





The NGO role in the conservation of the Baltic harbour porpoise

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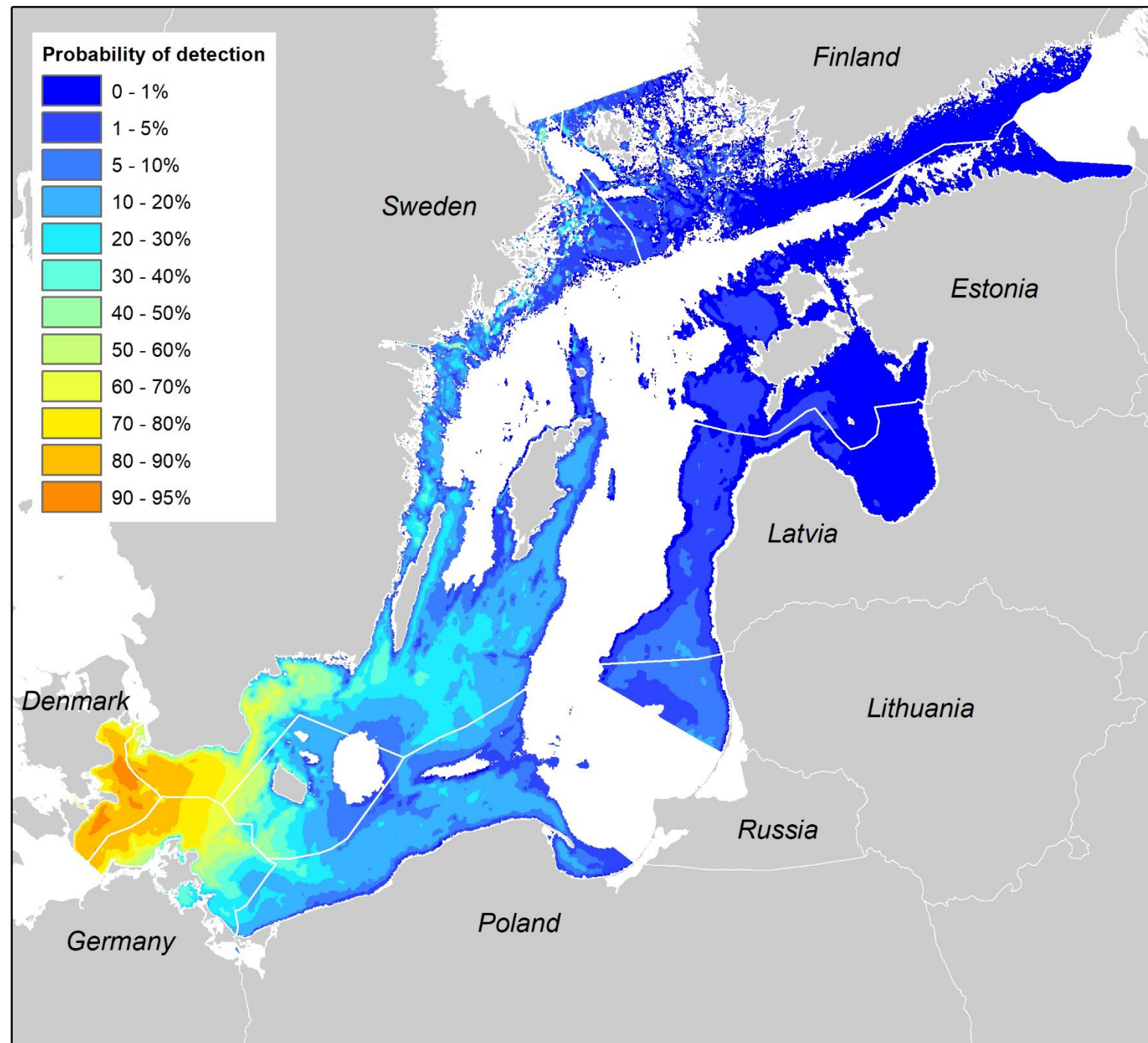
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SAMBAH 2015

