



BEATRIZ BUSTOS

Beatriz Bustos is an assistant professor at the Universidad de Chile. She holds a PhD in Geography and a Master in Public Administration from Syracuse University, a Master in Anthropology and Development and a BA in Public Administration from Universidad de Chile. Her research focuses on the intersection between environmental policy, development and economic geography. From a political ecology background, she looks at the tension between rural landscapes endowed with natural resources and national policies defining their exploitation and their effects on social justice and rural development.

Environmental Governance: the case of the Chilean salmon industry

Salmon was introduced into Chilean waters with the explicit purpose of developing an export industry in the early 1970s. In less than 20 years Chilean producers were able to compete against Norway, the world-leading producer. However, the crisis of 2007 made it necessary to regulate the governance mechanisms in place. The presentation will provide an overview of the concept of political ecology, which is concerned with understanding the power dynamics involved in socionatural relations, and which offers a lens to analyze environmental and political tensions. It is argued that the policy and institutional arrangements implemented to overcome the Chilean salmon crisis were effective in reigniting the new accumulation cycle but have not dealt with the underlying ecological contradictions.

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