

Wadden Sea Board

WSB 27

13 November 2018
Copenhagen, Denmark



Agenda Item:	5.2 Nature conservation and integrated ecosystem management
Subject:	Report TG-MM
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Submitted by:	TG-MM

Attached is a progress report of the Task Group Management and Monitoring (TG-MM). TG-MM 22 was held on 27-28 June 2018 in Tönning. The group has progressed on a few specific items but mainly focused on the future structure of the group and those items from the Leeuwarden Declaration with relevance for the TG-MM. The outcome on the discussion on the future set-up, ToR and responsibilities of the group are summarized in document WSB 27/7/5 and will therefore not be repeated in this report.

Proposal: The WSB is invited to note the information and is invited to endorse the updated proposals where necessary.

Task Group Management and Monitoring (TG-MM) progress report since WSB-26

Since WSB-26 the TG-MM has progressed on the following specific items:

Fish targets

LD Para 13. Instruct the Wadden Sea Board to further develop and contribute to implementing the SWIMWAY Vision (at Annex 3) as an integrated approach to achieving the Trilateral Fish Targets by investigating, monitoring, managing and communicating topics concerning the ecology of fish of the Wadden Sea Area;

The Swimway group held a work meeting on 10-11 of September to elaborate on the work programme and the future set up of the group. The results were elaborated further during the review workshop in October in Hamburg and are displayed in document WSB27/7/3.

During that workshop it was proposed, that the current Swimway group will be maintained as Swimway Initiation Group for the year 2019. TG-MM agreed to the proposal. The main task of the group will be the organisation of a fish summit, which is intended to attract and connect the scientific community and the aim to establish a joint Swimway programme. A focus will be on the involvement of the scientific community in the generation of projects with a basic support by the TWSC. A trilateral committee, consisting of members of the Swimway group, will be discussing further specifications and topics for this conference. Furthermore, the group should elaborate on ToR for the entire programme period. This will be done in close cooperation with TG-MM.

Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information.

Harbour porpoises

LD Para 16. Agree to duly take account of the fact that harbour porpoises are present in the Wadden Sea, thus addressing the conservation of the species.

A workshop on Harbour porpoises is planned for April 2019 as part of the “Harbour porpoise days 2019” in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. The original plans to host the workshop in autumn 2018 on the island of Sylt had to be postponed due to the workload at CWSS. The overall aim will be to collect and evaluate information on the specific ecological role of Harbour Porpoises in the Wadden Sea also with regard to the adjacent North Sea waters. The information should exceed the basic discussion displayed within the corresponding QSR Thematic Report on marine mammals. Furthermore, the relation of any activities of the TWSC with regard to ASCOBANS and OSPAR would need further clarification.

Proposal: WSB is requested to endorse the approach.

Alien species

LD Para 17. Instruct the Wadden Sea Board to undertake further steps towards a Trilateral Management and Action Plan Alien Species (MAPAS) (as described in Annex 4), which should include relevant steps for public awareness and cooperation on early warning and measures, integrating a related monitoring programme, based on the national data

underpinning the Trilateral Assessment and Monitoring Programme, including the installation of the network platform at the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat.

The ad hoc Working Group Alien Species will remain under the Task Group Management for the year 2019. The working group was requested to incorporate final changes to the MAPAS and to further elaborate on the communication plan which was rejected by TG-MM before. In the meantime, WG-AS has provided a new version of the MAPAS on basis of the received comments.

Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information.

Sustainable Fisheries

LD Para 21. Instruct the Wadden Sea Board to further develop steps for the sustainability of fisheries in the Wadden Sea Area on the trilateral level, in order to achieve the conservation objectives of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation as well as a level playing field. This should be done in close cooperation with responsible authorities and relevant stakeholders and initiatives (e.g. certification procedures), within the Framework for Sustainable Fisheries, taking into account both the importance of the ecosystem service of providing regional sea food in this respect and the integrity of the World Heritage Site.

TG-MM agreed to propose three options to the TWSC review workshop in October but also for the general handling of the issue in the future: a) elaboration of the topic in the framework of the World Heritage Management Plan; b) handling of fisheries to a certain extent in TG-MM and/or c) installing a (Task) group on fisheries.

Proposal: WSB is invited to endorse the approach.

Quality Status Report

TD §61. Instruct the WSB to elaborate the next Wadden Sea Quality Status (Outlook) Report for 2016 in time for the 2018 Conference, in order also to be in line with the reporting cycles of the N2000 Directives and Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

During TG-MM 22, it was agreed that CWSS, in close cooperation with the Editorial Board, would draft a new version of the QSR Synthesis Report, based on the received comments. TG-MM acknowledged the initial procedure that the members of the Editorial Board are the authors of the Synthesis Report and are therefore responsible for the content, taking into account that WSB requested submission of the report before publication. The new draft is pending due to the workload of CWSS.

Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information.

N2000 roof report

TD §23 Agree therefore to cooperate in evaluating the assessments under the Habitats Directive, also with the aim to prepare a common Natura 2000 roof report for the Wadden Sea.

Experts from the Danish Centre for Environment and Energy (DCE) were contacted as potential contractors for the creation of the roof report. Due to workload, they informed that a common roof report would not be possible before 2019. The experts explained, that the regions reported in three different ways and it would be necessary to agree on a single procedure for future common reporting.

Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information.