

The Sound as a common Swedish-Danish protected sea

Øresund som et beskyttet dansk-svensk havsområde

An efforts to increase marine protection in Øresund

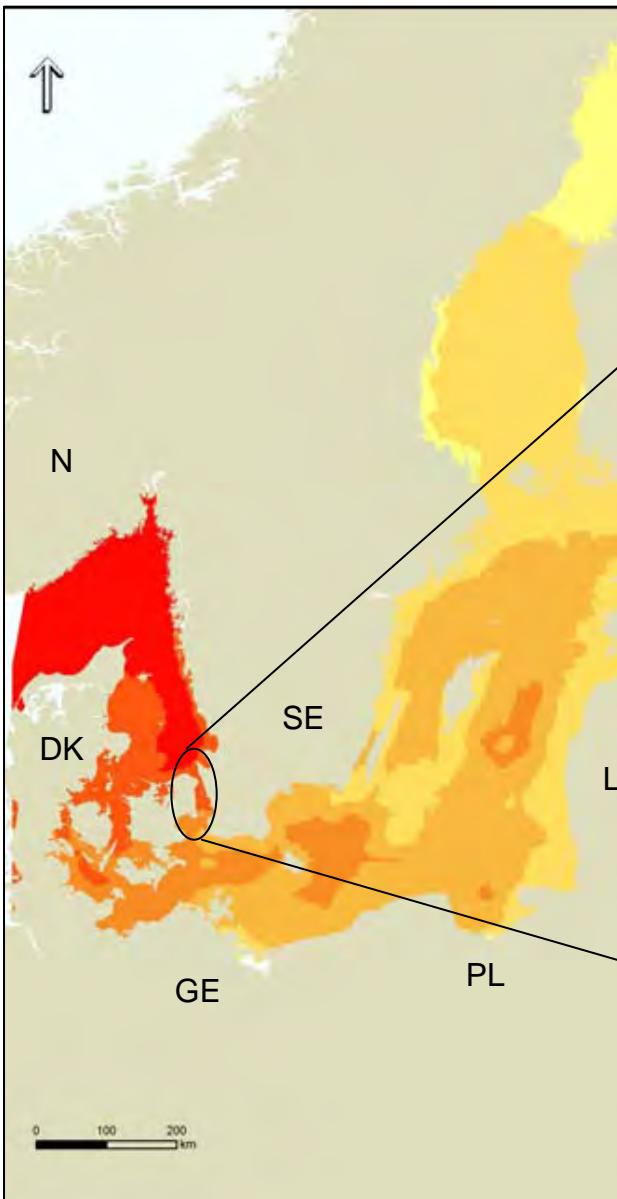
**World Maritime University
Malmö, 28 September 2011**

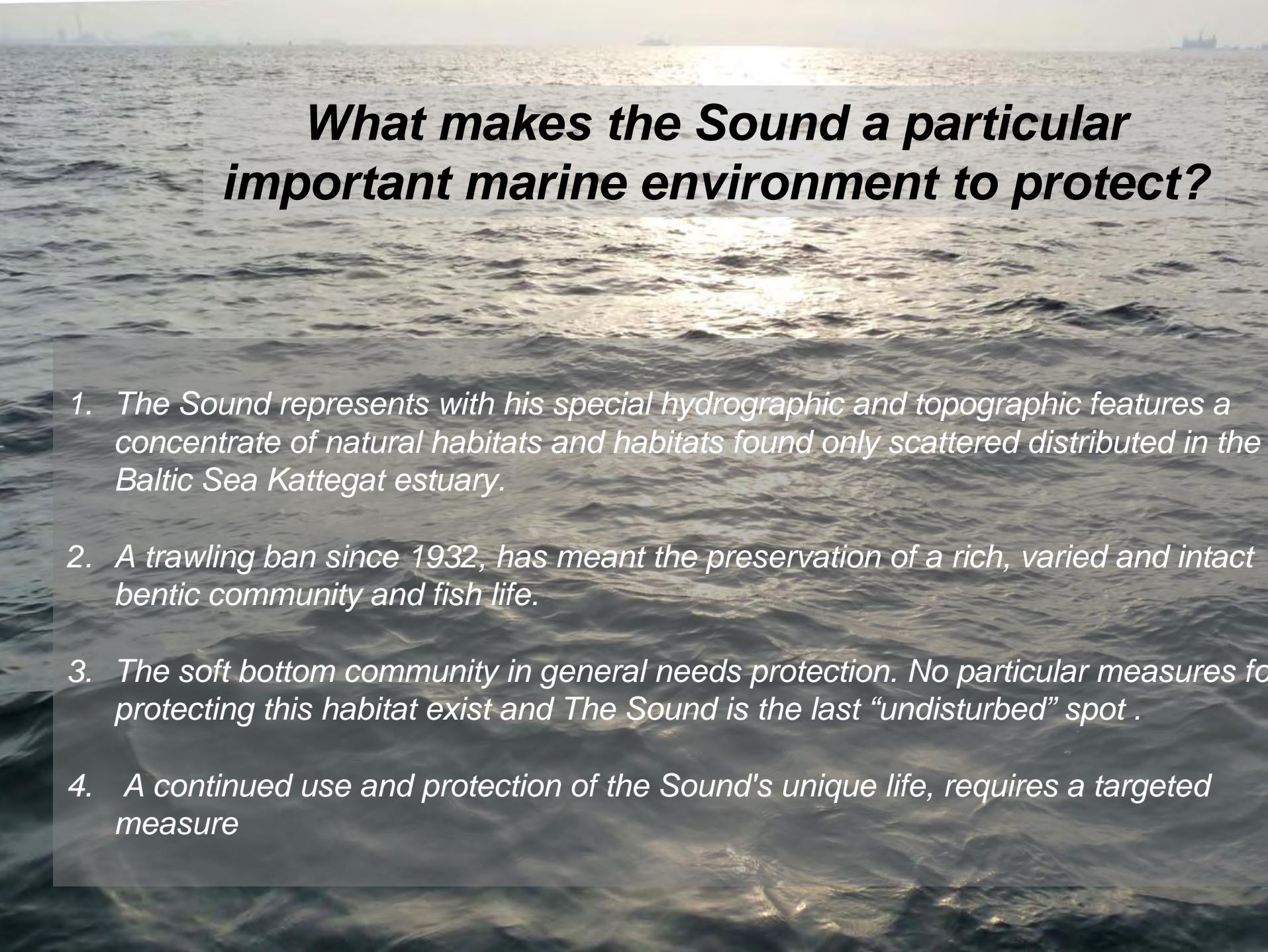


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Øresund som et beskyttet dansk-svensk havsområde

