

Workshop Swimway Wadden Sea, Hamburg III, 26-27 January 2017, Thünen Institute

Participants: See [annex 1](#) list of participants

26th January

Time	Programme
1	Scope meeting
2.	Presentation Swimway approach: where are we now and how to proceed? by Paddy Walker
3.	Presentation draft QSR Fish about current ecological status Wadden Sea by Niels Jepsen
4.	State of the art Netherlands by Wilco de Bruijne
5.	State of the art Niedersachsen/Hamburg by Christian Abel
6.	State of the art Schleswig-Holstein by Klaus Kosmagk-Stephan
7.	State of the art Schleswig Denmark by Niels Jepsen
8.	Recapturing main conclusions day 1

27th January

Time	Programme
9.	Parallel in 4 working groups to discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none">Swimway 2018-2024 programme (Scope)Actions for 2017/2018 4 groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Organisation, funding and commitment: Paddy (chair), Niels, GerardResearch and monitoring: Ralf (chair), Erwin, Andreas, Christoph, Loes, Ingrid, Holger, Harald, AnnePolicy and measures: Christian (chair), Klaus, Henk, Roef, Hans Ulrich, MortenStakeholder involvement and communication: Wouter (chair during workshop), Henrik, Kerry (chair after workshop).
10.	Results day 2

1. Scope meeting

After an introduction of the participants' and members of the coordination team attending the workshop, Martha Buitenkamp summarizes the aim of the workshop:

To develop a working strategy to develop the trilateral Swimway Wadden Sea programme 2018-2024. The intention is that the programme will be signed by the three ministers at the Ministerial conference in May 2018 Leeuwarden. The workshop we will start with the state of the art on fish in the Wadden Sea as described in the QSR 2016. We will then identify per country the current policies,

measures and stakeholder involvement, as well as the current activities in communication and education. This will provide the basis for further identifying what needs to be done in order to write a draft programme Swimway Wadden Sea 2018-2024 We will finish on day 2 with a wrap-up in which we decide on the next steps and identify who does what.

2. Swimway Approach

Paddy Walker presents the Swimway approach, approved by the Wadden Sea Board November 3th 2016.

The presentation is added in annex 2.

3. QSR 2017

Niels Jepsen presents the main conclusions in the fish chapter from the draft Quality Status Report 2017 and gives an overview of the work being done in Denmark to improve fish migration. The presentation is added annex 3.

4. Current state Netherlands

Wilco de Bruijne presents an overview of the Dutch current state of research and monitoring (not covered by the QSR), existing policies, current and planned measurements and education and communication activities. Erwin adds that information about the reintroduction of the North Sea houting in Germany and the results in the Dutch part of the Wadden Sea should be taken into account. His message is that there are multiple external factors and policies that also affect fish populations in the (Dutch) Wadden Sea, not only Dutch policies and factors of influence. Wouter adds that there is an online tool: Waddenzee vis monitor (www.waddenzeevismonitor.nl), which gives broad access to existing data, but is in Dutch.

The presentation is added annex 4.

5. Current state Niedersachsen/Hamburg

Christian Abel presents an overview of the current state in Niedersachsen/Hamburg of research and monitoring (not covered by the QSR), existing policies, current and planned measurements and education and communication activities. In reaction to questions, Christian will add a monitoring point to the map. Harald suggests that more data are available.

The presentation is added annex 5.

6. Current state Schleswig Holstein

Klaus Kosmagk-Stephan presents an overview of the current state in Schleswig Holstein of research and monitoring (not covered by the QSR), existing policies, current and planned measurements and education and communication activities. In reaction to questions, Klaus promises to provide more information about the reintroduction of the sturgeon.

The presentation is added annex 6

7. Current state Denmark

Henrik Pind Jorgensen presents an overview of the Danish current state of research and monitoring (not covered by the QSR), existing policies, current and planned measurements and education and

communication activities. Attention is drawn to the EU Eel directive, the app “beach explorer”, the mussels and cockles project by DTU Aqua and citizen-survey data, also in the Netherlands.

In the MSC certification process of the brown shrimp fishery about 400 fishermen participate, 200 Dutch, 180 German and 28 Danish. For the MSC certification process they are obliged to collect data on the endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species.

The presentation is added [annex 7](#).

8. Conclusions day 1

- The guild approach will be used. Mind the habitats.
- New targets QSR 2017 will be used.
 - The QSR group will adjust the targets, emphasizing the need for improvement
 - The working groups use the adjusted targets
- Using Flagship (and fleet) species
 - Should be ecologically relevant and useful for communication purposes.
 - Selection of species based upon previous defined criteria and somehow also fitting in EU Directives
 - Working groups will decide about flagship and fleet species (there is always a fleet behind the flagship)
- The proposed content of the action programme (2018-2024) is ok. The proposed index is added in [annex 8](#).
- Monitoring seems to be the sole but weak basis for fish management up to now, we need more hypothesis based research.
- A trilateral research agenda is being made. The Swimway group should be linked to this activity to avoid redundancy.
- Data are collected at several places by different organisations. Dissemination of data sources and increased accessibility is required.
- Political commitment is essential. The Swimway approach should therefore provide added value for politicians and policy makers and we should put a lot of effort in making that clear. Showcases will help.
- Swimway should be fun, sexy. Connecting countries in working towards a sustainable Wadden Sea. We need to have a clear message, logo, and an ambassador and resources such as brochures, website and presence in social media. Participation at the 21th April Fish migration day 2018 and the trilateral scientific symposium 8-11 May 2017 in Denmark (www.svana.dk/iswss14) would be wise.
- Stakeholders such as fishermen, NGO’s and policymakers should be involved now. This is a trilateral responsibility. A stakeholder meeting in Q4 may be organised.

9. Results of the working groups.

The working group presented their results. This results were discussed in plenary.

A first action resulting from the discussions in the organisation working group will be to send around a short mission statement. The working group research and monitoring listed the relevant topics and assigned the members to elaborate this into a short text. These texts will be available 1st of March and will be distributed for comments. The three other working groups will write down their results by 15th of March and send them to the coordination group. The coordination group will compose a coherent document.

10. Results day 2

Concluded was that although the guild approach is a workable structure, we will start with the elaboration of the topics as listed in the proposed content of the action programme. The research and monitoring group will select the flagship and fleet species per guild at a later moment. This can then be used for detailed research and monitoring actions, policies and measures. The coordination group should “guide” the experts to deliver their contribution at the right moment and in the right shape. For stakeholder involvement, communication and funding, we will need the expertise from people who did not attend this workshop.

Proposal “Message“ (not discussed at the workshop but added afterwards)

The Swimway Wadden Sea

The Swimway concept encompasses all fish species which use the entire Wadden Sea area in any stage of their life-cycle. Some spent their entire life in the Wadden Sea, some are only there as juveniles to feed and grow up or as adults to spawn or search for food and others only pass the area as migratory fish. The concept is to identify the role the Wadden Sea plays in the population dynamics of these species. By combining an analysis of current policy and management with insights into the population dynamics of fish species, we aim to create a trilateral coherent management programme for fish species in the Wadden Sea.