

December /January Thursday 3rd January 2019

We wrote to members for contributions by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.  
Please let us have any news by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.

Happy New Year, dear members of the BSAC!

Thank you for the greetings and kind words sent up to and over Christmas. We warmly reciprocate.

We look forward to starting up the year and working with you on the issues which are important to you for the Baltic. As we prepare for the NEW BSAC YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March we want to THANK those members and member states that have already paid their membership contribution: we've heard from 18 BSAC members and from 5 Baltic Member States. This is a great start. Please keep up the momentum and make your payment by the deadline of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Remember that we send the application in to the Commission mid-February 2019 and we want to be able to include those precious payments as a definite resource for the year ahead. The Secretariat is now drafting an estimated budget as well as work programme for the year to come: these will be sent to Ex Com in time for consideration and then comment and adoption at its coming meeting on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Which brings us to the BSAC news .....

### BSAC news and meetings

**THIS IS A WAKE UP call! Do not miss these important BSAC meetings in January,  
Sign up now!**

#### **The BSAC Joint Working Group to carry on work begun on the Commission's proposal for a revised control regulation**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The invitation and draft agenda are here:**

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-working-group-control-reg>

Once we've consulted with the WG chairs at the beginning of next week, necessary documentation for the meeting will be finalised and sent swiftly to you.

#### **The BSAC Executive Committee meeting to deal with administrative matters AND a special theme meeting to focus on the eastern Baltic cod**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019.** The invitation from the BSAC chair, as well as a draft agenda are on the BSAC website:

[http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-\(4\)](http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(4))

Please note that the chair has sent separate invitations to DG Mare, BALTFISH and the Danish minister for fisheries Eva Kjer Hansen. The theme meeting is a very special meeting because, as the BSAC chair has highlighted in his personal invitations, there is clearly a major crisis affecting the eastern Baltic cod, and this calls for serious attention. The BSAC has made it a priority for the BSAC and has invited some leading scientists and experts to present current knowledge about the state of the eastern cod stock, and they will be providing latest information on the results of recent surveys, as well as giving supplementary information on the ecosystem and on predators. The aim is to have a discussion and exchange of views leading to the formulation by ExCom of clear recommendations which we will address to the European Commission and to BALTFISH.

We hope that Ex Com members will support this important meeting by taking part.

#### **What about the BSAC statutes?**

**There will be a Focus Group to amend the statutes.** The group will start its work after the ExCom in January. The ExCom Chair will present the ToR for the group. The results of the work will be presented to the General Assembly in May. The deadline for the work must be well before the GA meeting. Two meetings are planned. The aim is to end up with a package of amendments that everybody can agree on. The participants of this Focus Group should have the mandates from respective groups.

### **And what about rebuilding the Western Baltic Herring?**

**A web meeting** is planned to carry the work forward sometime after the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

### **More news from the BSAC:**

#### **A letter to DG Mare and to BALTFISH with questions about the decisions on TACs and quotas for 2019**

At the Ex Com meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 there was the agenda item:

#### **Outcome of the Fisheries Council meeting 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to deal with fishing opportunities for the Baltic**

The ExCom Chair invited the demersal and pelagic working group chairs to report on the outcome for their respective stocks. ExCom members were invited to make comments and ask questions.

The ExCom then agreed to ask the Secretariat to collect all questions on paper and send them to the Commission and to BALTFISH. The letter summarises the comments and questions put by members and also refers to an article in German from the German fishing news magazine Fischerblatt. It was sent to DG Mare and BALTFISH on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Comments concern in particular the two cod stocks, as well as the outcome of the annual meeting between the EU and Russia. The pelagic stocks did not give rise to specific discussion or questions.

The BSAC hopes that its advice will be followed in the future, or at least, if not followed, it hopes to receive clarification from the Commission or BALTFISH on why they take a different decision.

Please find it here:

<http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-letter-with-comments-on-the-decisions-taken-a>

#### **Outcome of the 11th session of EU Russia Joint Baltic Sea Fisheries Committee meetings 26th -27th September 2018**

The Commission has shared with the BSAC the official minutes of the meeting. Please contact the Secretariat if you want more information. We remind you that you long ago got a comprehensive report from Krzysztof Stanuch, National Chamber of Fish producers, who represented the BSAC.

