



Invitation to:

HELCOM Workshop on Fish Indicators

-a fishy part of marine environmental policy?

Date: Tuesday 10 May 2016 (10:00-16:00)

Venue: Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SWAM), Gullbergs strandgata 15, 41104, Gothenburg, Sweden

HELCOM is working on a number of indicators related to fish and fisheries as part of processes emerging from environmental regulation and policy (2007 HELCOM BSAP, 2008 EU MSFD).

The HELCOM FISH Working Group expressed in November 2015 interest in getting a possibility to be involved in this work more closely.

This workshop aims to present and discuss the background and status of these HELCOM “fish” indicators in general. Updated versions of the draft indicator files will be shared with the workshop participants in advance of the meeting.

The aim of the workshop is also to have a round of discussion between the science community, fisheries and environmental administrations on the following specific issues:

- *How are indicators emerging from marine environment legislation and CFP linked?*
- *How can ICES generated indicators on MSFD Descriptor 3 be used in Assessing the Baltic Sea Marine Ecosystem?*
- *How to finalise Good Environmental Status (GES) boundaries of HELCOM indicators on size of pelagic fish (ML and LFI)?*



Programme

Please note that the overall timeframes include some flex for longer discussion and ad-hoc breaks.

I. Introduction (10:00-11:00)

Moderator Ulrika Gunnartz, SWAM

Welcome from the Moderator to the workshop and SWAM. Overall aims of WS. 10 min

HELCOM HOLAS II Project Manager Lena Bergström

Presentation: Assessing fish as part of the Baltic Sea ecosystem. 20 min

[EU Commission DG ENV David Connor]

Presentation: Links between marine environment legislation and fisheries (MSFD and CFP). 20 min

HELCOM Coreset Project Manager Lena Avellan

Presentation: HELCOM fish indicators and what they will be used for and how? 10 min

II. ICES indicators under Descriptor 3 (11:00-11:45)

ICES Mark Dickie Collas/ Neil Holdsworth (Online contribution)

Presentation: ICES indicators under MSFD Descriptor 3 (10 min)

Discussion: How can ICES generated indicators on MSFD Descriptor 3 be used in Assessing the Baltic Sea Marine Ecosystem? (20 min)

Lunch break 11:45-12:45 (at own cost)



III. Good Environmental Status of HELCOM pelagic fish indicators? (12:45-13:30)

Lead / Coordinator Michele Casini

Presentation: Proportion of large fish in the pelagic community (LFI) (10 min)

Discussion: Way forward on GES for the LFI indicator (20 min)

Lead / Coordinator Michele Casini

Presentation: Maximum length of fish in the pelagic community (ML) (10 min)

Discussion: Way forward on GES for the ML indicator (20 min)

IV. Indicators on Salmon, Sea trout and Coastal fish (13:30-15:00)

Lead / Coordinator Tapani Pakarinen

Presentation: Abundance of salmon spawners and smolt (10 min)

Discussion: Status update/suggestions (10 min)

Lead / Coordinator Tapani Pakarinen

Presentation: Abundance of seatrout spawners and parr (10 min)

Discussion: Status update/suggestions (10 min)

Lead / Coordinator Jens Olsson

Presentation: Abundance of coastal fish key functional groups (10 min)

Discussion: Status update/suggestions (10 min)

Lead / Coordinator Jens Olsson

Presentation: Abundance of key coastal fish species (10 min)

Discussion: Status update/suggestions (10 min)



V. Incidental catches (15:00-15:30)

Lead / Coordinator Sven Koschinski

Presentation: Number of drowned mammals and waterbirds in fishing gear (10 min)

Discussion: Status update/suggestions (10 min)

VI. Summary discussion and wrap up (15:30-16:00)

Moderator Ulrika Gunnartz.

Workshop Wrap Up discussion and close