-water species such as herring.

for further information on the Society’s activities, please contact the following departments on the extensions listed by dialing +44 (0)20 7589 5561, or visit the Society’s website (royalsociety.org).


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