

19th Meeting of the ASCOBANS Jastarnia Group

National Progress Report -Lithuania-

Ieva Čaraitė
Chief Desk Officer
Ministry of Environment

20-22 March 2023

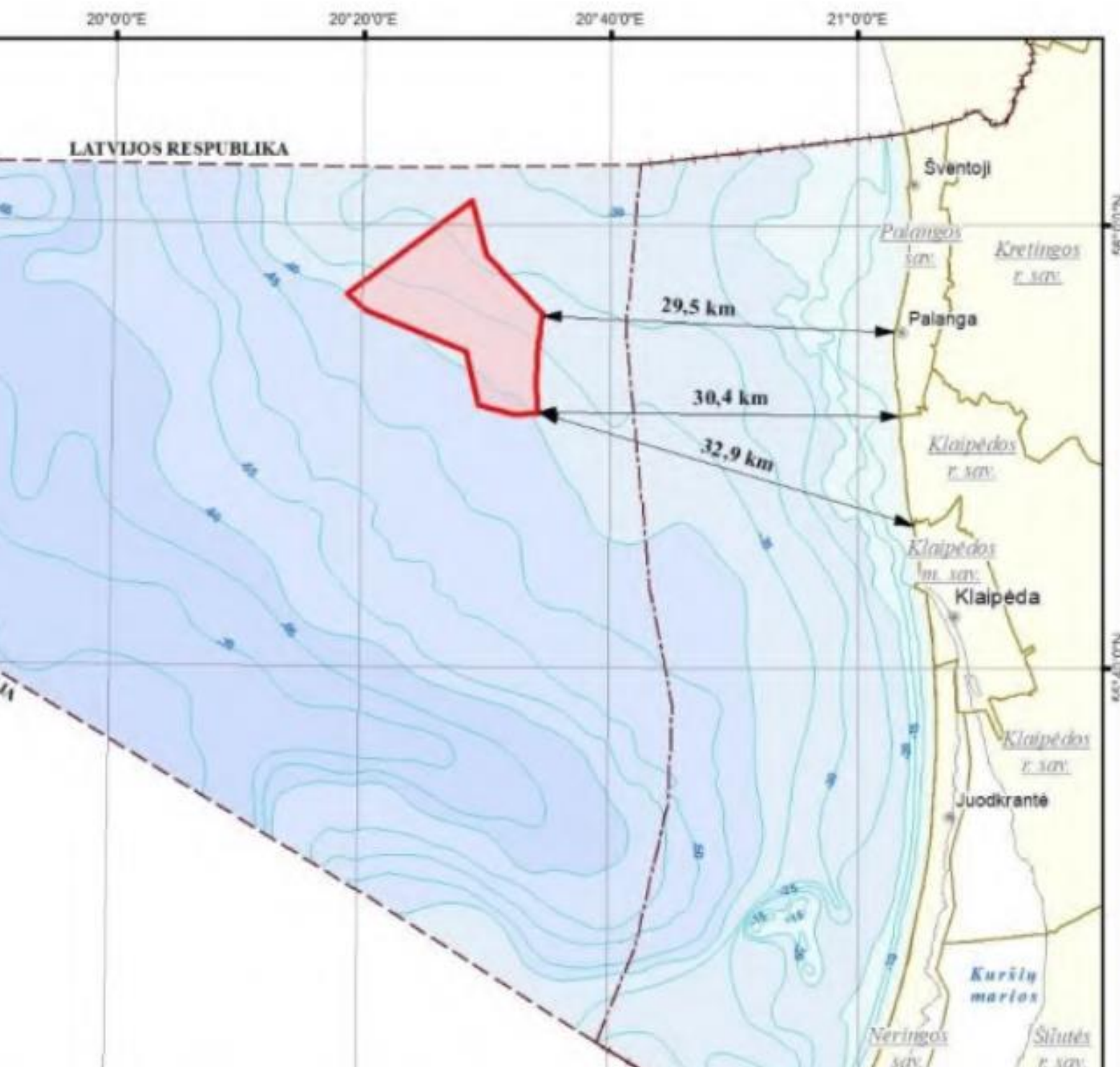


1. Increase involvement, awareness and cooperation

- International Baltic Harbour Porpoise Day
- Every year in Lithuanian Sea Museum
- 2022 – „A day without plastic. Dedication to the harbour porpoise“
 - Plastic waste in the sea relation to Harbour porpoise population decline.
 - Invited sustainable fashion house META