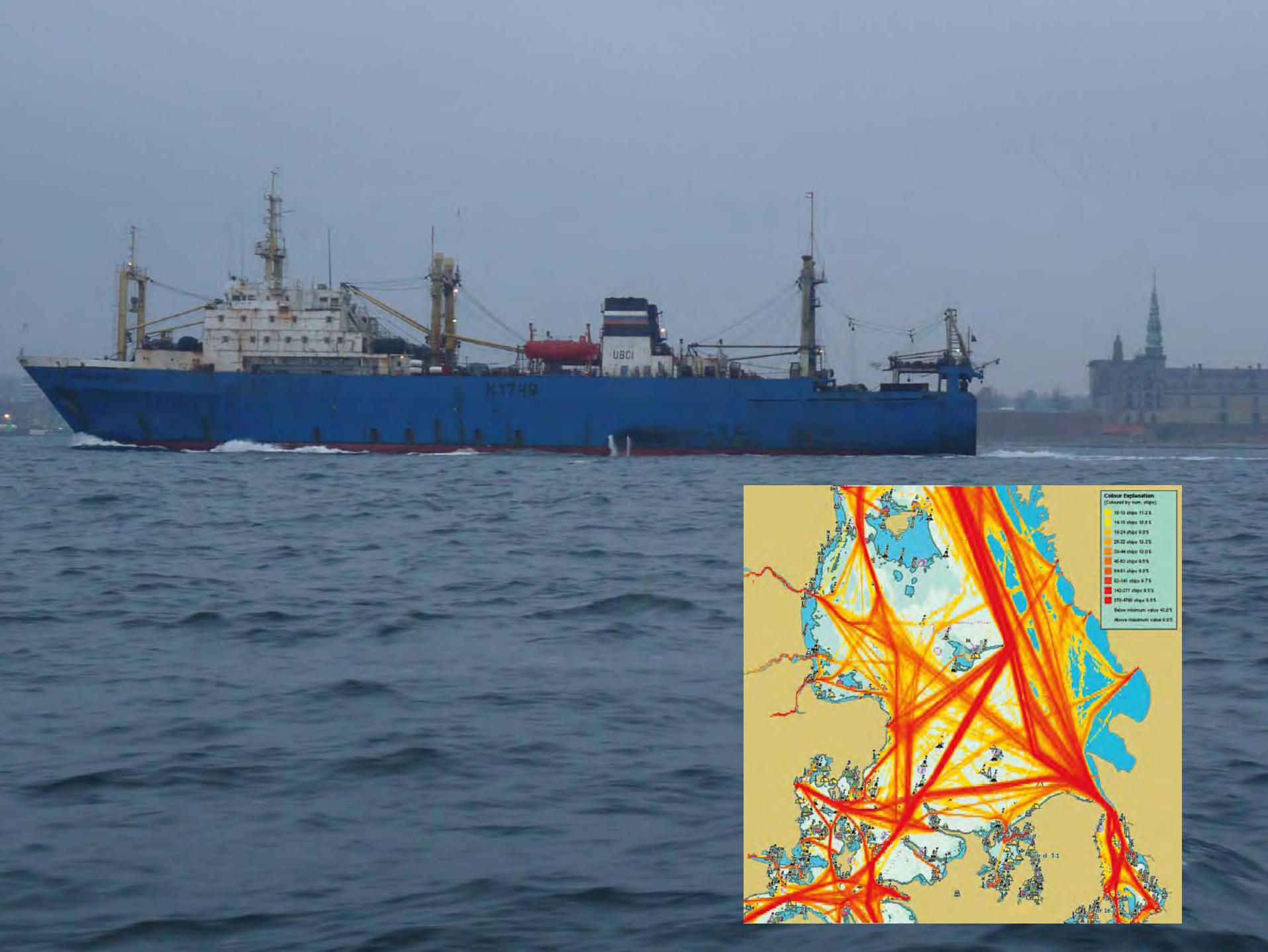
Øresund – The Sound



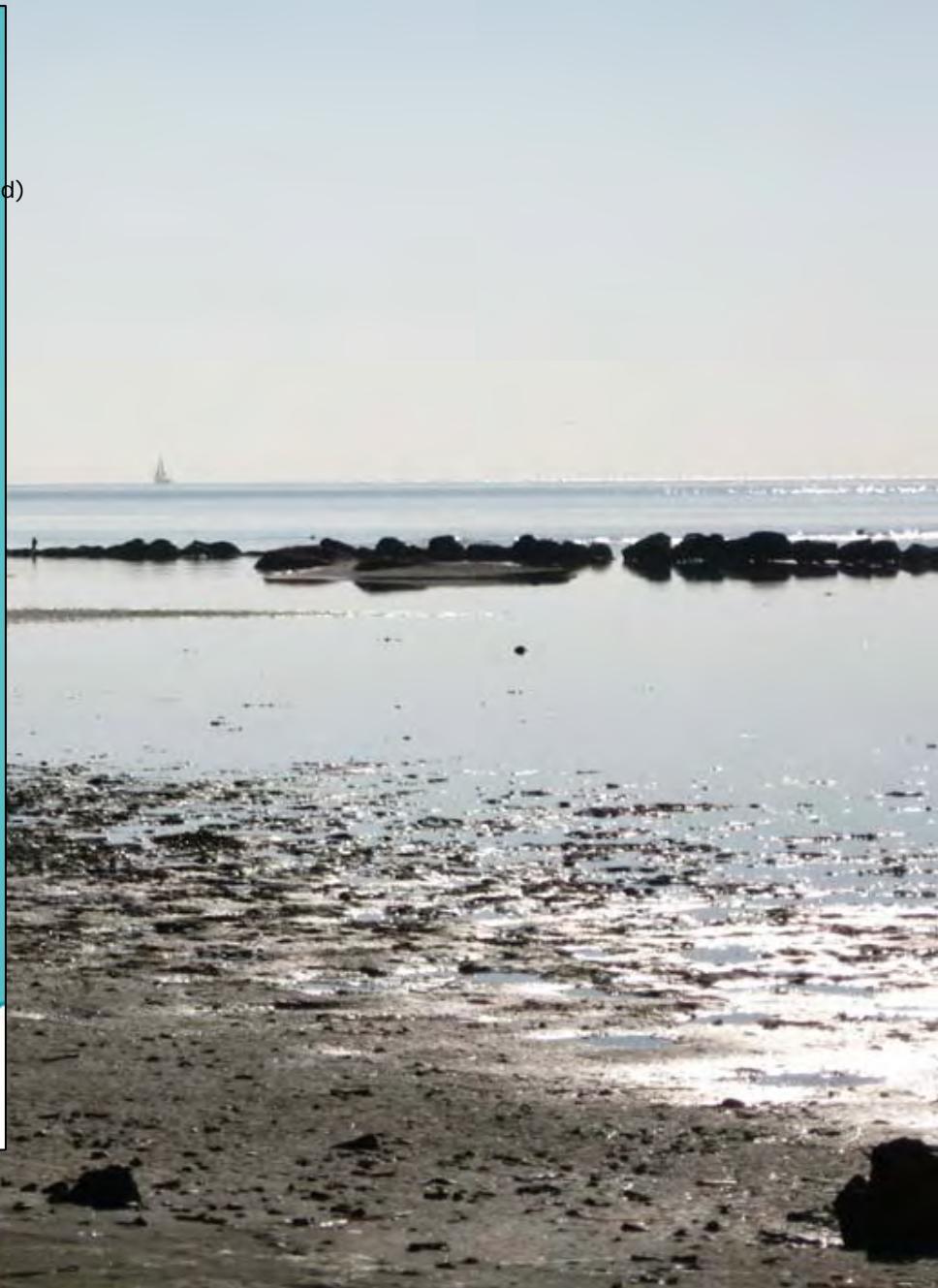
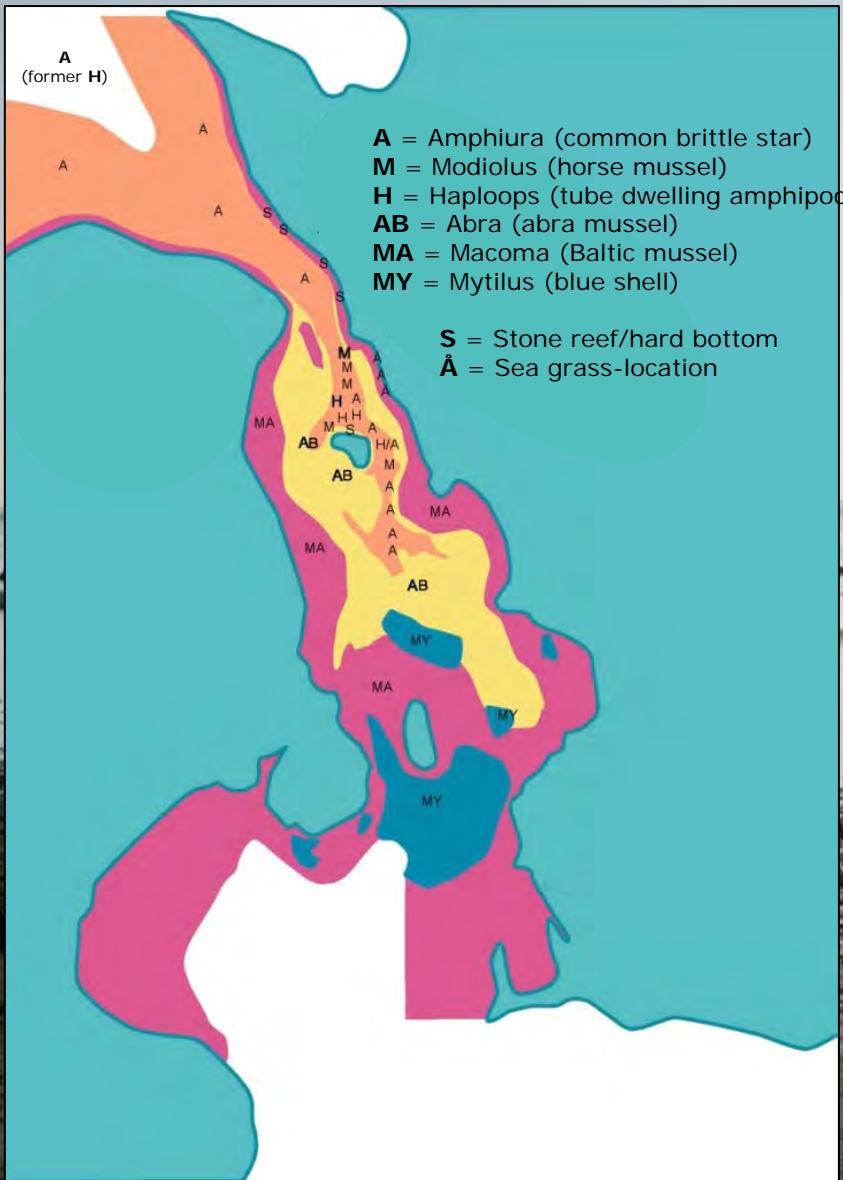