- Distribution
- Abundance

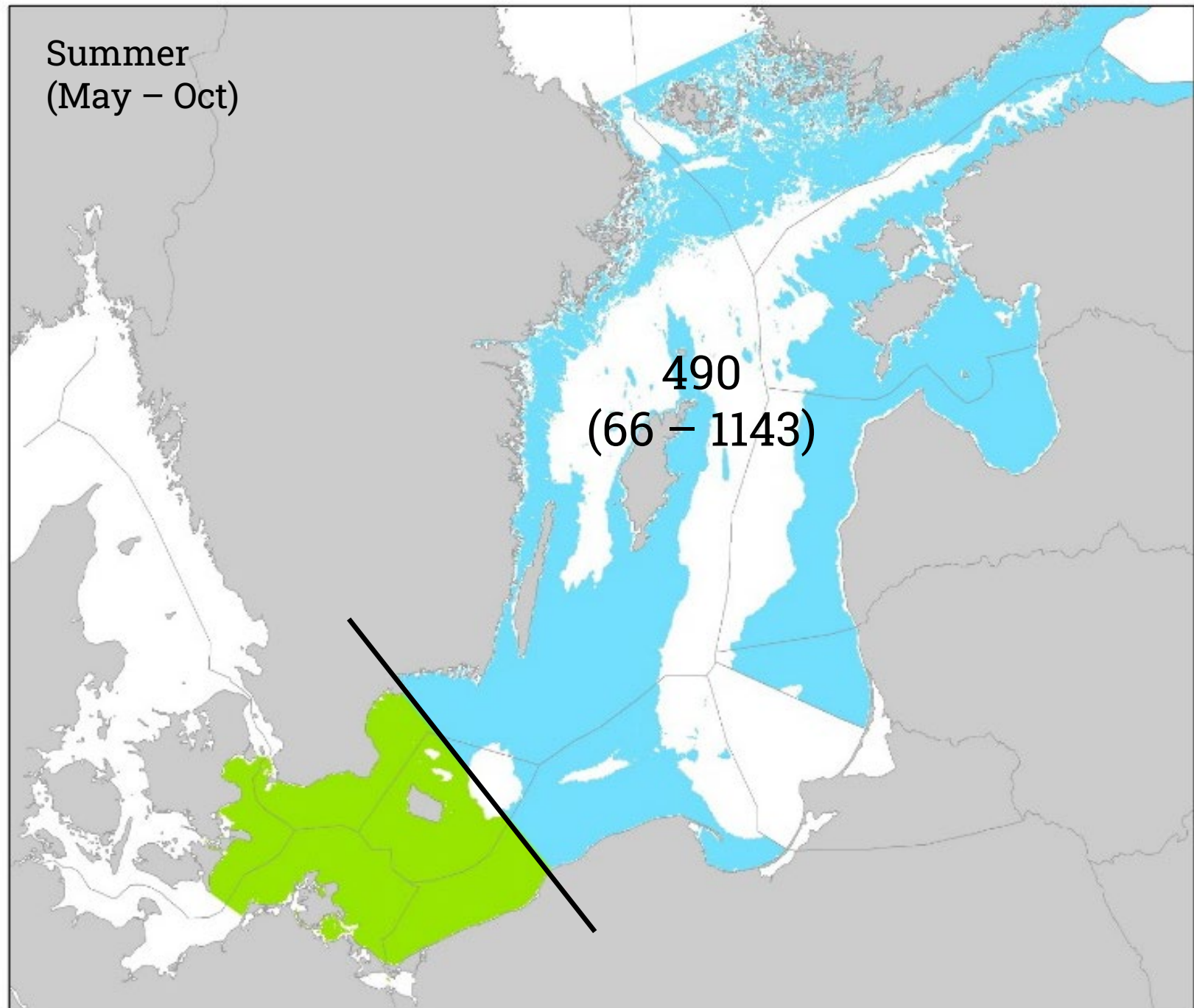




