

Marine Protected Areas in Sweden

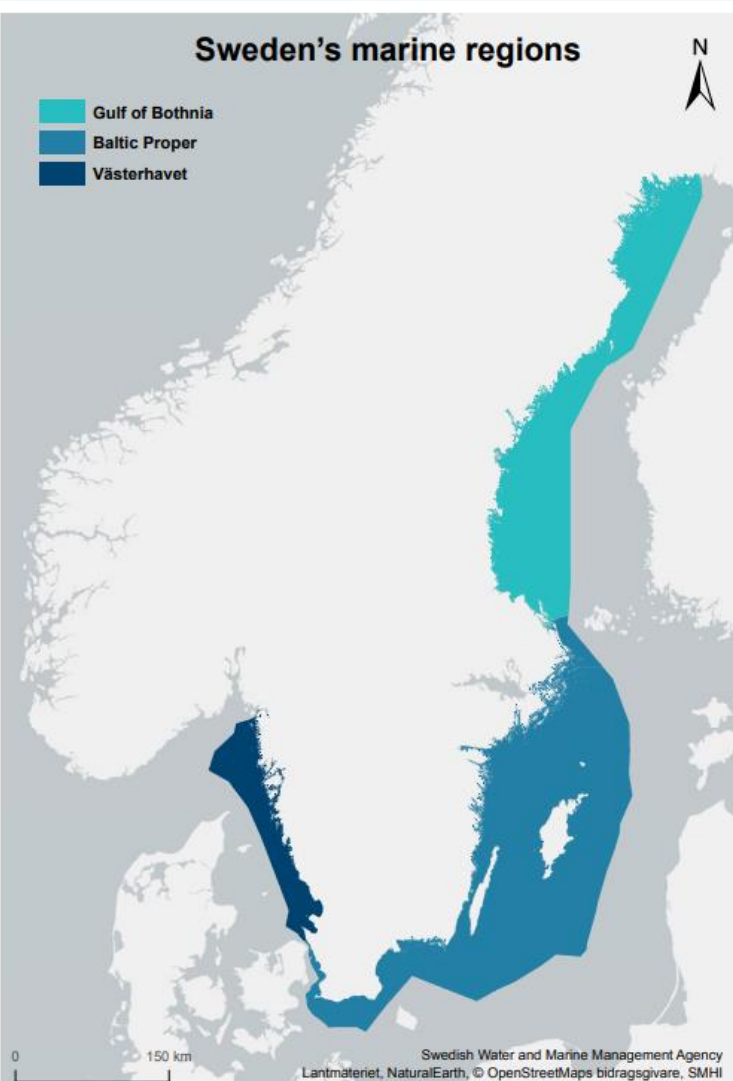
A spatial measure to secure the areas to breed, feed and other needs.



