



## Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Continuation of the project on Baltic-wide assessment of coastal fish communities in support of an ecosystem-based management

FISH-PRO II 5-2018

Gothenburg, Sweden, 14-16 February 2018

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<b>Document title</b>	Extracts of relevant HELCOM meeting outcomes
<b>Code</b>	2-1
<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	2 – Information of relevance for FISH-PRO II
<b>Submission date</b>	12.1.2018
<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat

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### Background

This document contains extracts of the following HELCOM meetings held in 2017 that are of relevance for FISH-PRO II:

1. [FISH 6-2017](#), Helsinki, Finland, 22-24 May 2017
2. [STATE & CONSERVATION 6-2017](#), Uppsala, Sweden, 15-19 May 2017
3. [River restoration workshop](#) (FISH-M 4-2017), Bredsten, Denmark, 29-30 May 2017
4. [STATE & CONSERVATION 7-2017](#), Sopot, Poland, 23-27 October 2017
5. [FISH 7-2017](#), Copenhagen, Denmark, 14-15 November 2017
6. [Regional workshop on eel and the Baltic Sea](#) (FISH-M 5-2017), Stockholm, Sweden, 29 Nov – 1 Dec 2017
7. [HOD 53-2017](#), Helsinki, Finland, 12-13 December 2017

The complete outcomes can be accessed via the hyperlinks on the meeting codes/headings.

### Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note and make use of the information.

## Extracts of relevant HELCOM meeting outcomes

### 1. [FISH 6-2017](#), Helsinki, Finland, 22-24 May 2017

- took note of information on coastal recreational fisheries in the HELCOM countries collected by the HELCOM FISH-PRO II group as presented by Mr. Jens Olsson, FISH-PRO II Project Manager (document 3-1). The Meeting noted that Denmark will provide some additional national information and invited also other Contracting Parties to submit possible additional or updated national information to the Secretariat ([minna.pyhala@helcom.fi](mailto:minna.pyhala@helcom.fi)) and Jens Olsson ([jens.olsson@slu.se](mailto:jens.olsson@slu.se)).
- discussed how to make use of the compiled information on recreational fisheries in the future. The Meeting acknowledged that there is an ICES group on recreational fisheries and that FISH-PRO II does not duplicate their work. The Meeting noted that FISH-PRO can support the updating of the information also in the future.
- noted that a draft proposal for FISH-PRO III will be submitted for consideration by FISH 7-2017.

### 2. [STATE & CONSERVATION 6-2017](#), Uppsala, Sweden, 15-19 May 2017

- considered the following updated biodiversity core indicators and endorsed their publication with final edits agreed at the Meeting (cf. paragraphs 4J.35 to 4J.42);
  - 'Abundance of key coastal fish species' (document 4J-1, 4J-1-Rev.1)
  - 'Abundance of coastal fish key functional groups' (document 4J-6)

### 3. [River restoration workshop](#) (FISH-M 4-2017), Bredsten, Denmark, 29-30 May 2017

The fourth meeting of the HELCOM task force on migratory fish species was organized as a workshop on river restoration and best practices. Information on river restoration activities was shared by representatives from Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Lithuania, Germany and HELCOM Secretariat (RETROUT) and the participants visited various river restoration locations in the municipality of Vejle.

### 4. [STATE & CONSERVATION 7-2017](#), Sopot, Poland, 23-27 October 2017

- took note of information about the latest and current activities of FISH-PRO II (document 3J-1).
- considered and endorsed, in principle, the proposal for continuation of the FISH-PRO II project (document 3J-2), pending clarification from Germany of their position at HOD 53-2017.
- noted that Denmark and Germany need to explore the possibilities for participation of their national experts in the group.

### 5. [FISH 7-2017](#), Copenhagen, Denmark, 14-15 November 2017

- supported the proposal for continuation of FISH-PRO II (document 2-1) and welcomed the information that Germany will check the possibility to be more active in FISH-PRO II during the follow up period and requested that the contact list of FISH PRO II should be updated.
- took note of the recommendations from the Baltic SCOPE project (document 2-2).
- highlighted that regional maps of fish nursery areas and other essential habitats were not available and requested that HELCOM Fish should be informed of any events on this topic (whether PanBaltic SCOPE, HELCOM or any other initiative).

### 6. [Regional workshop on eel and the Baltic Sea](#) (FISH-M 5-2016), Stockholm, Sweden, 29 Nov – 1 Dec 2017

The fifth meeting of HELCOM Fish-M was organized as a workshop regarding European eel by HELCOM in cooperation with the Convention on Migratory Species and Sargasso Sea Commission. Information on eel assessment, management, status etc. was presented by both regional and international organizations as well as all the HELCOM Contracting Parties (Poland via correspondence).

The workshop agreed on a summary of the status of national work (para 4.1) as well as comments regarding the Baltic Sea European eel (para 5.1).

The workshop further agreed that a joint comprehensive project on monitoring and assessment of eel involving the national research institutes involved in stock assessment and eel management from the Baltic Sea and other partners would be a useful step to catalyse work on eel in the Baltic Sea region and that such a project should be prepared as soon as possible with the view to submit it in 2018 to a suitable funding call and requested the national administrations and other partners to consider such an initiative and nominate contact points as soon as possible to enable the forming of a new partnership (willem.dekker@slu.se).

7. [HOD 53-2017](#), Helsinki, Finland, 12-13 December 2017

approved the proposal for continuation of FISH-PRO II project (document 3-6).