#### **An expert Commission Group on Fisheries Control: workshop on digital tools for monitoring and reporting catches for small scale fisheries 4th-5th December 2018 Brussels**

Please find attached a report from the three BSAC representatives to this meeting. [./](#)

They all appreciated their participation at this meeting and from their report it's clear that they made an active contribution and provided input which reflects their practical knowledge from the fishery. The report and further input provided by Benjamin Schmöde from the German Cutter-and Coastal-Fishermen's Association will be forwarded to the WG chairs as they prepare for the Joint WG on the control proposal on 28th January 2019. And all the presentations and conclusions from this workshop are here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press/outcomes-workshop-digital-tools-small-scale-fisheries-brussels-4-5-december-2018\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press/outcomes-workshop-digital-tools-small-scale-fisheries-brussels-4-5-december-2018_en)

**The BSAC Secretariat meeting with the new chair as well as the vice chair, working group chairs and honorary chair** took place on the 5th December 2018. More information available at the Secretariat. The Secretariat very much appreciated the opportunity to hold this meeting at the start of the new Ex Com chairmanship: to look forward and plan and prepare for the new BSAC year ahead.

#### **If you're Polish, or if you read it, then this is what we call a great magazine: December issue of the Polish Fishing News**

See Ewa Milewska's report from the BSAC Extraordinary General Assembly on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – see page 5. How do you manage to stay looking so youthful, Ewa? Plus a photo of the BSAC's very own new Executive Committee chair, same page.

[http://rybackie.com.pl/files/2018/WR11\\_12\\_2018.pdf](http://rybackie.com.pl/files/2018/WR11_12_2018.pdf)

And for the record, the newly appointed director of the Polish National Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Gdynia is Piotr Nowakowski, picture page 4

## **BALTFISH/Member States news and meetings**

There's nothing coming up that we know of, but we do hear of a **BALTFISH conference on seals 19th- 20th March 2019 Stockholm**

We heard about this before Christmas and that BALTFISH wants to invite a speaker from the BSAC to this. The invitation will arrive in one or two weeks. We do know that Jane Behrens from DTU Aqua will present the knowledge gathered on seals and their effect on the Baltic cod. She's also coming to the BSAC theme meeting on seals, taking place on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (see above). We've written to Swedish administration for an update and wait to hear more.

We also heard that Denmark (and Poland) together with HELCOM will also be holding a conference on seals sometime in May, but we don't know any more than that.

## **Council/Commission/EU European Parliament / Control Agency news**

### **Outcome of the December Council, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018:**

After very intense negotiations, the Council reached agreement on 2019 catch limits for the main commercial fish stocks in the area. The agreement is based on a strong commitment to the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP): environmental, economic and social sustainability.

The Council decided in particular to increase catches for a number of stocks, including plaice in Skagerrak/Kattegat, the Southern hake stock, Western and Southern horse mackerel, cod, sole and plaice in the Irish Sea, and sole and megrim in the Bay of Biscay. Decreases were also agreed for some stocks.

**See the official press release:**

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/19/atlantic-and-north-sea-council-agrees-2019-fishing-quotas/?fbclid=IwAR1q6-zbdtQZ32QUROAQKchifreMo0S1HUK-fclsS0PzsGovS-fDppSZY>

**And the full version:**

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37624/st15654-en18.pdf>

### **And of most relevance to the Baltic was eel**

#### **From the Council Press Release on eel:**

The Council decided to further protect European eel by extending the mandatory closures agreed for 2018 to recreational fisheries and glass eel fisheries. These measures will cover brackish waters such as estuaries, coastal lagoons and transitional waters, and will ensure consistency with the measures on eel in the Mediterranean Sea. We've written to the regional management body dealing with the Mediterranean to ask what exactly these measures are .....

### **The Evaluation of the Eel Regulation is now open – by the Commission**

**The Feedback period is** 14 December 2018 - 08 March 2019

The Commission would like to hear your views. And it states that through public consultations you can express your views on aspects of EU laws and policies before the Commission finalises its proposals.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-1986447\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-1986447_en)

The Secretariat will be hunting out the chair of the ecosystem based management working group and finding out how the BSAC is to deal with this.

### **The European Fisheries Control Agency is gearing up for its work and meetings with the Advisory councils in 2019**

There will be a meeting of the Advisory Board in 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Brussels

Then the Administrative Board will be meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 -somewhere.

The BSAC chair will be taking part at both meetings.

### **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, is evaluating its statistics on fisheries catches, landings and aquaculture**

We managed to send this to Ex Com members just before Christmas.

The evaluation was launched to produce a thorough analysis of the current European fisheries statistics system. The purpose of this analysis is to identify improvements that could be made to European fisheries

statistics. Public and expert consultation is an integral part of the evaluation. For this reason, **we would like to invite you** – as an expert on fisheries and aquaculture statistics and/or fisheries and aquaculture generally – **to complete a short online questionnaire on European fisheries and aquaculture statistics**. The link to the questionnaire will be sent to you in a separate email, from the contractor *Coffey International* who are assisting Eurostat with the evaluation. We would be grateful if you could participate in this evaluation with your expertise and insight.

As part of this evaluation, we have designed an online survey to gather feedback from those who produce and use European Fishery Statistics. Through this survey we seek to better understand EFS user needs, and the challenges encountered in producing the statistics. You will have already received an email from Eurostat regarding this survey and inviting you to participate. All of your responses will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be shared with anyone without your express permission. The survey should take around 15 minutes to complete. To begin the survey please click on the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KHKRJ2P>

We now forward it to all of you and encourage you to take part. Should you experience any difficulties with the survey please contact: [Maciej.Czos@coffey.com](mailto:Maciej.Czos@coffey.com)

The latest issue of the **EUMOFA Monthly Highlights No. 11/2018** has now been published.

<https://www.eumofa.eu/en/market-analysis#monthly>

It talks about FIRST SALES IN EUROPE

In September 2018, first-sales value and volume increased in the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden over September 2017. In the same period, they decreased in Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Poland. Decreases in value and volume: In Belgium, France, Italy, Latvia, Poland and the UK a downward trend was observed in both value and volume. The most significant drop was registered for Latvia, and was linked to lower supplies of herring, sprat, smelt and cod. The lower supplies of herring and sprat also affected Estonia and Poland.

<http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/134703/MH+10+2018+EN+.pdf#page=2>

#### **News from other ACs**

##### **There's a Vacancy for Executive Secretary for the North Sea Advisory Council**

<http://nsrac.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Vacancy-Executive-Secretary-NSAC-Dec-2018-1.pdf>

The deadline for applying is 12.00hrs on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

#### **Meetings EU related**

##### **DiscardLess project ending 30th - 31st January 2019 Copenhagen: who replied**

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/Discardless-Final-meeting-of-project>

Michael Andersen and Lindsay Keenan are representing the BSAC. If you want to go, you can register and represent your organisations and cover your own travel and accommodation costs.

##### **ICES /MIACO meetings 17th-18th January 2019 Copenhagen: names and draft agenda**

Esben Sverdrup-Jensen, Michael Andersen and Nils Höglund will represent the BSAC at this meeting. Three subjects have been raised by the BSAC for discussion/explanation:

- ICES communications strategy when updated/revised advice is released;
- Western Baltic herring and Implications of the decision made by ACOM that stocks below Blim should be subject to 0 catch advice
- Ecosystem overviews and Ecosystem based management related work in ICES. How does ICES intend to phase this into the general advice cycle, if at all?

The Pelagic AC is coordinating the agenda for the MIRAC meeting (before the ICES-Stakeholders meeting).

