



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature
Conservation

STATE & CONSERVATION
15-2021

Online, 4-8 October 2021

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| Document title | Follow-up of action 'Take measures to reduce transboundary pressures and/or impacts on HELCOM threatened migrating species' |
| Code | 3N-10-Rev.1 |
| Category | INF |
| Agenda Item | 3N - Development and implementation of Recommendations |
| Submission date | 30.9.2021 |
| Submitted by | Germany |

This document has been revised with the inclusion of additional information provided by Germany (marked in red).

Background

STATE & CONSERVATION 13-2020 took note of the information provided by Finland and Germany regarding which of the measures recommended by JWG Bird have been implemented in the respective CP (S&C 11-2019, 3N8). The meeting took note of the information that Denmark will provide information intersessionally and invited all Parties to provide their responses to the Secretariat (petra.kaarja@helcom.fi) so that they can be collated and presented in an overview to STATE & CONSERVATION 15-2021.

- 1) Reduce bycatch in gill nets (common eider and all other diving species, including black guillemot).
→ **not implemented**
However, there are initiatives to protect diving species from bycatch in Schleswig-Holstein: Voluntary Agreement between the State Fisheries Association (Landesfischereiverband), the Fisheries Protection Association (Fischereischutzverband), Ostsee Info-Center Eckernförde (OIC) and the Ministry for Energy, Agriculture, the Environment, Nature and Digitalization (MELUND, former MELUR) to protect harbor porpoises and diving sea ducks: To protect diving sea ducks in the winter months with increased resting bird concentrations, gillnet fishing is avoided in areas where diving sea ducks actively search for food between November 16 and March 1. Locally accumulated occurrences of diving sea ducks are determined by the OIC and the warning is issued and announced locally and for a limited time.
- 2) Reduce predation by introduced mammalian predators such as American mink etc. (common eider, dunlin and others).
→ **(partly) implemented** (hunting of e.g. racoon dogs on small islands in waters off MV)
- 3) Reduce hunting on threatened species (common eider, long-tailed duck, common scoter, velvet scoter, taiga bean goose).
→ **partly implemented** (e. g. year-round protection of bean goose in MV; depends on states law)
- 4) Offshore wind farms should not be constructed close to important staging/wintering sites and should not block flyways between such sites (red-throated diver, black-throated diver, seaducks).
→ **not implemented**
- 5) Keep shallow waters holding benthic feeding waterbirds free from bottom trawling (common eider, long-tailed duck, common scoter, velvet scoter).
→ **yes but management by fishery authorities, no nature conservation measure in coastal waters** (inner coastal waters are reserved for gill net fishing, exclusion of bottom trawling not as

conservation measure but as fisheries management measure); **under consideration in EEZ** (CFP Joint Recommendation on ban of mobile bottom-contacting gears under development)

- 6) Marine spatial planning incorporating shipping restrictions close to important staging sites of waterbirds (red-throated divers, black-throated divers, long-tailed duck, common scoter, velvet scoter).
→ **implemented in coastal waters, not implemented in EEZ**

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.