

Agenda Item 15

Continued Revision to National Reporting  
Format

Document Inf.15.c

**Annual National Report 2016:  
Finland**

**Action Requested**

- Take note

Submitted by

Finland



**NOTE:  
DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED  
TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

## **Secretariat's Note**

The Rules of Procedure adopted at the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee remain in force until and unless an amendment is called for and adopted.

## National Reporting Format for ASCOBANS

2016

As outlined in ASCOBANS Resolution 8.1 on National Reporting, the national reports covering the year 2016 will cover the following Sections of the Annex to the Resolution:

- Section I
- Section II B3, B4, C8 and D15
- Section VII

The reports submitted will inform discussions at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee (5-7 September 2017, Le Conquet, France) and will tailor its agenda to focus on the topics selected for this national report.

### **Section I: General Information**

#### **Party Information**

##### **Name of Party**

Finland

##### **National Coordinator (Focal Point) for ASCOBANS**

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(Name, Function, Organization, Postal Address, Telephone, Email)

##### **Contributors to the report**

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(for each one: Name, Function, Organization, Postal Address, Telephone, Email)

##### **List of relevant national institutions**

**Text boxes** (List of national authorities, organizations, research centres and rescue centres active in the field of study and conservation of cetaceans. For each one: Name, Postal Address, Contact Person, Telephone, Email)

### **Section II: Habitat Conservation and Management (threats and pressures on cetaceans)**

**B. Disturbance (including potential physical impacts)**

**3. Noise (impulsive and continuous/ambient)**

3.1) To which noise registers/databases has your country contributed to date?

- [ICES Impulsive Noise Register](#) (for HELCOM and OSPAR Parties): **yes/no**
- National registry, please specify (e.g. JNCC noise registry): **None**
- Other, please provide details: **None**

3.2) The perceived level of risk that underwater noise is posing to the favourable conservation status (FCS) of small cetaceans, i.e. is the pressure increasing, decreasing, staying the same or unknown:

**Unknown. Monitoring in operation, but not yet enough data to evaluate trends.**

3.3) Any notable instances/issues in the reporting period including providing information on planned or completed significant developments/activities, including the details of EIAs and monitoring in place before, during and after the project:

<i>Development/activity (e.g. windfarm)</i>	<i>Status (planned/completed)</i>	<i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</i>	<i>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</i>	<i>Monitoring conducted</i>	<i>Further information on noise management</i>	<i>Latitude WGS 84</i>	<i>Longitude WGS 84</i>
	<i>Planned/completed/Not Applicable</i>	<i>Done/foreseen/not required/Not Applicable</i>	<i>Done/foreseen/not required/Not Applicable</i>			<i>Degree decimal to 4 places</i>	<i>Degree decimal to 4 places</i>
<b>Tahkoluoto offshore windfarm</b>	<b>In construction</b>	<b>Done</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>		<b>Underwater noise studies in progress</b>	<b>61.63</b>	<b>21.37</b>

3.4) How is the pressure being managed, including a list of relevant regulations / guidelines and the year of implementation (current and planned):

**HELCOM Guidelines for establishing environmental targets for underwater noise. Planning and implementation in progress.**

3.5) List relevant new research/work/collaboration:

- **Sustainable Shipping and Environment of the Baltic Sea Region (SHEBA) – project: Shipping noise effects**
- **EMFF Underwater noise –project: impacts of man-made underwater noise**
- **HELCOM EN Noise –group**

3.6) Report on noise management for cumulative impact, including assessment of associated or coincidental activities, regulations and guidelines, seismic shot point densities and level of impact that was assessed and deemed acceptable:

- **No management of underwater noise in effect thus far.**
- **Studies conducted on marine activities as well as ecological impacts of noise to provide basis for future management.**

#### 4. Ocean Energy

##### Wind Energy

4.1) Please enter one table per wind farm.

