



Outcome of the intersessional Meeting of the  
Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature Conservation  
(STATE & CONSERVATION 13B-2020)

## Introduction

0.1 In accordance with the decision by STATE&CONSERVATION 13-2020, the intersessional meeting of the State and Conservation WG (STATE&CONSERVATION 13B-2020) was held as an online Meeting on 6 November 2020.

0.2 The Meeting was attended by delegations from all Contracting Parties except the European Union, Germany, Latvia, Poland and Russia. The List of Participants is contained as **Annex 1**.

0.3 The Meeting was chaired by the Co-Chair of the Working Group: Mr. Norbert Häubner (Sweden), Chair of monitoring and assessment related topics. Mr. Joni Kaitaranta, Data Coordinator and Mr. Florent Nicolas, Project Coordinator – Data Expert, acted as secretaries for the Meeting.

## Agenda Item 1

### Adoption of the Agenda

1.1 The Meeting adopted the Provisional Agenda, as contained in this document.

## Agenda Item 2

### Update of the Baltic Sea Pressure and Impact Index (BSPI/BSPII) map layers

2.1 The Meeting took note of the information contained in the document 2-1 and its two attachments. The attachment 1 is listing Ecosystem Components layers and the attachment 2 is listing Human Activities and Pressures layers. These layers will be tentatively used in the upcoming holistic assessment (HOLAS III).

2.2 The Meeting took note of the clarification about the column “Suggested priority for HOLAS III” in the two tables attached to the document 2-1 (column F in the table for Ecosystems components and column G in the table for Human Activities and Pressures). The Meeting agreed to rename this column in both tables with “Priority for updating for HOLAS III”.

2.3 The Meeting discussed that even though the priority can be described as “low” for a layer, the layer should be available for HOLASIII. If the priority is set as “low” for a layer, it only means that it is not a priority to update this layer via a data call but the information can be updated.

2.4 The Meeting agreed to prioritize the update of the layers of Ecosystem Components and human activities (pressures) for the upcoming Holistic Assessment (HOLAS III).

2.5 The Meeting assessed the priority for each layer and discussed the possible availability of updated datasets for the Ecosystem Components. The table on Ecosystem Components is attached to this Outcome (Att. 1). The column F contains the results of the assessment by the Meeting about the update priority and the column I contains comments from the Meeting on the datasets.

2.6 The Meeting took note of the information about the [ECOMAR project](#) which produced several layers for the Danish waters and methodology that could be applied in the whole Baltic.

- 2.7 The Meeting took note of the information on the Essential Fish Habitats maps produced by the Pan Baltic Scope project. These maps were not available for HOLAS II but could be included in HOLAS III.
- 2.8 The Meeting suggested to include the Essential Fish Habitats maps in HOLAS III.
- 2.9 The Meeting assessed the priority for each layer and discussed the possible availability of updated datasets for Human Activities and Pressures. The table on Human Activities and Pressures is attached to this Outcome (Att. 2). The column H contains the results of the assessment about the update priority and the column K contains comments from the Meeting on the datasets.
- 2.10 The Meeting agreed that there is a need to reassess which human activities cause which pressures in the HOLAS III process.
- 2.11 The Meeting discussed on human activities/pressure layers that should be added:
- Military training areas / explosion areas
    - E.g. modelling number of explosions
  - Municipal wastewater treatment outlets (related to litter and input of heat)
    - Pharmaceuticals
  - Input of litter (stormwater pipes)
  - Beach litter monitoring sites.
- 2.12 The Meeting agreed that the concentration approach which is currently applied for nutrient and contaminants could be applied with litter layer as well, given that appropriate data is available.

### Agenda Item 3

### Outcome of the Meeting

- 3.1 A draft outcome was prepared by the Secretariat and adopted via correspondence.

## Annex 1. List of participants

Name	Name of organization	E-mail address
<b>Chair</b>		
Norbert Häubner	Swedish Agency of Marine and Water Management	<a href="mailto:norbert.haubner@havochvatten.se">norbert.haubner@havochvatten.se</a>
<b>Contracting Parties</b>		
<b>Denmark</b>		
Linda Bistrup Halvorsen	Ministry of Environment and Food	<a href="mailto:libha@mfvm.dk">libha@mfvm.dk</a>
<b>Estonia</b>		
Eda Andresmaa	Ministry of the Environment	<a href="mailto:eda.andresmaa@envir.ee">eda.andresmaa@envir.ee</a>
Anastasiia Kovtun-Kante	Estonian Environment Agency	<a href="mailto:anastasiia.kovtun-kante@envir.ee">anastasiia.kovtun-kante@envir.ee</a>
<b>Finland</b>		
Lasse Kurvinen	Parks & Wildlife Finland	<a href="mailto:lasse.kurvinen@metsa.fi">lasse.kurvinen@metsa.fi</a>
<b>Lithuania</b>		
Gabija Garnytė	Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania	<a href="mailto:gabija.garnyte@am.lt">gabija.garnyte@am.lt</a>
<b>Sweden</b>		
Jonas Pålsson	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	<a href="mailto:jonas.palsson@havochvatten.se">jonas.palsson@havochvatten.se</a>
<b>HELCOM Secretariat</b>		
Juuso Haapaniemi	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:juuso.haapaniemi@helcom.fi">juuso.haapaniemi@helcom.fi</a>
Jannica Haldin	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:jannica.haldin@helcom.fi">jannica.haldin@helcom.fi</a>
Joni Kaitaranta	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:ioni.kaitaranta@helcom.fi">ioni.kaitaranta@helcom.fi</a>
Florent Nicolas	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:florent.nicolas@helcom.fi">florent.nicolas@helcom.fi</a>