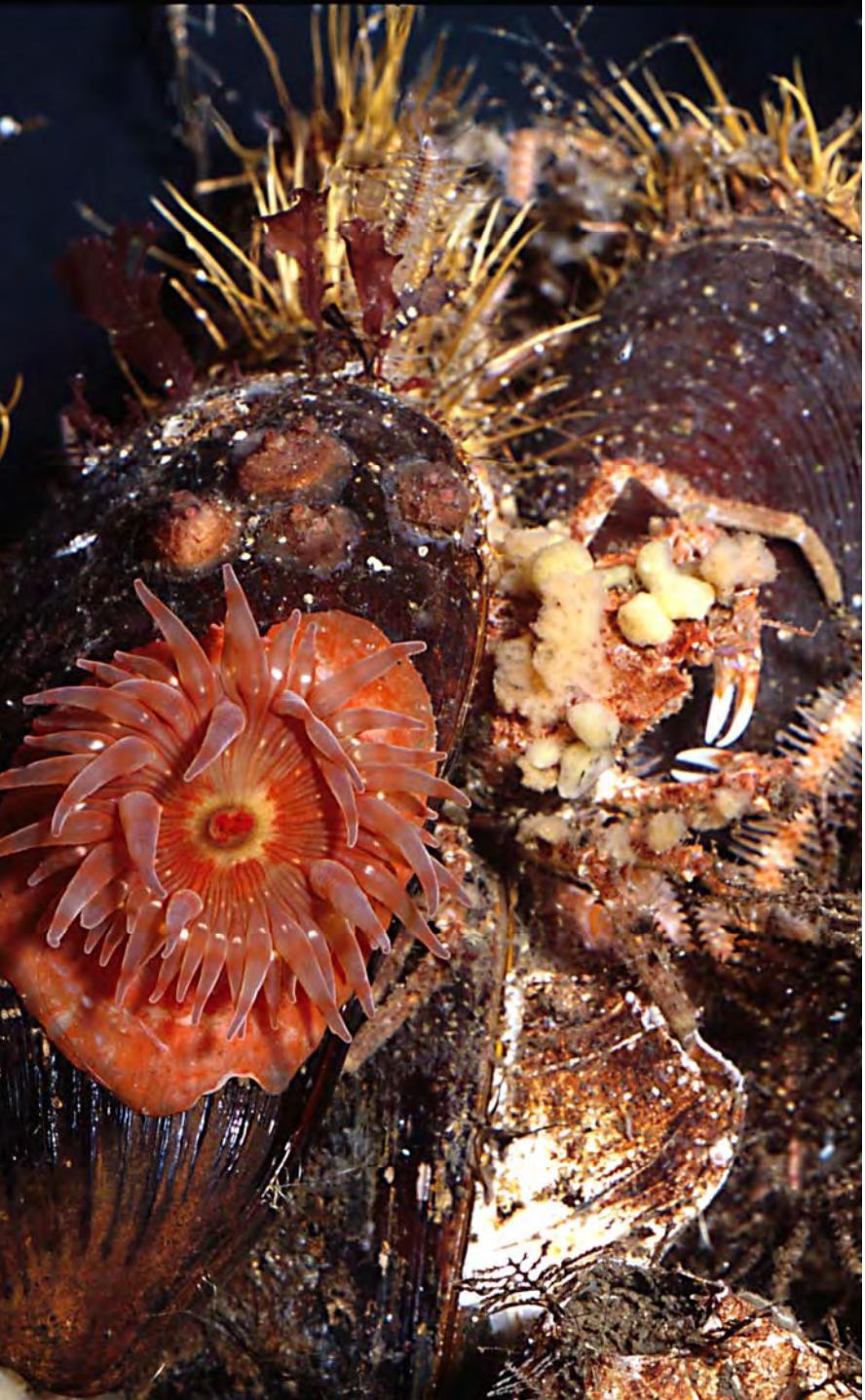
What makes the Sound a particular important marine environment to protect?

1. *The Sound represents with his special hydrographic and topographic features a concentrate of natural habitats and habitats found only scattered distributed in the Baltic Sea Kattegat estuary.*
2. *A trawling ban since 1932, has meant the preservation of a rich, varied and intact benthic community and fish life.*
3. *The soft bottom community in general needs protection. No particular measures for protecting this habitat exist and The Sound is the last “undisturbed” spot .*
4. *A continued use and protection of the Sound's unique life, requires a targeted measure*



| Colour Explanation | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| (Coloured by num. steps) | |
| 10-13 steps | 11.2% |
| 14-17 steps | 11.8% |
| 18-24 steps | 9.9% |
| 25-32 steps | 12.2% |
| 33-44 steps | 10.0% |
| 45-62 steps | 8.6% |
| 63-81 steps | 8.8% |
| 82-141 steps | 8.7% |
| 142-277 steps | 9.5% |
| 278-4700 steps | 9.6% |
| Below minimum value | 40.0% |
| Above maximum value | 0.0% |

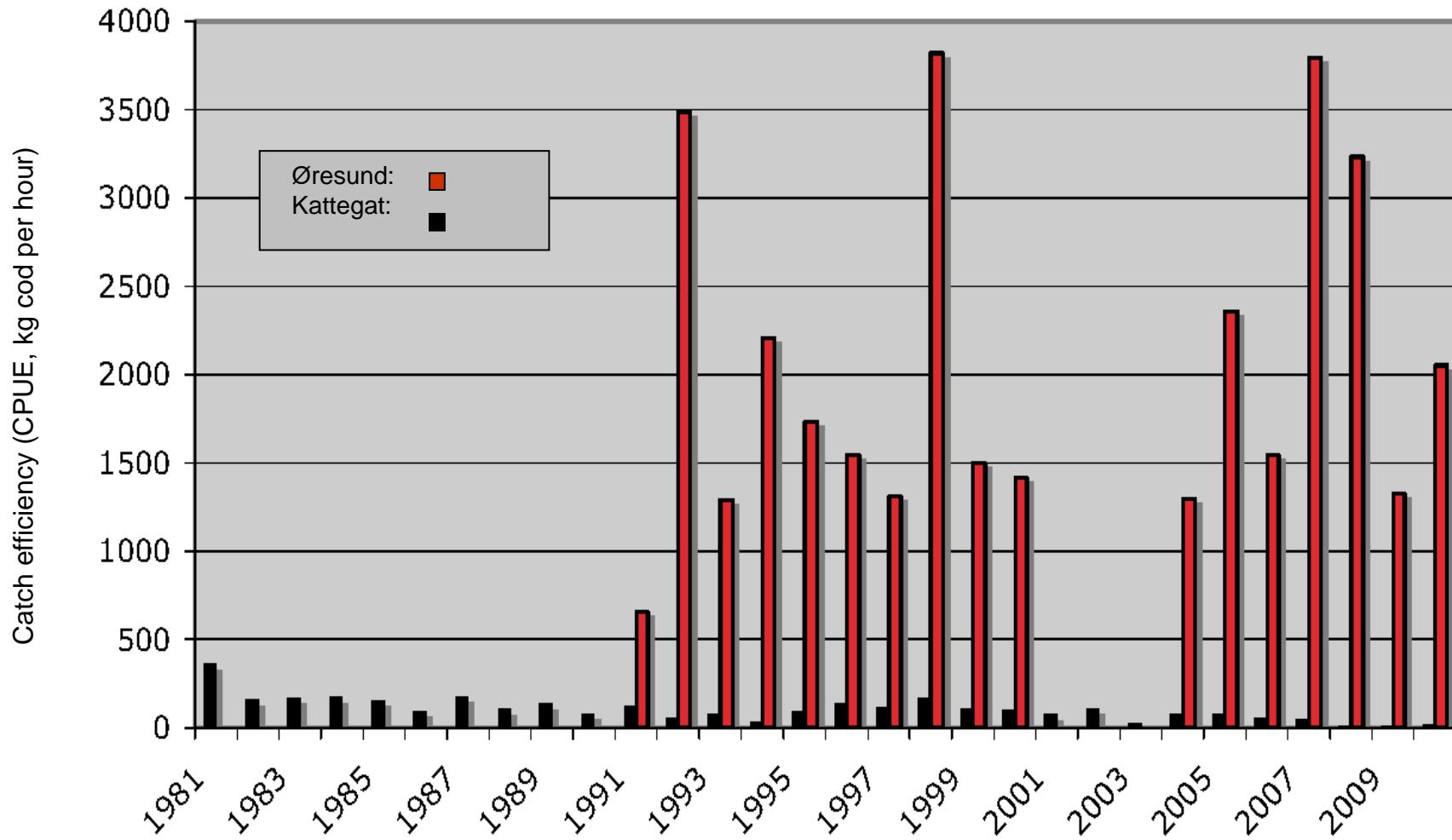




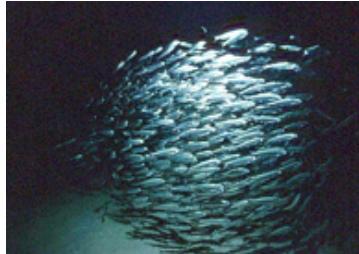
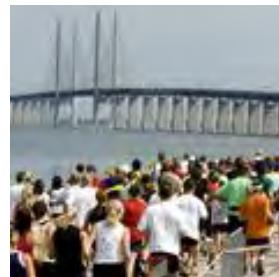


Haploops-community

Indices of biomass density of cod in the Kattegat (black bars) between 1981-2010, and for cod in the Sound (red bars) in the periods 1991-2000 and 2004-2010 (Svedäng 2010)

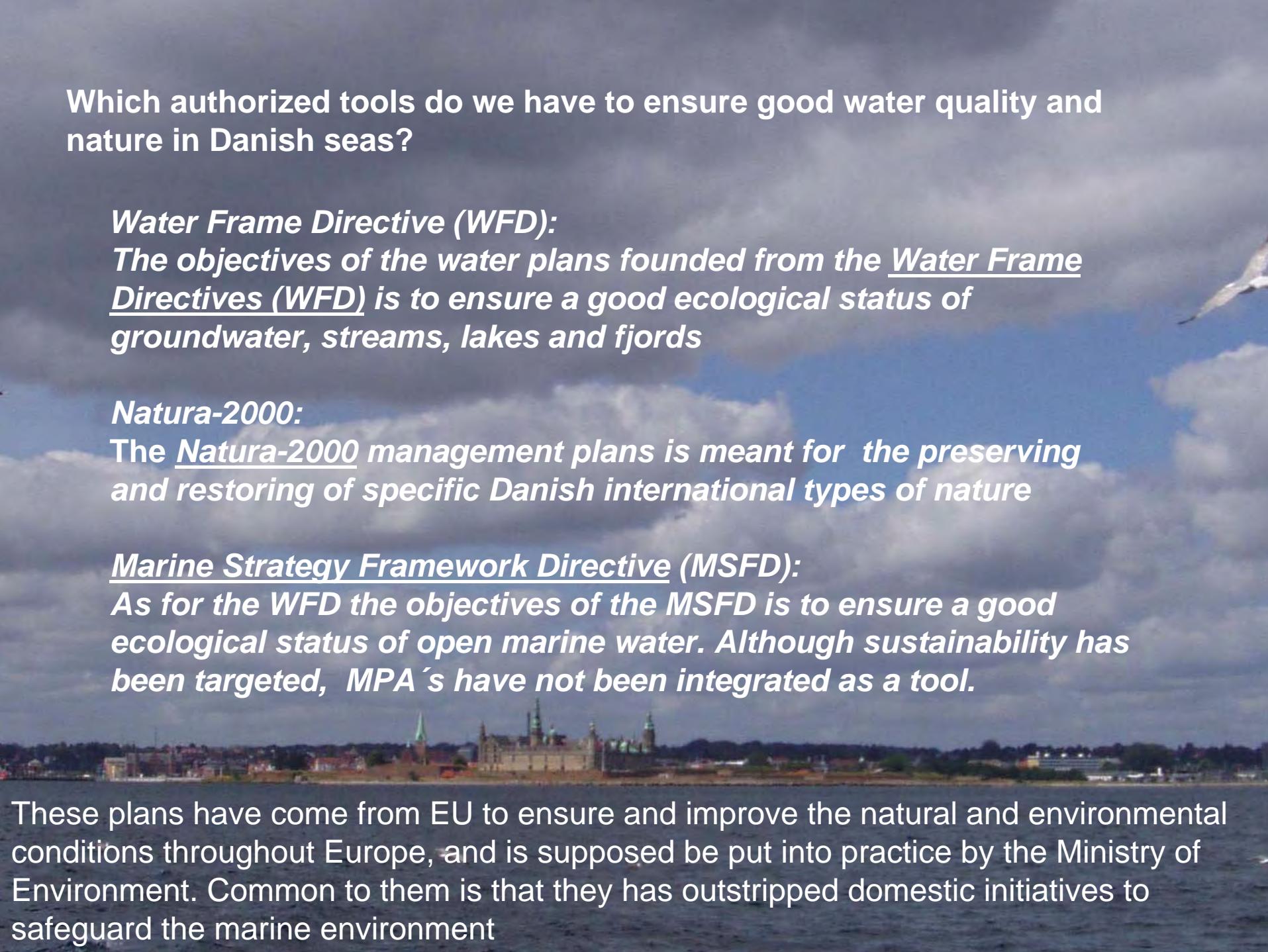






- *Due to the trawling ban, the Sound can be seen as a kind of “island” in a vast deteriorated sea. The Sound represents a piece of undisturbed marine nature we must try to preserve for the future.*
- *The Sound bottom dwelling life should be elevated as a reference area for comparison with physical similar, but biological different areas in other parts of the Baltic-North Sea region, and thus be a valuable tool in meeting the requirements of WFD and MSFD.*

- *The Sound could also serve as demonstration and learning lab for saving optimal food conditions for fish and how to perform a sustainable utilization of the sea.*
- *What is less apparent, but should also justify an extra protection, are the signs of adverse developments in the Sound: It is urgent to shed light on the reasons for this negative development. By ranking the life in the Sound as something special and worthy for preservation, there will be much more focus on the threats and conditions of this usually hidden life.*



Which authorized tools do we have to ensure good water quality and nature in Danish seas?

Water Frame Directive (WFD):

The objectives of the water plans founded from the Water Frame Directives (WFD) is to ensure a good ecological status of groundwater, streams, lakes and fjords

Natura-2000:

The Natura-2000 management plans is meant for the preserving and restoring of specific Danish international types of nature

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD):

As for the WFD the objectives of the MSFD is to ensure a good ecological status of open marine water. Although sustainability has been targeted, MPA's have not been integrated as a tool.

These plans have come from EU to ensure and improve the natural and environmental conditions throughout Europe, and is supposed be put into practice by the Ministry of Environment. Common to them is that they has outstripped domestic initiatives to safeguard the marine environment

How is a Habitat area designated in the sea?

Marine habitats (Habitats Directive Annex I):

- 1110 Shallow permanently submersed sand banks
- 1130 Estuaries
- 1140 Mudflats and sand flats exposed at low tide
- 1150 Coastal lagoons
- 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays
- 1170 Reef
- 1180 Submarine “bubble reefs”

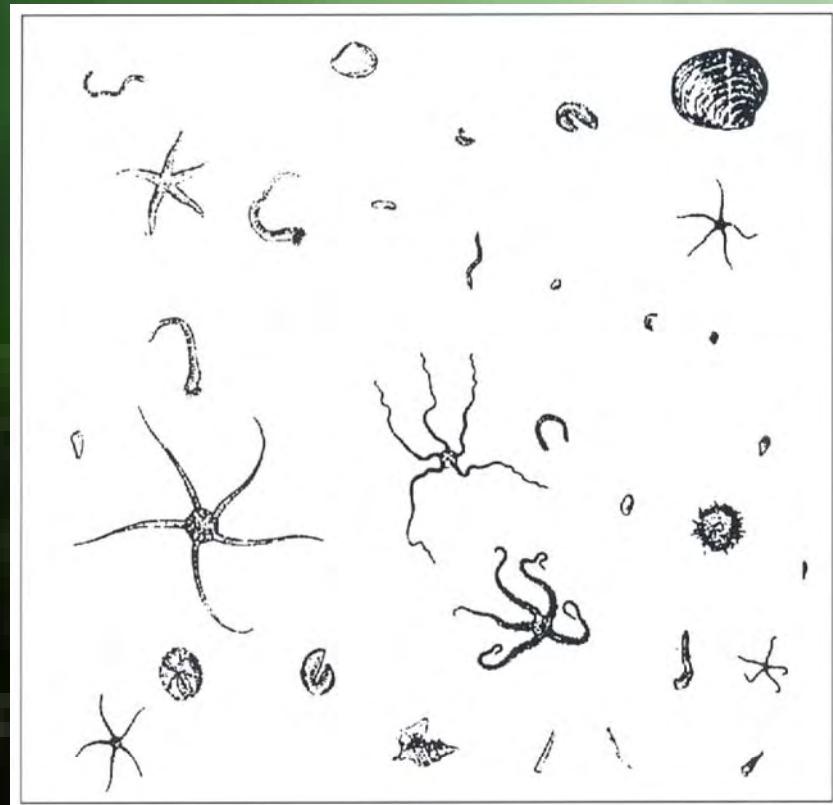
Of the 60 described nature types marine habitats comprise 7

Do scraping for mussels have any harmful effects on the natural and environmental conditions?

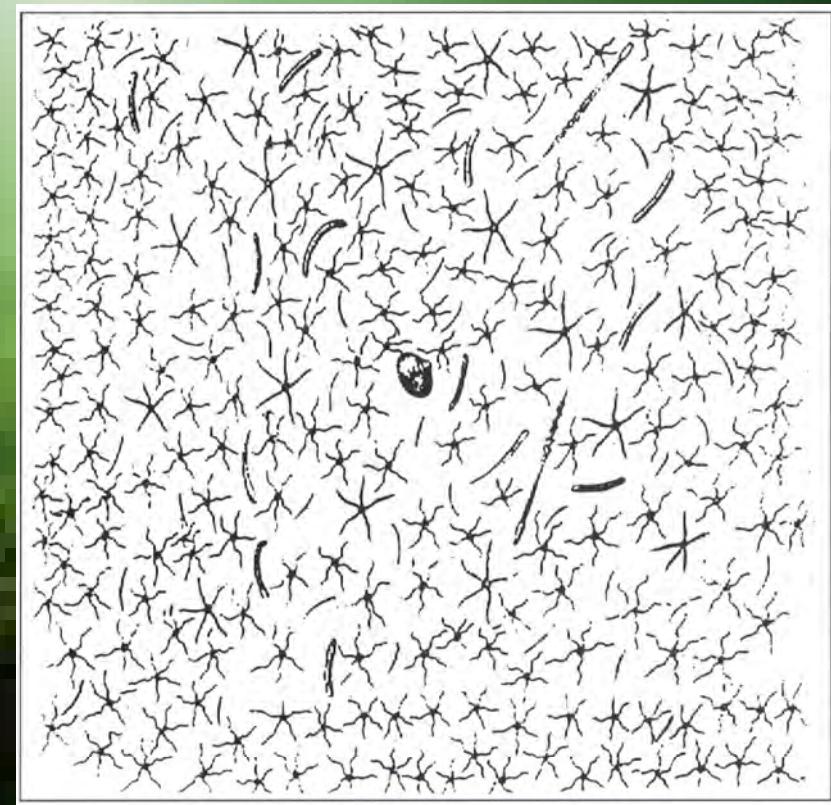


Good Ecological Status (GES)?

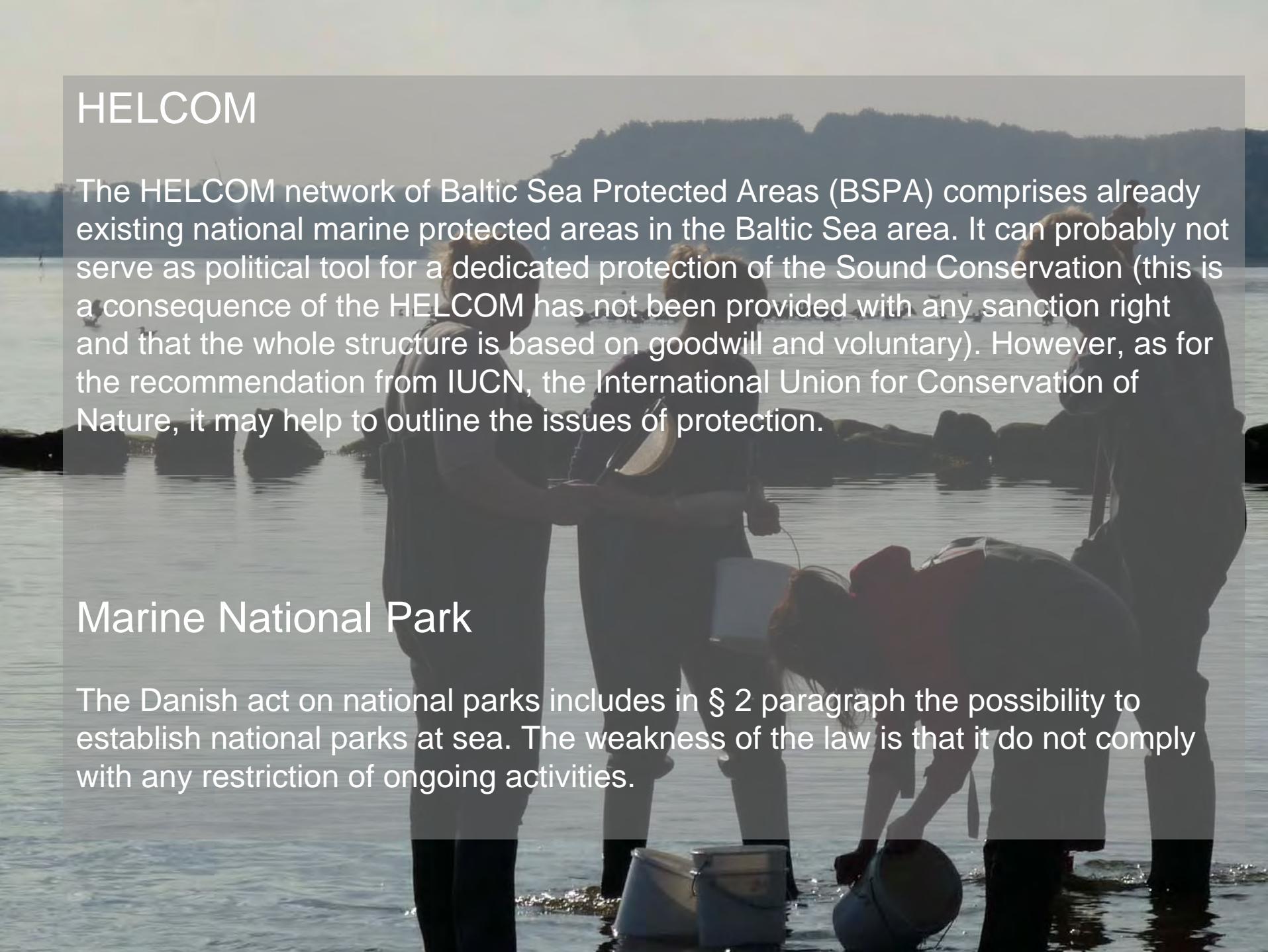
1910



1990



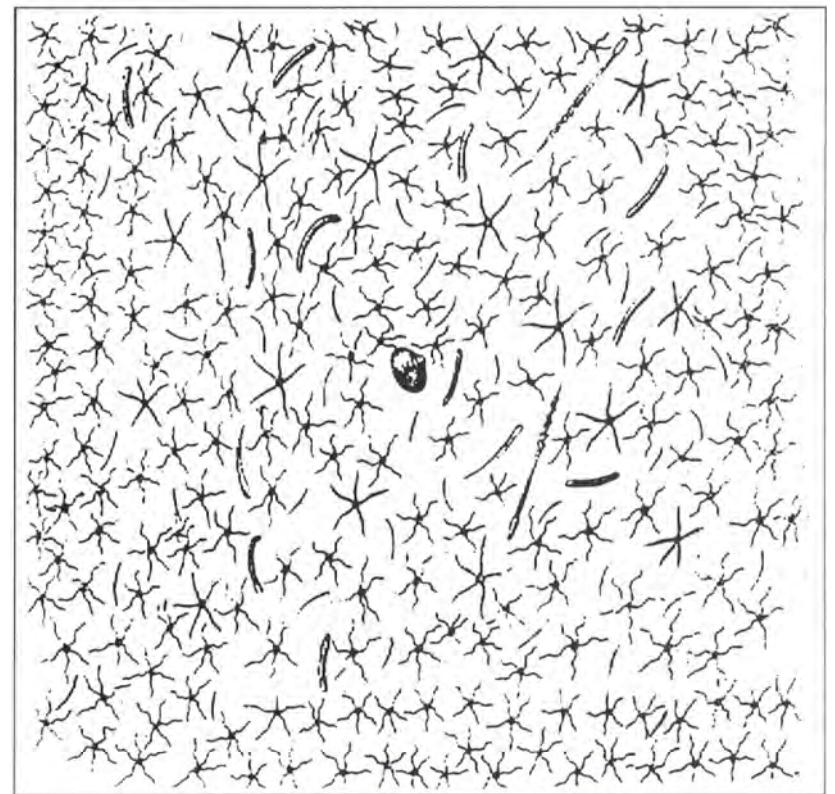
HELCOM

A photograph showing several people standing in a body of water, possibly a river or lake. They are holding various containers, including buckets and a large white drum, which suggests they are conducting some form of environmental monitoring or sampling. The background shows a shoreline with trees and a clear sky.

The HELCOM network of Baltic Sea Protected Areas (BSPA) comprises already existing national marine protected areas in the Baltic Sea area. It can probably not serve as political tool for a dedicated protection of the Sound Conservation (this is a consequence of the HELCOM has not been provided with any sanction right and that the whole structure is based on goodwill and voluntary). However, as for the recommendation from IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, it may help to outline the issues of protection.

Marine National Park

The Danish act on national parks includes in § 2 paragraph the possibility to establish national parks at sea. The weakness of the law is that it do not comply with any restriction of ongoing activities.





BACKGROUND FOR PROTECTION:

All these features fall under the IUCN criteria and recommendations for establishing Marine Protected Area (MPA).

Because the Sound is in an unfavorable development, it is urgent to give the Sound a special status, including motivating the trawling ban in relation to protection of wildlife and to support sustainable exploitation.

Although the negative trend in the Sound are likely primarily due to an negative influence of the surrounding marine areas, there is no clarity on these issues.

PURPOSE:

Initially, the main purpose of making the Sound to a protected area, is to raise awareness of the unique natural features that exist here, and thus stimulate efforts to understand what threatens these conditions.

In the second row, this understanding should pave the way for measures to protect and ensure sustainable exploitation of these natural conditions

Køreplan for at løfte bestræbelserne på at beskytte/frede Øresund op på det politisk niveau

1) HELCOM

Helcoms BSPA ansvarlige (Marie Laamanen), skriver at Helcom stort set alene optager allerede nationale beskyttede havområder i deres BSPA netværk. Det vil og kan ikke fungere som den politiske instans der skal bære en Øresundsfredning igennem (dette er formentlig en udløber af at Helcom ikke er blevet udstyret med nogen sanktioneret og at hele konstruktionen baserer sig på velvilje og frivillighed).

2) ØSV (Øresundsvattensamarbetet)

Vil ØSV påtage sig ansvaret for den politiske proces, hvilket i sidste ende består i at det er ØSV, der som regionpolitiske organ, anmoder det danske og svenske miljøministerium om at give Øresund en særlig beskyttelsesstatus. Det skal vel derfor også være ØSV der sætter udredningsarbejdet i gang, og som står som hovedansøger om midlerne hertil.

3) DN (Danmarks Naturfredningsforening) og Svenska Naturskyddsföreningen

DN, der har bemyndigelse til at rejse fredningssager på land, har ikke en sådan til havs. DN ønsker ikke at være primus motor i en sådan proces.

4) Det danske Folketing og Svenska Riksdag

Nedsættelse af arbejdsgruppe under vores Øresundsinitiativ der skal arbejde for at det bliver taget op som beslutningsforslag i folketinget eller at få miljøministrene på de to sider af sundet til at sætte et arbejde i gang med henblik på at undersøge mulighederne for at gøre Øresund til et svensk-dansk MPA. Dette spor har ydermere den fordel at vi næppe selv (eller via ØSV) skal rejse så mange penge, da der formodentlig fra centralt hold bliver afsat en del penge til udredningsarbejdet.

5) Bottom up

At vi som Øresundsinitiativet selv går ud søger penge til et udredningsarbejde der skal begrunde en fredning af Øresund. Det vil være nødvendigt at inddrage forskellige "stakeholder" i denne proces. Dette vil være en lang og træls omgang hvor vi først skal til at "banke på" døren til de politiske beslutningstagere når alle de fine udredninger foreligger. Desuden kunne der undervejs nå at komme en del regionpolitiske forhindringer, fordi denne proces ikke umiddelbart har nogen politisk legitimitet.

Aim of the new *Marine Strategy Framework Directive*:

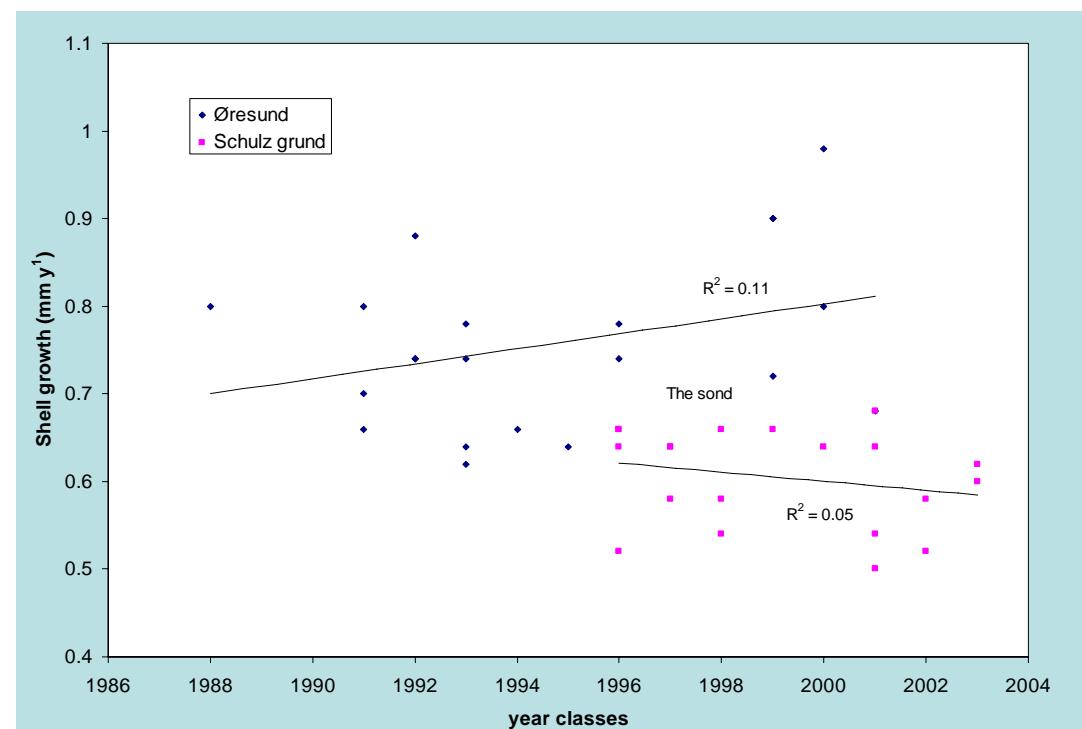
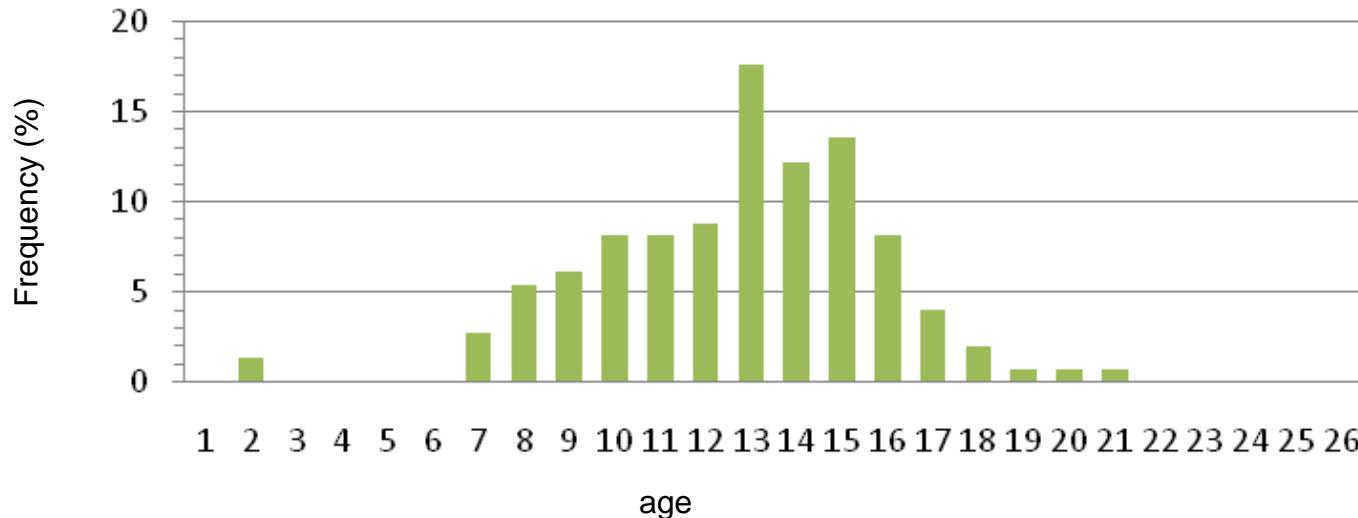
1. Sustainable use of marine resources
2. Obtaining or securing GES
3. Protect, preserve and prevent deterioration and possible restore marine ecosystems
4. Prevent, reduce and phase out pollution
5. Ensure the marine ecosystem's ability to manage change / resist the combined pressure from human impacts (ecosystem approach)

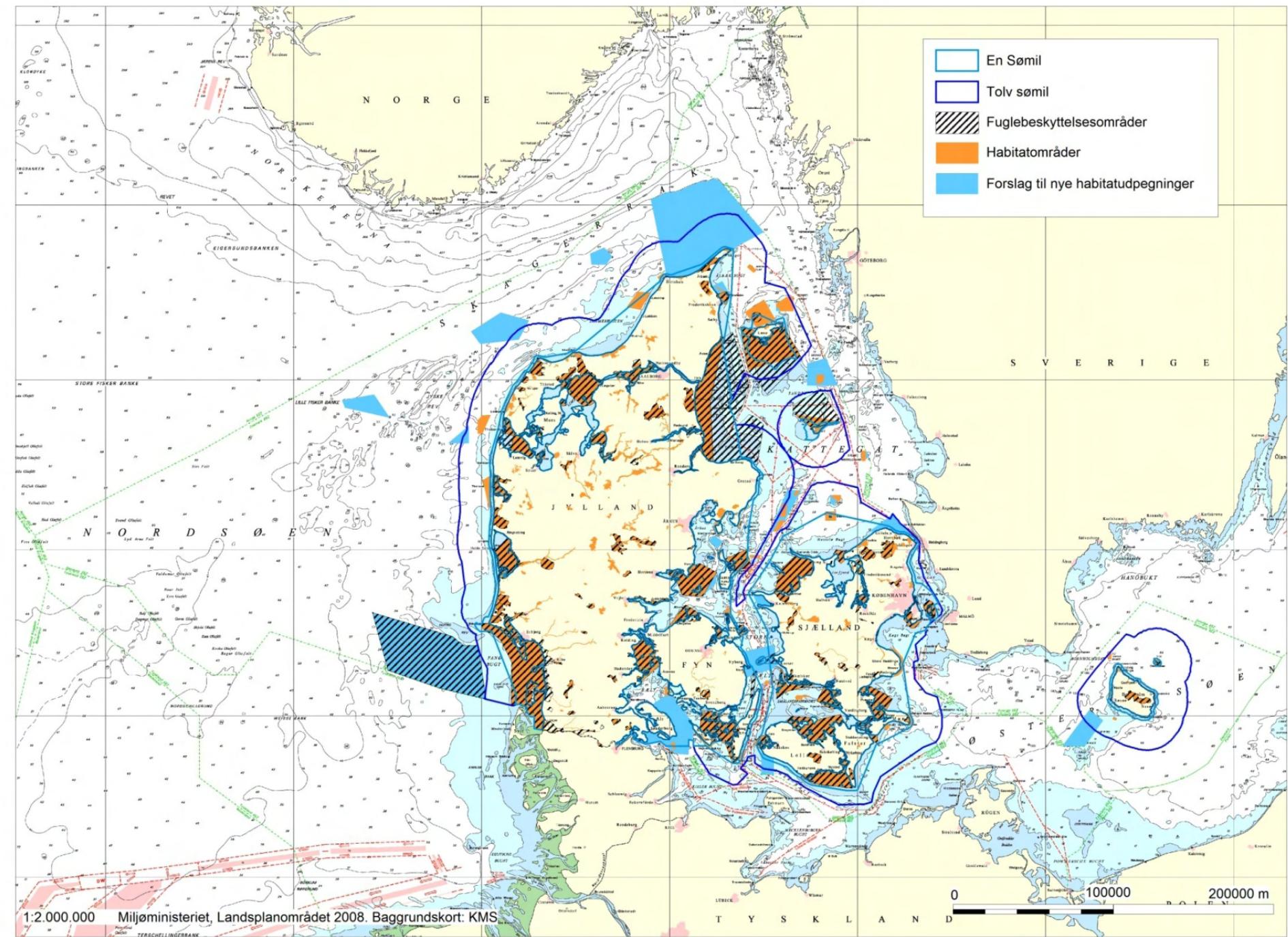


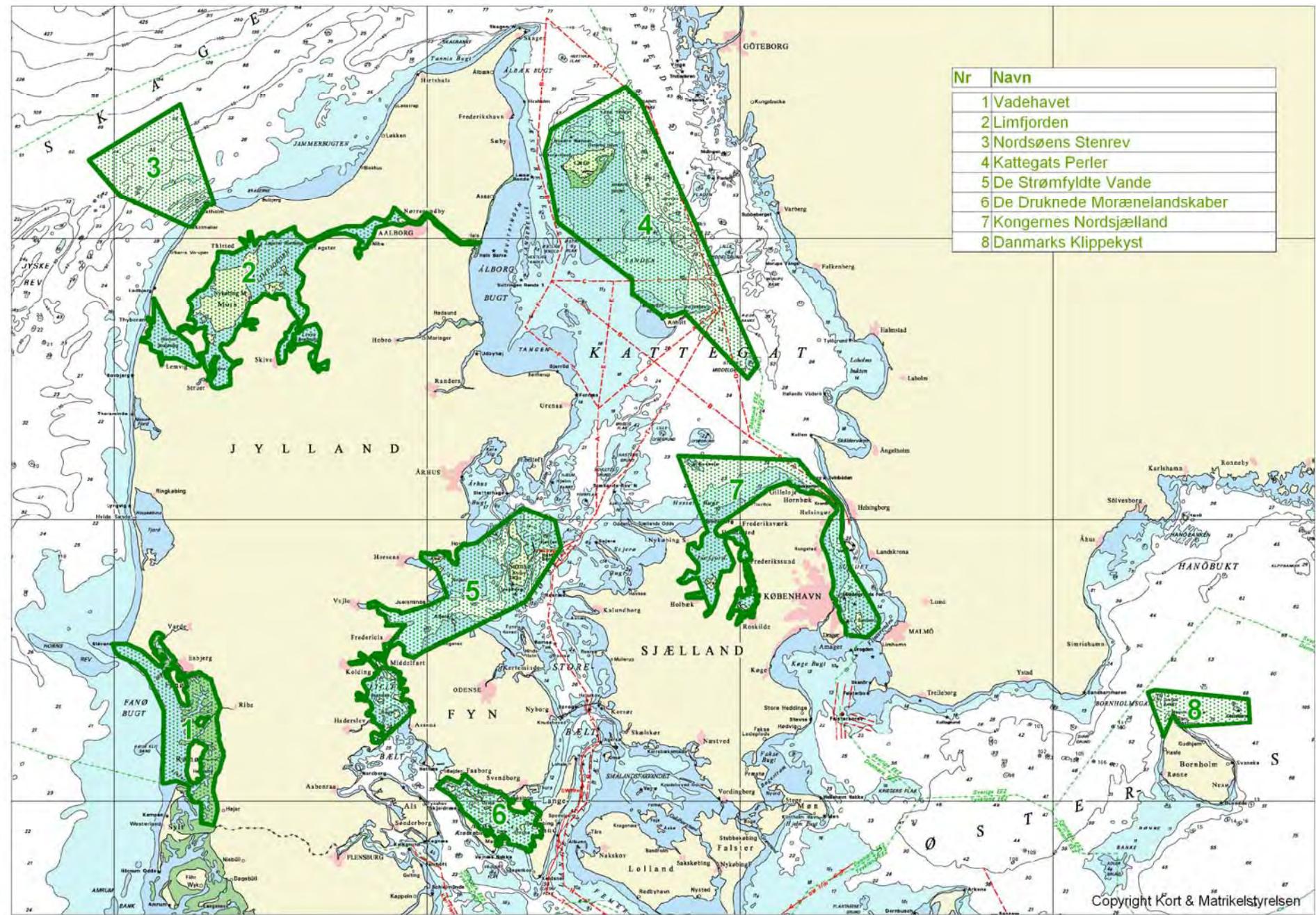
***Amphiura*-community**

Scutellum
18.2001

Horse mussel demography – age distribution

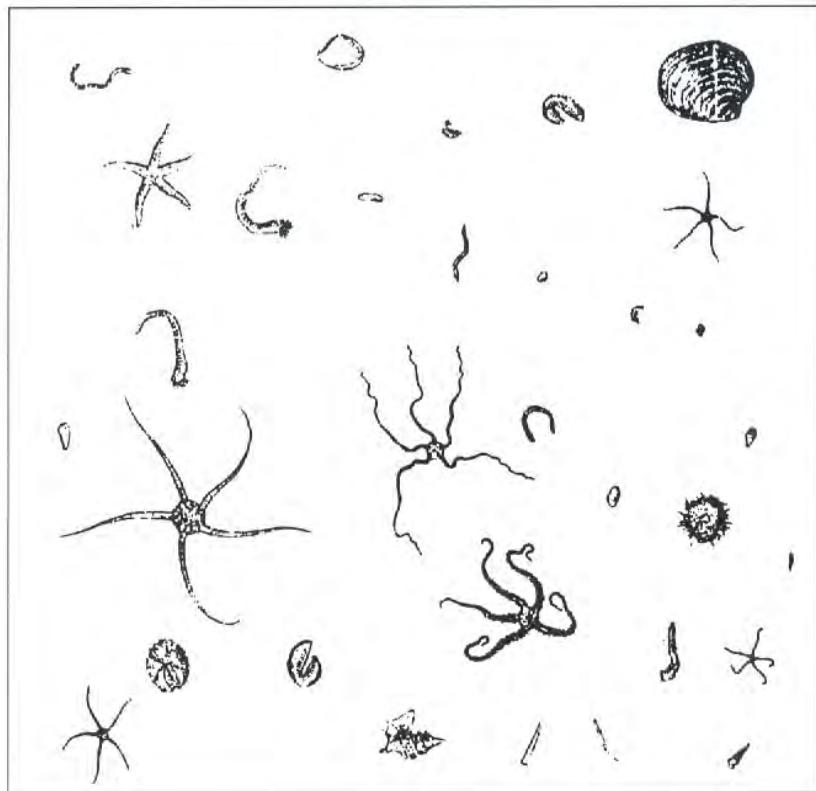






| Nr | Navn |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Vadehavet |
| 2 | Limfjorden |
| 3 | Nordsøens Stenrev |
| 4 | Kattegats Perler |
| 5 | De Strømfylde Vande |
| 6 | De Druknede Morænelandskaber |
| 7 | Kongernes Nordsjælland |
| 8 | Danmarks Klippekyst |

År 1910.



År 1990.

