



W 2/5 Linking maritime spatial planning  
with marine protected areas  
(Baltic SCOPE)

# MSP planning and MPAs – from Planning to Management

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## My topics

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- Elements for including MPAs in the MSP Plan
- Tools and data
- Process from planning to management
- Roles of MSP plan and MPA management

## Prerequisites and assumptions

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- MSP follows EU Directives
- Ecosystem based management approach will be followed
- Habitats and Birds Directives and Marine Strategy Framework Directives will be followed
- and thus MPAs are integral parts of MSP plans and networks of well managed MPAs are standard in the regional seas.
- HELCOM and OSPAR recommendations will be followed

**So we are discussing here not if MPAs are included but how they are included.**

# Stocktaking: good planning needs best data

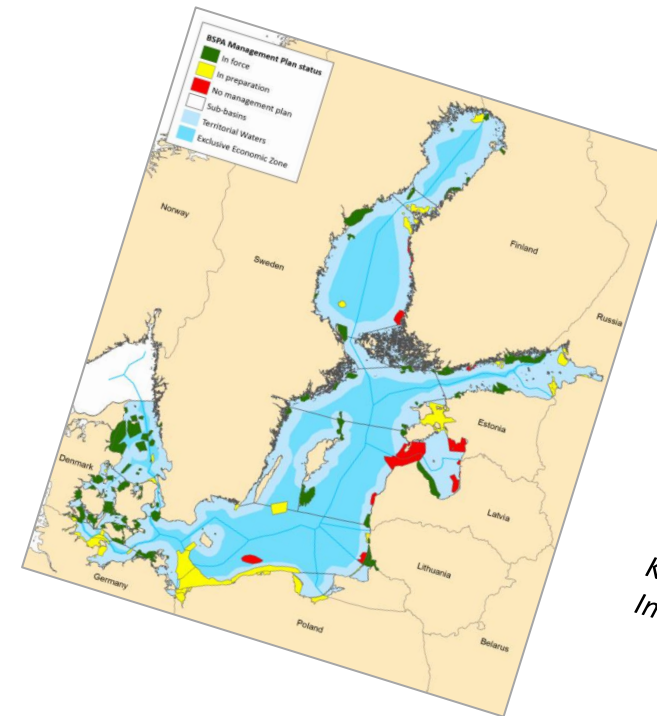
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- Existing MPAs and networks are good, **however...**
- for an MSP plan you also need the information that led to the designation
  - Demands of species
  - Thresholds indicators (GES)
  - Impacts
    - How do pressures affect biodiversity
    - How does an MPA foster ecosystem services ... (purification,...)
    - Or productivity (spill – over)
  - How is the area affected by cumulative effects

# Which data

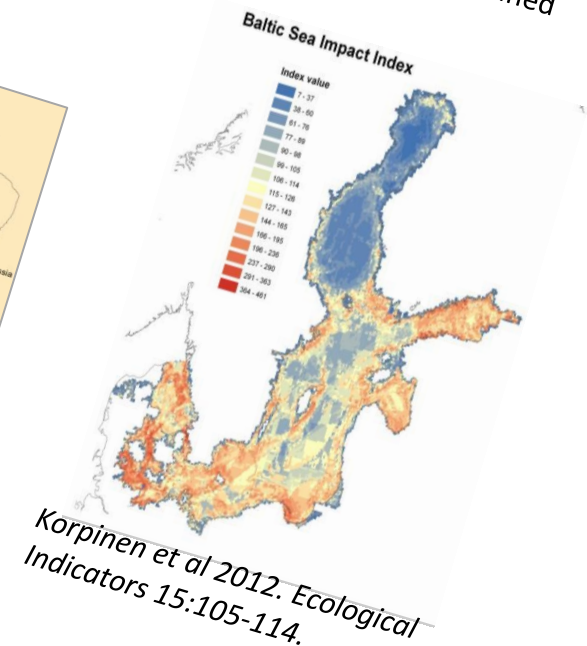
- MPA network maps including coherence assessments
- Marine landscapes
- Habitat mapping
- Evaluation of ecosystem services
- Pressure evaluations
- Stock assessments

**All you need to justify an MPA you will also need for justifying restrictions to other sea uses. Make your case strong and do your homework!**



## Baltic Sea Impact Index

Pressure and ecosystem data combined using Impact scores



Korpinen et al 2012. Ecological Indicators 15:105-114.

