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In the Leeuwarden Declaration, the Wadden Sea Board (WSB) was instructed to further develop and contribute to implementing the SWIMWAY Vision (at Annex 3 of the Leeuwarden Declaration) 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 Trilateral Wadden Sea SWIMWAY Vision and Action Programme ([SWIMWAY, 2019](#)) contains a policy **pillar, in which** “*Current national and international policies and regulations which are potentially relevant to achieving the Trilateral Fish Targets will be described and analysed with regard to their contribution to the realisation of the Fish Targets. Following the analysis next steps can be identified.*”

WG-Swimway and invited guests drafted a policy statement based on existing guidelines and regulations with a direct link to the Trilateral Fish Targets at European level and how these have been implemented per country and trying to analyse their contribution to the realization of these targets. The policy statement was approved by TG-M in their TG-M 21-1 meeting in January 2021 and by WG-Swimway in their WG-Swimway 21-1 meeting in February 2021.

This document contains the final version of the Swimway policy statement.

Proposal: The WSB is invited to note the information. The WSB is further invited to support the conclusions and recommendations of the Swimway policy statement.



Tidal flat. Dr. B Wiersema, 2021

Trilateral Fish Targets and European Policies

Policy Statement

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The Wadden Sea
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1. Introduction

Many marine and estuarine fish species depend on the Wadden Sea at some point in their life cycle. In recent decades, the populations of many fish species have declined in the Wadden Sea and causes of these declines are only partly known or understood. As fish are an important part of the Wadden Sea ecosystem, the three Wadden Sea countries, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands, declared at the Trilateral Governmental Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, Leeuwarden 2018, to further develop the Trilateral Wadden Sea Swimway Vision, aiming to achieve the Trilateral Fish Targets for the Wadden Sea (adopted in the Wadden Sea Plan 2010).

The Trilateral Fish Targets have been formulated as followed:

- Viable stocks of populations and a natural reproduction of typical Wadden Sea fish species;
- Occurrence and abundance of fish species according to the natural dynamics in (a)biotic conditions;
- Favourable living conditions for endangered fish species;
- Maintenance of the diversity of natural habitats to provide substratum for spawning and nursery functions for juvenile fish;
- Maintaining and restoring the possibilities for the passage of migrating fish between the Wadden Sea and inland waters.

The Swimway Vision is part of the Leeuwarden 2018 Wadden Sea Declaration¹ as Annex 3. The Swimway Vision is described in an action programme, the so called Swimway Action Programme (Swimway, 2019). This programme is based on four pillars: research and monitoring; policy; measures; stakeholder involvement, communication and education. The policy pillar describes: **“Policy objectives for fish in the Wadden Sea are formulated at the European, trilateral, national and regional levels. Within the Vision it is aimed for making an inventory of existing policies and regulations relevant to the Trilateral Fish Targets at the European, trilateral, national and regional level and to analyse their contribution to the realisation of these targets. Following the analysis the need for additional actions could be identified. “**

A trilateral working group has examined existing guidelines and regulations (see chapter 3) with a direct link to the trilateral fish targets at European level

¹ Leeuwarden Declaration 2018 (Download: <https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/resources/2018-leeuwarden-declaration>)

and how these have been implemented per country and trying to analyse their contribution to the realization of these targets.

It should be noted that policies dealing with endangered species such as CITES, CMS and OSPAR and those dealing with fisheries such as the Common Fisheries Policy are not dealt with in this policy statement.

Coastal salt marshes may broadly be defined as areas, vegetated by herbs, grasses or low shrubs, which are subject to periodic flooding (tidal and non-tidal) as a result of fluctuations in the level of the adjacent saline-water bodies (Adam 1990), and where saline water is defined as not being fresh, i.e. when the annual average salinity is greater than 0.5 g of solutes per kg of water (Odum 1988). In tidal systems, salt marshes form the upper part of the intertidal zone, i.e. the interface between land and sea. They may extend vertically from well below the mean high-tide level up to the highest water mark. Salt marshes reach their greatest extent along low-energy coasts where wave action is limited and mud can accumulate (Allen & Pye 1992; Balke et al. 2016).