Have a look at the draft agenda here:

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/MIACO-2019-Meeting-between-ICES,-Advisory-Councils>

#### **Other meetings and news**

Baltic Sea Advisory Council This news doesn't reflect the views of the BSAC or its members

Aveltorx 3, 6<sup>th</sup> floor | 1609 Copenhagen V | Tel. +45 20128949 | [www.bsac.dk](http://www.bsac.dk)

### **HELCOM calling already for 2019**

#### **The Ninth Meeting of the HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (FISH 9-2019), 30-31 January 2019, Tallinn, Estonia**

This will be in Tallinn at the Estonian Ministry of Environment. Here's the invitation, as well as the annotated agenda:

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/HELCOM-FISH>

Nils Höglund will represent the OIG and Mart Undrest the fisheries interests. And there are a couple of points that relate to the BSAC (to report from the BSAC working group on ecosystem based management and on the BSAC/ICES workshop held last year on the development of fishing gears: the BSAC Secretariat will prepare input to HELCOM on this.

Just to repeat, HELCOM (together with Denmark and possibly Poland) will possibly also be holding a seminar on seals in May.

#### **HELCOM First Meeting to Continue its Project for Baltic-wide assessment of coastal fish communities in support of an ecosystem-based management (FISH-PRO III 1-2019), Helsinki, Finland, 12-14 February 2019**

HELCOM has sent an invitation to this meeting. There's no agenda yet. But you should know that work on this has already been taking place and has already led to a report on the status of coastal fish communities – see next news here:

#### **HELCOM recently published its report on the status of coastal fish communities (50 pages)**

This covers the period 2011 to 2016.

It's talking about fish in relatively near shore and shallow areas (less than 20 metres depth) and in waters with a mixture of marine and freshwater.

Typical species are perch, pikeperch, pike, roach and breams, which are of freshwater origin and confined to coastal areas, as well as marine species like flounder, cod and herring, which often have seasonal migrations between nearshore and outer sea areas.

The report supports the HELCOM HOLAS II report which came out last year.

The results show that the status of the coastal fish communities varies between areas, regions and indicators, but the general status based on the two core indicators used in the report appears weak.

See here:

<http://www.helcom.fi/Lists/Publications/Status-of-coastal-fish-2018-HELCOM-report.pdf>

#### **East, west, cod is best: COD benchmarks Feb: 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (east) and 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 (west)**

All I have to share so far are the draft terms of reference:

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/ICES-Benchmark-workshop-on-western-Baltic-cod>

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/ICES-Benchmark-workshop-on-Baltic-cod>

I've asked the BSAC Ex Com to tell me if the BSAC should be taking part and who, so I can consult with the chair.

#### **ICES WKBALTIC: workshop on the ecosystem based management of the Baltic Sea announcement dates not yet known**

This is a special meeting planned for 2019, but we don't know the dates yet. We will update.

#### **The DiscardLess Conference on, yes, discards 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, Copenhagen**

You can register now

BSAC members only register on behalf of your selves and organisations, the BSAC won't be paying for you

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/Discardless-Final-meeting-of-project>

Taking part from the BSAC are Michael Andersen, Lindsay Keenan and BSAC Secretariat.

#### **EUROFISH Governing Council 31<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

Baltic Sea Advisory Council This news doesn't reflect the views of the BSAC or its members

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This will be the 18th Session of the Governing Council of the International Organisation for the Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Europe (EUROFISH) and will be held at EUROFISH Headquarters. Agenda here:

<http://www.bsac.dk/Meetings/External-events/EUROFISH-Governing-Council>

The BSAC Secretariat has been invited.

### **31<sup>st</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> February a conference in Sweden (and in Swedish) on commercial fishery**

This is the first national conference on commercial fishing and it will take place in the Congress Culture Center in Karlstad. The theme of the meeting is how to increase value and innovation: how to we get increased value both economically and socially from existing and future resources. You can find out more on the website of the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water management here (Swedish only):

<https://www.havochvatten.se/hav/uppdrag--kontakt/medarbetarsidor/kalender/2018/externt-kalendarium/2018-10-26-nationell-yrkesfiskekonferens.html>

### **14th March 2019 Brussels Tackling plastic pollution in Europe: Ramping Up Efforts for a Healthier Environment**

This timely international symposium will provide an invaluable opportunity to discuss current challenges related to plastic pollution and to assess the suitability of the measures set out by the EU to achieve a 'circular' plastics economy. The participants will also review the initiatives put in place by the Commission to reduce marine litter and explore ways of stepping up the recycling of plastics. Public Policy Exchange welcomes the participation of all key partners, responsible authorities and stakeholders. The symposium will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debates.