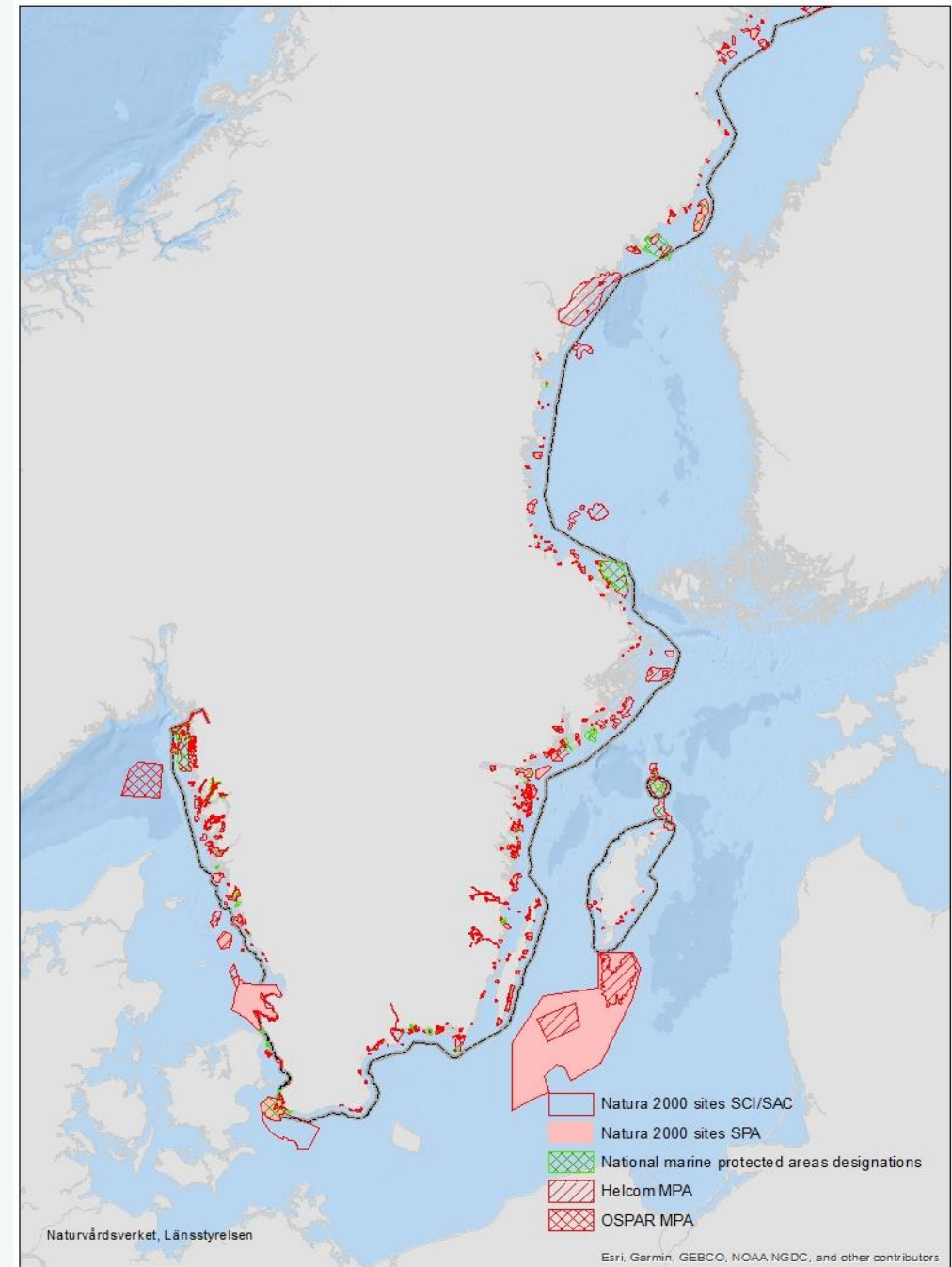
Jenny Hertzman

Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management

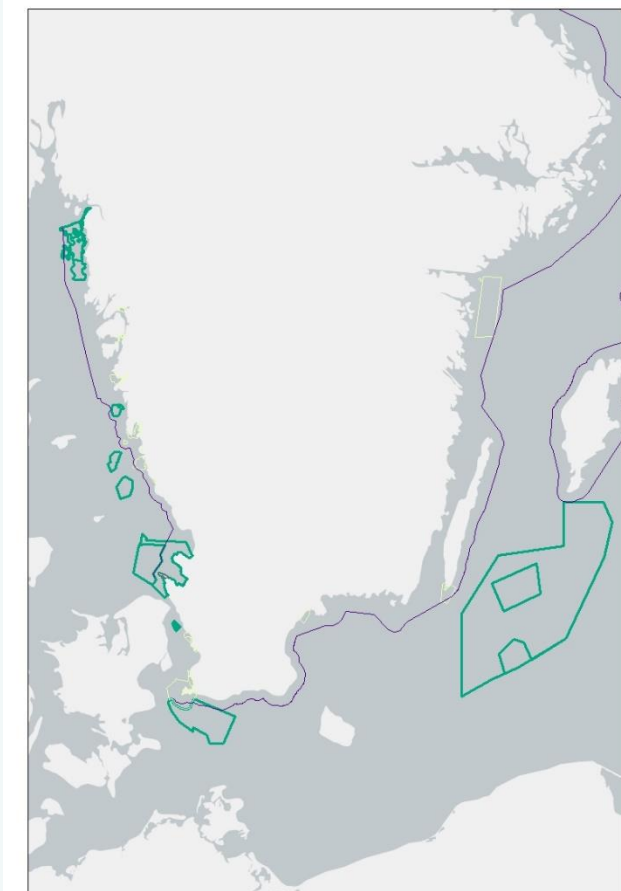
Marine protected areas in Sweden



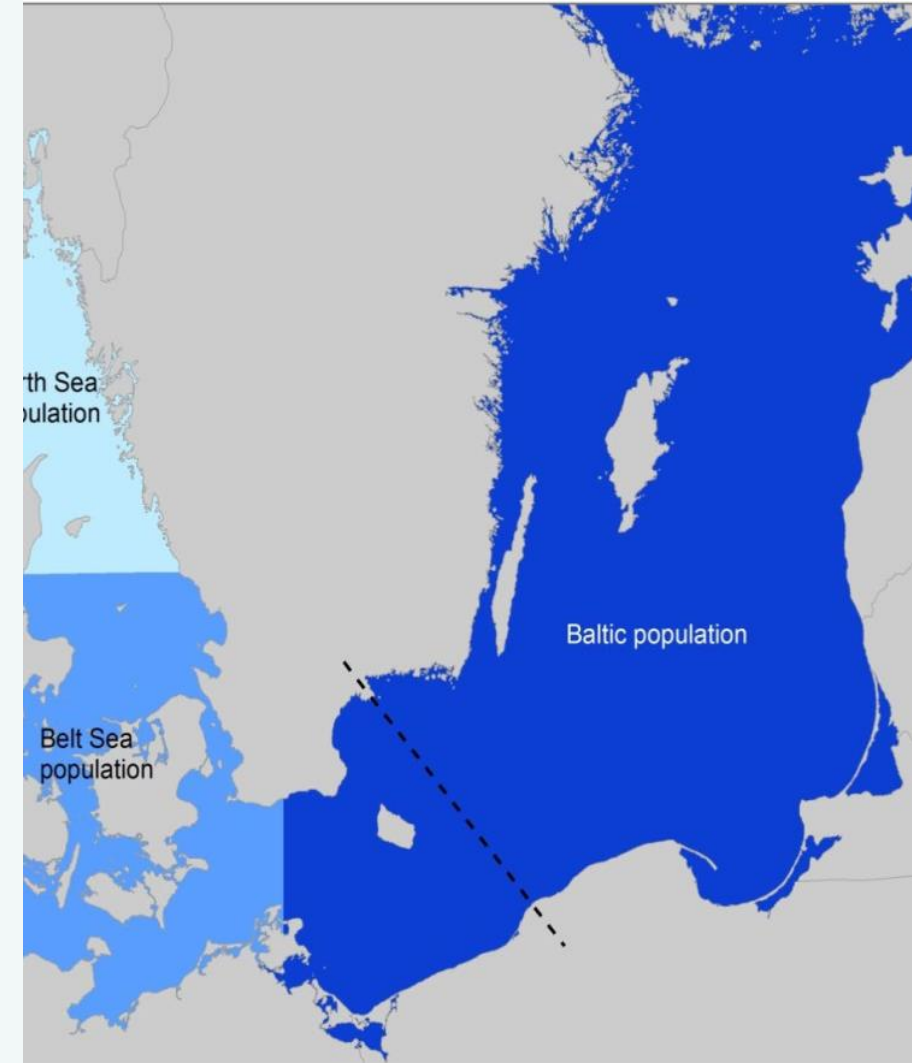
- Natura 2000 sites
- Nature reserves
- National parks
- Biotope protection areas
- OSPAR MPA
- HELCOM MPA



Harbour porpoise in marine protected areas



- Kosterfjorden-Väderöfjorden
- Balgö
- Fladen
- Lilla Middelgrund
- Nordvästra Skånes havsområde
- Havet kring Ven
- Sydvästskaanes utsjövatten
- Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna



What does sufficient protection mean?

Conservation status of the main areas for harbour porpoises in MPAs is stable and the species has Favourable Conservation Status.

The harbour porpoise, needs protected areas where it can reproduce.

The porpoise's gestation and lactation periods are long – all year around.

Areas used for breeding, resting, foraging, or social behavior, are called core areas.

These areas are important for the survival of the population.



Photo: Martin Almqvist.



The management of a 1 million ha protected area – a case study

Alexandra Colbing

County Administrative Board of Gotland

Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna

- Natura 2000 site in 2016
 - Baltic proper harbour porpoise and seabirds.
- Joint responsibility
- Differences in jurisdictions