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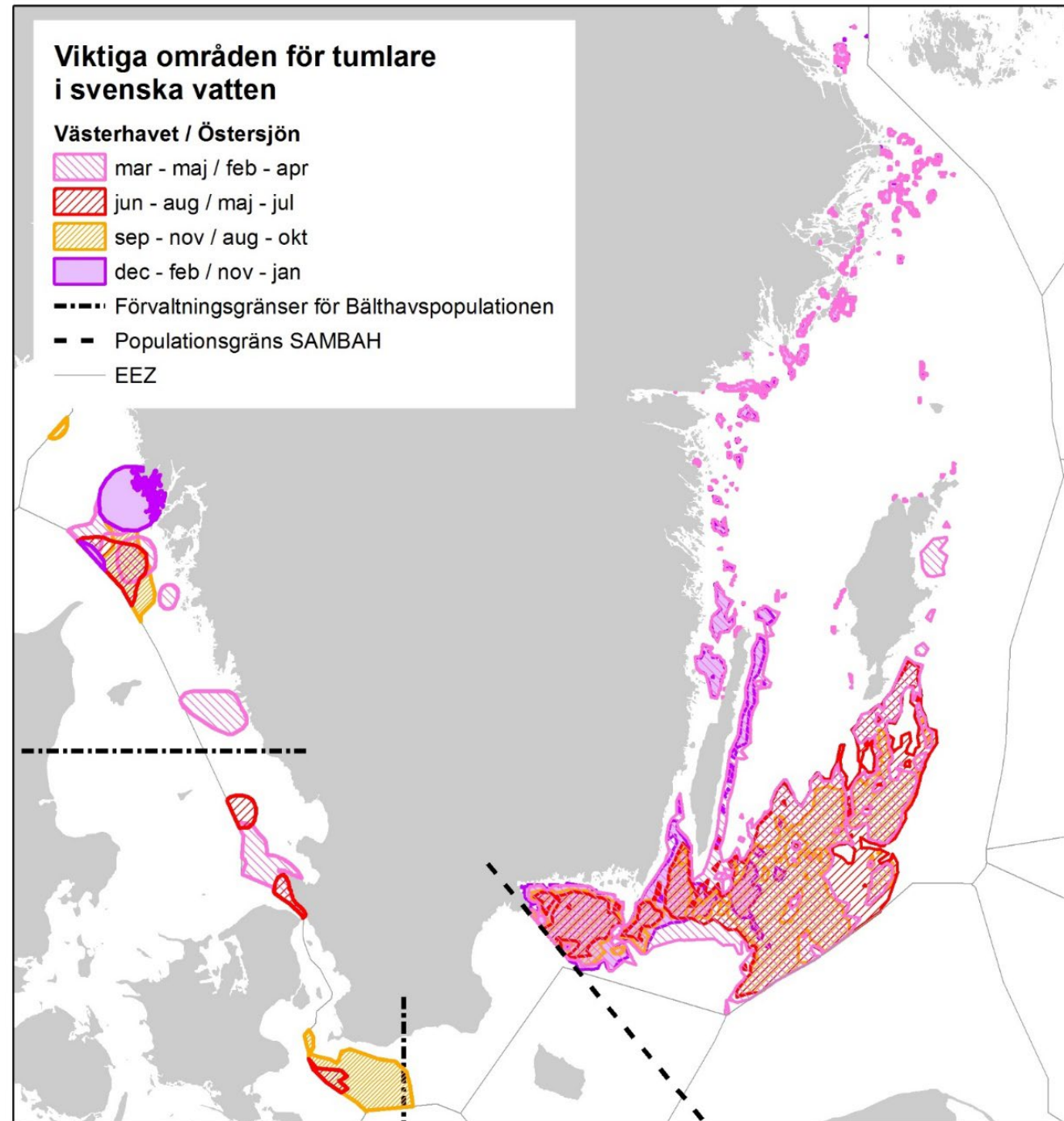




