

# RETROUT furthering HELCOM actions on migratory fish species

# RETROUT

## Development, promotion and sustainable management of the Baltic Sea Region as a coastal fishing tourism destination

Stemming from BSR SUSFISHING (presented at FISH 3-2015)

Focusing on **sea trout**

Interreg application approved in May 2017

Duration: 3 years (1 July 2017 – 30 June 2020)

Budget: [approx. 4 million EUR]

Partners from SE, FI, EE, LV, LT, PL – including fishing service providers and FLAGs, regional authorities, coastal municipalities, research institutes & HELCOM

Addressing:

- Limited capacity of the fishing tourism sector and lack of resources to fully meet and exploit the demand
- Limited capacity of the Baltic Sea to provide productive ecosystem services

# RETROUT

## Work packages:

1. Project management and administration (Lead: Stockholm County Administrative Board)
2. Development and promotion of coastal fishing tourism destinations (Lead: Visit Åland)
3. Policy reform studies and dialogue (Lead: Stockholm County)
4. Assessment of sea trout river status and river restoration (Lead: HELCOM)

# WP4: Assessment of sea trout river status and river restoration

In line with HELCOM 2013 Ministerial Agreements on salmon and sea trout

## Main activities:

- 4.1 Assessment of sea trout river and stock status, impacts of recreational fishing and management options (coordinated by HELCOM)
- 4.2 Joint evaluation of completed restoration projects (coordinated by BIOR in Latvia)
- 4.3 Demonstrating efficient river restoration measures (coordinated by University of Tartu)
- 4.4 Develop Baltic Toolbox for River Restoration (coordinated by HELCOM)

# WP4: Main outputs

## Main outputs:

1. A.1 - Assessment of sea trout river and stock status, impacts of recreational fishing and management options:
  - standardised methodology for assessment of sea trout river and stock status
  - publication of a HELCOM report assessing the status of sea trout rivers and stocks, including the extent of impacts caused by recreational fisheries and scenarios for management. The assessment will be largely based on existing data and information available via project partners, HELCOM Contracting Parties and ICES WG BAST.
2. A.2 - Joint evaluation of completed restoration projects:
  - A report comprising descriptions of selected projects and comparison of successful and unsuccessful ones, as well as identified best practices, will be included in the Baltic Toolbox (output of A4.4)



# WP4: Main outputs

## Main outputs:

1. 4.3 - Demonstrating efficient river restoration measures:
  - At least four river restoration demonstration projects will be planned and completed
  - A summary of the demonstration project results will be included as a dedicated section in the Baltic Toolbox (output of A 4.4)
2. 4.4 Develop Baltic Toolbox for River Restoration:
  - Toolbox providing best practices for sea trout river restoration
  - Published as a HELCOM report in the BSEP series
  - Summary information on best practices, tools and manuals for effective river restoration planning and implementation measures will be translated into local languages and distributed to relevant regional, local and national authorities

# RETROUT

## WP4 Partners

- have budget from the project
- Have one or more tasks

Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) **(LEAD)**

Stockholm County Administrative Board (SCAB), SE

Royal Institute of Technology (RIT), SE

Estonian Marine Institute (EMI), EE

Baltic Environmental Forum Estonia (BEF), EE

Kurzeme Regional Planning Authority (KRPA), LV

Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment (BIOR), LV

Klaipeda University (KU), LT

Fisheries Services under Min. of Agriculture (ZUV), LT

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (MIR), PL

# RETROUT

## WP4 Associate Partners

- Support the project
  - Interested in using the results
  - Do not have any tasks in the project
  - Have no budget from the project
  - Important part in spreading the results
1. Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SWAM), SE
  2. Ministry of Environment (MoE), EE
  3. Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre (LEGMC), LV
  4. Regional Water Management Board Gdańsk, PL- owner and manager of all freshwaters in Gdansk region
  5. Town Council of Reda (TC, PL - owner of the fish pass location and user of the river Reda



# Linkages with HELCOM priorities

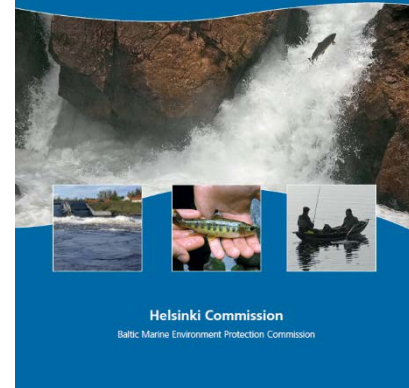
- Status of sea trout rivers and stocks, as input for making pan-Baltic assessments of environmental status and fisheries management measures
- River restoration best practices, for making pan-Baltic recommendations for protection and management of sea trout river habitats
- Support national implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 32-33/1 “Conservation of Baltic salmon and sea trout populations by the restoration of their river habitats and management of river fisheries”
- Contributes to tasks of FISH-M

## SALAR Project (2010-2011)

Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 126A

### Salmon and Sea Trout Populations and Rivers in the Baltic Sea

HELCOM assessment of salmon (*Salmo salar*) and sea trout (*Salmo trutta*) populations and habitats in rivers flowing to the Baltic Sea.



# Task Force for Migratory Fish (FISH-M)

*Advisory/expert, 3 years, under HELCOM FISH (Group on ecosystem-based sustainable fisheries), cooperation with ICES*

*Primary: salmon/sea trout, eel, sturgeon; secondary: remaining migratory species*

## → Tasks

- To **discuss** conservation and habitat restoration for migratory fish in rivers
- To **exchange** information and **disseminate** knowledge and experiences
- To **compile** information on **best practices** of improving fish migration
- To **support implementation** of BSAP actions on migratory fish
- To **support national restoration** plans by the CPs

## → Expected outcomes

- **Advise and assistance** to policy level in optimising conservation actions,
- **Dissemination of knowledge** on best practices for enhancing fish migration
- **Standard/recommendations** for minimum restoration measures requirements
- **Input to a Handbook for Best restoration Practices** (e.g. passing barriers)
- **Development of project application(-s)** to enhance migration in rivers

# Inputs needed from from FISH-M to the project tasks

- Preparation of an assessment report on the status of sea trout rivers and stocks, extent of impacts by the fishing tourism sector and management option scenarios, based on existing, available data and information via project partners, HELCOM Contracting Parties and ICES WG BAST
- Review of the Baltic Toolbox for River Restoration to be used by local, regional, national public authorities
- Dissemination of the project results (Toolbox)



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission