

Good ☀️ and bad ⚡ examples for safeguarding our coastal nature

Referring to international requirements of HELCOM (Hx/y) and EU (ICZM, N2000)

☀️ Swedish success story: Sustainable Coastal Zone Management (SUZOZOMA)

Research programme with projects on conflict mitigation through local resource management, management of coastal fisheries and water quality, economic valuation of coastal ecosystem services.

H24/10, EU-ICZM

⚡ Swedish failure story: coastal strip protection

Building permits (for cottages or saunas) close to coastal strips are more the rule than the exception. Public access to the sea and the protection of valuable nature are at stake.

H15/1

⚡ No protection of the coastal strip in Finland

Finnish law has no general protection for the coastal strip. In land use planning practise the coastline is filled with summer houses and no areas suitable for recreation are left for future generations.

H15/1, H21/3

⚡ Planning of new settlements

in the coastal zone in the municipalities of Keila and Jöelähme, next to a Natura 2000 site and in an important recreational area. Construction would destroy and disturb valuable nature and restrict public access to the coast.

H15/1, H21/3, N2000

⚡ Vuosaari Harbour, Helsinki:

New harbour is built close to a Natura 2000 site, its road and railway cutting part of the site into two. Toxic substances dredged from the sea bottom will come into the food chain with disastrous effects for the bird life, fish etc. EU rules of examining alternatives and compensating for the losses are neglected.

N2000

⚡ Construction of port-industrial network

Ports in Ust-Luga, Primorsk, Batareynaya, Lomonosov. No independent Environmental Impact Assessment and no or only "fake" public participation took place.

H15/1, H15/5, H24/10

☀️ Møn Project

EU-LIFE-environment project on sustainable tourism, beach planning, use of eelgrass (removed when cleaning beaches) as renewable resource for e.g. insulation material.

H21/3, H24/10, EU-ICZM, N2000

⚡ Denmark: Planning of new summerhouse areas on the coast

Breaking with the long tradition of coastal strip protection that was model for the HELCOM recommendation 15/1, due to economic interests, supported by the Ministry of Environment.

H15/1

☀️ Chain of ornithological nature reserves

Aiming at balancing economic development (tourism, passenger pier for boat trips, small scale business) and safeguarding coastal and marine ecosystems. Plans by administration with public and NGO participation.

H21/3, H24/10

☀️ Väinameri Project

Restoration and conservation of semi-natural coastal ecosystems, local people develop small-scale economies: Cattle breeding, labelling & marketing of ecologically grown meat, eco-tourism, handicraft.

H15/1, H15/5, H16/3, H21/3, H21/4, N2000

⚡ Uncoordinated development of yacht harbours

along the Eastern German coast, not taking the infrastructure nor the demand into account, resulting in destruction of habitats and disturbance of sensitive species. Bad investment of state subsidies.

H15/1, H15/5, H21/3, H24/10, EU-ICZM, N2000

⚡ Küdema Bay: Planned harbour

to host cruise, passenger and yacht traffic, located in an Important Bird Area and proposed Natura 2000 site. Faults in the Environmental Impact Assessment. Investors try to push project through before EU-legislation (Natura 2000) enters into force with EU-accession.

H15/1, H21/3, H24/10, EU-ICZM, N2000

☀️ Water sports in the SPA and BSPA Greifswalder Bodden

Project of WWF and sailors and anglers associations to elaborate together voluntary agreements on sailing rules and zoning, and publish information material. Results to be included into ICZM and spatial planning systems.

H15/5, H21/3, H24/10, EU-ICZM, N2000

⚡ Häädemeeste: Management of coastal meadows

for protecting birds, rare plant species and coastal habitats (EU-LIFE-Project), co-operation with local people (maintaining the meadows by cattle grazing, mowing), building houses avoided

H15/1, H16/3, H21/4, N2000

☀️ Meadows of Karrendorf: Restoration of saltmarsh grassland

Natural periodic flooding was reintroduced after removal of the front dike line, combined with traditional grazing regime, nature observation possibilities.

H16/3, H21/3, N2000

⚡ D6 planned oil-drilling

The biggest Russian oil company LUKoil starts offshore oil extraction near Lithuania's and Russia's Curonian Spit National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

H21/3, H24/10, N2000

⚡ Saulkrasti: private housing complex "Makoni"

huge by area, fenced, in dunes of a nature park is legalised by local spatial plan, despite strong protests from NGO's and local inhabitants.

H15/1, H21/4, H24/10

⚡ Lapmezciems: Construction of private houses in dunes

and coastal forest in Kemer National Park. Without legally approved local spatial plan, violating several national regulations. Lack of involvement of National Park authority and ignoring protests of local inhabitants.

H15/1, H21/4

☀️ Extension of Wolinski National Park

to the coastal waters to establish a Baltic Sea Protected Area (BSPA), protecting marine and estuarine habitats & coastal wetlands. However, fishery management and public awareness work need to be improved.

H15/5, H24/10, ICZM, N2000

☀️ Marine nature reserve in Pajuris Regional Park

important wintering area for about 20000 birds of different species, future Natura 2000 site. Human activities are restricted. Establishment was initiated by NGOs. However, fishery management insufficient.

H16/3

☀️ Local spatial plan in Jurkalne parish

balancing economical and ecological demands rather well. Local politicians adopted municipal regulations on protection of Baltic Sea coastal area, rare in Latvian municipalities.

H15/1, H21/4, H24/10, EU-ICZM

⚡ Constructions at the seashore

between Klaipeda and the Latvian border. Destruction of forest and natural landscape. Privatisation of forest and land areas near the coast, restricts public access to the sea. Planning not transparent, high rate of corruption.

H15/1

⚡ Hel Peninsula: "Hard" coastal defence measures

with stones & concrete, destroying natural habitats on the Puck Lagoon shore. Building of tourism infrastructure in potential flood and erosion areas. Lack of spatial planning. Tourism activities disturbing sensitive species.

H15/1, H15/5, H16/3, H21/3, H24/10, EU-ICZM, N2000