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First step

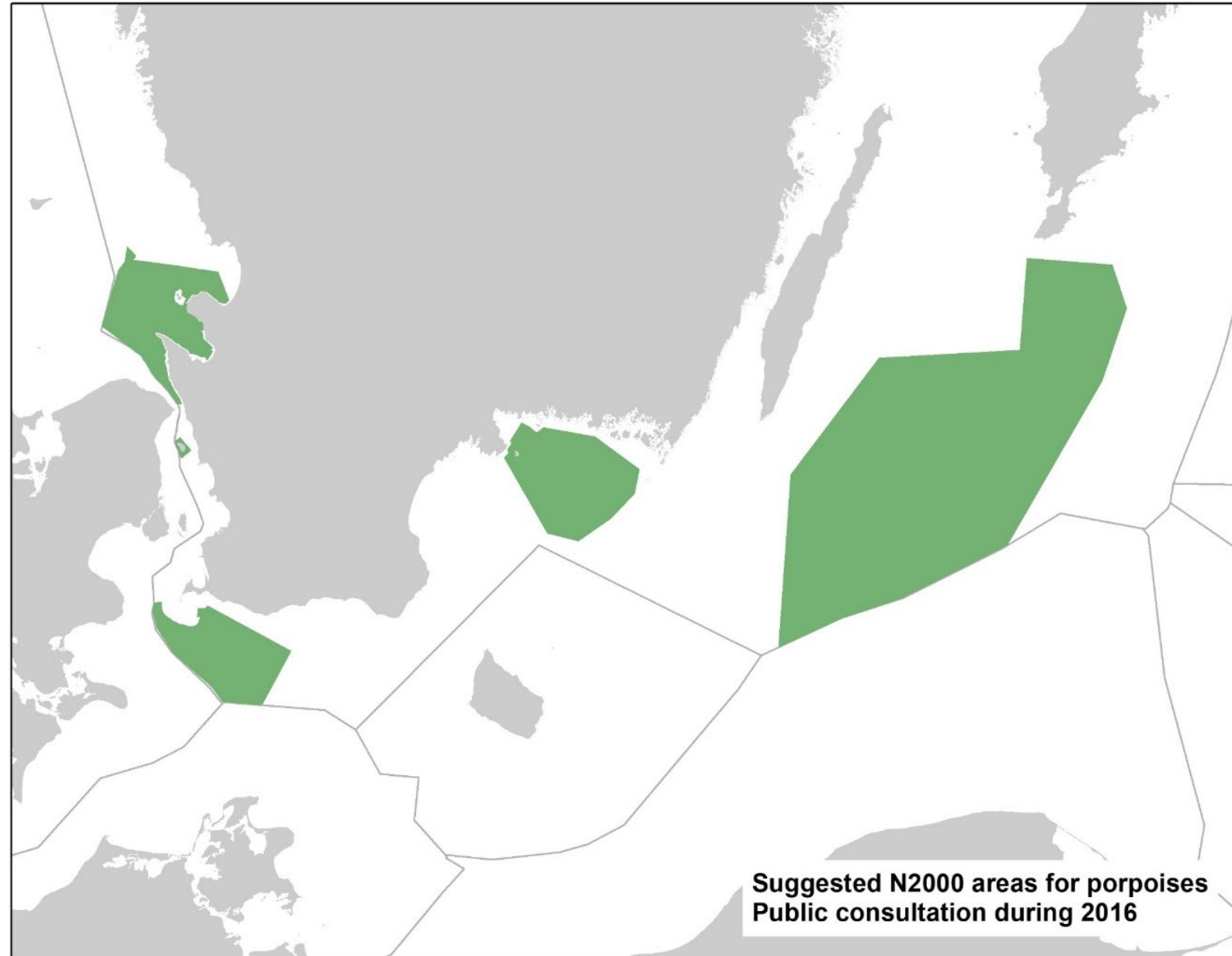
- MPAs designated
- Based on SAMBAH results