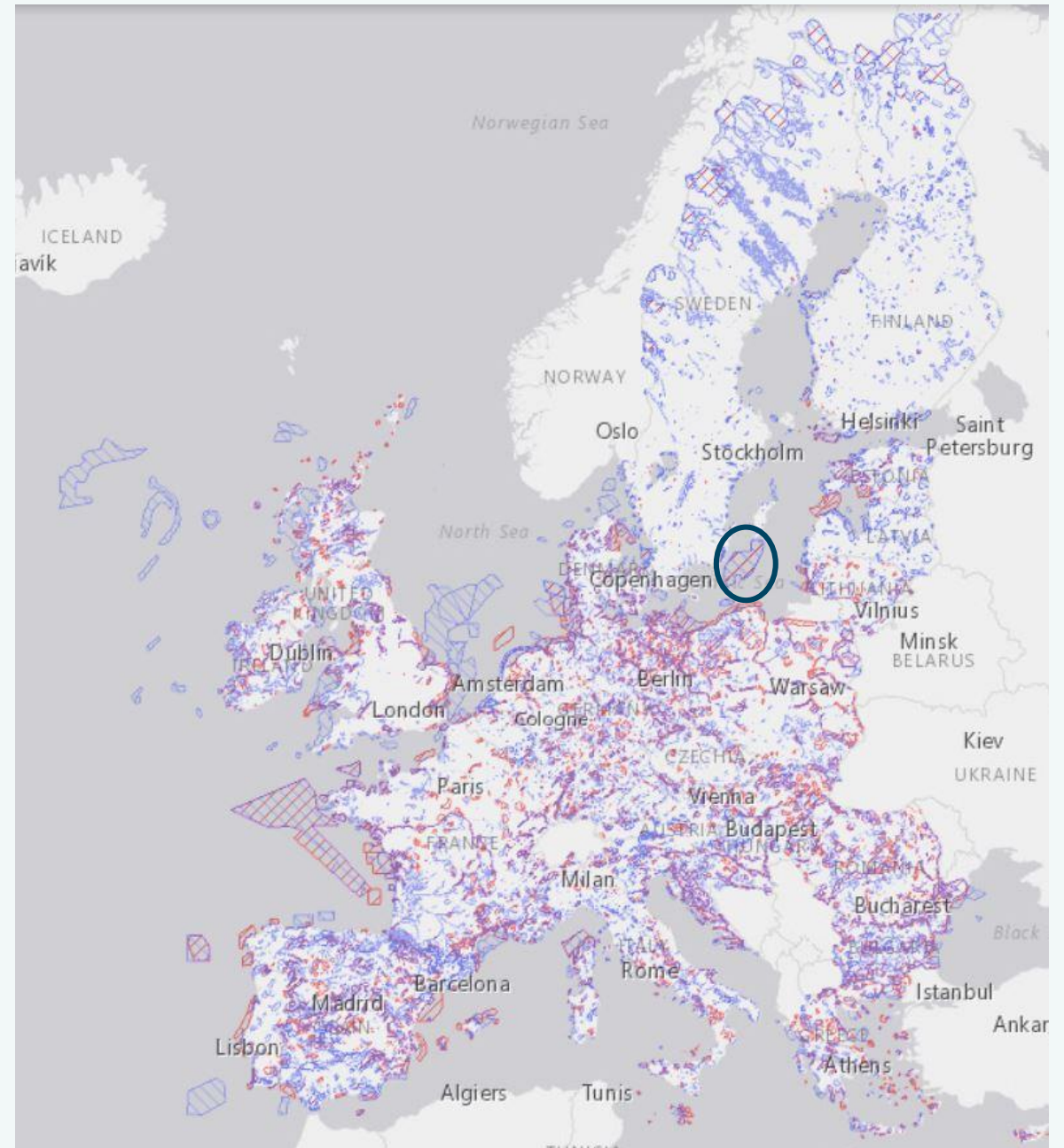


Photo: EEA Interactive map of Natura 2000 sites

Conservation objectives

- The area should contribute to reaching favourable conservation status for Baltic proper harbour porpoise.
- The area should act as a nursery.
- Food availability should be such that a favourable population is supported.
- Displacement of harbour porpoises does not occur in the area.

