



## Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area

PRESSURE 7-2017

Vilnius, Lithuania, 24-26 October 2017

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<b>Document title</b>	Comments on extra reduction
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<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	5 - Assessment of input of nutrients and selected hazardous substances
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<b>Submitted by</b>	FEAP
<b>Reference</b>	

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### Background

The document contains preliminary comments by FEAP on methods to calculate extra reduction for the CART assessment.

### Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the document.

## FEAP preliminary comments

As far as FEAP is informed Pressure 7 will discuss new methods to calculate extra reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus in relation to CART. There are (Oct. 10-2017) no documents for the meeting on new methods. One document (5-2 Calculations of reallocation of extra reductions to basins with missing reductions for the assessment of CART) relates to the topic but it deals mostly on factors on equivalent reductions. It has however one calculation on extra reduction, see below. Therefore FEAP mostly refers to document 7-13 from Pressure 6-2017, that was a late document. In this document there are three different calculation-methods. The results for e.g. Danish Straits and Denmark are shown below. E.g. Germany has also an extra reduction in Danish Straits – it is not shown here!

Extra reduction in tons - Danish Straits – Denmark			
Doc. 7-13 Pressure 6	Method 1	Method 2	Method 3
Nitrogen	2775	3649	3828
Phosphorus	2	-68	-59

Extra reduction in tons - Danish Straits - Denmark	
Doc 5-2 Pressure 7	Page 6
Nitrogen	6148
Phosphorus	1

Earlier calculations show following

Extra reduction in tons - Danish Straits - Denmark			
	DCE 2014	DCE 2015	DCE 2016
Nitrogen	8945	9656	6875
Phosphorus	58	134	17

(DCE= Danish Centre for Environment)

There is a tremendous difference between the seven results. For nitrogen the highest extra reduction is appr. 350 % over the lowest. For phosphorus the highest extra reduction is 134 tons. The lowest is minus 68 tons – percentage cannot be calculated! FEAP also notes that the extra reduction actually rose from DCE 2014 to DCE 2015, but has then fallen dramatically after each new calculation. The explanation should be the discovery of new nutrient-sources and the so called extra breakpoints. No information about possible changing in the older sources or alike is communicated. As far as FEAP is informed the above approach is only used for part of the Baltic Sea.

The calculated numbers in accordance with the above seven methods is compared to the constant CART/MAI numbers, probably from the 2013-Ministerial Declaration. In our view these – constant numbers – should also be recalculated if you change the calculation-method.

FEAP is aware that the methods were discussed at PLC-6. However no recommendation on method stems from this meeting.

The DCE 2015-calculation is the official HELCOM CART/extra reduction, ref HELCOM homepage (October 9 - 2017):

[http://helcom.fi/Documents/Baltic%20sea%20action%20plan/Nutrient%20reduction%20scheme/CART\\_fulfillment\\_of\\_nutrient\\_input\\_ceilings\\_2012.xlsx](http://helcom.fi/Documents/Baltic%20sea%20action%20plan/Nutrient%20reduction%20scheme/CART_fulfillment_of_nutrient_input_ceilings_2012.xlsx)

Licenses from the public authorities for e.g. fish farms would often – among others - be based on the HELCOM-CART/extra reduction-figures in the concrete sea area. It seems very difficult for the public

authorities to administer according these very fluctuating figures for the extra reduction in relation to CART.

There are as mentioned (October 10 -2017) no documents for Pressure 7 (besides document 5-2) calculating extra reduction in relation to CART. FEAP proposes that no decision concerning calculation of extra reduction is taken on the coming Pressure-7 meeting. Furthermore FEAP proposes that the general question/procedure calculating extra reduction in relation to CART is discussed in HELCOM at Ministerial Level.