



W 1/6 Working with culturally significant
areas in maritime spatial planning
(ICES)

BALTIC 2nd FORUM MSP



Chairs:

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ICES Working Group for Marine Planning
and Coastal Zone Management



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Welcome

Wojciech Wawrzynski

ICES Head of Science Support Department

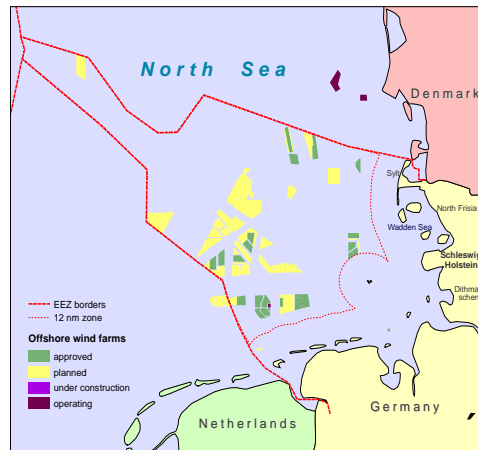


Introduction

Kira Gee

ICES Working Group for Marine Planning
and Coastal Zone Management

A socio-cultural evidence gap



Commonly elicited evidence for marine planning and management:

- Ecological carrying capacity
- Spatial compatibility of sea uses
- Cumulative impacts of sea uses
- Pressure/pressure indices
- Economic costs and benefits of different patterns of use

BUT:

What of non-material values, cultural practices and affective dimensions related to the sea?



Importance of non-material values, cultural practices and affective dimensions

- Non-material values play a **significant role in generating a sense of place and identity** for coastal and marine spaces.
- Non-material values **underpin many economic activities**.
- Non-material values contribute to human well-being and **quality of life**.
- Non-material values can be **threatened** by changing marine activities.

A socio-cultural evidence gap

Problems with non-material values, cultural practices and affective dimensions:

- Difficult to elicit
- Difficult to express spatially
- Difficult to compare with economic and ecological values



What are cultural values in MSP?

Cultural values in MSP = **place-based values**

- The “collection of meanings, beliefs, symbols, values and feelings that individuals or groups associate with a particular locality” (Williams and Stewart, 1998:19).
- Place values are often **intangible**
- There is **no universal classification** or definition of cultural values.



Examples for cultural values

Beauty of the landscape and seascape

Cultural heritage

Habitat and species value

Inspiration

Recreation

Knowledge

Practices

Traditions

Symbolic values

Moral values

....



Identifying places of cultural importance

The concept of Culturally Significant Areas (CSAs)

→ analogous to ecologically significant areas:

“An area containing a culturally significant feature, or a feature in its own right.”



Identifying places of cultural importance

Significance is based on the **cultural connection of a community** to a given area

Participative process to establish:

- What is it?
- Where is it?
- When is it?
- To whom is it important?
- What qualities are needed to sustain it?



Identifying places of cultural importance

ICES WKCES criteria for determining cultural significance

- Cultural uniqueness
- Broad cultural/community reliance
- Importance of the feature to the resilience of the social-ecological system
- Degree of tradition
- Dramatic cultural change



Identifying places of cultural importance

Cultural uniqueness:

- A place/feature that is unique, rare or otherwise distinct, to the degree that no alternatives or replacements exist.
- A place/feature that enable unique cultural activities.

Uniqueness may be considered in a local, regional, national or global cultural context, and may apply differently at different levels.



Identifying places of cultural importance

Broad cultural reliance:

- A place/feature which is important to many different communities or to a very large community and/or large numbers of people.
- A place/feature which is essential to sustaining many other important activities.
- A place/feature which holds importance for a given group for many different reasons, or supports many aspects of their culture or traditions.



Identifying places of cultural importance

Importance to community resilience:

- Loss of the place/feature impacts on other benefits.
- Loss of the place/feature severely impacts on a particular user group (e.g. it can no longer perform certain cultural activities in the region).
- Loss of the place/feature severely impacts on the wider region.
- The place/feature plays an important role in the adaptive capacity of the community or region.