First step

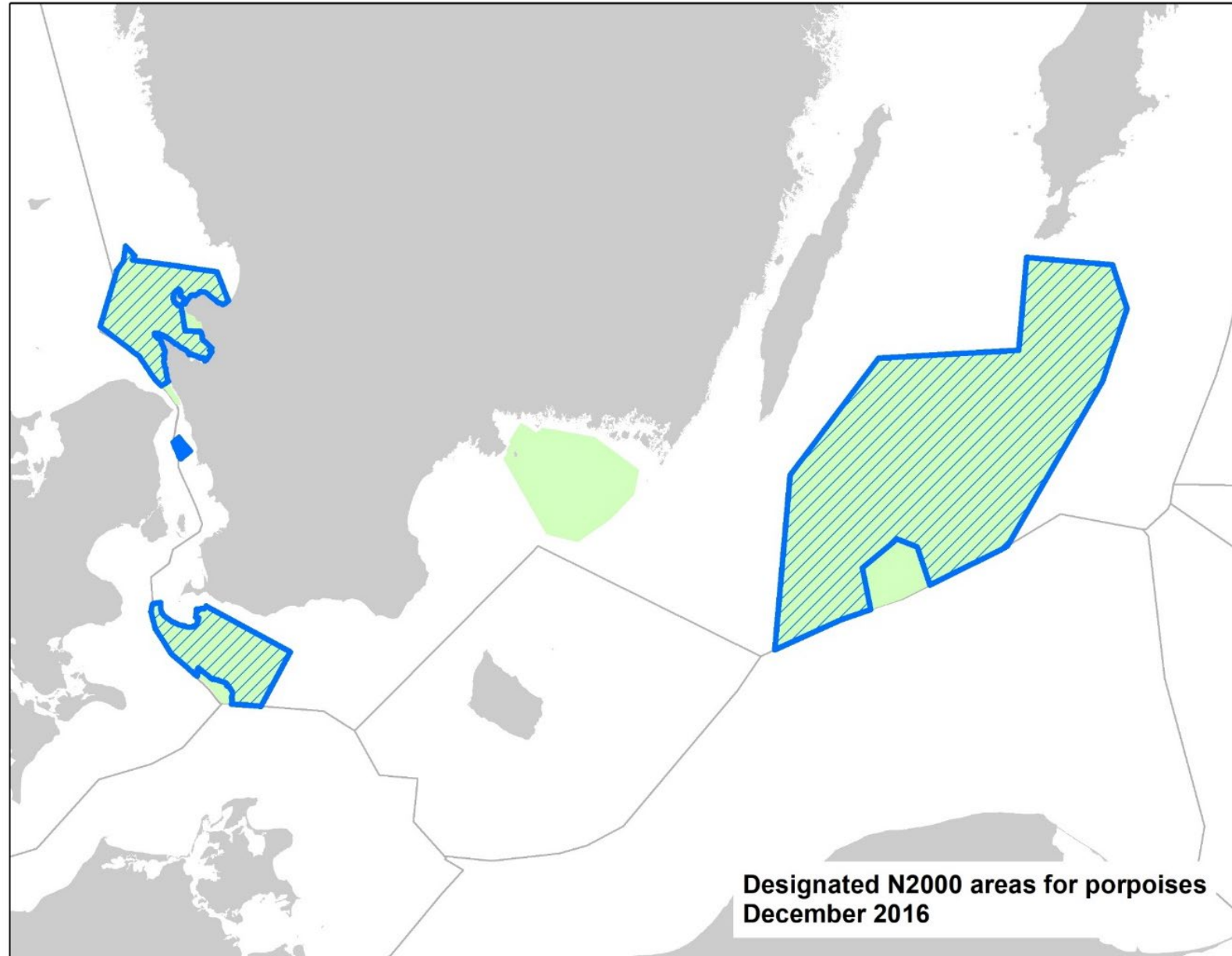