According to the EU Habitat Directive, salt marshes include the habitat types 1310 (*Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand), 1320 (*Spartina* swards), and 1330 (Atlantic salt meadows), for which national conservation objectives have been elaborated.

The above definition of salt marsh implies that a salt marsh is not defined by its substrate. Although the great majority of European salt marshes have a clayey substrate, the substrate can vary from pure sand to clay and peat.

Various human activities have a direct or indirect impact on salt marshes. These activities include, land use (grazing, artificial drainage, recreation, nature conservation, and coastal defence measures), as well as pollution and eutrophication.

Trilateral policy and management

All salt marshes in the Wadden Sea area are part of Natura 2000 areas. In addition to the national legislation and nature protection regulations in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark, the trilateral 2010 Wadden Sea Plan (WSP) provides the framework for the management of the entire area (CWWS 2010). In the WSP, the following five targets have been formulated for salt marshes:

- To maintain the full range of variety of salt marshes typical for the Wadden Sea landscape

- To achieve an increased area of salt marshes with natural dynamics
- To achieve an increased natural morphology and dynamics, including natural drainage of mainland salt marshes, under the condition that the present surface area is not reduced
- To maintain a salt marsh vegetation diversity reflecting the geomorphological conditions of the habitat with variation in vegetation structure
- To maintain or to achieve favourable conditions for all typical species.

2. Typical Wadden Sea Fish species

The Wadden Sea fish populations are composed of a diverse species mix, with 150 recorded fish species.² This does not include typical Wadden Sea fish species, that are already extinct or very rare. The function that the Wadden Sea fulfils for those species may differ, with some species such as plaice using the Wadden Sea as a nursery area, whilst for others such as smelt or eel it is a migratory route between the sea and freshwater. In order to address this, the Swimway Action Programme has identified five groups, or guilds, based on the life cycle of fishes and the functionality of the Wadden Sea for those species. This classification is based on distribution patterns and feeding and reproduction behaviour, an approach which was used by Elliott et al. (2007) to increase the understanding of the use of estuaries by fishes.

These are grouped into focal species (“flagship species”) exhibiting a certain lifestyle and representing others with a similar lifestyle (“fleet species”) as shown in Table 1 (From Swimway, 2019³).

Table 1 Flagship and fleet species for five functional life cycle groups according to distribution patterns, feeding and reproduction behaviour (Swimway, 2019).

Life cycle	Flagship	Fleet
Pelagic marine juvenile	Herring	Sprat, anchovy, horse mackerel, seabass
Demersal marine juvenile	Plaice	Sole, dab
Wadden Sea residents	Eelpout	Gobies, sandeel, sea snail, rock gunnel, mullets
Diadromous species	Smelt	Twaite shad, salmon, sea trout, houting, eel
Marine adventitious	Tope	Thornback ray, dogfish

² Bolle *et al.* (2009) and Jager *et al.* (2009) reported of 150 species including 13 freshwater species.

³ Swimway (2019) https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/sites/default/files/2019_swimway_action_programme.pdf

3 How Do European regulations support the protection of fish in the Wadden Sea?

So far, the following existing policies relevant to the Trilateral Fish Targets at the European level were analysed regarding their contribution to the realisation of the Trilateral Fish Targets (Table 2):

Table 2 Policy Directives and main rationale and relevance for Wadden Sea fish

Policy Directive	Main rationale and relevance for fish
Natura2000 (Birds Directive - Directive 2009/147/EC and Habitats Directive - Directive 92/43/EEC)	Habitat protection (including fish as characteristic species) and recovery potential, protection of selected fish species
Water Framework Directive (WFD, Directive 2000/60/EC)	Improve water quality and removal of barriers to fish migration
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, Directive 2008/56/EC)	Integrated ecosystem approach for good environmental status
European Eel Directive (ED, EC 1100/2007)	Specific species and measures for improving eel populations, other diadromous species may benefit