2. Monitor and estimate abundance and distribution



**Environmental Impact
Assessment Programme** for the
Installation and Operation of the
Offshore Wind Farm of up to 700
MW Installed Capacity in
Lithuania's Marine Territory
Institute of Coastal Research and Planning
Lithuania Ministry of Energy



DATA COLLECTION

2022 August

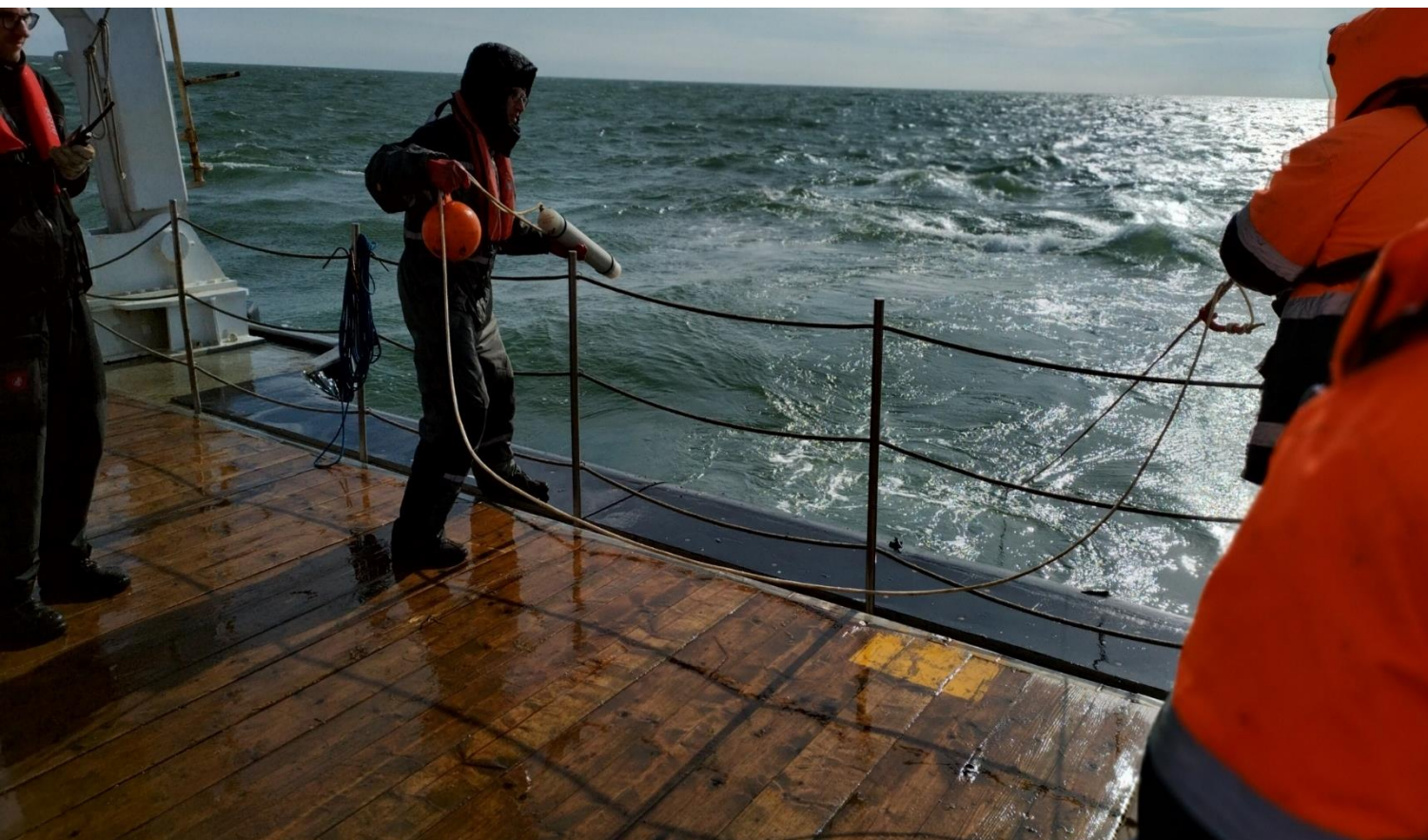
- No presence

2022
November

- No presence

2023 March

- Analysing



8 F-PODs, $r = 400$ m

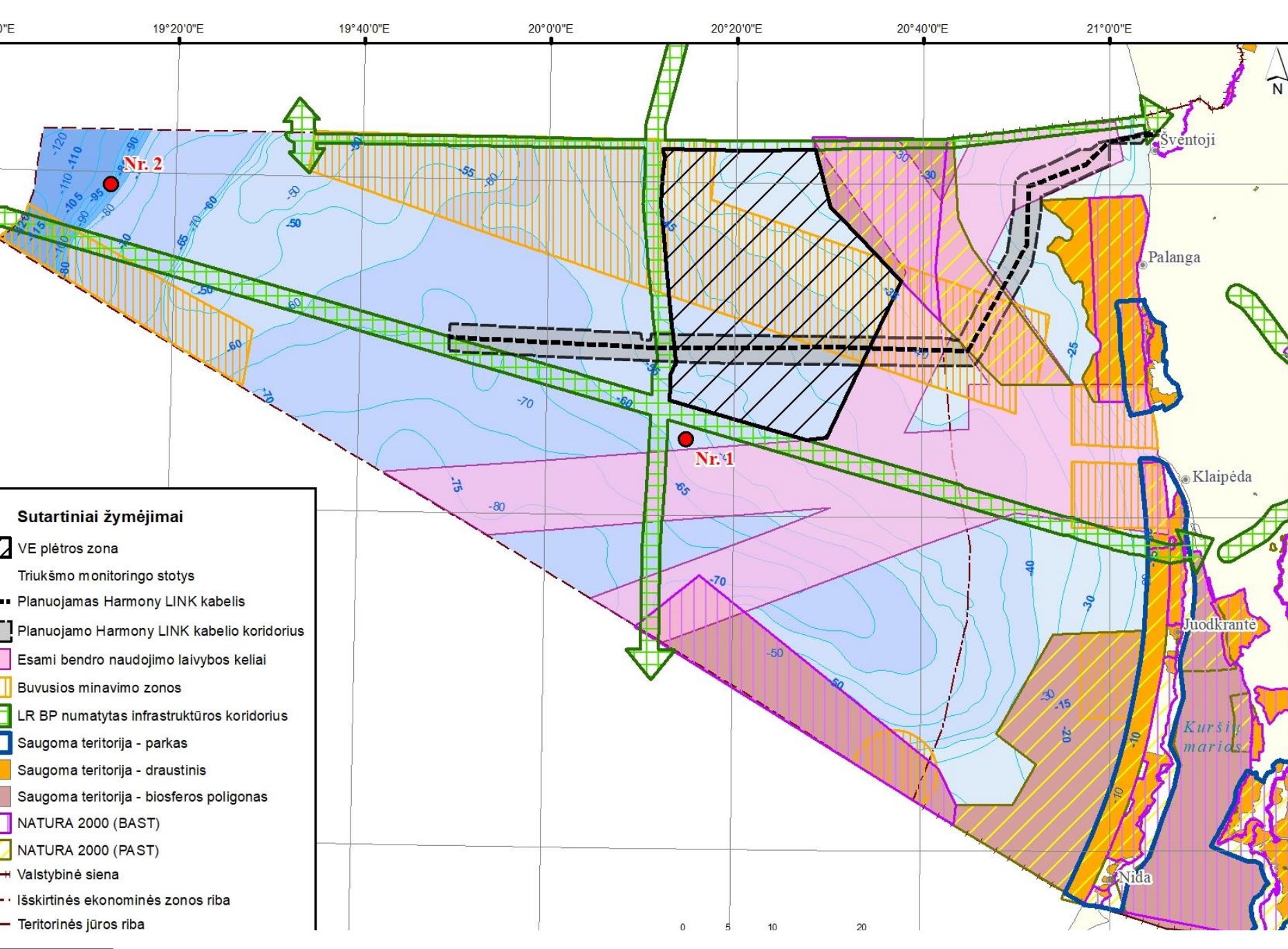
3. Monitor and mitigate impact of underwater noise

