

Implementation of the ecosystem approach in the MSFD and BSAP from maritime perspective

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MARMONI workshop "Stakeholders as important actors in Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation: from decision makers to general public"
15-16 November 2012 in Tallinn, Estonia



Where 'maritime' stands in the BSAP and MSFD?



BSAP maritime segment: 34 actions to reach the 8 management objectives and the strategic goal by 2021.

Strategic goal: Maritime activities in the Baltic Sea carried out in an environmentally friendly way.

Objectives: Illegal and accidental pollution, response capacity, sewage and air pollution, alien species, platform threats and pollution.

Maritime Spatial Planning: Practical application of the ecosystem approach, spatial view on human activities

Marine Strategy Framework Directive:

Descriptor 2 for GES: introductions of non-indigenous species,

Descriptor 10 for GES: Marine litter,

Descriptor 11 for GES: Introduction of energy.



Human activities at sea

Assessments + indicators:

- Tendency towards pressure indicators
- Estimates of cumulative impacts: focus on fishing, constructions, dredging and dumping.

Benthic habitat maps:

- Potential basis for impact assessments.

HELCOM PROTECT:

- Project to evaluate MPA network and its management and information availability

HELCOM BALTFIMPA:

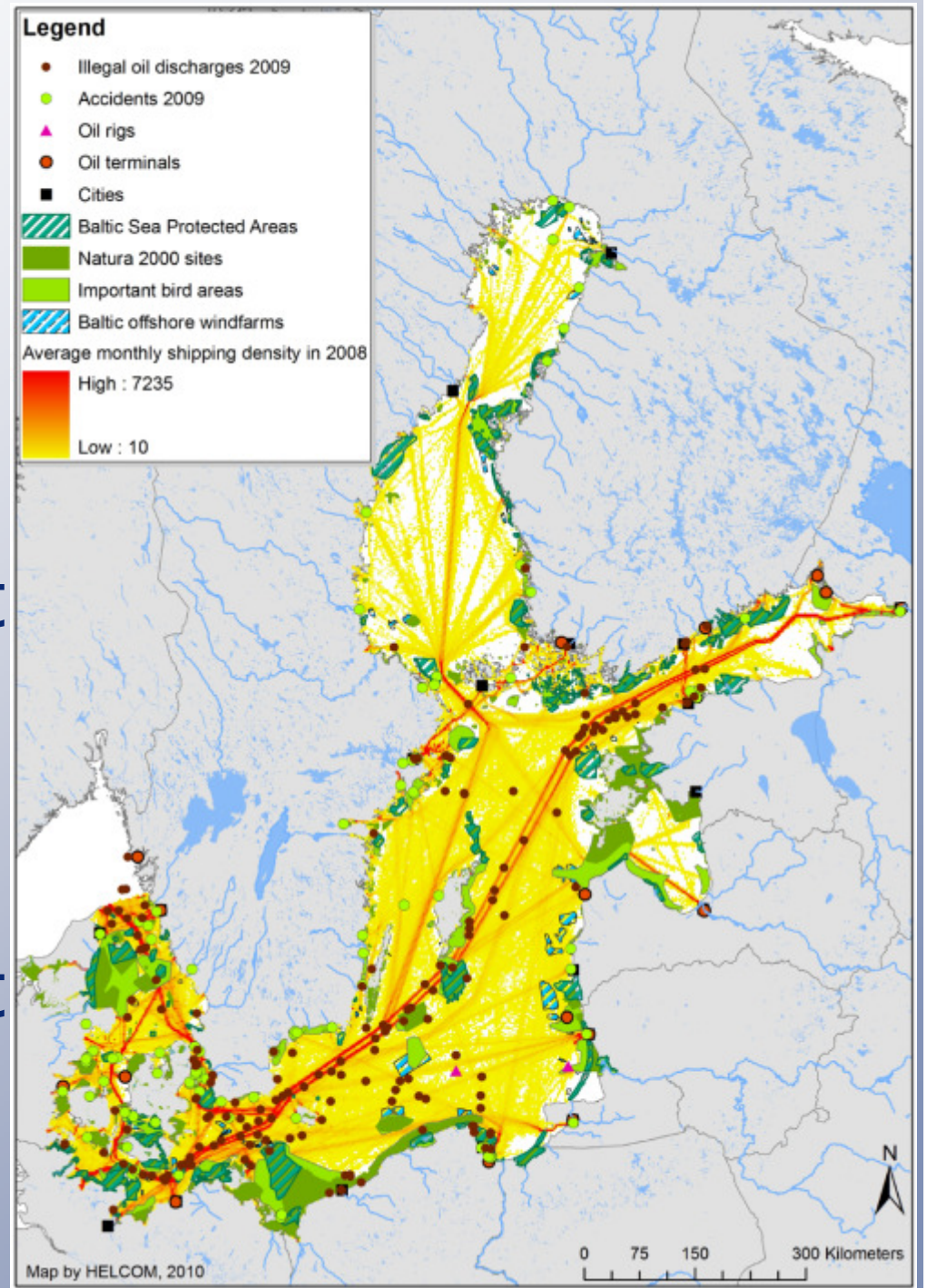
- Project to suggest new fisheries management within MPAs.