Considering the national implementation of the directives described, in particular, the Danish and Dutch Natura2000 management plans based on the Birds and Habitats Directive contain specific and concrete measures for habitats and a small group of fish species in the Wadden Sea. In the German Wadden Sea, the Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan 2010 is the Natura2000 management plan. This plan has conservation goals for individual protected areas (including the national parks), as well as fish. Specific conservation objectives for habitats and some fish species in the German Wadden Sea have been formulated on national level. The Natura2000 measures focus mainly on the qualifying habitats and some focal species. It seems to overlook the importance of specific measures aimed at other relevant species, which use or are characteristic for these habitats, and underestimates the importance of fish as a crucial part of the Wadden Sea ecosystem. Nonetheless, fish species are characteristic for marine habitats and as such needs to be considered in management plans when specific measures are defined to improve marine habitats.

Fish species may benefit from the measures aimed at preserving and restoring habitats, but only if the specific needs of fish species are taken into account

when developing management measures for the restoration of marine habitats. Measures to improve fish migration are implemented through policy directives such as the HD/Natura2000, WFD, MSFD and ED, but for other species the specific needs of fish species are still poorly understood.

In the German Wadden Sea National Parks, natural processes shall proceed **undisturbed, described in short by the principle „Let nature be nature“**. The focus is on a natural development on at least a predominant part of the area. Thus, it is recognized that fish are also part of this natural ecosystem. In addition, the sanctuaries shall also serve the protection of certain fish species from the HD, for whom specific conservation objectives are set.

It can be observed, that the designation of Natura2000 areas provides the possibility to limit or even exclude certain (potential) threatening human activities. The three countries deal with this differently.

The WFD applies in parts of the coastal zone in Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. Only in the transitional waters such as the River Ems objectives for fish are addressed. Fish are explicitly excluded in coastal waters. Much attention is paid to water quality and the removal of barriers in rivers and estuaries leading into the Wadden Sea, particularly for diadromous fish. However, due to the numerous transverse structures that still exist, which act as migration barriers, extensive efforts are still necessary to improve the passability for fish.

The MSFD differs from the specific approach of the HD and WFD as it is based on an ecosystem approach to the management of human activities having an impact on the marine environment, integrating the concepts of environmental protection and sustainable use. Therefore, it can support fish communities in the Wadden Sea in Denmark and Germany, but is not applied to the Dutch Wadden Sea.

The ED has a clear and specific purpose. The measures aimed at removing physical barriers will also help other migrating fish species and a small positive trend has been noticed.

It should be noted that national and regional legislation that could contribute to achieving favourable living conditions for fish in the Wadden Sea and contribution to the realization of the Trilateral Fish Targets as well as international conventions such as the Convention on Migratory Species, were not systematically analysed. Therefore, the conclusions and proposed next steps mainly apply to European regulations, as these provide a common basis for the trilateral Swimway Vision.

4 The relationship between European directives and the flagship and fleet species designated in the Swimway Action Programme

The flagship and fleet species are each covered by different laws and regulations, which reflect their conservation status. See Table 3 for an overview of the policy frameworks in which the species are explicitly mentioned. Most of the species are covered by one or more frameworks, which gives scope for future work. It is recognised that the directives in which only a few species of fish are explicitly named such as the Habitat Directive (HD) and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) can benefit the species by an overall improvement of the marine ecosystem.

Table 3 Overview of policy frameworks relevant for the flagship and fleet species. The Marine Strategy Framework applies to both the territorial waters of the North Sea as the Wadden Sea, except for the Netherlands where it only applies in the North Sea. Unless mentioned, these apply to all three countries. See Appendix I for a list of acronyms.