Full programme:

[http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/media/events/flyers/JC14-PPE2\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/media/events/flyers/JC14-PPE2_flyer.pdf)

Register at: <https://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/book.php?event=JC14-PPE2&ss=lk&tg=1>

#### **And who are Public Policy Exchange?**

<http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk>

[http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/media/events/flyers/JC14-PPE2\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/media/events/flyers/JC14-PPE2_flyer.pdf)

### **Other information/reading**

#### **From HELCOM: on the UN Conference on designated areas** 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

At this meeting, the UN agreed to nine ecologically significant areas in the Baltic Sea. These are right up in the Bothnian Bay, over in the Gulf of Finland, in the Fehmern Belt, as well as around Åland, near the Estonian Archipelago and in the Southern Baltic. They are known as ecologically or biologically significant areas and they cover 23% of the Baltic Sea waters. This meeting marked the final step in getting these areas recorded in the global registry for such areas (they were actually identified back in February 2018). Read: <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/New-EBSAs-in-the-Baltic-Sea.aspx>

**From LIFE and Finland: Wave Knowledge, Traditional Wisdom”: a report** that captures voices and aspects from the first #Traditional #Knowledge #Workshop under the Interreg CHERISH project held in Tornio, Finland in September 2018 - with the important contribution of our members of #TheSnowchangeCooperative. See here:

[http://www.snowchange.org/2018/11/wave-knowledge-traditional-wisdom-captures-steps-for-traditional-knowledge-and-cultural-heritage-of-fisheries/?fbclid=IwAR2\\_PWUPx-BifOoEdjmhc1JaR1yAulqL8sMn2rUIiYoCDm4UXjqwn9XH2U](http://www.snowchange.org/2018/11/wave-knowledge-traditional-wisdom-captures-steps-for-traditional-knowledge-and-cultural-heritage-of-fisheries/?fbclid=IwAR2_PWUPx-BifOoEdjmhc1JaR1yAulqL8sMn2rUIiYoCDm4UXjqwn9XH2U)

#### **From LIFE: on the move to Brussels**

On behalf of the Low Impact Fishers of Europe (LIFE) Association asbl, I am very pleased to inform you that all mandates for LIFE Platform (previously registered in the UK as a PLC) have been transferred to LIFE Association, registered here in Belgium as a not for profit association (asbl), with the enterprise no 713972359. The statutes have been accepted for publication in the Moniteur Belge, which can be verified on this

link: <https://kbopub.economie.fgov.be/kbopub/zoeknummerform.html?nummer=0713972359&actionLu=Recherche>.

LIFE Association asbl is an organization of organizations of small-scale low impact fishers registered in the Member States of the European Union, who commit to LIFE's Mission and sign a common declaration. On a case by case basis, LIFE Association may enter into agreements with European fishers' associations from non-EU MS. We look forward to continue our Membership of the ACs post 29 March 2019 in the advent or not of Brexit, even if it is a BRIANO (Brexit in name only) Brexit. Please don't hesitate to contact me for any queries, clarifications, or further information on LIFE's transition. (written we believe by Brian O'Riordan, Executive Secretary LIFE) <http://lifeplatform.eu/staff/>

### **More LIFE on the "Christmas Council"**

<http://lifeplatform.eu/christmas-council-annual-quota-carve-up-getting-the-balance-right/?fbclid=IwAR1r951MY2ac19LzsGcn1n63-1ntqR2nvnIGvYZeoFGWU1VmAOOdrEvpVs>

### **LIFE also reacted to the Commission's proposal on Eel ahead of Monday's Christmas Council**

[http://lifeplatform.eu/life-position-on-eel-for-2019/?fbclid=IwAR2uZwrBmuNo8cVy80hN5OF8HWWhK1SYBIDGqHWI\\_k1Xhq8A4YwRQ3K5rylo](http://lifeplatform.eu/life-position-on-eel-for-2019/?fbclid=IwAR2uZwrBmuNo8cVy80hN5OF8HWWhK1SYBIDGqHWI_k1Xhq8A4YwRQ3K5rylo)

### **Europêche commented on the outcome of the Fisheries Council December** 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Worried about the landing obligation - full implementation and how it will work out

Also disappointed in some of the cuts, for example for cod.