Identifying places of cultural importance

Degree of tradition:

- The place/feature is associated with a long-standing (referring to historical depth) or broadly anchored traditions;
- The place/feature draws strong commitment from the user group or is associated with high participation rates.



Identifying places of cultural importance

Dramatic cultural change:

- The place/feature has importance in the context of sudden dramatic change or the historical context of change.
- Dramatic change may be caused by the loss of essential ecosystem functions, invasion, war or conquest, or any other severe changes in a culture outside the normal parameters of change (e.g. pressures from external or internal forces)



Towards risk assessment

Risk criteria for rating impacts on cultural places of importance:

A scale of five from Extreme to Negligible

Severity	Criteria
Extreme	<p>A permanent or long-term damage to a cultural ecosystem service that would undermine the cultural integrity of the community.</p> <p>The result of which would create long term loss of trust accompanied by a significant unwillingness to cooperate on marine management and planning issues.</p>
Very High	<p>An impact to a cultural ecosystem service that would require extensive additional management measures to mitigate the consequences to the cultural integrity of the community.</p> <p>The result of which would create significant loss of trust and strong resistance to collaborate. Agreements would not be achievable and negative impacts on other marine management and planning activities.</p>

Towards risk assessment

Attributes to consider:

- **Location/spatial extent** (area boundaries)
- **Temporal scale** (area boundaries)
- **Environmental quality** (qualities outside the area that nevertheless determine its significance)



The concept of Culturally Significant Areas



Questions so far?





Case Study: Mapping Culturally Significant Areas (CSAs)

Christian Fischer, Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht

Objective, research question and methods

Objective: Field testing the concept of Culturally Significant Areas (CSAs)

Frame: EU research project BONUS BALTSAPACE (2015-2018)

Work package at HZG: „Approaches and Tools“



Research questions:

As CSAs serve as an expression for cultural values the overarching questions are:

- What exactly are the cultural values in the area in question?
- Where are they located?
- What are the benefits of cultural values to different stakeholders?
- How do the cultural values identified translate into CSAs?

→ Collecting both spatial *and* qualitative data in one attempt

Method: Qualitative semi-structured interviews combined with mapping exercise

Interviews and mapping

number of interviews	14
age	23-80 years

Sectors covered:

- fisheries
- administration
- nature conservation
- leisure activities



Questions to interview partners on

- activities carried out in the open
- perceived impression
- possible benefit from activities



