

Copenhagen Wednesday 5th January 2022

Dear BSAC members and observers,

I am very pleased to invite you to the next meeting of the BSAC Ecosystem Based Working Group. This will take place on Friday 4th February 2022. It will be a virtual meeting, by Zoom. The timing of the meeting will be from 10hrs – 15hrs. CET.

This will be held as a joint HELCOM, BALTFISH and BSAC meeting. It will deal with two points.

The first agenda item is to inform of and discuss those actions from the adopted HELCOM BSAP that are relevant to fisheries and fisheries management. HELCOM has confirmed the date of the meeting, and I am hoping that as many BALTFISH Member State representatives will join as well.

./.. Please find attached the note that was provided to the HELCOM Heads of Delegation meeting on 8th and 9th December 2021. This note gives the background and rationale, and highlights those measures proposed by the BSAC that have gone into the updated BSAP. It also goes through specific segments in order to point out actions that are relevant for fisheries.

The second item is to deal with eel. The Commission has decided to launch a wide-ranging consultation and is asking for concrete suggestions on measures that would facilitate implementation of the ICES advice on eel. It has written to Member State Regional groups, as well as Chairs of the Advisory Councils¹. The BSAC is already thinking about how best to develop a response to the Commission's request. The BSAC has written to the BALTFISH Presidency and Baltic Member States about this with a view formulating a Baltic response. I am very pleased to inform that the BALTFISH Presidency has already confirmed participation at this meeting, with representatives from their administration as well as experts from their scientific research institute. An invitation will also go to the Commission.

¹ Please see here a statement on eel sent by the BSAC to the Commission, the reply from the Commission, as well as the letter sent from the Commission to Chairs of the Advisory Councils: <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-statement-on-eel>

A more detailed agenda will follow.

We plan to conduct the meeting in English, unless someone asks for interpreting. If so, please contact the Secretariat asap.

Kindly confirm to the Secretariat sc@bsac.dk your participation at this meeting **no later than Friday 28th January 2022.**

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Kind regards,



Nils Höglund, Chair of the Working group on ecosystem-based management