Life cycle	Flagship or fleet	Species	Relevant policy framework – for all three countries unless stated otherwise
Pelagic marine juvenile	Flagship	Herring	HD (habitat)
	Fleet	Sprat	WFD (transitional waters)
		Anchovy	HD (habitat), WFD (transitional waters)
		Horse mackerel	-
		Seabass	-
Demersal marine juvenile	Flagship	Plaice	HD (habitat); MSFD (DE)
	Fleet	Sole	HD (habitat)
		Dab	HD (habitat)
Wadden Sea residents	Flagship	Eelpout	HD (habitat); MSFD (DE)
	Fleet	Gobies	WFD (transitional waters)
		Sandeel	WFD (transitional waters)
		Sea snail	HD (habitat)
		Rock gunnel	WFD (transitional waters)
		Mulletts	HD (habitat)
Diadromous species	Flagship	Smelt	WFD (transitional waters)
	Fleet	Twaite shad	HD (species)
		Salmon	WFD (transitional waters)
		Sea trout	WFD (transitional waters)
		Houting	HD (DK, DE), WFD (transitional waters)
		Eel	ED
Marine adventitious	Flagship	Tope	MSFD (NL - North Sea only)
	Fleet	Thornback ray	MSFD (DE; NL - North Sea only)
		Dogfish	MSFD (NL - North Sea only)

5 Are the Trilateral Fish Targets supported by European law?

This chapter deals with the extent of the European legislation contribution to the realisation of the Trilateral Fish Targets as adopted in the WSP 2010. A short conclusion per targets follows hereafter. Table 4 provides an additional overview.

1. Viable stocks of populations and a natural reproduction of typical Wadden Sea fish species.

The definition of typical Wadden Sea fish is not consistent enough in the described regulations and policies to develop measures to enhance a viable stock of Wadden Sea fish species. However, the Habitat Directive does list ‘characteristic’ species for each of the habitats which could give a framework for measures. (Indirect) positive effects on fish stocks could also arise from measures related to the improvement of habitats (e.g. by natural development). It might also be possible for the countries to include the above mentioned flagship and fleet species in the Habitat descriptions more explicitly. These may also include some species of the typical Wadden Sea fish communities, such as plaice and herring.

2. Occurrence and abundance of fish species according to the natural dynamics in (a)biotic conditions.

The MSFD might be used to improve the natural dynamics in (a) biotic conditions, implementation of this framework has still some more potential in the three countries, based on their view that the HD and WFD requirements provide sufficient protection.

3. Favourable living conditions for endangered fish species.

The HD does not cover all endangered Wadden Sea fish species. The designated habitats (reefs, shallow large bays, estuaries, salt marshes and sand banks) are not sufficiently targeted for supporting endangered fish species. Measures based on the HD and WFD regarding habitats will contribute to favourable living conditions for fish, such as reduced rates of mortality from fishing (direct or indirect), of adequate levels of food supply, unpolluted water and less negative impacts of human activities. The focus of these measures

however is not aimed at endangered fish species, though they would contribute to the living conditions.

The most specific of the analysed policies for endangered fish species is the Eel Directive, as it describes direct actions for the protection of eel.

4. Maintenance of the diversity of natural habitats to provide substratum for spawning and nursery functions for juvenile fish.

The implementation of the specified Nature 2000 conservation goals differ in the three Wadden Sea states. Active measures to restore, conserve and maintain the diversity of natural habitats, that have an indirect impact on fish, such as eelgrass restoration, are part of the Natura2000 management plans in NL & DK, while in the German Wadden Sea National Parks, natural processes shall proceed undisturbed (see above). In addition, the sanctuaries shall also serve the protection of certain fish species from the HD, for whom specific conservation objectives are set.

Additionally, the MSFD provides a basis for a more integrated approach, it`s a possibility that still offers a lot more scope. The Wadden Sea states deal with that differently.

5. Maintaining and restoring the possibilities for the passage of migrating fish between the Wadden Sea and inland waters.

Both the WFD and the ED contain measures to mitigate barriers between the inland fresh water systems and the Wadden Sea.

Table 4 Trilateral Fish Targets and their relation to relevant existing policies and gaps.