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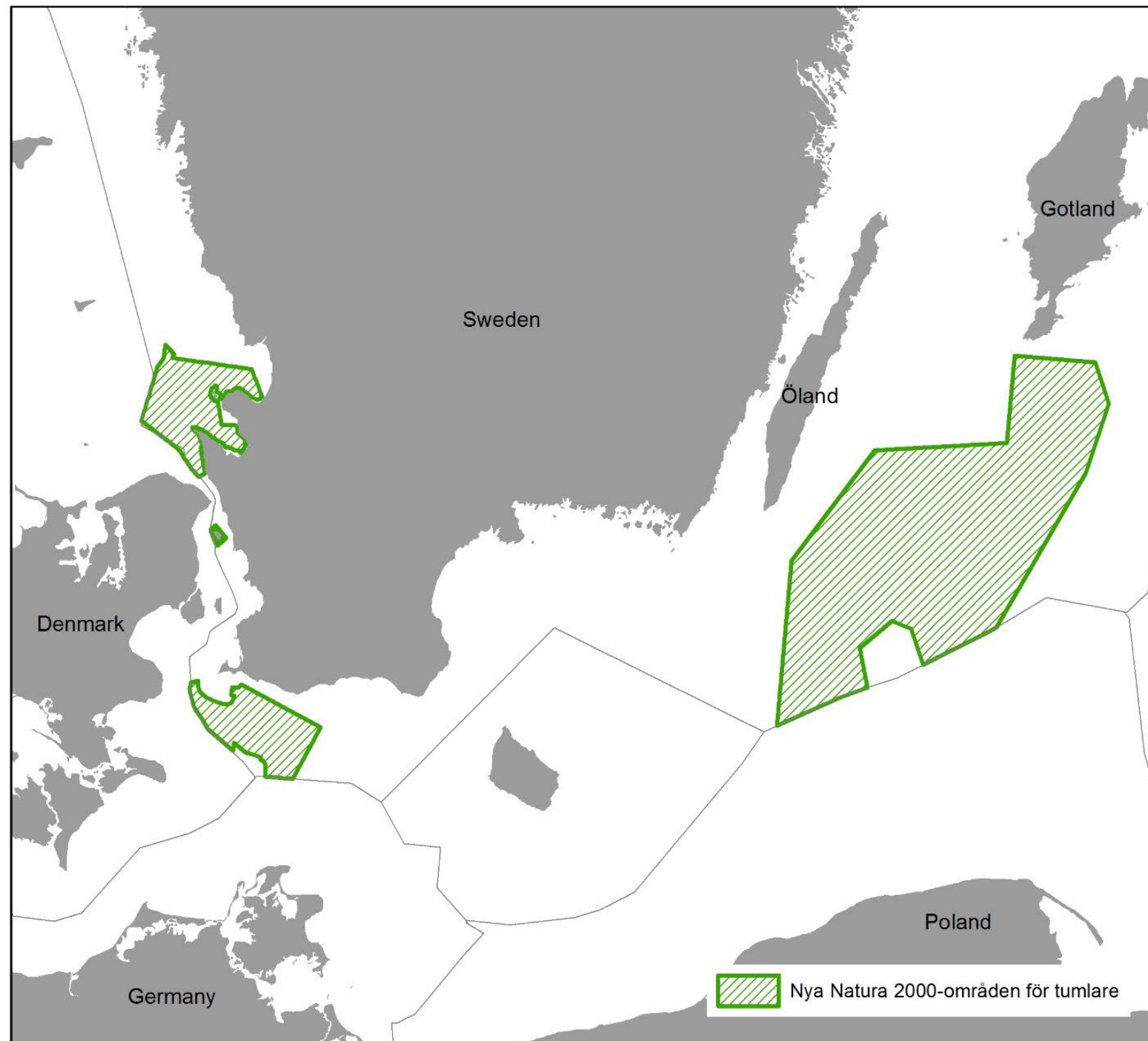