MPAs

Many MPAs
lack
management
plans.

Many gaps in
the
management
plans.



HELCOM coordination in shipping and response issues

Groups: MARITIME, RESPONSE, HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

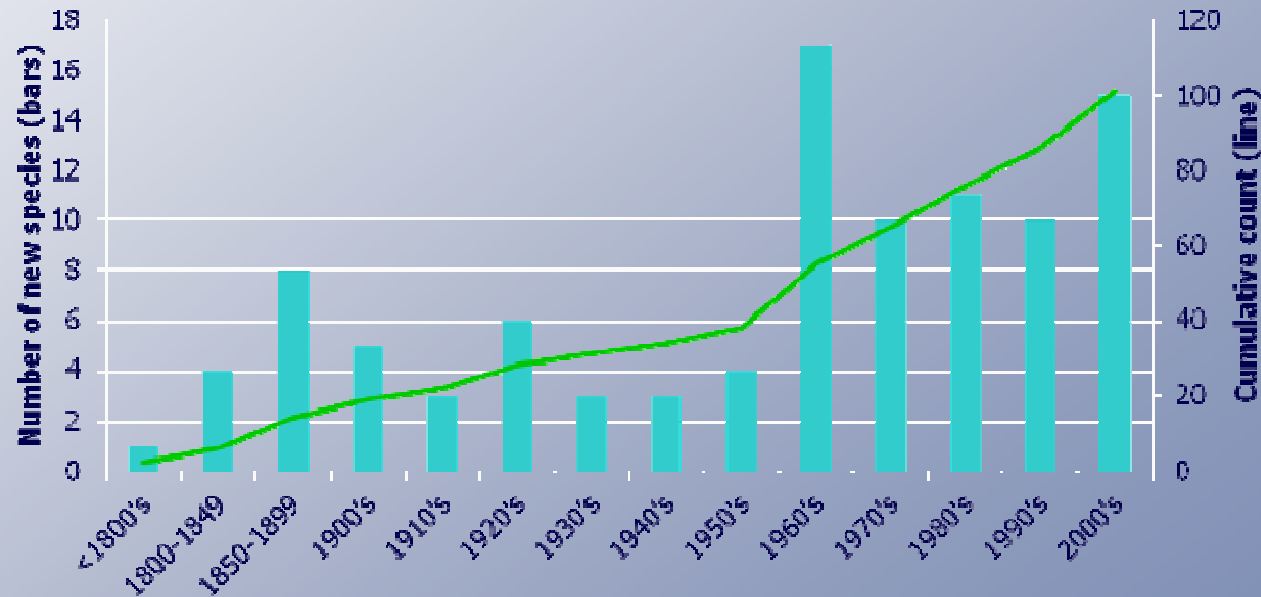
Expert groups: HELCOM AIS EWG, Shoreline response EWG, HELCOM SAFE NAV