Target	Relevant existing policy	Gaps
Viable stocks of populations and a natural reproduction of typical Wadden Sea fish species.	HD, MSFD	No conservation measures for non-commercial fish species (e.g. hook nose, gobies, etc.) and locally extirpated or extinct species (e.g. thornback ray, seahorses, sturgeon, spurdog, houting, etc.).
Occurrence and abundance of fish species according to the natural dynamics in (a)biotic conditions.	HD, WFD, MSFD	No policy currently implements measures for non-commercial fish species (e.g. hook nose, gobies, etc.) and rare or locally extirpated or extinct species (e.g. thornback ray, seahorses, sturgeon, spurdog)
Favourable living conditions for endangered fish species.	HD,WFD, MSFD, ED	No policy currently implements measures for rare or locally extirpated or extinct species (e.g. thornback ray, seahorses, sturgeon, spurdog, etc.).
Maintenance of the diversity of natural habitats to provide substratum for spawning and nursery functions for juvenile fish.	HD, MSFD	Knowledge about spawning and nursery habitats is limited. Potential areas could be protected under HD or part of the HD management plans, and/or MSFD.
Maintaining and restoring the possibilities for the passage of migrating fish between the Wadden Sea and inland waters.	HD, WFD, ED	Knowledge on migration success differs by river basin and species. Further improvements on marine freshwater connectivity are necessary.

6 Next steps

Proper implementation of the Trilateral Fish Targets in the national implementation of the European regulation will require more effort and collaboration at all relevant levels of legislation, especially national and regional, taking into account further regulations and directives that might be relevant in reaching the Trilateral Fish Targets. Regarding the regulations based on European level several ways to achieve this are suggested. Starting with a knowledge based or rational approach, this should build on what is already known to start improving the situation for fish and enable the implementation of current fish policy for the Wadden Sea with regard to the Trilateral Fish Targets. Emphasis on more research, monitoring and expertise, will – in this approach – lead to better targeted approaches and measures. Therefore, the Trilateral Fish Targets should become SMART, causes of decline better known, and measures more specific defined. This is the approach that has been developed in the Swimway Action Programme (Swimway, 2019) in order to address the Trilateral Fish Targets. The Swimway **Action Programme states that “...the only way to arrive at sensible measures** aimed at improving the situation for fish is to view the function of the Wadden Sea within the whole life cycle of a fish species. To understand population dynamics, investing in quantifying the rates that drive population developments, such as births, deaths, immigration and emigration **(demographic or vital rates) is needed” (Swimway Action Programme 2019,** chapter 2.1 General approach). Research on predator-prey relationships, eco-physiology, species-habitat interactions and connectivity was identified as being needed to understand this. Research programmes are already being carried out and new insights into the factors influencing fish population dynamics will feed into the process over time. This also includes the identification of bottlenecks for fish.

Although implementation of policy should preferably be based on scientific knowledge, thorough research as described above takes time and requires sufficient funds. And next to that, available insights and existing knowledge about the Wadden Sea, may be sufficient to be able to formulate adjustments of the implementation aiming to a better support of the Trilateral Fish Targets.

The following actions and next steps are identified:

1. Define Smart targets

The Trilateral Fish Targets are formulated at a generic and abstract level. This is partly due to lack of knowledge, as mentioned in the Swimway Action Programme, which concludes “The main benefit arising from the SWIMWAY research outlined above will be the identification of population bottlenecks and the translation of this knowledge into effective management and conservation measures. Closing these knowledge gaps will help to improve **effective conservation**” (Swimway, 2019, chapter 2.9 concluding remarks). In future, it would be very helpful to give more detail to the Trilateral Fish Targets by defining more specific and tangible sub-targets for given species and habitats. The Report from the 2019 Swimway conference has developed this principal further (Dänhardt, 2019)⁴.

The author proposes a four step approach: 1) formulate generic, overarching goals everybody can agree on; 2) specify these into more specific SMART targets; 3) develop a technical implementation plan; and 4) take immediate action to protect fish while specifying the targets. This means that there does not have to be any delay with implementing the targets.