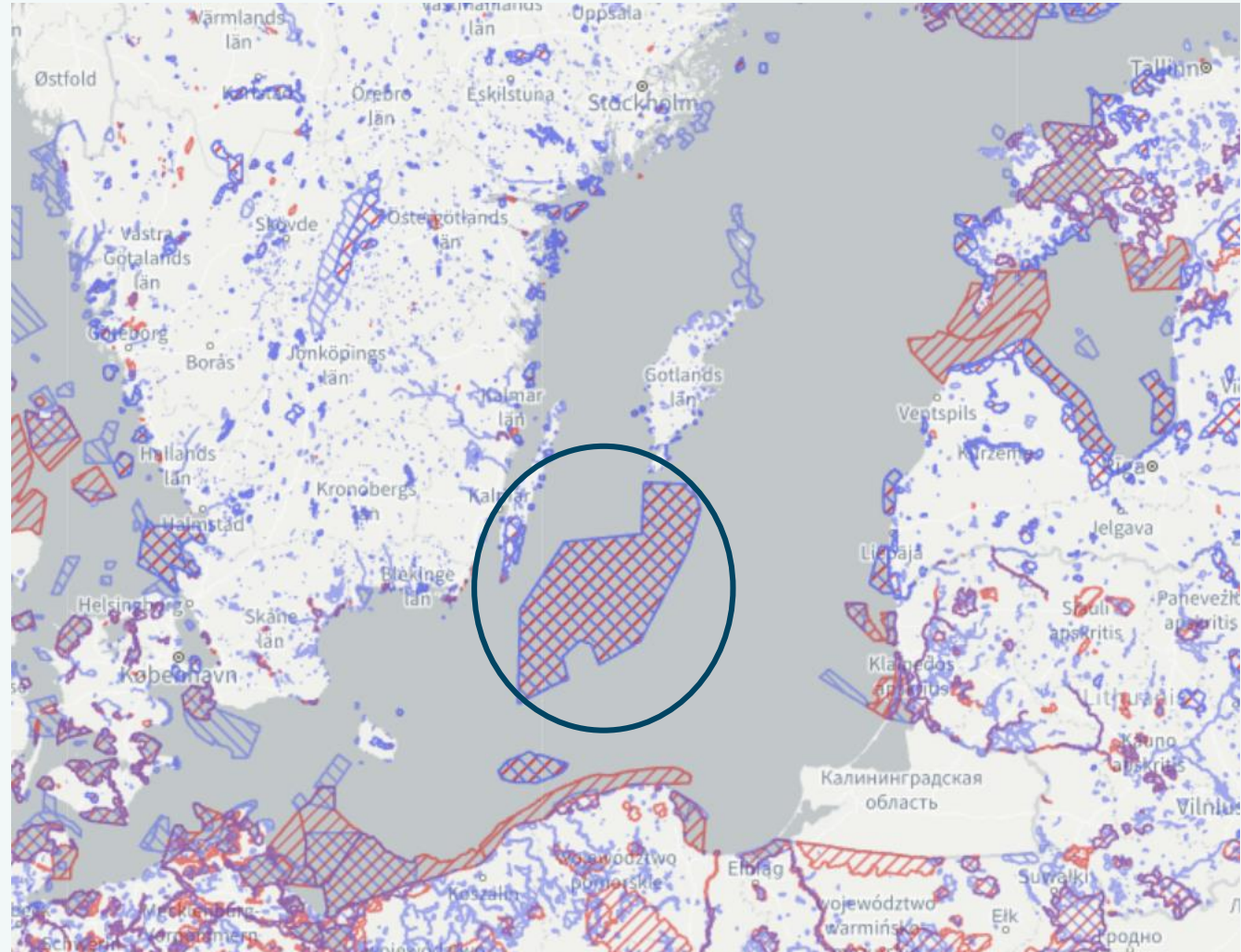