- Safety of navigation and emergency response
 - HELCOM Expert Group on Safety of Navigation
 - Safety of winter navigation (BIM)
 - Risk assessments of shipping accidents (BRISK/BRISK-RU)
 - Ship monitoring (HELCOM AIS, reporting systems)
 - Hydrographic Re-surveys -> ECDIS
 - Building capacities to respond to pollution at sea, places of refuge
- Special area for sewage discharges from passenger ships
 - HELCOM Cooperation Platform on Port Reception Facilities
- Emissions
 - NOx Emission Control Area (NECA) [Baltic Sea already SECA]
 - Economic incentives for greener shipping
- Ballast water



Alien species - threat to the ecosystems and economy

- All areas of the Baltic Sea are invaded by non-indigenous species
- The number of new species has increased in recent decades
- The spread of alien species is one of the greatest threats to biodiversity



Ratification of Ballast Water Convention

- Ballast Water Roadmap: 12 action points adopted as part of the BSAP
- Focus on challenges specific for the Baltic Sea (shallow waters, relatively small sea area)
- Cooperation with the North Sea (OSPAR)
- Ballast water exchange not a management option
- HELCOM Contracting Parties have agreed to ratify no later than by 2013
 - Sweden (November 2009)
 - Russia (March 2012)
 - Denmark (September 2012)
 - Remaining HELCOM countries preparing for the ratification
- HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2013 to evaluate the implementation of this commitment and agree on further necessary measures



Cross-regional co-operation

Voluntary guidance on ballast water exchange

- Joint HELCOM/OSPAR guidance on voluntary ballast water exchange in specified areas.
- Joint HELCOM/OSPAR/REMPEC guidance on voluntary ballast water exchange in specified areas.

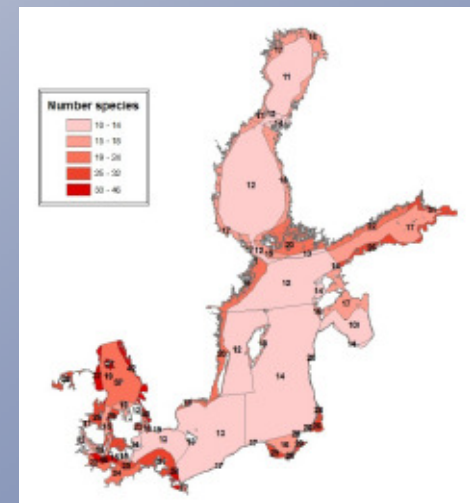
Towards coherence in Ballast Water Convention

- Joint HELCOM-OSPAR task group on risk assessments.
- To look into joint Baltic and North Atlantic approaches.
- Outcome: Guidance on how to conduct, evaluate and consult risk assessments for intra-Baltic shipping, in cooperation with OSPAR



HELCOM Lists of N-I species

- List of Non-indigenous and cryptogenic species in the Baltic Sea
- List of Target species
- Regularly updated
- HELCOM Ecological Objective:
No introductions of alien species
- CORESET –project proposal for HELCOM biodiversity core indicator: *Trend in the arrival of new-indigenous species*



ALIENS 2-project

Study on biological survey protocols and target species selection

- HELCOM BWM Road Map requires arriving at a unified Baltic Sea exemption system
- HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2010 adopted the Guidance to distinguish between unacceptable high risk scenarios and acceptable low risk scenarios
- **Aim of project:**
 - Create port profiles of alien species throughout the Baltic
 - Propose a regionally harmonized method for granting exemptions from ballast water treatment (BWM Convention A-4)



Thank you!

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