2. Focus on typical Wadden Sea species

The focus on fish species and communities which are (or were) typical for the Wadden Sea, also with respect to historic knowledge of local or regional extinction, is essential when addressing the Trilateral Fish Targets. An experts list of priority species which are used in analyses (Tulp et al., 2017) are **attached in Appendix II as a list of ‘typical’ fish species, still occurring in the Wadden Sea** The Swimway Action Programme identifies 23 flagship and fleet species within five ecological groups of fish species (ecological guilds) which share similar behaviour and ecological demands within each guild. This approach has been described earlier in the document and will help to focus research and conservation efforts (see chapter 2). The current policy frameworks give enough scope to include these species. As the sturgeon is covered by the HD it might be good to include this in the list of fleet species, even though it has disappeared from the region, as there might be ample leverage to develop management measures which would benefit other diadromous species.

⁴ <https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/node/973>

3. Identify threats and/or causes of declines in fish populations

The ecological requirements of many species are known to a limited extent and the associated threats as mentioned in the Trilateral Fish Targets are quite generic. This calls for research specifically aimed at pinpointing the bottlenecks for the achievement of the Trilateral Fish Targets. Research into the underlying causes of the decline of fish populations will contribute to development of targeted and knowledge based proposals regarding the implementation of the current policies aiming to resolve bottlenecks. Now that not all of the existing bottlenecks are sufficiently known, it is difficult to assess in detail to what extent the existing implementation of the above-mentioned policies is effective. These gaps in knowledge are addressed in the Swimway Action Programme.

4. Make better use of available knowledge and expertise

A lot of knowledge is already available. By inviting experts to share their insights, by collecting and combining this knowledge and by developing collective views, a lot of questions and gaps mentioned above may receive a satisfying answer. Although it may be hard to determine which specific measures will benefit fish populations without a deeper analysis, it may be worthwhile to check what is already known and whether that can lead to appropriate measures. Identification of areas of importance for relevant **processes in species' life cycles i.e. spawning or nursery habitats and** considering potential spatial measures to improve the status of extirpated, threatened or declining species.

Existing knowledge may be of great value already to provide clear recommendations for a better implementation of the existing legislative framework and trilateral declarations and the Wadden Sea Plan. At the Swimway conference in 2019 recommendations were made to improve exchange of knowledge and it is recommended to develop a framework for this⁵.

5. Make better use of the existing legislative framework,

The link between the Trilateral Fish Targets and existing European regulations could be established, but the full potential of the regulations is currently not used by either member state. The MSFD for example could be used to establish

⁵ <https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/node/973>

spatial management measures to protect threatened and valuable fish species in the Wadden Sea. Despite the partly required, complex coordination, there are important options for protection.

In the EU Nature Legislation & the fitness check⁶, the European Commission concluded that one coherent integration between the Natura2000 (HD & BD), WFD and other directives. This aim may also benefit the Trilateral Fish Targets.

The national HD and WFD plans have to be evaluated and adapted every six years. This might provide an opportunity to enhance the attention for the Wadden Sea fish populations. Lobby to improve these plans by the trilateral partners at the national level (regarding e.g., the implementation of the EU directives in national legislation) is needed. A first step would be for the three countries to collaborate to include the flagship and fleet species more explicitly in the national management and monitoring plans. This will mean a more comprehensive approach to including species from the different ecological groups.

6. Focus on national implementation

In the working group's analysis the national policies and regulations have not been analysed. Proposals for implementation of the national and regional Wadden Sea policy will likely be a feasible way to implement the Trilateral Fish Targets successfully. Supplementary to this review of European legislation, an analysis of the national and regional policies of the three Wadden Sea countries, is recommended.