# Planning phase: making the case early in the process

„Green Buzzwords“ in recitals are fine ...

More important is to introduce hard conservation criteria into the planning rationale and setting of goals.

MPAs should be the exclusive use in the priority zone of a plan

Clear environmental qualitative criteria correspond with areas and spatial data fulfilling these criteria

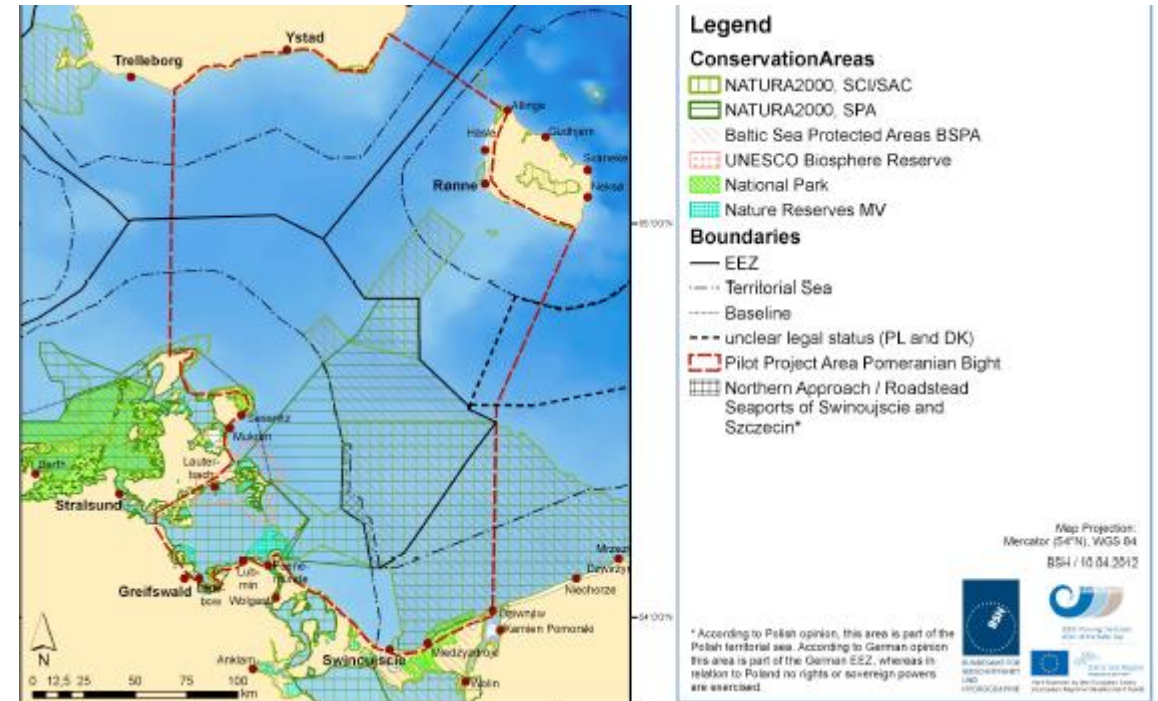
➤ GIS will generate the areas concerned

Certain protection categories (nature reserve, N2000 area, National park) or specific zones (core zone) or habitats can be such criteria for priority zones



# Planning result

MPAs should be priority areas for conservation –  
Incompatible uses should be excluded  
For other uses this will mean that there is no need to ask for permission in these areas.