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First step

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NGO responsibility

- Public consultations
 - Windfarms
 - Conservation plans
- Increase public knowledge and engagement
- Policy advocacy based on science

- Petition to save the Baltic porpoise – meeting with the EU Commissioner next week





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International agreements

- CMS – ASCOBANS
 - IWC
 - IUCN
 - EU
 - HELCOM
-
- Relevant working groups under those bodies





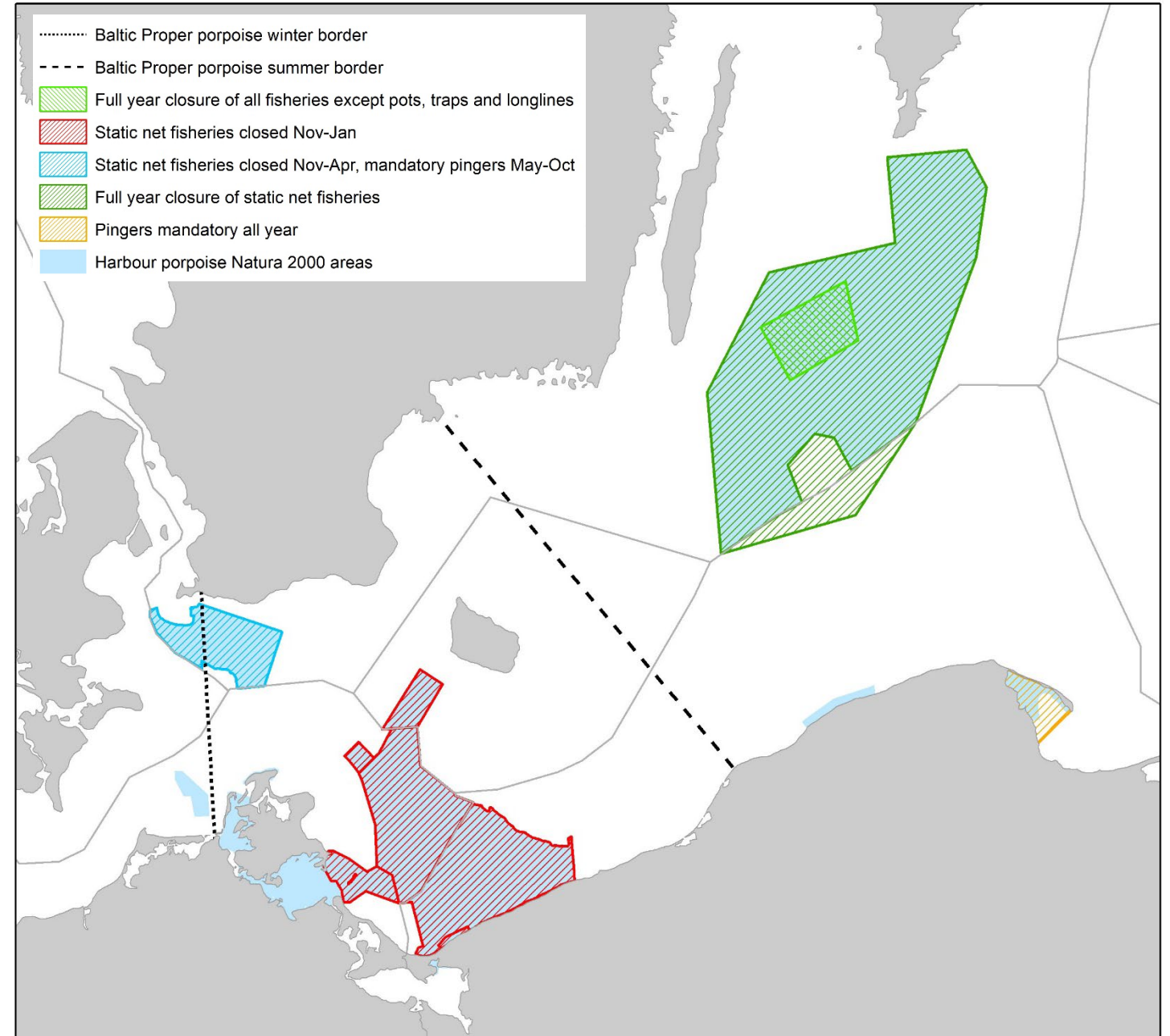
NGO influence

2019 – NGOs ask EC for emergency measures

2020 – ICES publishes scientific advice

2020-21 – BALTFISH negotiates joint recommendations

2022 – delegated act under the CFP





NGO influence

- 2019 – NGO formal complaint about cetacean bycatch in EU waters
- 2020 – the EU Commission opens an infringement procedure against Sweden for not complying with some articles of the EU Habitats Directive in relation to bycatch of harbour porpoises
(also Spain and France on common dolphin bycatch)





We are not done yet!

- Bycatch needs to be mitigated in the entire population range
- Current focus is on how to do that
- Other threats also need to be mitigated
- New large-scale survey needed
 - SAMBAH II



A photograph of two dolphins swimming in the open ocean. The dolphins are dark grey or black, and their dorsal fins are visible above the water's surface. The water is a deep blue with small, choppy waves. The text "Thanks for listening!" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Thanks for listening!