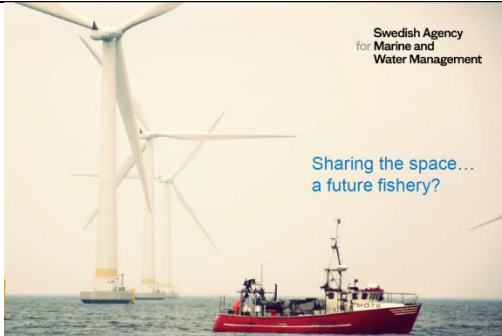


Fisheries – proposal for questionnaire

Introduction

Based on the legislation of the Common Fisheries Policy and the natural dynamics of the fisheries and fish habitats, Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is facing some challenges to incorporate spatial needs and claims of a dynamic fishing sector in a comprehensive plan for solving different interests at sea. Fishing constitutes a traditional activity at sea and is likely to be affected by other new or expanded uses of the sea demanding space that imply less flexibility for the fisheries. In some cases it may also result in reduced fishing possibilities as other uses of maritime space or protection of areas for fish habitats is recommended through a MSP process.

Requirements of the sector	Current fishing activities in the Central Baltic (mainly trawl)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Fishable and healthy stocks » Access to fishing grounds and ports for landing, bunkering and repairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Herring (particularly important in the Gulf of Riga) » Sprat and cod (mainly in the southern parts) » Salmon » Flounder
Regulations	Potential conflicts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » EU:s Common Fisheries Policy » Bilateral agreement with Russia (cooperation in fishery and conservation of marine resources) » National regulations 	<p><i>Identified at Central Baltic case workshop:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Marine conservation (Activity) » Shipping (Activity (static gear) and Habitat) » Energy installation phase including cables (Activity and Habitat) <p><i>Also:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » <i>Between different types of fisheries</i> » <i>Mining and Dumping (Activity and Habitat)</i> » <i>Cultural heritage (Activity)</i>
Potential synergies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Marine conservation for sustainable fish stocks (Habitat) » Offshore Wind Farms (OWF) – installations as areas of potential fish habitats » OWF as potential exclusive marine areas for fishing with static gear (fishermen as unofficial monitors of the standards in the OWF-area) » Shipping and Fisheries strengthen development of multi-use ports infrastructure 	



Challenging Questions

- Fishing is a dynamic activity that takes place in the zones of other countries. There is an increase of activities at sea and we expect more competition of space. For example
 - One country can allocate space off shore windparks (OFW) or marine conservation (MPA) and thereby restrain accessibility to important fishing location for several countries.
 - Direct protection measures (MPA) and unintended restriction effects (OWF) can improve the condition of spawning and nursery areas in the Baltic. At the same time, these areas restrict fishing activities.

What is required (e.g. objectives, strategies and participation) in the Baltic MSP processes in order to consider the fishing activity interests?

- Apart from synergies OWF/Fisheries (habitat and exclusive areas for static gear) energy production may cause negative impact on benthic habitats through the installation phase and related cables electromagnetic fields), may have. These habitats are a crucial food source for fish: *How can these types of cumulative effects be addressed in the transboundary context of Maritime Spatial Planning?*
- Some of the identified effects of shipping on fisheries are problems due to shipping noise and damage of fish habitats due to pollution. Due to the transboundary character of both shipping and habitats: *How can these problems be addressed and mitigated in Maritime Spatial Planning?*