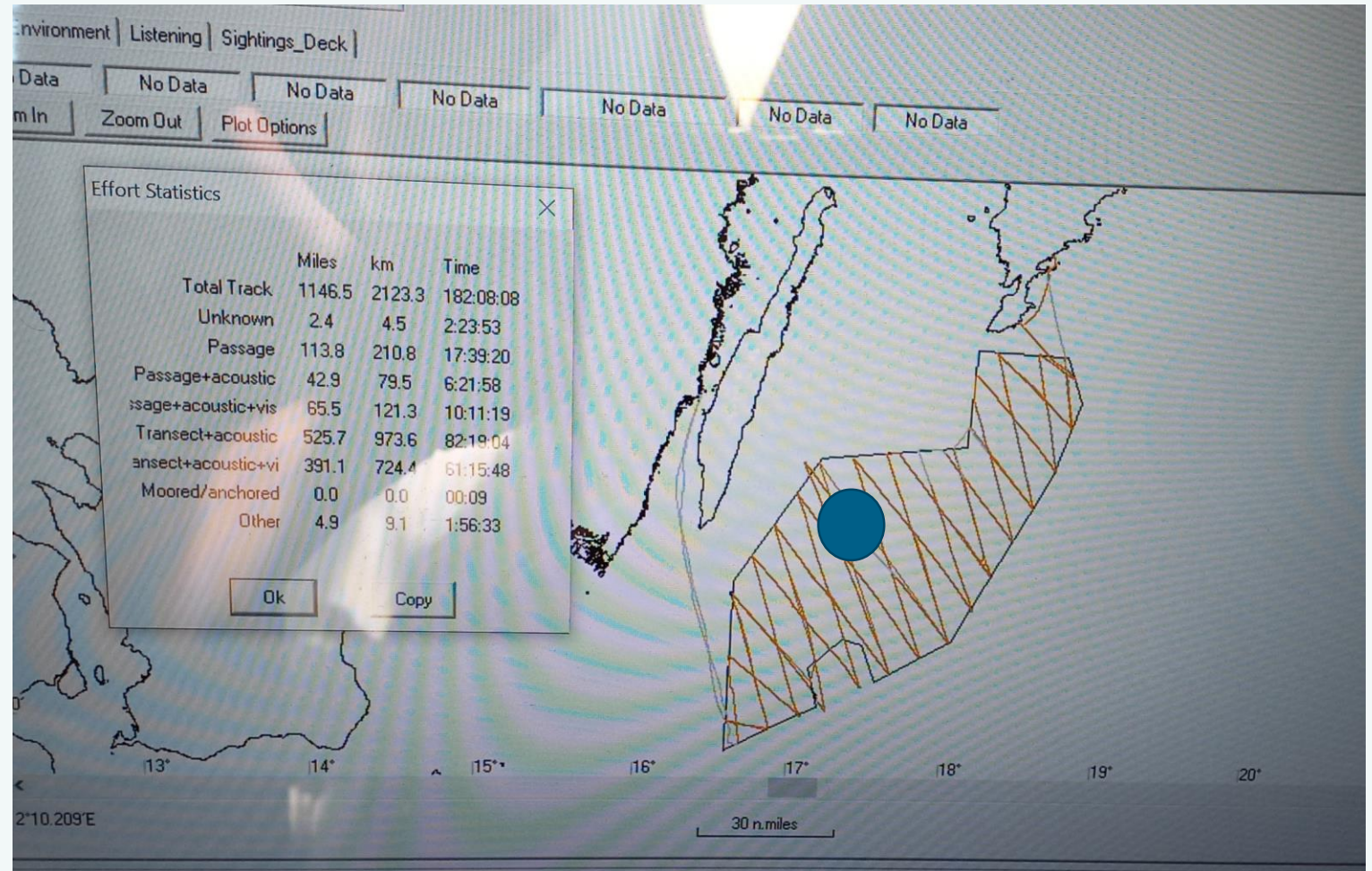