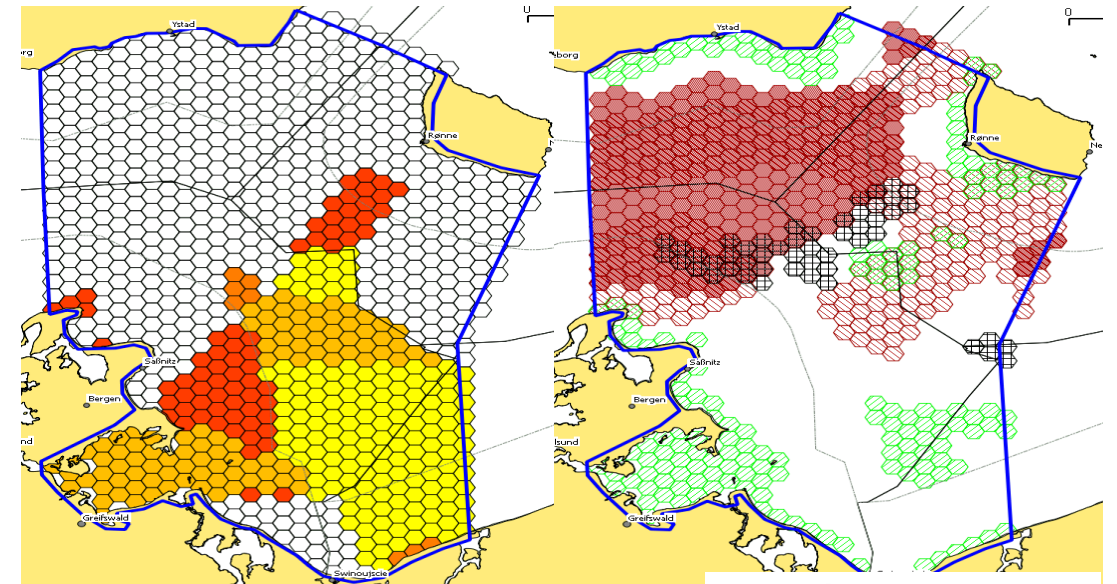
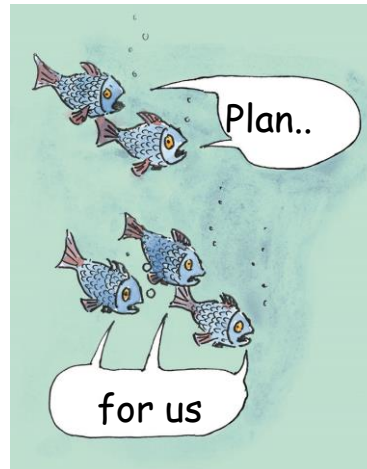


# Planning Technologies

Conservation department has to bring clear evidence to the table of the planners

Decision support tools might underpin the arguments

Visualising alternatives helps to convince



Suitability layers, left: species and habitats inside N2000 areas, right: important fish areas and wind power (preliminary data)

## Legend

Spawning and nursery areas

cod spawn

cod nurs

hering spawn

wind

cost values inside N2000 areas

0

0 - 18

18 - 38

38 - 52

> 52



# Communication is key

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**An MSP plan is a political decision making process.**

**To get MPAs as a priority claim, all parties have to be convinced:**

- The MSP planners > to understand and prioritize the claim
- The other sectors> to acknowledge that their claim is less important
- Society and politicians > that it is the best choice that might help win elections
- Important is to speak the same language – this can already start with using the same planning tools or jointly produced data  
(decision support tools, joint habitat maps )

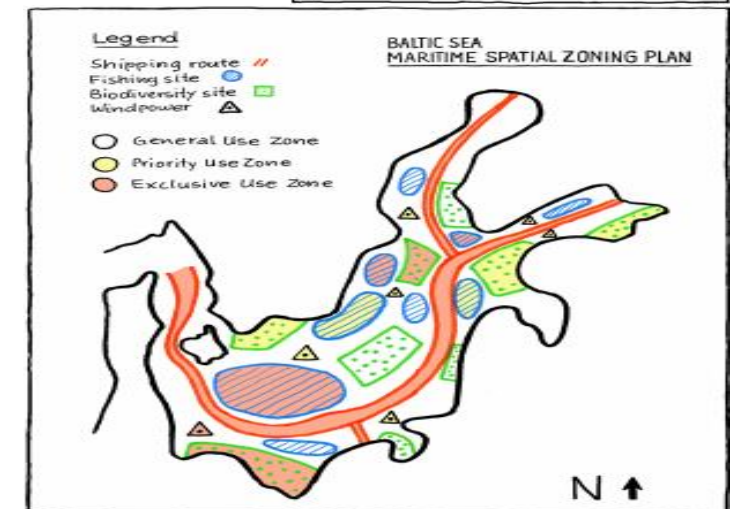
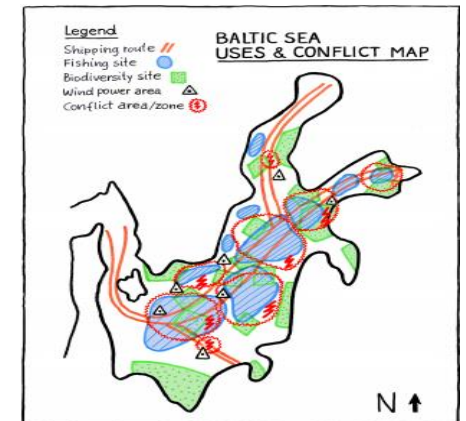
# Think of monitoring and implementation

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- When going into an MSP process the MPA management and implementation should be anticipated
- It helps making the designations enforceable
- The division between planning authority and management authority should be clear from the beginning – **point of hand-over being set early**
- **Task of developing the plan**
  - > planning authority
- **Task of daily management**
  - > nature conservation authority

# Role of MSP planning agency

- Deliver transparency about functions, impacts and different scenarios based on scientific evidence
- Elaborate policy/rationale document with goals, indicators, zoning scheme for all claims for sea space
- Define general scheme of restrictions and obligations assigned to a certain zone
- Based on spatial information and input develop a map with the zones including the corresponding restrictions



# Role of the conservation agency

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## **As contributor to the Planning team:**

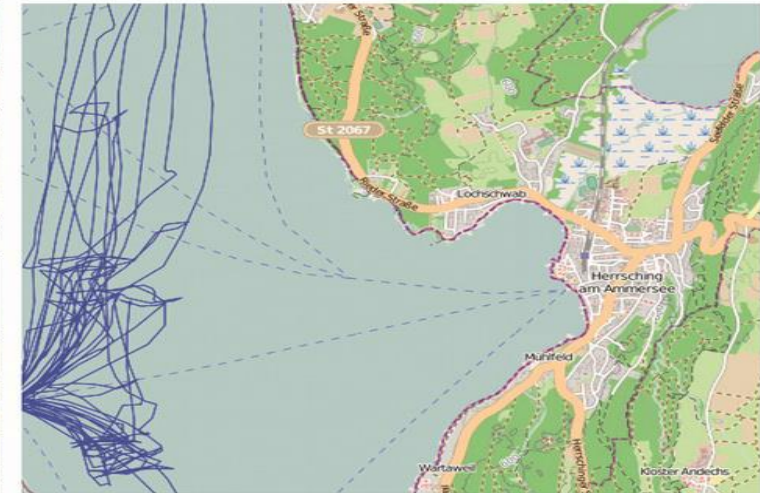
- Provide input to rationale, conservation criteria to meet and restrictions that correspond (incompatible activities)

## **As competent management agency**

- Lead role for management of the priority claim
- Lead the consultation with other sectors
- Define site or zone specific management regulations
- Organize enforcement procedures in a conservation management plan (incl. Legal status of a reserve',...)
- Organize monitoring and data gathering on daily basis
- Secure surveillance and enforcement of measures

# Surveillance and Monitoring

- Co-use of resources where possible:
- Combination of ongoing surveillance for multi-purposes:
- Oil spill , bird and marine mammals surveillance by using additional equipment on board aircrafts
- Vessel tracking (VMS, AIS) via satellite for tracking ship traffic, fisheries
- Voluntary sighting tools (sighting apps for detecting mammals or pollution features)
- Using coast guard, fisheries control and ranger vessels jointly to enforce the measures in remote sea areas.



# Involvement of mechanisms outside MSP

**Use of different sectoral competences :**

**Conservation:** management planning for N2000 sites

**Shipping :** PSSA- areas to be avoided

**MSFD:** programme of measures

**Fisheries:** spawnig areas, gear restrictions , fisheries measures in line with Common fisheries policy

