# **HELCOM Monitoring Programme topic**

# Fish, shellfish and fisheries

# Programme:

# Migratory fish

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# a. Metadata on monitoring strategies and monitoring programmes

# a.1 Responsible HELCOM subsidiary body

Please indicate the relevant expert group/network if available, otherwise the responsible HELCOM Working Group. or the responsible working group understanding is that they are the EN or EG if available, otherwise the WGs

	Permament Groups
	Gear – Group on the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach
	Maritime – Maritime Working Group
	Pressure – Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area
	Response – Response Working Group
$\boxtimes$	State and Conservation – Working Group on the State of the Environmental and Nature Conservation
	Time-limited Groups
	Agri – Group on Sustainable Agricultural Practices
$\boxtimes$	Fish – Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries
	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG - Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group
	Expert Groups
	AIS EWG – Expert Working Group for Mutual Exchange and Deliveries of AIS data
	EN Hazardous Substances – Expert Network on hazardous substances
	EN Marine Litter – Expert Network on Marine Litter
	EN Noise – Expert Network on Underwater Noise
	ESA – Expert Network on Economic and Social Analyses
	EWG OWR – Expert Working Group on Oiled Wildlife Response
	EWG SHORE – Expert Working Group on Response on the Shore
	Green Technology and Alternative Fuels Platform for Shipping
	HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST – Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Management Convention Exemptions

IN Benthic habitat – Intersessional Network on habitat monitoring
IWGAS – Informal Working Group on Aerial Surveillance
JWG Bird – HELCOM-OSPAR-ICES Joint Working Group on Seabirds
MORS EG – Expert group on monitoring of radioactive substances in the Baltic Sea
PRF Cooperation Platform – Cooperation Platform on Port Reception Facilities in the Baltic Sea
SAFE NAV – Group of Experts on Safety of Navigation
SUBMERGED – Expert Group on Environmental Risks of Hazardous Submerged Objects

# a.2 Regional Cooperation (RegionalCooperation)

The monitoring of this programme is:

- ☐ Fully coordinated
- ☑ Partly coordinated. Indicate missing component(s):
- ☐ Coordinated monitoring is under development. Indicate by which group/project and by when a recommendation on coordinated monitoring can be expected.
- Common monitoring guidelines: Monitoring is coordinated under ICES groups: Assessment Working Group on Balc Salmon and Trout and Joint EIFAAC/ICES Working Group on Eels.
- Common quality assurance programme: ICES
- Common database: There are no centralised databases in ICES that cover data for balc salmon and trout, other than the ground fish trawl surveys. A common, coordinated analysis of database is made under ICES by the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Instute.

# **b.** Monitoring strategies

### **b.1** Descriptor

The programme supports the following obligatory MSFD Monitoring Strategies. Tick one or more relevant boxes.

⊠ <b>D1</b>	Biodiversity
□ <b>D2</b>	Non-indigenous Species
⊠ <b>D3</b>	Commercial fish and shellfish
⊠ <b>D4</b>	Food webs
□ <b>D</b> 5	Eutrophication
□ <b>D</b> 6	Seafloor integrity

□ <b>D7</b> Hydrographical conditions			
□ <b>D8</b> Contaminants			
□ <b>D9</b>	Contaminants in seafood		
□ <b>D10</b>	Marine litter		
□ <b>D11</b>	Energy including underwater noise		
The sub-program  ☐ Eutrophicatio  ☐ Hazardous su  ☐ Biodiversity	b.2 BSAP segments The sub-programme serves the following BSAP segments. Tick one or more relevant boxes.  □Eutrophication □Hazardous substances		
☐ Maritime acti	vities		

# **b.3 Monitoring strategy description**

**Monitoring strategy**: Monitoring is to be carried out to fulfill assessment requirements of HELCOM ecological objectives that are specified through HELCOM core indicators. The requirements on monitoring can include number of stations, the sampling frequency and replication.

# **b.4 BSAP Ecological objectives**

Choose only the most relevant option(s). Tick one or more boxes below.

Eutrophication	☐ Concentrations of nutrients close to natural levels	
	☐ Clear water	
	$\square$ Natural level of algal blooms	
	$\square$ Natural distribution and occurrence of plants and animals	
	☐ Natural oxygen levels	
Hazardous substances	☐ Concentrations of hazardous substances close to natural levels	
ou sources	☐ All fish safe to eat	
	☐ Healthy wildlife	
	☐ Radioactivity at pre-Chernobyl levels	
Biodiversity	☐ Natural landscapes and seascapes	
	☑ Thriving and balanced communities of plants and animals	
	Day 4 of 20	

Maritime activities	☐ No illegal pollution		
activities	$\square$ Safe maritime traffic without accidental pollution		
	<ul><li>☐ Efficient response capability</li><li>☐ No introductions of alien species from ships</li></ul>		
	☐ Minimum air pollution from ships		
	☐ Zero discharges from offshore platforms		
In relation to the (	monitoring GES criteria addressed, indicate when sufficient monitoring was in place or by when e will be in place (Coverage_GEScriteria)		
☐ Adequate mon	itoring was in place in 2014		
⊠ Adequate mon	itoring was in place by 2018		
☐ Adequate moni	☐ Adequate monitoring is in place by July 2020		
☐ Adequate moni	toring will be in place by 2024		
☐ Monitoring is not being put in place for this descriptor due to a low risk			

Description of the implementation gaps and plans to complete the establishment and implementation of this descriptor monitoring strategy (Gaps\_Plans):

Currently, few salmon index rivers in the Baltic Sea provide a full set of information (monitoring of salmon spawning runs, smolt runs and river catches, and parr densities) required from index rivers. Full scale monitoring takes place only in Finland and Sweden and covers Assessment Units 1, 2 and 4. More index rivers with full set of information are especially needed from Assessment Units 5 and 6. In Assessment Unit 6, a full monitoring package is put into practice only on one river (Pirita, Estonia). Complete and more accurate estimates about recreational salmon catches are needed both from the sea and the rivers. The spatio-temporal coverage of catch sampling from sea may need to be increased for assessment efforts serving stock specific management and restoration of weak stocks. For sea trout, establishment of index rivers similar to salmon index rivers is highly recommended.

