



## Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature  
Conservation

STATE & CONSERVATION  
5-2016

Tallinn, Estonia, 7-11 November, 2016

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<b>Document title</b>	Supporting information to plan for the next HELCOM Red list assessment, including national Red List work in Finland and Germany
<b>Code</b>	5N-1-Rev.1
<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	5N – Plans for implementation of the work plan and emerging issues
<b>Submission date</b>	28.10.2016
<b>Submitted by</b>	Finland and Germany
<b>Reference</b>	STATE & CONSERVATION 4-2016, Parag. 5N.8

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### Background

STATE & CONSERVATION 4-2016 took note of the draft project description for the development of updated HELCOM Red Lists by 2019 ([document 5N-3](#)), presented by the Secretariat. The Meeting recalled that the steering group of the previous Red List project proposed to make a new assessment by 2019 as a one-time event to update and improve the 2013 assessments while in the long-term a longer assessment cycle was proposed.

The meeting discussed the timing of the next Red List assessments, noting the view by Denmark, Germany and Poland that the level of new knowledge does not justify a new assessment already after 6 years from the previous assessments. The meeting further noted the proposal by Denmark, Finland, Germany and Poland to have a 12-year assessment cycle, which would mean finalizing the next Red List assessment by the year 2025.

The meeting noted the view of Sweden, supported by Finland, that is important to keep the momentum going and take advantage of the experience gained through the previous Red List project and Sweden being in favour of carrying out an updated assessment by 2019. The meeting also recalled that 2019 is one year before the CBD targets should be met.

The meeting agreed to convene a workshop back-to-back with the Nature conservation session at the spring meeting of State and Conservation in 2017 where experts should come together to take stock of data and available updated information on threatened Baltic Sea species and habitats/biotopes and to consider improvements needed for the purpose of an updated assessment. The meeting agreed to discuss the planning of the workshop at STATE & CONSERVATION 5-2016.

The meeting furthermore proposed that the Contracting Parties should regularly report to upcoming State and Conservation meetings on the improvement of national data and work on Red Listed species and biotopes, to keep the needed development of background information going and invited the Contracting Parties to inform the Secretariat on planned updates of the national Red Lists with the view to compile a timetable of national and international reporting obligations.

This document includes information on the national Red List work submitted by Finland (Annex 1) and Germany (Annex 2).

### Action requested

The Meeting is invited to:

- take note of the information provided by Finland and Germany,
- use the information to discuss a workshop to take stock of data and information on Baltic Sea species, biotopes and habitats planned to be held back to back with the sixth meeting of State and Conservation in spring 2017.

## Annex 1. National Red List work in Finland

### **BIOTOPES**

Finland is currently working on the national Red List of Biotopes. The last Red List is from 2008 and covered only a few Baltic underwater biotopes. The current work will cover approximately 50 underwater biotopes, which are based on the HELCOM Underwater Biotopes (HUB) classification, with some national adaptations. The methods used for the evaluation follows IUCNs Red List of Ecosystems (RLE) approach. The assessment is based on five criteria:

- A. Declining distribution
- B. Restricted distribution
- C. Degradation of abiotic environment
- D. Altered biotic interactions
- E. Quantitative risk analysis

Data used for assessing underwater biotopes are e.g. species and biotope data collected within the VELMU-program, benthic monitoring data and depth distribution data of *Fucus* etc. As an example of approaches used, the declining distribution (criteria A) of biotopes has been approximated by making a distribution model using current environmental parameters and comparing the results with a model using e.g. Secchi-depth values from 50 years ago.

One mission for the field season for VELMU in 2016, was to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution of underwater biotopes that had been evaluated as Data Deficient (DD) in 2008.

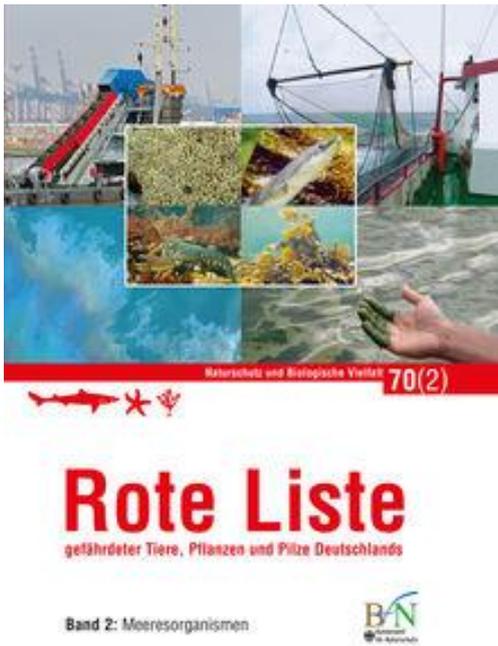
Aside from the Baltic underwater biotopes, the biotopes are divided in to coastal, freshwater, mire, forest, bedrock, cultural and fell biotopes. All together there are over 400 biotopes that are being evaluated. The evaluation is scheduled to be done by 2018.

### **SPECIES**

The last full evaluation is from 2010, but didn't include e.g. algae, aside from Charophytes. Red algae had been included in the red list evaluation of 2000, but in the 2010 evaluation the group was excluded due to insufficient data. Birds and mammals were evaluated in 2015. The next full evaluation is planned for 2019.

## Annex 2. National Red List work in Germany

### 2013 Red List of threatened species in Germany, volume II marine organism



BECKER, N.; HAUPT, H.; HOFBAUER, N.; LUDWIG, G. & NEHRING, S. (RED.) (2013):

#### **Rote Liste gefährdeter Tiere, Pflanzen und Pilze Deutschlands**

Band 2: Meeresorganismen

Bundesamt für Naturschutz, Bonn-Bad Godesberg

Naturschutz und Biologische Vielfalt 70 (2)

236 S., Euro 39,95

ISBN 978-3-7843-5330-2

[https://www.bfn.de/0322\\_rote\\_liste+M52087573ab0.html](https://www.bfn.de/0322_rote_liste+M52087573ab0.html)

From all assessed species of fish, benthic invertebrates and macro algae of the German North- and Baltic Seas, 30 percent are classified as being threatened. In particular fishing and eutrophication threaten marine species and biocenosis.

Red Lists...

- serve to inform the general public about endangered species and habitats,
- provide a readily available reference for spatial and environment-related planning,
- highlight the need for nature conservation measures,
- push nature conservation up the policy agenda,
- are a source of data concerning legislative measures and international Red Lists,
- serve in coordinating international nature conservation activities,
- serve in checking the degree of implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and,
- highlight the areas in which further research is necessary.

Red lists are usually drawn up and published by nature conservation agencies.

A new German **Red List of Threatened Biotopes** will be published shortly. The classification for marine habitats and biotopes is oriented on HELCOM HUB.

A new German Red List of Threatened Biotopes will be published shortly. The classification for marine habitats and biotopes is oriented on HELCOM HUB. The threat assessment is based on a two-stage criteria system that first takes in Area Loss (FL) as a measure of direct destruction and Quality Loss (QU) as a measure of gradual degradation.