<http://europeche.chil.me/attachment/0ede74c0-7811-44e5-85ea-44053bf6b726>

### **The Danish Fishermen PO cheered up by the more optimistic news on eel management after the December Council** 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

It's in Danish, but it says that the organization was glad to learn that there's more flexibility included in the three-month closed period when fishing for eel is banned. They were pleased to note that the closure can be placed later in the season, so as to give more flexibility to the fishermen. They were also pleased to see the measures to protect the eel extended to cover glass eel as well as fishing by Mediterranean Member States. But they are not jumping for joy: more needs to be done to protect the eel, for example by tackling the power plants where the turbines kill off a lot of the eel, and by creating wet areas where the eel can grow. Read in Danish here:

<http://fiskeriforening.dk/pressemeddelelse-opmuntrende-forbedringer-i-eu-reglerne-for-aalefiskeriet/>

### **The European Anglers Alliance also reported on the Council outcome with respect to eel**

20<sup>th</sup> December 2018"

The EEA is generally positive about the results from the meeting, but measures need to be more ambitious.

<https://www.eaa-europe.org/news/13082/eu-council-agreed-new-eel-measures-for-2019.html>

### **Increasing seal population will not harm largest fish stocks in the Baltic, Science Daily, 10th December 2018**

Seals feeding on fish do not decrease fish stocks of Baltic cod, herring and sprat the most -- climate change, nutrient load and fisheries do, shows a new study from Stockholm University...

[https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181210072530.htm?fbclid=IwAR2tZp4aU2DmVqLZVVvUeGf7FGeW-Fb87GzmDH2Ri1u5IPGMRMfgBk2s\\_Zg](https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181210072530.htm?fbclid=IwAR2tZp4aU2DmVqLZVVvUeGf7FGeW-Fb87GzmDH2Ri1u5IPGMRMfgBk2s_Zg)

### **The MARE Foundation Poland: SAVE THE DATE: International Baltic Shipwrecks Conference**

27th February 2019, Warsaw, POLAND

The Centre for Innovation and Technology Transfer Management of Warsaw University of Technology  
Rektorska St. 4, 00-614 Warsaw, Poland

The aim of the conference is to draw attention of the stakeholders to the issue of fuels stored in the Baltic shipwrecks and to bring together bright minds to talk about one of the most pressing problems related to wrecks in the Baltic in search for an ultimate solution.

The discussion will be based on the example of the T/S Franken shipwreck located in the Gdańsk Bay, as well as other wrecks classified as potentially dangerous to the environment.

The conference will discuss, among others, **the negative effects of oil spills, the scale of the problem in the Baltic and worldwide, the risk assessment methods, the legal framework in regards to undertaking operations on wrecks, and the available salvage technologies used for salvage operations.**

For inquiries or questions regarding the conference or the project itself, contact Olga Sarna  
[atosarna@fundacjamare.pl](mailto:atosarna@fundacjamare.pl),

Register: <https://fundacjamare.pl/sign-up/>

### **20 for 2020: Coalition Clean Baltic on 20 measures for clean and healthy seas by 2020**

<https://ccb.se/2018/12/20-measures-for-clean-and-healthy-seas-by-2020/>

### **The MARELITT Baltic Final Conference 2019 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

On 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> of March 2019, the MARELITT Baltic project will host the Final Conference in Stockholm. For the first time, we will present The Baltic Sea Blueprint – a handbook on how to approach lost and discarded fishing gear in terms of mapping, retrieval, recycling and prevention.

