

**4<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

## **BSAC basic principles on the development of the fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 and protected areas**

### **Background**

At the BSAC Working Group on ecosystem based management on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019, the meeting dealt with the status of fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 areas in the Baltic. The main item of the meeting was to update and discuss an overview of the fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 areas in the Baltic.

After the presentations and discussions, the meeting concluded with some basic principles concerning fisheries management measures in protected areas, calling for, among others, more open and transparent work by Member States and the involvement of Advisory Councils from early implementation stage.

The full report from the meeting is available on BSAC website.<sup>1</sup>

The BSAC Executive Committee was informed about this work at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and invited to review the draft list of basic principles.

The report from the meeting is on the BSAC website.<sup>2</sup>

It was agreed by the Executive Committee to simplify the list of basic principles. This was done, and they were sent for approval by the Executive Committee by written procedure and finalised by the chair of the BSAC ecosystem based working group.

The BSAC basic principles are attached and will be sent to the Member States and the Commission (DG Mare and DGENV).

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Working-Group-on-Ecosystem-Based-Management/ReportBSACWGEBM13032019FINAL-\(1\).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB](http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Working-Group-on-Ecosystem-Based-Management/ReportBSACWGEBM13032019FINAL-(1).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-and-General-Assembly/ReportExCom140512019final-\(1\).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB](http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-and-General-Assembly/ReportExCom140512019final-(1).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB)

## **BSAC basic principles on the development of the fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 and protected areas**

Concerning the work related to the development of fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 and protected areas, it is recommended by the BSAC that:

- The Advisory Council is involved from an early stage. There is full transparency, the dialogue is ongoing and carried out throughout the process, best practices are shared and the approach is adaptive.
- Member States inform as early as possible about the areas that have been designated, the criteria used for designating and the work to develop fisheries management measures. This includes informing on the work going on in the EEZ's and in the coastal areas States.
- Whether they are applying legislation under Natura 2000 or the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Member States should explain the processes followed and applied.
- Data calls are made very early to enable the fisheries sector, especially the small-scale fisheries, to also provide data. Funding from the European Fisheries and Maritime Fund is used in order to facilitate projects dedicated to collecting and gathering data.
- Member States and the Commission inform the Advisory Council regularly and Member States provide feedback on input given to them.
- A coherent regional approach is taken where possible, at the same time taking into account the uniqueness of each area.
- The protection measures considered follow a coherent approach and involve cooperation between fisheries and environment.
- Fisheries control measures applied in the protected areas are proportionate and take into account the type and extent of the fishery being carried out there.
- The closure and/or protection measures are monitored in order to assess and evaluate their effectiveness.