

To Nils Höglund EBM WG chair and Michael Andersen Demersal WG chair

Ref: BSAC/2019\_2020/14

Copenhagen 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Nils and dear Michael,

**Ref: HELCOM Workshop Invitation to HELCOM Workshop on the analyses of Sufficiency of Measures (SOM) for Fish, Warsaw, Poland, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

I am pleased to note that both of you and Ewa Milewska will be representing the BSAC at the above meeting, which the BSAC was invited to and encouraged to take part in.

At the BSAC working group on ecosystem based management on 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> September 2019, when the work to update the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan was presented, it was pointed out that the HELCOM Workshop would be an opportunity for the BSAC to propose measures that should be included in the revised HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.

At the working group, members discussed and agreed on a list of measures, research or monitoring that should be addressed by and inserted into a new HELCOM BSAP. The measures mapped out are as follows:

- undertaking further upstream efforts to allow migration of fish to the spawning grounds (river connectivity);
- supporting joint work on the food web dynamics in the Baltic Sea in HELCOM;
- monitoring invasive species, including the participation of fishermen and the facility to develop new gears, and research into how the invasive species could be commercialised;
- establishing a threshold value for cormorants (GES);
- marine litter, in particular derelict fishing gears: “no special fee system”, recycling, uniform approach to port reception facilities;
- gravel extraction;
- MPAs;

- investigating the effectiveness of spawning closures;
- keep underlining the importance of tackling eutrophication and pollutants.

The working group has approved its report and it has been shared with the BSAC membership.

The BSAC Secretariat has also written to the Executive Committee and sought approval of the ExCom for BSAC representatives to take with them and refer to the above list of points at the HELCOM Workshop. The Executive Committee has not objected to or commented on the list.

I would therefore ask you to take this information with you to the meeting and ensure that they are communicated.

I hope that the BSAC will seize every opportunity to continue its work and discussions on input to the HELCOM work with updating its BSAP, and which, I understand will continue during 2020. I hope there will be the opportunity to hold a further meeting of the BSAC working group on ecosystem based management.

Kind regards,



Esben Sverdrup-Jensen  
BSAC ExCom chair

cc. Ewa Milewska BSAC rapporteur/information assistant