Photo: EEA Interactive map of Natura 2000 sites

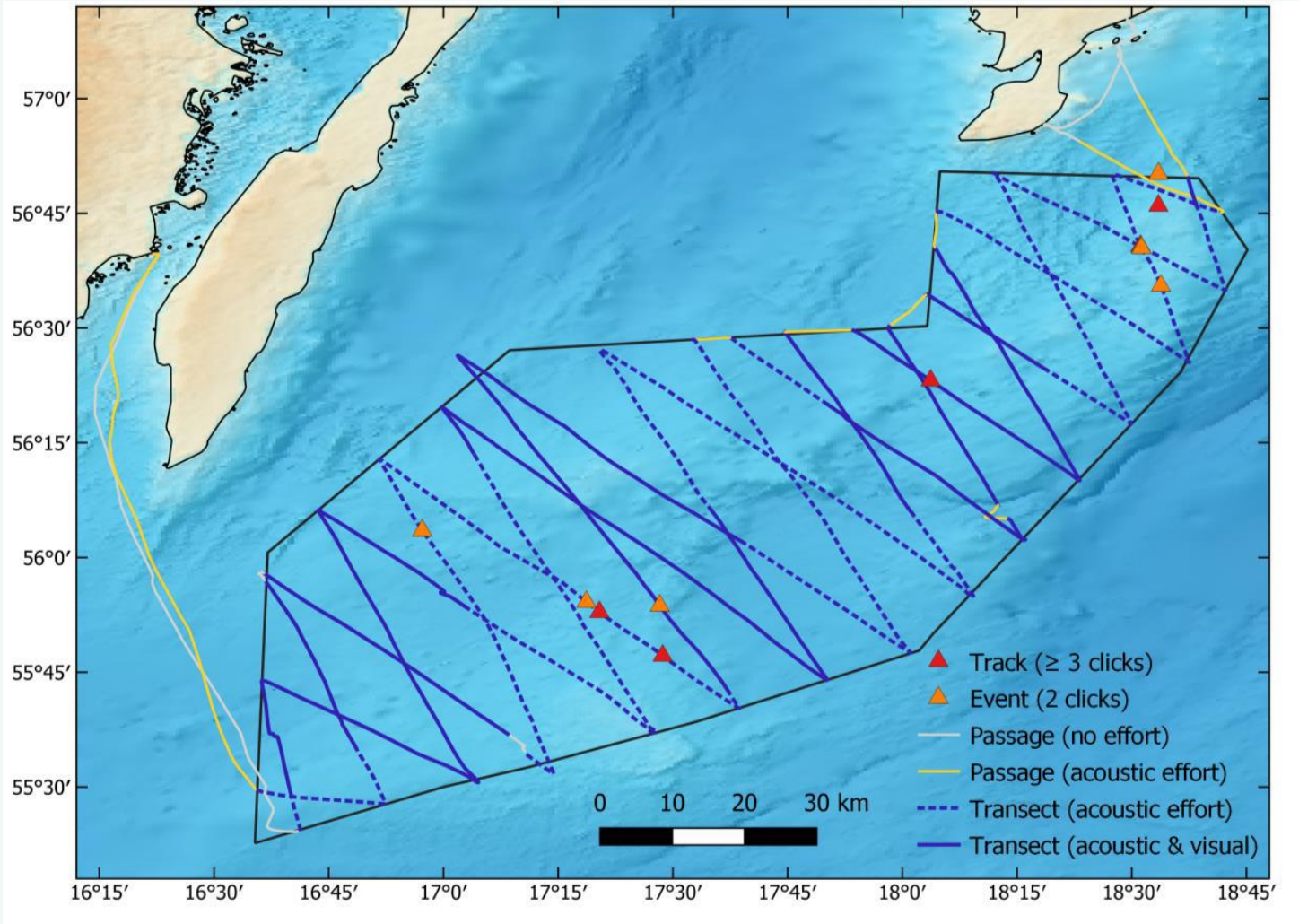
Monitoring

2 methods:

- Continuous monitoring with click-detectors at North midsea bank
 - 2013 to present
- Acoustic survey with hydrophone
 - 2022



Results from 2022





Thank you for listening!

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Conservation measures in MPAs

Focus on fisheries conservation measures to protect the harbour porpoise

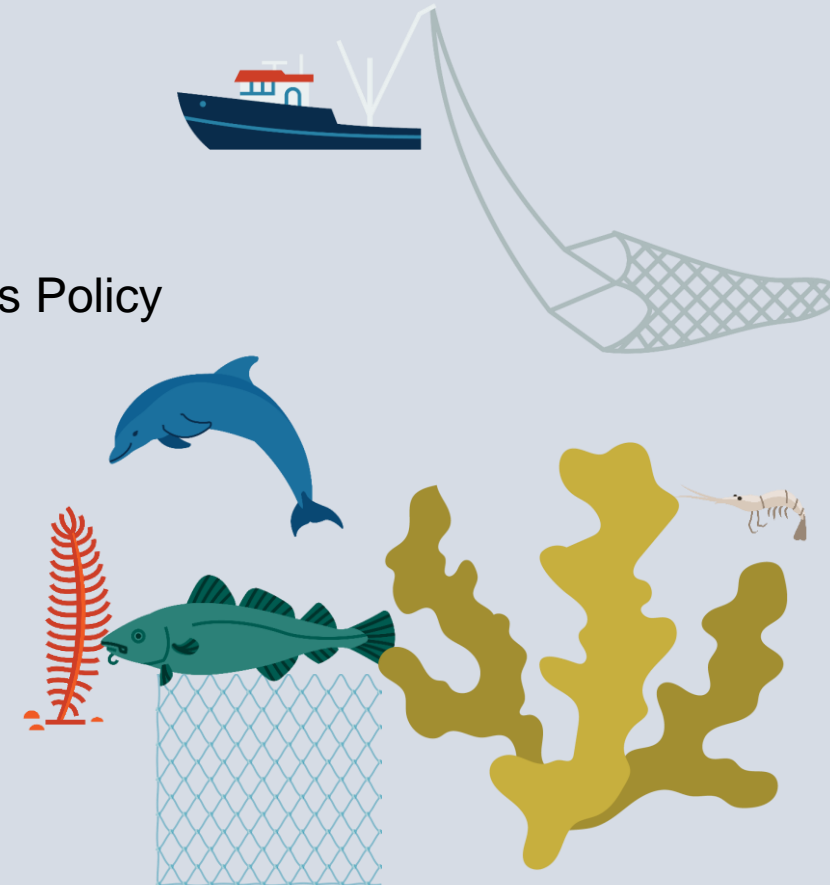


Lena Tingström

Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management

Fisheries conservation measures in MPAs

- » High on the political agenda
- » Voluntary commitment in UN Oceans Conference
 - Strategic work
 - Platform for fisheries conservation measures in MPAs
 - National fisheries regulation in > 30 MPAs
 - Finalized and ongoing processes within the EU Common Fisheries Policy
- » Infringement case EU – concerning harbour porpoise



Fisheries conservation measures – The Process

Most often based on the request to SwAM from the County Administrative Board responsible for the management of the marine protected area in need of fisheries conservation measures



National fisheries legislation

Process: SwAM can issue the regulation

EU Common Fisheries Policy

Process:

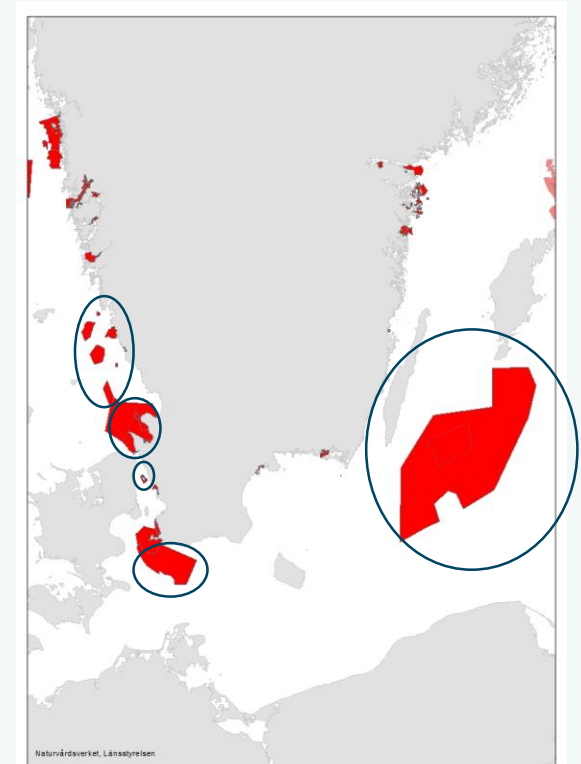
- Government assignment to SwAM
- Concerned Member States
- Pre-consultation meeting
- Ad-hoc group meetings and bilateral meetings, negotiations
- Sufficient information
- Joint recommendation sent to the EU Commission
- Scientific evaluation
- Delegated regulation adopted by the EU Commission

Current processes within the EU Common Fisheries Policy related to measures for protecting harbour porpoise

- » Finalized processes Article 11 CFP – fisheries conservation measures in marine protected areas
 - Fladen, Lilla Middelhgrund, Stora Middelhgrund och Röde bank and Morups bank – Kattegatt
- » Finalized processes EU Technical regulation
 - Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna
 - Sydvästskaenes utsjövatten

Ongoing processes

- Nordvästra Skånes havsområde
- Havet kring Ven



Fisheries conservation measures - examples

- » Prohibition of net fishery
- » Temporal prohibition of net fishery
- » Temporal obligation to use ADDs (pingers) in net fishery
- » Zones where fishing with hooks, pot fishing and pelagic trawl is allowed
- » No-take zone

-> Eliminate/minimize by-catch of birds, harbour porpoise or other marine mammals

-> No physical impact on sea floor

-> Natural food webs



Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna

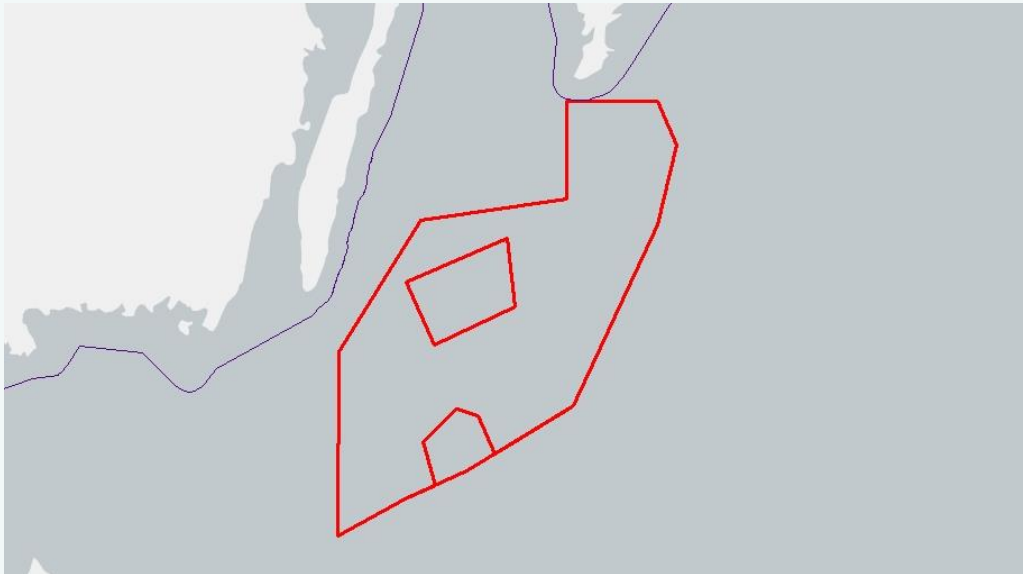
Natura 2000 site SE0330308 (SPA/SCI)

Parts also HELCOM MPA

- Hoburgs bank
- Norra Midsjöbanken



Photo: Susanne Viker



Fisheries conservation measures in place since December 2021

- A ban for all net fishing in the area, as well as in the adjacent area Södra Midsjöbanken, outside of the marine protected area.
- A zone with prohibition of all fisheries except hand held gear, pots and traps in the area Norra Midsjöbanken, which is also a HELCOM MPA.



**Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management**