Project “Renewal of the Program of Measures and Implementation of Measures to Achieve a Good State of the Baltic Sea Environment in Lithuania” - anthropogenic continuous underwater noise levels

Klaipeda university

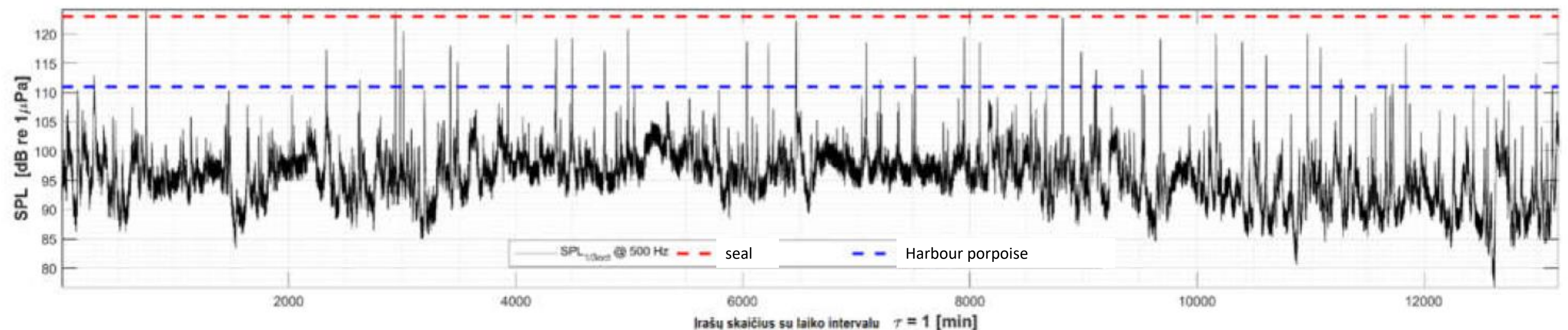
Environmental Protection Agency in LT

- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Water Framework Development Program 2017-2023
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)



Data registration: started 2022 March
finished 2022 July

- Observed spectrum pressure level (SPL) values exceed the HELCOM noise expert group proposed limit levels for Harbour porpoise.
- Such sudden changes in SPL time series can be interpreted as anthropogenic noise events, primarily caused by shipping, that can trigger behavioral responses in marine mammals (avoidance).



4. Monitor and assess population health status

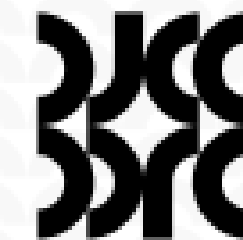
- Baltic Sea Animals Rehabilitation Center opened in 2022 October
- Established for seals health state assessment according to HELCOM recommendations:
 - 1) monitor reproductive state
 - 2) monitor blubber thickness
- Harbour porpoise can be necropsied here too.



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC
CONFERENCE-WORKSHOP

DOES THE WILDLIFE FEEL SAFE IN THE BALTIC SEA?

11-12 May 2023



BALTIJOS
JŪROS GYVŪNŲ
REABILITACIJOS
CENTRAS
Baltic Sea Animal
Rehabilitation Centre



Lithuanian Sea Museum, Baltic Sea Animal Rehabilitation Center (BSARC)

May 11th

Scientific
presentations

May 12th

Necropsy of
grey seal

<https://muziejus.lt/en/paslaugos/international-conference-does-wildlife-feel-safe-baltic-sea-1>

Thank you!