Study area: Höganäs municipality in Sweden

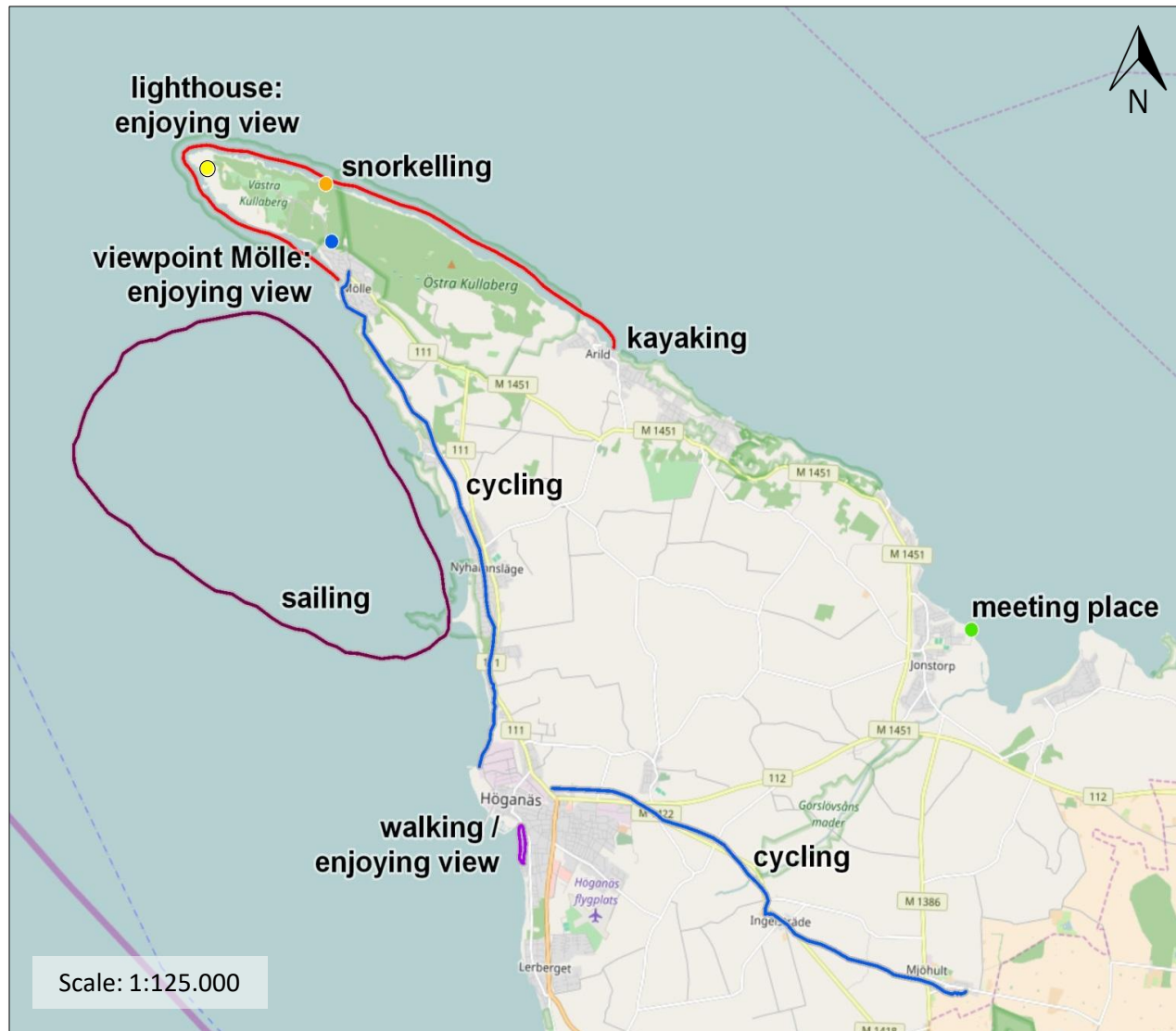


Interview results: Two quotations

I-14: „Ja, when you get out here, you can have, you can look at Hallands väderö, it's an island lying up here. The view is very nice, you can see the Kullaberg, the silhouette, in the sunset, it's **very, very nice**, so you have one view when you go with the bicycle on the land but when you get on the boat it's so different, **everything you see in another way.**” [00:22:15]

I-2: „Sailing is - it's almost like a cliché but it's so true - it's a really close **feeling of freedom** and having to relate to the water and the weather and the wind in a way, in a symbiose, the relationship is very close there. And it gives a sense of freedom and just playing **makes me happy.** It's easy to smile for me when I'm sailing.” [00:10:20]