The event will be hosted by the Swedish partner Keep Sweden Tidy. More information and registration will soon be available.

<https://www.marelittbaltic.eu/news/2018/9/23/site-visit-and-seminar-in-tallinn>

### **WWF news: Member States falling behind on Common Fisheries Policy implementation, new WWF report finds** 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018

[http://www.wwf.eu/media\\_centre/?uNewsID=339815](http://www.wwf.eu/media_centre/?uNewsID=339815)

### **The UK newspaper the Guardian also reports on this: Use of fish discard exemptions by EU trawlers soars before ban** 1st December 2018

This also reports on the WWF report, according to which exemptions undermine the landing obligation which will take full effect in January 2019. It quotes Samantha Burgess, the WWF report's author, "EU member states have had ample time to implement the provisions of the reformed CFP but have demonstrated an unacceptable lack of political will towards sustainable fisheries management.

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/use-of-fish-discard-exemptions-by-eu-trawlers-soars-before-ban?CMP=share\\_btn\\_tw](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/use-of-fish-discard-exemptions-by-eu-trawlers-soars-before-ban?CMP=share_btn_tw)

### **Clean Nordic Oceans**

The Norwegian Seafood Research Fund (FHF) is financing four new projects to increase knowledge about the extent of plastic waste from the seafood industry, how to reduce emissions and how to increase the knowledge about micro and nano plastics in fish.

Read more at: <http://cnogear.org/news/english/the-fishery-and-aquaculture-industry-is-financing-four-new-projects-on-marine-litter>

If you missed information videos towards recreational fishermen, you can read about how Clean Nordic Oceans has identified lost fishing gear from recreational fishermen as a challenging area in almost all the Nordic countries. To face this challenge, several short information videos are made to tell about ghost fishing, and how to prevent it from happening. Find here:

<http://cnogear.org/news/english/cno-launching-of-brand-new-information-videos-on-how-to-reduce-loss-of-fishing-gear-and-ghost-fishing>

### **Fishing is taking place intensively in protected areas 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018**

This was reported by the Danish news site DR (Danmarks Radio), according to which the world's seas are under pressure from climate change as well as intensive fishing activities. It refers to a Canadian study, according to which protected areas in Europe are actually not protected: fishing is carried out more intensively in the protected areas than outside them. The research has been carried out by researchers from a University in Canada and they found that 59% of the protected areas are trawled commercially, and that on average, trawling activity is at least 1.4 times more intensive than in areas that are not protected. We're not allowed to link you to the article from DR, but see the source of the research in Science: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/362/6421/1403>

### **The Association for Low Impact Coastal Fishery and climate friendly fish – it depends on the fishing method**

Report in Danish 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

Consumers are making food choices that reduce the impact on the environment. One of them is to reduce their consumption of meat in favour of fish. But what then? Should choices also be more considered so as to take account different fishing methods or gears used? The Association for Low Impact Coastal Fishery has been talking to an expert, Friederike Ziehe from RISE Research Institute of Sweden. RISE is an independent, State-owned research institute, offering all sorts of expertise and testbeds for future-proof technologies, products and services. According to RISE, it's a good choice to eat herring and mackerel, because they swim together in great big shoals, so the effort to catch them is smaller. But when it comes to fish nearer the seabed, such as plaice and cod, things are not so simple, and the choice of gears used and the effort required to catch them can be different and have different impact; in general, according to RISE, passive gears have a smaller impact in terms of CO2 than the more active gears. Read in full, in Danish here. <http://skaansomtkystfiskeri.dk/klimapaavirkning-stor-forskjel-paa-fiskemetoder/>

### **ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH?**

**Last but not least, make this your New Year's resolution to follow the encouragement from Denmark: SIPS FSİK – which if you unjumble the letters reads SPIS FISK, which in turn means EAT FISH.**

In weeks number 2 and 3 in 2019 there will be a country wide campaign with posters all over the place, encouraging consumers to eat more fish! If you want to see their newsletter (in Danish), contact Lone Marie Eriksen, lmer@if.dk

