

Overview of HELCOM matters related to harbour porpoise

21 March 2023

HELCOM and the Strategic pause

- Since 4 March 2022
- **Strategic pause of all official meetings of HELCOM bodies and meetings of projects groups with Russian involvement**
- Prolonged until further notice
- The work is still ongoing (BSAP, WGs/EGs, HOLAS 3, etc.)



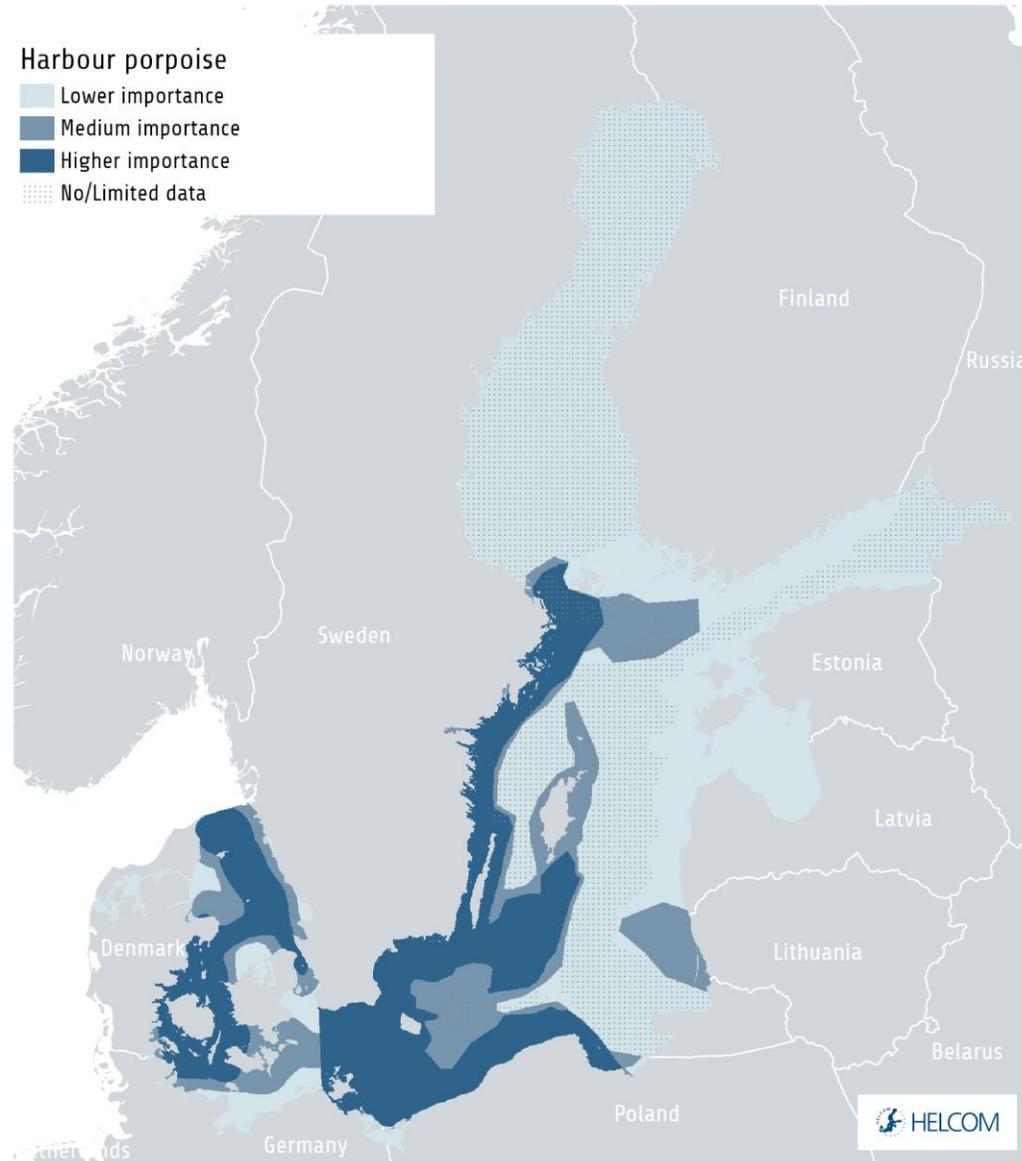
News from HOLAS 3

Holistic assessment / HOLAS 3 for 2016-2021. Results to be published online in 2023:

- Indicators online by end of **March 2023 (+ data!)**:
 - Harbour porpoise distribution
 - Harbour porpoise abundance and population trends
 - Number of drowned mammals and waterbirds in fishing gear
- Thematic assessments
 - **Biodiversity / final amendments + Approval at the latest in June 2023 for online publication**
 - Pollution
 - Eutrophication
 - Economic and Social Analyses
 - Spatial Distribution of Pressures and impacts
- Summary report (looking at the holistic aspect : What and Why) : **end of 2023**
- Review of HOLAS 3 – to come later



Spatial and Pressure Impact Index (SPIA) / cumulative impacts



Other relevant topics

- Secretariat involved in the ASCOBANS WG on MSP, drafting of the Cetacean-friendly MSP guidelines. To be discussed at the next informal consultation session of the joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG
- New ASCOBANS WG on offshore renewable energy / Secretariat in the loop / BSAP Action S58 on underwater noise.
- HELCOM Red List II project aiming to review the status of species and habitats/biotopes in the Baltic Sea and identify those under threat of extinction
 - Data call sent on 30.11.2022 / wider data call than for HOLAS 3 / countries to check and contact agnes.unnuk@helcom.fi if needed – deadline was 28.02.2023 but there is flexibility!