Results: Outdoor activities of a Höganäs resident

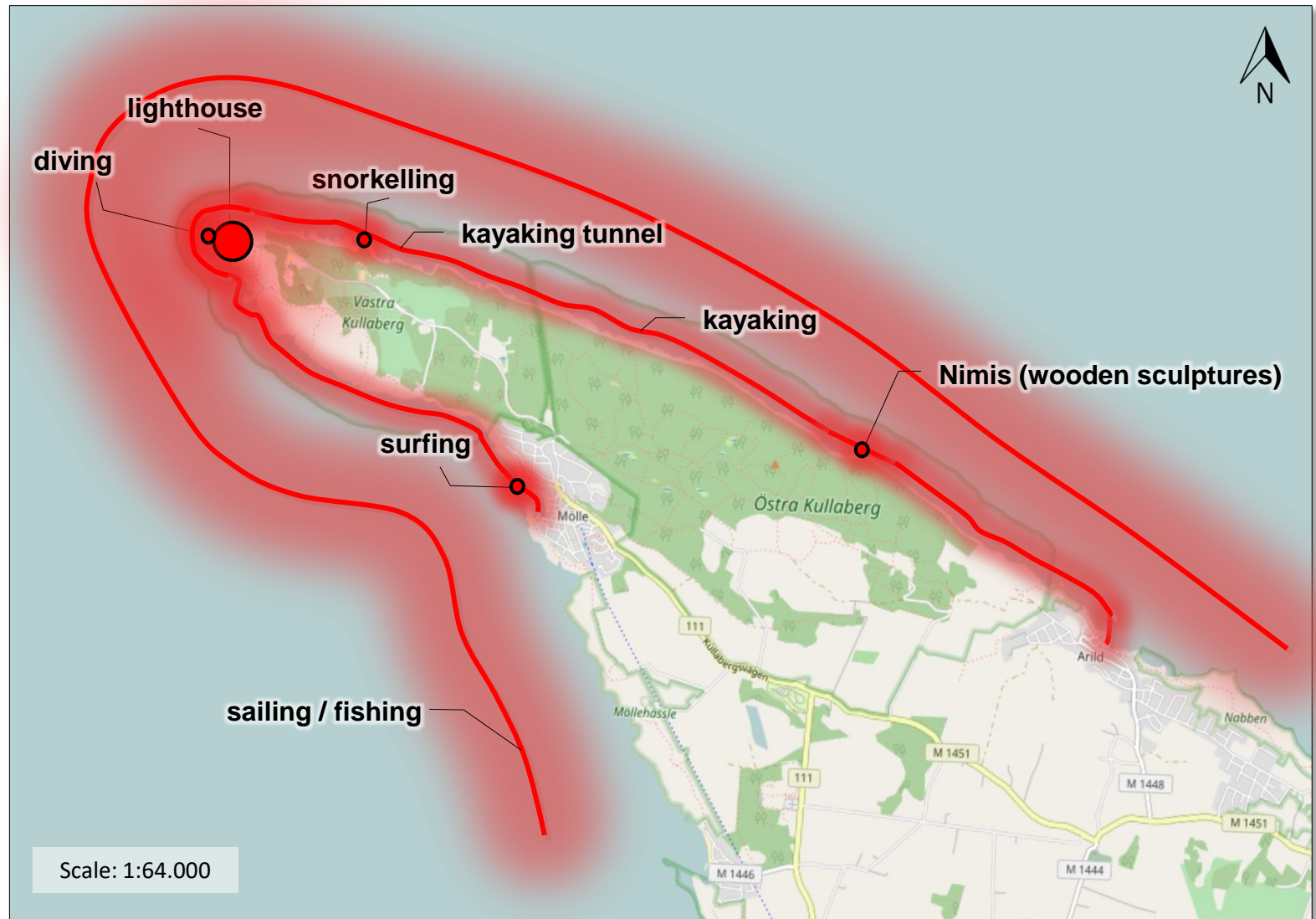


Results: Water-related activities at Kullaberg



Results:

Aesthetical benefit of water-related activities



Conclusions

1. Activity/recreational maps show what takes place where – overlays of different activities to establish intensity as one indicator of importance
2. Significance maps show meanings and benefits of places to people
 - A way of spatialising intangible benefits
 - Can translate into significance for human well-being (e.g. number of benefits achieved by one place as an indicator of importance)
3. Translation into „uniqueness“ and „broad community reliance“ for example



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General remarks

Some cultural values are easier to map than others.

The significance of a cultural value is not related to the ease with which a service can be mapped.



Harbour of Höganäs (© Ole Jais-Nielsen,
<http://mapio.net/pic/p-50043097/>)



Questions for the groups:

1. Practical opportunities and constraints of the CSA concept

2. How would the application of the CSA concept work in MSP practice?