Name of wind farm	<b>Tahkoluoto offshore windfarm</b>
First operational on (if in planning, then please enter foreseen grid connection date)	<b>Autumn 2017</b>
Output in megawatts per turbine	<b>4,2 MW</b>
Number of turbines	<b>10</b>
How were the individual wind turbines installed in the seabed?	Pile-driving/suction bucket/ gravity foundation/ tripod foundation/ other, please specify:  <b>Stainless steel case cassion foundation</b>  <a href="#"><u>Video on constructions</u></a>
Was scour protection added?	<b>Yes/No/Unknown</b>
Noise mitigation during construction used (multiple ticks possible)	Single bubble curtains  Double bubble curtains  Acoustic Deterrent Devices  Time/area closures  Other, please specify:  <b>Unknown</b>

<i>If the wind farm is floating, how was it anchored?</i>	<b>No</b>
<i>Additional information (optional):</i>	

**Wave Power**<sub>[PB1]</sub>

4.2) Please enter one table per wave power installation.

<i>Name of installation</i>	
<i>First operational on (if in planning, then please enter foreseen grid connection date)</i>	dd/mm/yy
<i>Location</i>	
<i>Output in megawatts per turbine</i>	
<i>Number of turbines</i>	
<i>How is the installation anchored?</i>	
<i>Was scour protection added?</i>	Yes/No/Not Applicable

**Tidal Energy**<sub>[PB2]</sub>

4.3) Please enter one table per tidal energy installation.

<i>Name of installation</i>	
<i>First operational on (if in planning, then please enter foreseen grid connection date)</i>	dd/mm/yy
<i>Location</i>	
<i>Output in megawatts per turbine</i>	
<i>Number of turbines</i>	
<i>Type</i>	<i>Floating/gravity/other, please specify:</i>
<i>Collision mitigation</i>	<i>No/ Yes, please specify:</i>

**Tidal lagoon/barrage**<sup>[PB3]</sup>

4.4) Please enter one table per tidal lagoon/barrage.

Name of installation	
First operational on (if in planning, then please enter foreseen grid connection date)	dd/mm/yy
Location	
Output in megawatts per turbine	
Number of turbines	
Collision mitigation	No/ Yes, please specify:

4.5) The perceived level of risk to favourable conservation status (FCS), i.e. is the pressure increasing, decreasing, staying the same or unknown:

Energy type	Status 2016 relative to previous years
Wind energy	Increasing?/decreasing/unchanged/unknown/Not Applicable
Wave power	Increasing/decreasing/unchanged/unknown/ <b>Not Applicable</b>
Tidal energy	Increasing/decreasing/unchanged/unknown/ <b>Not Applicable</b>
Tidal lagoon/barrage	Increasing/decreasing/unchanged/unknown/ <b>Not Applicable</b>

4.6) Any notable instances/issues in the reporting period

**None**

4.7) How the pressure is being managed, incl. relevant regulations / guidelines and the year of implementation (current and planned)

**Planning and land use are one of the main things to manage pressures already beforehand. The Finnish Government made a decision on the national land use guidelines in 2000. The decision was revised with regard to the content of the guidelines**

on 13 November 2008. In other respects, such as the legal foundation and legal effects of the guidelines, the decision of 2000 remained valid.

General

There are several guidelines and review regarding wind farm constructions, but these are more focused to land based wind parks:

- [Modelling of wind turbine noise](#) (Environmental Administration Guidelines 2 | 2014)
- [Wind power construction](#) (web page)

Regarding the effect on offshore wind power plants on animals, there are some publications:

- [Review on the effects of offshore wind power facilities on fish, sea mammals and sea birds.](#) Vehanen, T., Hario, M., Kunnasranta, M. & Auvinen, H. 2010. Riista- ja kalatalous – Selvityksiä 17/2010 36 p.
- [Planning wind farm construction. Update 2016.](#) (Environmental Administration Guidelines 5 | 2016)

4.8 ) Relevant new research/work/collaboration

- [BIAS project – The Baltic Sea Information on the Acoustic Soundscape,](#)
- [Underwater noise in the Baltic Sea a risk for fish and marine mammals \(Press release\)](#)

## C. Habitat Change and Degradation (incl. potential physical impacts)

### 8. Unexploded Ordnance

8.1) To which registers/databases covering conventional and chemical munitions has your country contributed to date?

OSPAR

Other, please state: **HELCOM**  
(<http://www.helcom.fi/Lists/Publications/BSEP142.pdf>)

None.

Unknown.

8.2) Please fill in table 8.2 (below) on unexploded ordnance, which except for the last four additional columns is the same as the OSPAR one. For explanation of terms see [http://www.ascobans.org/sites/default/files/document/AC22\\_Inf\\_4.6.c\\_OSPAR\\_MunitionsRec2010.pdf](http://www.ascobans.org/sites/default/files/document/AC22_Inf_4.6.c_OSPAR_MunitionsRec2010.pdf)

8.3) The perceived level of risk that unexploded ordnance and the management thereof is posing to the favourable conservation status (FCS) of small cetaceans, i.e. is the pressure increasing, decreasing, staying the same or unknown.

**Unknown**

8.4) Any notable instances/issues in the reporting period.

8.5) How is the pressure being managed, incl. relevant regulations/guidelines and the year of implementation (current and planned)

The **MERCW** (Modelling of Ecological Risks Related to Sea-Dumped Chemical Weapons) project (2005-2009) aimed to model the environmental risks related to chemical weapons dumped in the Baltic Sea. The project carried out focused research and technology developments on the Bornholm dumpsite. Finland was one of the partners of this project.

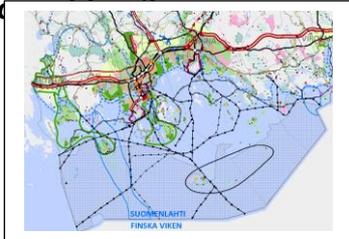
In the Baltic Sea area **CHEMSEA** (Chemical Munitions Search & Assessment) project (2011-2014) investigated official and unofficial dumping sites. CHEMSEA reviewed national CWA legislation and formulated **guidelines** for munition handling as well as hazardous waste and contaminated sediment disposal. Finland was one of the partners of this project.

8.6) Relevant new research/work/collaboration

The HELCOM Expert Group on Environmental Risks of Hazardous Submerged Objects (**SUBMERGED**) works to compile and assess information about all kinds of hazardous objects and assess the associated risks.

**D. Management of Cumulative Impacts**

**15. Marine Spatial Planning**

<p>Plan(s) in force</p>	<p>None yet according to the directive. But there is one <b>Landscape Plan in force for Kymenlaakso</b> marine area (eastern part of the Gulf of Finland), where underwater bio- and geodiversity was taken in to</p> 
<p>Plan(s) in preparation</p>	<p>Three spatial plans will be drafted for Finnish marine area by eight coastal regional councils according national legislation. The Ministry of the Environment and the coastal regional councils have started development of working processes as well as the form and content of the maritime spatial plans.</p>
<p>Further information, including links to online resources and maps where available</p>	<p>The national legislation on maritime spatial planning came into force in October 2016. To implement these plans, a coordination group representing the ministry and the coastal regional councils has established. Among other</p>

	<p><i>issues this group will collect the information needed for planning. For the development of the maritime planning process and maritime spatial plans a network of all concerned parties will be established. The network will mainly communicate via internet but also have meetings. The plans will be drafted jointly by regional councils on GIS based platform, which will be established as well. The Maritime Portal is tasked to support planning, possibly providing a platform for information source and as communication tool.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>HELCOM country fiche on Maritime Spatial Planning</u></a></p>
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**Section VII: Other Matters**

**A. Other information or comments important for the Agreement**

Text box

**B. Difficulties in implementing the Agreement**

Text box