⁶

https://d2ouvy59p0dg6k.cloudfront.net/downloads/study_evaluation_to_support_fitness_check_of_nature_directives__final.pdf

Appendix I – Abbreviations & acronyms

BD	Birds Directive
CWSS	Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
ED	EU Eel Directive
HD	EU Habitat Directive
MSFD	EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive
N2000	Natura 2000
SMART	Specific - Measurable - Achievable - Realistic -Timely
WFD	EU Water Framework Directive
WSP	Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan

Appendix II – List of typical Wadden Sea Species

Besides the designated Flagship and Fleet species, typical Wadden Sea fish species have been selected from the QSR and N2000. Upper fourteen = priority species selected for spatial and temporal analyses by Bolle et al., 2009 and used in the Quality Status Report (QSR, Jager et al., 2009). Last seven species also mentioned in N2000 species as related to one of the major habitats designated for the Wadden Sea (H1110). Species marked with * are designated species for N2000 for the Wadden Sea. Species in bold type = in both QSR and N2000. Guild: CA = diadromous; ER = estuarine resident; MJ = marine juvenile; MS = marine seasonal. Sensitivity to driving forces: CC = climate change; FM = fishing mortality; HD = habitat degradation; LP = local pressures; NE = nutrient enrichment. Source: Walker (2015).

Species	Common name				Guild	Stratification	Benthic habitat	Sensitivity to driving forces
	English	Dutch	German	Danish				
<i>Alosa fallax</i> *	Twaite shad	Fint	Finte	Stavsild	CA	Pelagic		HD
<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>	Smelt	Spiering	Stint	Smelt	CA	Pelagic		HD, FM
<i>Lamperta fluviatilis</i> *	River lamprey	Rivierprik	Flußneunauge	Flodlampret	CA	Pelagic		-
<i>Platichthys flesus</i>	Flounder	Bot	Flunder	Skrubbe	ER	Demersal	Mud-sand	HD
<i>Zoarcetes viviparus</i>	Eelpout	Puitaal	Aalmutter	Ålekvabben	ER	Demersal	Mud-plants	HD, LP
<i>Ammodytes ssp.</i>	Sandeel	Zandspiering	Sandaal	Sandgrævling	ER	Pelagic & buried	Sand	HD, FM
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Schol	Scholle	Rødspætte	MJ	Demersal	Mud-sand	CC, NE, HD, FM
<i>Solea vulgaris</i>	Sole	Tong	Seezunge	Tunge	MJ	Demersal	Mud-sand	CC, NE, HD, FM
<i>Limanda limanda</i>	Dab	Schar	Kliesche	Slette	MJ	Demersal	Sand	NE, HD, FM
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Kabeljauw	Kabeljau	Torsk	MJ	Demersal		CC, HD, FM
<i>Merlangus merlangus</i>	Whiting	Wijting	Wittling	Hvilling	MJ	Demersal		HD, FM
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Haring	Hering	Sild	MJ	Pelagic		CC, HD, FM
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprot	Sprotte	Brisling	MS	Pelagic		HD, FM
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Ansjovis	Sardelle	Ansjos	MS	Pelagic		CC

<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> *	Sea lamprey	Zeeprik	Meerneunauge	Havlampret	CA	Pelagic		-
<i>Liparis liparis</i>	Sea snail	Slakdolf	Großer Scheibenbauch	Finnebraemmet	ER	Demersal	Mud-hard	HD
<i>Myoxocephalus scorpius</i>	Bull rout	Zeedonderpad	Seeskorpion	Ulk	ER	Demersal	Mud-plants	HD, LP
<i>Pholis gunnellus</i>	Butterfish	Botervisich	Butterfisch	Tangsprael	ER	Demersal	Mud-plants	HD
<i>Pomatoschistus minutus</i>	Sand goby	Grondel	Sandgrundel	Sandkutling	ER	Demersal	Sand	HD
<i>Syngnathus acus</i>	Greater pipefish	Grote Zeenaald	Große Seenadel	Stor tangnål	ER	Demersal	Sand-plants	HD
<i>Syngnathus rostellatus</i>	Nilsson's pipefish	Kleine Zeenaald	Kleine Seenadel	Lille tangnål	ER	Demersal	Sand-plants	HD