Since there are more migratory fish species in the Baltic Sea which are listed on Annex 2 of the EU Habitats Directive, such as lampreys, the monitoring program needs to be improved.

# c. Monitoring programmes

☐ Monitoring for this descriptor is not relevant

# c.1 Purpose of monitoring

c.1a Assessment purpose in general

The programme supports the assessment of:

Tick the relevant box.

Temporal trends Spatial distribution State classification
---

	$\boxtimes$				
The <b>programm</b>	<b>e</b> support	s the assessment of: (M	onitoringPurpose).		
Note that the	answer t	o this question will be pressures should only b	decisive for whether		-
Tick the relevant b	oxes.			I	
Environmenta and impa		Pressures in the marine environment	Pressures at source (land-based, riverine, sea-based <sup>1</sup> and atmospheric sources)	Human activities causing the pressures	Effectiveness measures
If this is selected fil following questions c.1b		If this is selected fill in the following questions: c.1c, d	If this is selected fill in the following questions: c.1c, d	If this is selected fill in the following questions: c.1c, d	If this is selected fill in following questions: c.1c, d
•		ng purpose e.g. if the pro	ogrammes include supp	orting parameters for c	other
monitoring pro	8				
monitoring pro	8				
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Feature: • Ecosyst	b-1d, sele Article 12 s) to: eem comp	ect when applicable for t 1 for the Marine Strateg conents (relevant for mo	y Framework Directive	MSFD Guidance Docur	ment 17,
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features • Ecosyst D4, D60 • Pressur	b-1d, sele Article 1: s) to: em comp C3-C5, D7	onents (relevant for mo C2) pacts in the marine envi	y Framework Directive (  onitoring and assessme or necessity ironment (relevant for necessity)	( <u>MSFD Guidance Docur</u> nt for Article 8(1a) for	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3,
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features • Ecosyst D4, D60 • Pressur 8(1b) fo	b-1d, sele Article 1: s) to: eem comp C3-C5, D7 es and im or D1C1, I	onents (relevant for mo C2) pacts in the marine envi D2, D5, D6C1-C2, D7C1,	y Framework Directive ( onitoring and assessme ironment (relevant for n D8, D9, D10, D11)	nt for Article 8(1a) for	D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features  Ecosyst D4, D60  Pressur 8(1b) fo	b-1d, selections in the selection in the	onents (relevant for mo C2) pacts in the marine envi	y Framework Directive ( ponitoring and assessment or notice) fronment (relevant for notice) D8, D9, D10, D11) ent (relevant for monitor)	nt for Article 8(1a) for nonitoring and assessment for	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article or Article 10)
• Ecosyst D4, D60 • Pressur 8(1b) fo • Pressur • Uses ar	b-1d, selections in the selection is a selection in the s	onents (relevant for mo C2) pacts in the marine envi D2, D5, D6C1-C2, D7C1, I	y Framework Directive ( ponitoring and assessment or notion of the policy of the polic	nt for Article 8(1a) for nonitoring and assessment for ent for Article 8(1c) an	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article or Article 10)
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features  Ecosyst D4, D60  Pressur 8(1b) fo  Pressur Uses ar	b-1d, selections in the selection is a selection in the s	onents (relevant for mo C2) pacts in the marine envi D2, D5, D6C1-C2, D7C1, I to the marine environme activities (relevant for r	y Framework Directive ( ponitoring and assessment or notion of the policy of the polic	nt for Article 8(1a) for nonitoring and assessment for ent for Article 8(1c) an	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article or Article 10)
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features  Ecosyst D4, D60  Pressur 8(1b) fo  Pressur Uses ar  c.1b • I	b-1d, selections in the selection is between compensations of the selection is between the selec	onents (relevant for monents)  pacts in the marine envious, D5, D6C1-C2, D7C1, Into the marine environment activities (relevant for relevant option(s). Tick on the marine environment (Feature)	y Framework Directive ( ponitoring and assessment or notion of the policy of the polic	nt for Article 8(1a) for nonitoring and assessment for ent for Article 8(1c) an	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article or Article 10)
For questions 1 2020 update of 2020) (Features 1, 1060)  Pressures 8(1b) for 1000 Pressures 1000	b-1d, selections in the selection is between competers and important in the selection is between	onents (relevant for monents)  pacts in the marine environments  to the marine environments  activities (relevant for relevant for relevant option(s). Tick on	y Framework Directive ( ponitoring and assessment of the policy of the p	nt for Article 8(1a) for nonitoring and assessment for ent for Article 8(1c) an	nent 17, D1C2-C5, D3, ent for Article or Article 10)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sea-based 'Pressures at source' refers to monitoring pressures from sea-based activities where the monitoring is directly at the activity rather than at a distance from or time period after it is generated by the activity (e.g. D1 incidental by-catch when fishing, D2 ballast water discharges, D6 use of bottom fishing gear, D8 contaminant discharges and pollution events from a vessel or pipeline, D11 impulsive sound events from a vessel or platform).

		$\square$ Pelagic-feeding birds		
		$\square$ Benthic-feeding birds		
	☐ Mammals	☐ Small toothed cetaceans		
		$\square$ Deep-diving toothed cetaceans		
		☐ Baleen whales		
		☐ Seals		
	☐ Reptiles	☐ Turtles		
	⊠ Fish	$\square$ Coastal fish		
		☐ Pelagic shelf fish		
		$\square$ Demersal shelf fish		
		☐ Deep-sea fish		
		$\square$ Commercially exploited fish and shellfish		
	$\square$ Cephalopods	$\square$ Coastal/shelf cephalopods		
		☐ Deep-sea cephalopods		
Habitats	$\square$ Benthic habitats	$\square$ Benthic broad habitats		
		$\square$ Other benthic habitats		
	☐ Pelagic habitats	☐ Pelagic broad habitats		
		$\square$ Other pelagic habitats		
Ecosystems	ns			
	☐ Chemical characteristics			
	☐ Ecosystems, including	☐ Coastal ecosystems		
	food webs	$\square$ Shelf ecosystems		
		☐ Oceanic/deep-sea ecosystems		
	Pressures and impacts in the most relevant option(s). Tick	the marine environment (Features) ck one or more boxes below.		
Theme	Label: Feature			
Biological	☐ Newly introduced non-indigenous species			
	☐ Established non-indige	enous species		
	☐ Species affected by incidental by-catch			
Physical and	☐ Hydrographical chang	☐ Hydrographical changes		
hydrological	☐ Physical disturbance to seabed			
	☐ Physical loss of the sea	abed		
	☐ Eutrophication			

Substances,	☐ Contaminants - non UPBT substances				
litter and	☐ Contaminants - UPBT substances				
energy	☐ Contaminants – in seafood				
	☐ Adverse effects on species or habitats				
	☐ Acute pollution events				
	☐ Litter in the environment				
	☐ Impulsive sound in water				
	☐ Continuous low frequency sound				
c.1d • F	Pressure inputs to the marine environment (Features)				
Theme	Label: Feature				
Biological	☐ Input or spread of non-indigenous species				
	☐ Input of microbial pathogens				
	$\hfill\Box$ Input of genetically modified species and translocation of native species				
	☐ Loss of, or change to, natural biological communities due to cultivation of animal or plant species				
	☐ Disturbance of species (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed) due to human presence				
	☑ Extraction of, or mortality/injury to, wild species (by commercial and recreational fishing and other activities)				
Substances,	$\square$ Input of nutrients — diffuse sources, point sources, atmospheric deposition				
litter and energy	☐ Input of organic matter — diffuse sources and point sources				
e.B)	☐ Input of other substances (e.g. synthetic substances, non-synthetic substances, radionuclides) — diffuse sources, point sources, atmospheric deposition, acute events				
	☐ Input of litter (solid waste matter, including micro-sized litter)				
	☐ Input of anthropogenic sound (impulsive, continuous)				
	$\hfill\Box$ Input of other forms of energy (including electromagnetic fields, light and heat)				
	☐ Input of water — point sources (e.g. brine)				
c.1e • U	Uses and human activities (Features)				
Choose only the	e most relevant option(s). Tick one or more boxes below.				
Theme	Label: Feature				
Physical	☐ Land claim				

restructuring of rivers, coastline	☐ Canalisation and other watercourse modifications
or seabed (water	☐ Coastal defence and flood protection
management)	☐ Offshore structures (other than for oil/gas/renewables)
	☐ Restructuring of seabed morphology, including dredging and depositing of materials
Extraction of	☐ Extraction of minerals (rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell)
non-living resources	☐ Extraction of oil and gas, including infrastructure
resources	☐ Extraction of salt
	☐ Extraction of water
Production of energy	☐ Renewable energy generation (wind, wave and tidal power), including infrastructure
	☐ Non-renewable energy generation
	☐ Transmission of electricity and communications (cables)
Extraction of	☐ Fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational)
living resources	☐ Fish and shellfish processing
	☐ Marine plant harvesting
	☐ Hunting and collecting for other purposes
Cultivation of	☐ Aquaculture — marine, including infrastructure
living resources	☐ Aquaculture — freshwater
	☐ Agriculture
	☐ Forestry
Transport	☐ Transport infrastructure
	☐ Transport — shipping
	☐ Transport — air
	☐ Transport — land
Urban and	☐ Urban uses
industrial uses	☐ Industrial uses
	☐ Waste treatment and disposal
Tourism and	☐ Tourism and leisure infrastructure
leisure	☐ Tourism and leisure activities
Security/defence	☐ Military operations (subject to Article 2(2))
Education and research	☐ Research, survey and educational activities

# c.2 Other legislation

The sub-programme links with the following other international legislation (OtherPoliciesConventions). Tick

one or more relevant boxes.
☐ Bathing Water Directive
⊠Common Fisheries Policy and Data Collection Framework
⊠ Habitats Directive
☐ Birds Directive
□ Nitrates Directive
☐ Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
⊠Water Framework Directive
⊠OSPAR Convention
☐Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention
☑Other, Specify: Maritime Spatial Planning Directive
c.3 Implementation of Regional Cooperation (RegionalCooperation_implementation) Indicate the level of implementation by selecting one of the following:
☐ Agreed data collection methods
☐Common monitoring strategy (spatial and temporal design of programme)
⊠Coordinated data collection (delivered separately by each country)
$\Box$ Joint data collection (multinational delivery using same platform and/or algorithms)

# **c.4 Monitoring concepts**

#### Monitoring concepts table<sup>2</sup>:

Current means of coordination	Features or Elements  Elements (Features) (Features_enum)	Parameter Parameters (Parameter) (ParametersOther)	Method  MonitoringMeth od (Monitoring Method) MonitoringMeth odOther)	QA/QC (Free text)	Frequency <sup>3</sup> MonitoringFrequency	Spatial resolution (density) of sampling  (ProgrammeDescription)	Link to HELCOM core indicators <sup>4</sup> (RelatedIndicator) (RelatedIndicator_n ame	Spatial scope (SpatialSco pe)	Monitorin g started (year) (TemporalSc ope)	CPs monitoring <sup>5</sup> (CountryCode_E num)
ICES	Element: Sea trout (salmo trutta trutta) or Features: Pelagic fish Sub-apex pelagic predators Sub-apex demersal predators Commercially exploited fish and shellfish	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	Sea trout parr density surveysrivers	Other	Yearly	Targeting river basins	Abundance of sea trout spawners and parr	MS land/FW	Varies by river – earliest 1976	SE, FI, RU, EE, LT, PL, DK, DE
ICES	Fish abundance	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	Sea trout parr density surveys areas	Other	Yearly	Targeting areas	Abundance of sea trout spawners and parr	Territori al waters	Varies by area – earliest 1980	FI, RU, EE, LV, LT, PL

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Needed codelists can be found on 2020 update of Article 11 for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD Guidance Document 17, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The option "Different for each country - see MORE overview" refers to the <u>overview</u> carried out in 2013

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 4}$  Give the name of HELCOM core indicators that are based on the monitoring parameter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Provide information on the Contracting Partie(s) that are monitoring the parameter.

Current means of coordination	Features or Elements	Parameter	Method	QA/QC	Frequency <sup>3</sup>	Spatial resolution (density) of sampling	Link to HELCOM core indicators <sup>4</sup>	Spatial scope	Monitorin g started (year)	CPs monitoring <sup>5</sup>
ICES	Sampling from sea trout catch	Composion of catch	Biological sampling	Other	Yearly	Main fisheries		Territori al waters	Early 2000s	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Population dynamics salmon	Population size (abundance)	Stock assessment	Other	Yearly	Stock wide assessment Gulf of Finland		EEZ	1993	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Population dynamics salmon	Population size (abundance)	Stock assessment	Other	Yearly	Stock wide assessment Main Baltic Basin and GoB and on river basis		EEZ	1993	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Catch statistics of salmon	Composition and number of retained/land ed catch	Time series of catches of salmon	Other	3-monthly	Offshore, coastal, river, commercial and angling		MS land/FW	1972	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Salmon parr densities	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	Electrofishin g	Other	Yearly	River areas, rolling programme	Abundance of salmon spawners and smolt	MS land/FW	1980	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Salmon spawning runs	Reproducon rate	Monitoring at fish ladders with traps or DIDSON	Other	Yearly	At the few index rivers	Abundance of salmon spawners and smolt	MS land/FW	Traps since 1990s, DIDSON since 2008	All HELCOM Contracting Parties

Current means of coordination	Features or Elements	Parameter	Method	QA/QC	Frequency <sup>3</sup>	Spatial resolution (density) of sampling	Link to HELCOM core indicators <sup>4</sup>	Spatial scope	Monitorin g started (year)	CPs monitoring <sup>5</sup>
ICES	Salmon smolt producon	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	Traps and mark recapture	Other	Yearly	At the few salmon index rivers and other rivers	Abundance of salmon spawners and smolt	MS land/FW	1990	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES	Sampling from salmon catch	Composion of catch	Biological sampling	Other	Yearly	All main fisheries		MS land/FW	2003	All HELCOM Contracting Parties
ICES under WGEEL Group	Yellow eel recruitment	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	traps	Other	Yearly	At 5 Baltic rivers		MS land/FW	1950	SE and DK
ICES under WGEEL Group	Yellow eel recruitment	Populaon size (abundance)	traps	other	Yearly	2 locations		MS land/FW	2004	SE
ICES	Silver eel escapement	Life history stage (e.g. egg, juvenile, adult)	Catch per unit effort of silver eel	Other	Yearly	3 locations in Sweden		Territori al waters	1950	SE
ICES	Eel commercial catch	Composion and number of retained/land ed catch	Monitoring of catches	Other	Yearly	Across the Baltic		Territori al waters	1945	All HELCOM Contracting Parties

#### **PARAMETER**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Salmon, sea trout, eel/catches

#### **METHOD** (Monitoring Details)

#### Element/parameter

All catches are monitored

#### SPATIAL RESOLUTION (DENSITY) OF SAMPLING

#### Spatial resolution

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

The catch monitoring occurs across the Balc. Catch monitoring collates naonal catch records (but method varies by country across sea trout, salmon and eel).

#### **PARAMETER**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Salmon population/ stock assessment

#### **METHOD (Monitoring Details)**

#### **Element/parameter**

Smolt and parr surveys (traps, DIDSON and electrofishing) at index rivers, and other locations. Stock assessments exist for the main salmon populaon in the Baltic and the overall trends for Gulf of Finland salmon determined using various methods f interpolating monitoring trends. Stock assessments integrate time series trends and biological information.

#### QA/QC

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Either by ICES protocol, benchmark or workshop. Some though use national approaches.

#### **FREQUENCY**

#### Frequency

#### Element/Parameter pair

The frequency varies, with some series stopping and then starting again. Varieties of rivers can be monitored each year. The salmon index rivers should be monitored annually. Sea trout and salmon don't occur parallel in all rivers, selection of index rivers need to be considered separately for salmon and sea trout.

#### **SPATIAL SCOPE**

#### **Spatial Scope**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Monitoring for salmon is carried out by assessment unit.

#### SPATIAL RESOLUTION (DENSITY) OF SAMPLING

#### **Spatial resolution**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Stock assessments are region specific. The surveys of recruitment, escapement, smolts or parrs are river specific (see ICES SGBALANST REPORT 2007 page 10 for a summary of sea trout monitoring in the Baltic; ICES WGBAST REPORT 2013 page 18 for a table of biological sampling of salmon in the Baltic in 2012 and page 270 for assessment units).

#### **PARAMETER**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Sea trout population/Stock assessment

#### **METHOD (Monitoring Details)**

#### **Element/parameter**

Smolt and parr surveys (traps, DIDSON and electrofishing) at index rivers, and other locations. Stock assessments exist for overall trends for sea trout, determined using various methods of interpolating monitoring trends. Stock assessments integrate time series trends and biological information.

#### QA/QC

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Either by ICES protocol, benchmark or workshop. Some though use national approaches.

#### **FREQUENCY**

#### Frequency

#### Element/Parameter pair

The frequency varies, with some series stopping and then starting again. Varieties of rivers can be monitored each year. The salmon index rivers should be monitored annually. Sea trout and salmon don't occur parallel in all rivers, selection of index rivers need to be considered separately for salmon and sea trout.

#### **SPATIAL SCOPE**

#### **Spatial Scope**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Region specific / River specific. Assessment is river specific, results can be summed up by coastal area or sub basin.

#### SPATIAL RESOLUTION (DENSITY) OF SAMPLING

#### **Spatial resolution**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Stock assessments are region specific. The surveys of recruitment, escapement, smolts or parrs are river specific (see ICES SGBALANST REPORT 2007 page 10 for a summary of sea trout monitoring in the Baltic; ICES WGBAST REPORT 2013 page 18 for a table of biological sampling of salmon in the Baltic in 2012 and page 270 for assessment units).

#### **PARAMETER**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Eel population/Stock assessment

#### **METHOD** (MonitoringDetails)

#### **Element/parameter**

The abundance trends of various life stages (recruits, yellow eel and silver eel) are monitored. Yellow eel monitoring by traps in specific locations. Silver eel by catch per unit of fishing effort estimates. The Baltic is a component of the Europe wide stock assessment. Overall trends for eel are determined using various methods of interpolating monitoring trends. Stock assessments integrate time series trends and biological information.

#### QA/QC

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Either by ICES protocol, benchmark or workshop. Some though use national approaches.

#### **FREQUENCY**

#### Frequency

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

The frequency varies, with some series stopping and then starting again. Varieties of rivers can be monitored each year. The salmon index rivers should be monitored annually.

#### **SPATIAL SCOPE**

#### **Spatial Scope**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Most monitoring for eel is carried out in Sweden

#### SPATIAL RESOLUTION (DENSITY) OF SAMPLING

#### Spatial resolution

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

#### **PARAMETER**

#### **Element/Parameter pair**

Stock assessments are region specific.

# Provide considerations for the scale of aggregation of data for an indicator-based assessment Tick one or more relevant boxes below: HELCOM assessment unit Level 4: Subbasins with coastal WFD division HELCOM assessment unit Level 3: Subbasins with coastal and offshore division HELCOM assessment unit Level 2: Subbasin HELCOM assessment unit Level 1: Baltic Sea MSFD Region EU Other (specify)

#### c.5 Monitoring and assessment requirements

#### **Monitoring requirements:**

The current management regime requires an evaluation of the status of individual salmon stocks. This implies that stock-specific information needs to be collected from all salmon rivers; currently there are about 40 spawning rivers of salmon in the Baltic Sea (and 16 rivers in Kattegat). The regime has a high priority to establish at least one index river in each Assessment Unit (AU) of Baltic salmon.

Data from an index river consists of monitoring of salmon spawning runs and their composition, smolt runs, river catches and parr densities. Monitoring in all non-index salmon rivers should be arranged so that each juvenile cohort is sampled at least once before smoltificaon. Electrofishing surveys in non-index salmon rivers are of high priority but it is not necessary to have annual surveys in every river. Periodic smolt trapping in non-index rivers and monitoring of the M74 mortality in a subset of rivers supplement assessment by improving the accuracy of stock estimates.

Updating any information relevant to the migration and/or reproduction possibilies of salmon in rivers (e.g., changes in migration obstacles, restoration of river habitat, measures affecting water quality and/or flow regimes) is also needed.

Assessment requirements concerning monitoring at sea covers: fishing effort and catches (incl. discarding and estimates of unreporting), catch sampling from which the stock composion and the origin (wild/hatchery-reared) is analysed. These data are needed on fleet basis (offshore/coastal fishing by gear type). Also catch data on recreational fisheries at sea and in rivers is necessary and used in the salmon assessment.

Monitoring requirements concerning sea trout are very similar to those of salmon. However, the current trout assessment does not require as broad range of datasets as is required for salmon assessment. The datasets of highest priority are: parr densities and inventories of river habitat. Establishment of index rivers similar to salmon index rivers is highly recommended. This would enable supplementing of parr density information with counts of trout smolts and ascending

spawners in a part of rivers. Catches, tag recaptures from fisheries, and information about fishing pressure and fishing pattern (gear and mesh sizes used) are also required for in-depth assessment of sea trout stocks.

There is no such thing as Baltic eel. Eel is pan-European, so the monitoring programmes must be European wide.

#### Adequacy for assessment of GES:

Monitoring should provide adequate data and information to enable the periodic assessment of environmental status, and distance from and progress towards GES as required by MSFD under Article 9 and Article 11.

	Yes	No
Adequate data?	$\boxtimes$	
Established methods for assessment?		
Adequate understanding of GES?	$\boxtimes$	
Adequate capacity to perform assessments?		

#### Assessment of natural variability

Quantitative and by expert opinion. Natural variation is quanfied by analytical assessment tools (life cycle models for salmon and other statistical analyses methods for sea trout) and the results are complemented by expert opinions, trend analyses etc.

	-		-	
ch	I)ata	providers	and	2CCDCC
CIU	Data	providers	anu	access

From which database the data can be made available? Tick the relevant boxes below:

☐ HELCOM COMBINE	☐ HELCOM PLC	□HELCOM MORS
⊠Other:	ICES	

If the previous answer is "Other" please fill in the next questions (In case the answer is a HELCOM database, the HELCOM Secretariat will do it)

**Data type** Tick the relevant boxes below:

☐ Unprocessed/raw Data

⊠ Processed Data sets

**⊠** Data Products

⊠Modelled data

#### Data management: General description of data management (DataManagement, Free text)

Provide location of data in national data centre: Modelled data available in the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute.

Provide location of data in international data centre (e.g. RSC, ICES, EEA, EMODnet): Catch sampling data of salmon available in the ICES Regional database.

What method/mechanism will be used to make the data available? Tick the relevant boxes below and provide location (DataAccess):				
$\square$ Providing URL to view	data:			
$\square$ Providing URL to dow	nload data:			
$\square$ Provide location of da	ta in national data centre: Click here to enter text.			
$\square$ Provide location of da	ta in international data centre (e.g. RSC, ICES, EEA, EMODnet):			
When will the data first	become available? (DataPublicationDate)			
Enter the date of reporting	ng, or even a past date if desired (MM/YYYY):			
How frequently are the	data expected to be updated thereafter? Tick the relevant box below:			
☐ Every 6 years	□Weekly			
☐ Every 3 years	□Daily			
☐ Every 2 years	□Hourly			
⊠Yearly	☐ Continually			
$\Box$ 6-monthly	⊠One-off			
$\square$ 3-monthly	☐As needed			
$\square$ Monthly	☐ Other (specify)			
$\square$ 2-weekly	□Unknown			
List providing contact po	ints in the Contracting Parties			
Has the data been used	or is it planned to be used in HELCOM assessments? Tick the relevant box below:			
⊠Yes □No				
Select if data is used in t	he following Baltic Sea Environment Fact Sheets (BSEF) Tick the relevant boxes			

below:
Biodiversity
☐ Abundance and distribution of marenzelleria species
☐ Abundance and distribution of Round goby
☐ Abundance and distribution of the Zebra mussel
☐ Biopollution level index
$\square$ Observed non-indigenous and cryptogenic species in the Baltic Sea
☐ Population development of Great Cormorant
☐ Population development of Sandwich Tern
☐ Population development of Southern Dunlin
☐ Population Development of White-tailed Sea Eagle
⊠Temporal development of Baltic coastal fish communities and key species
Eutrophication
☐ Bacterioplankton growth
$\Box$ Chlorophyll-a concentrations, temporal variations and regional differences from satellite remote sensing
□Cyanobacteria biomass
☐ Cyanobacterial blooms in the Baltic Sea
□Cyanobacteria bloom index
$\square$ Impacts of invasive phytoplankton species on the Baltic Sea ecosystem in 1980-2008
□ Nitrogen atmospheric deposition to the Baltic Sea
□ Nitrogen emissions to the air in the Baltic Sea area
☐ Phytoplankton biomass and species succession
☐ Shifts in the Baltic Sea summer phytoplankton communities in 1992-2006
☐Spatial distribution of the winter nutrient pool
□Unusual phytoplankton event
Hazardous substances
☐ Atmospheric deposition of heavy metals on the Baltic Sea
☐ Atmospheric deposition of PCDD/Fs on the Baltic Sea
☐ Atmospheric emissions of heavy metals in the Baltic Sea region
☐ Atmospheric emissions of PCDD/Fs in the Baltic Sea region
☐ Cesium-137 in Baltic Sea sediments
☐ Temporal trends in contaminants in Herring in the Baltic Sea in the period 1980-2010

☐Emissions from	Baltic Sea shipping				
□ Illegal discharges of oil in the Baltic Sea					
☐ Liquid discharges of Cs-137, Sr-90 and Co-60 into the Baltic Sea					
☐Trace metal co	ncentrations and trends in Baltic surface and deep waters				
Hydrography					
☐ Development of	of Sea Surface Temperature in the Baltic Sea				
☐ Hydrography a	nd Oxygen in the Deep Basins				
$\square$ Ice season					
$\square$ Total and regio	nal runoff to the Baltic Sea				
$\square$ Water Exchang	e between the Baltic Sea and the North Sea, and conditions in the Deep Basins				
$\square$ Wave climate in	n the Baltic Sea				
	riteria (GES Criteria) most relevant option(s). Tick one or more boxes below.				
Descriptor 1	□ D1C1 – Primary:				
	The mortality rate per species from incidental by-catch is below levels which threaten the species, such that its long- term viability is ensured.				
	Member States shall establish the threshold values for the mortality rate from incidental by-catch per species, through regional or subregional cooperation.				
	☑ D1C2 – Primary:				
	The population abundance of the species is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures, such that its long-term viability is ensured.				
	Member States shall establish threshold values for each species through regional or subregional cooperation, taking account of natural variation in population size and the mortality rates derived from D1C1, D8C4 and D10C4 and other relevant pressures. For species covered by Directive 92/43/EEC, these values shall be consistent with the Favourable Reference Population values established by the relevant Member States under Directive 92/43/EEC.				
	☑ D1C3 – Primary for commercially- exploited fish and cephalopods and secondary for other species:				
	The population demographic characteristics (e.g. body size or age class structure, sex ratio, fecundity, and survival rates) of the species are indicative of a healthy population which is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures.				
	Member States shall establish threshold values for specified characteristics of each species through regional or subregional cooperation, taking account of adverse effects on their health derived from D8C2, D8C4 and other relevant pressures.				
	☑ D1C4 – Primary for species covered by Annexes II, IV or V to Directive 92/43/EEC and secondary for other species:				

The species distributional range and, where relevant, pattern is in line with prevailing physiographic, geographic and climatic conditions. Member States shall establish threshold values for each species through regional or subregional cooperation. For species covered by Directive 92/43/EEC, these shall be consistent with the Favourable Reference Range values established by the relevant Member States under Directive 92/43/EEC. □ D1C5 – Primary for species covered by Annexes II, IV and V to Directive 92/43/EEC. and secondary for other species: The habitat for the species has the necessary extent and condition to support the different stages in the life history of the species. ☐ D1C6 – Primary The condition of the habitat type, including its biotic and abiotic structure and its functions (e.g. its typical species composition and their relative abundance, absence of particularly sensitive or fragile species or species providing a key function, size structure of species), is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures. Member States shall establish threshold values for the condition of each habitat type, ensuring compatibility with related values set under Descriptors 2, 5 and 8, through regional or subregional cooperation. Descriptor 2  $\square$  D2C1 – Primary: The number of non-indigenous species which are newly introduced via human activity into the wild, per assessment period (6 years), measured from the reference year as reported for the initial asessment under Article 8(1) of Directive 2008/56/EC, is minimised and where possible reduced to zero. Member States shall establish the threshold value for the number of new introductions of non-indigenous species, through regional or subregional cooperation.  $\square$  D2C2 — Secondary: Abundance and spatial distribution of established non-indigenous species, particularly of invasive species, contributing significantly to adverse effects on particular species groups or broad habitat types.  $\square$  D2C3 — Secondary: Proportion of the species group or spatial extent of the broad habitat type which is adversely altered due to non-indigenous species, particularly invasive non-indigenous species. Member States shall establish the threshold values for the adverse alteration to species groups and broad habitat types due to non-indigenous species, through regional or subregional cooperation. Descriptor 3  $\boxtimes$  D3C1 — Primary: The Fishing mortality rate of populations of commercially-exploited species is at or below levels which can produce the maximum sustainable yield (MSY). Appropriate scientific bodies shall be consulted in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.  $\boxtimes$  D3C2 — Primary:

	The Spawning Stock Biomass of populations of commercially-exploited species are above biomass levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield. Appropriate scientific bodies shall be consulted in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
	☐ D3C3 — Primary:
	The age and size distribution of individuals in the populations of commercially-exploited species is indicative of a healthy population. This shall include a high proportion of old/large individuals and limited adverse effects of exploitation on genetic diversity.
	Member States shall establish threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation for each population of species in accordance with scientific advice obtained pursuant to Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
Descriptor 4	☑ D4C1 — Primary:
	The diversity (species composition and their relative abundance) of the trophic guild is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures.
	Member States shall establish threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation.
	☑ D4C2 — Primary:
	The balance of total abundance between the trophic guilds is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures.
	Member States shall establish threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation.
	□ D4C3 — Secondary:
	The size distribution of individuals across the trophic guild is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures.
	Member States shall establish threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation.
	$\square$ D4C3 — Secondary (to be used in support of criterion D4C2, where necessary):
	Productivity of the trophic guild is not adversely affected due to anthropogenic pressures.
	Member States shall establish threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation.
Descriptor 5	□ D5C1 — Primary:
	Nutrient concentrations are not at levels that indicate adverse eutrophication effects.
	The threshold values are as follows:
	(a) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
	(b) beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation
	☐ D5C2 — Primary:

Chlorophyll a concentrations are not at levels that indicate adverse effects of nutrient enrichment.
The threshold values are as follows:
(c) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
(d) beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
☐ D5C3 — Secondary:
The number, spatial extent and duration of harmful algal bloom events are not at levels that indicate adverse effects of nutrient enrichment.
$\square$ D5C4 — Secondary:
The photic limit (transparency) of the water column is not reduced, due to increases in suspended algae, to a level that indicates adverse effects of nutrient enrichment.
The threshold values are as follows:
(e) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
(f) beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
$\square$ D5C5 — Primary (may be substituted by D5C8):
The concentration of dissolved oxygen is not reduced, due to nutrient enrichment, to levels that indicate adverse effects on benthic habitats (including on associated biota and mobile species) or other eutrophication effects.
The threshold values are as follows:
(g) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
(h) beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
□ D5C6 — Secondary:
The abundance of opportunistic macroalgae is not at levels that indicate adverse effects of nutrient enrichment.
The threshold values are as follows:
(a) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
(b) should this criterion be relevant for waters beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
□ D5C7 — Secondary:
The species composition and relative abundance or depth distribution of macrophyte communities achieve values that indicate there is no adverse effect due to nutrient enrichment including via a decrease in water transparency, as follows:

	(a) in coastal waters, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
	(b) should this criterion be relevant for waters beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
	$\square$ D5C8 — Secondary: (except when used as a substitute for D5C5):
	The species composition and relative abundance of macrofaunal communities, achieve values that indicate that there is no adverse effect due to nutrient and organic enrichment, as follows:
	(a) in coastal waters, the values for benthic biological quality elements set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
	(b) beyond coastal waters, values consistent with those for coastal waters under Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall establish those values through regional or subregional cooperation.
Descriptor 6	□ D6C1 – Primary:
	Spatial extent and distribution of physical loss (permanent change) of the natural seabed.
	□ D6C2 – Primary:
	Spatial extent and distribution of physical disturbance pressures on the seabed.
	□ D6C3 – Primary:
	Spatial extent of each habitat type which is adversely affected, through change in its biotic and abiotic structure and its functions (e.g. through changes in species composition and their relative abundance, absence of particularly sensitive or fragile species or species providing a key function, size structure of species), by physical disturbance.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for the adverse effects of physical disturbance, through regional or subregional cooperation.
	□ D6C4 – Primary:
	The extent of loss of the habitat type, resulting from anthropogenic pressures, does not exceed a specified proportion of the natural extent of the habitat type in the assessment area.
	Member States shall establish the maximum allowable extent of habitat loss as a proportion of the total natural extent of the habitat type, through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.
	□ D6C5 – Primary:
	The extent of adverse effects from anthropogenic pressures on the condition of the habitat type, including alteration to its biotic and abiotic structure and its functions (e.g. its typical species composition and their relative abundance, absence of particularly sensitive or fragile species or species providing a key function, size structure of species), does not exceed a specified proportion of the natural extent of the habitat type in the assessment area.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for adverse effects on the condition of

	each habitat type, ensuring compatibility with related values set under Descriptors 2, 5,
	6, 7 and 8, through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities. Member States shall establish the maximum allowable extent of those adverse effects as a proportion of the total natural extent of the habitat type, through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.
Descriptor 7	□ D7C1 – Secondary:
	Spatial extent and distribution of permanent alteration of hydrographical conditions (e.g. changes in wave action, currents, salinity, temperature) to the seabed and water column, associated in particular with physical loss(1) of the natural seabed.
	□ D7C2 – Secondary:
	Spatial extent of each benthic habitat type adversely affected (physical and hydrographical characteristics and associated biological communities) due to permanent alteration of hydrographical conditions.
Descriptor 8	□ D8C1 – Primary:
	Within coastal and territorial waters, the concentrations of contaminants do not exceed the following threshold values:
	(a) for contaminants set out under point 1(a) of criteria elements, the values set in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
	(b) when contaminants under point (a) are measured in a matrix for which no value is set under Directive 2000/60/EC, the concentration of those contaminants in that matrix established by Member States through regional or subregional cooperation;
	(c) for additional contaminants selected under point 1(b) of criteria elements, the concentrations for a specified matrix (water, sediment or biota) which may give rise to pollution effects. Member States shall establish these concentrations through regional or subregional cooperation, considering their application within and beyond coastal and territorial waters.
	Beyond territorial waters, the concentrations of contaminants do not exceed the following threshold values:
	(a) for contaminants selected under point 2(a) of criteria elements, the values as applicable within coastal and territorial waters;
	(b) for contaminants selected under point 2(b) of criteria elements, the concentrations for a specified matrix (water, sediment or biota) which may give rise to pollution effects. Member States shall establish these concentrations through regional or subregional cooperation.
	□ D8C2 – Secondary:
	The health of species and the condition of habitats (such as their species composition and relative abundance at locations of chronic pollution) are not adversely affected due to contaminants including cumulative and synergetic effects.
	Member States shall establish those adverse effects and their threshold values through regional or subregional cooperation.

	□ D8C3 – Primary:
	The spatial extent and duration of significant acute pollution events are minimised.
	$\square$ D8C4 – Secondary (to be used when a significant acute pollution event has occurred):
	The adverse effects of significant acute pollution events on the health of species and on the condition of habitats (such as their species composition and relative abundance) are minimised and, where possible, eliminated.
Descriptor 9	□ D9C1 – Primary:
	The level of contaminants in edible tissues (muscle, liver, roe, flesh or other soft parts, as appropriate) of seafood (including fish, crustaceans, molluscs, echinoderms, seaweed and other marine plants) caught or harvested in the wild (excluding fin-fish from mariculture) does not exceed:
	<ul> <li>(a) for contaminants listed in Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, the maximum levels laid down in that Regulation, which are the threshold values for the purposes of this Decision;</li> </ul>
	(b) for additional contaminants, not listed in Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, threshold values, which Member States shall establish through regional or subregional cooperation.
Descriptor 10	□ D10C1 – Primary:
	The composition, amount and spatial distribution of litter on the coastline, in the surface layer of the water column, and on the seabed, are at levels that do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for these levels through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.
	□ D10C2 — Primary:
	The composition, amount and spatial distribution of micro-litter on the coastline, in the surface layer of the water column, and in seabed sediment, are at levels that do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for these levels through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.
	□ D10C3 — Secondary:
	The amount of litter and micro-litter ingested by marine animals is at a level that does not adversely affect the health of the species concerned. Member States shall establish threshold values for these levels through regional or subregional cooperation.
	□ D10C4 — Secondary:
	The number of individuals of each species which are adversely affected due to litter, such as by entanglement, other types of injury or mortality, or health effects. Member States shall establish threshold values for the adverse effects of litter, through regional or subregional cooperation.

Descriptor 11	□ D11C1 – Primary:
	The spatial distribution, temporal extent, and levels of anthropogenic impulsive sound sources do not exceed levels that adversely affect populations of marine animals.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for these levels through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.
	□ D11C2 – Primary:
	The spatial distribution, temporal extent and levels of anthropogenic continuous low-frequency sound do not exceed levels that adversely affect populations of marine animals.
	Member States shall establish threshold values for these levels through cooperation at Union level, taking into account regional or subregional specificities.

# d. References

Make a list of cited references and literature for further supportive information.