

# **19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASCOBANS Jastarnia Group**

## **National Progress Report**

### **-Lithuania-**

**Ieva Čaraitė**  
**Chief Desk Officer**  
**Ministry of Environment**

20-22 March 2023

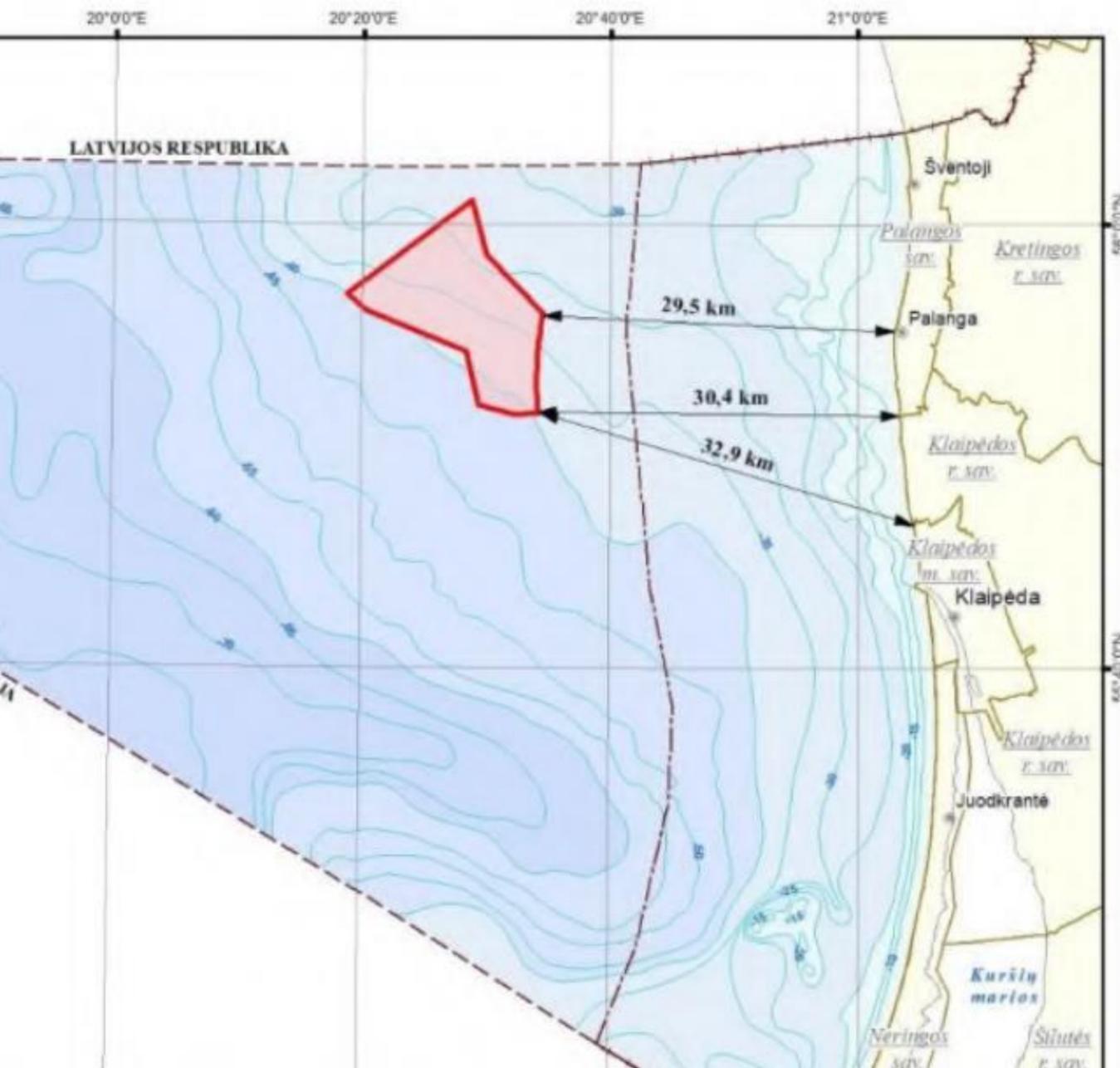


# 1. Increase involvement, awareness and cooperation

- 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

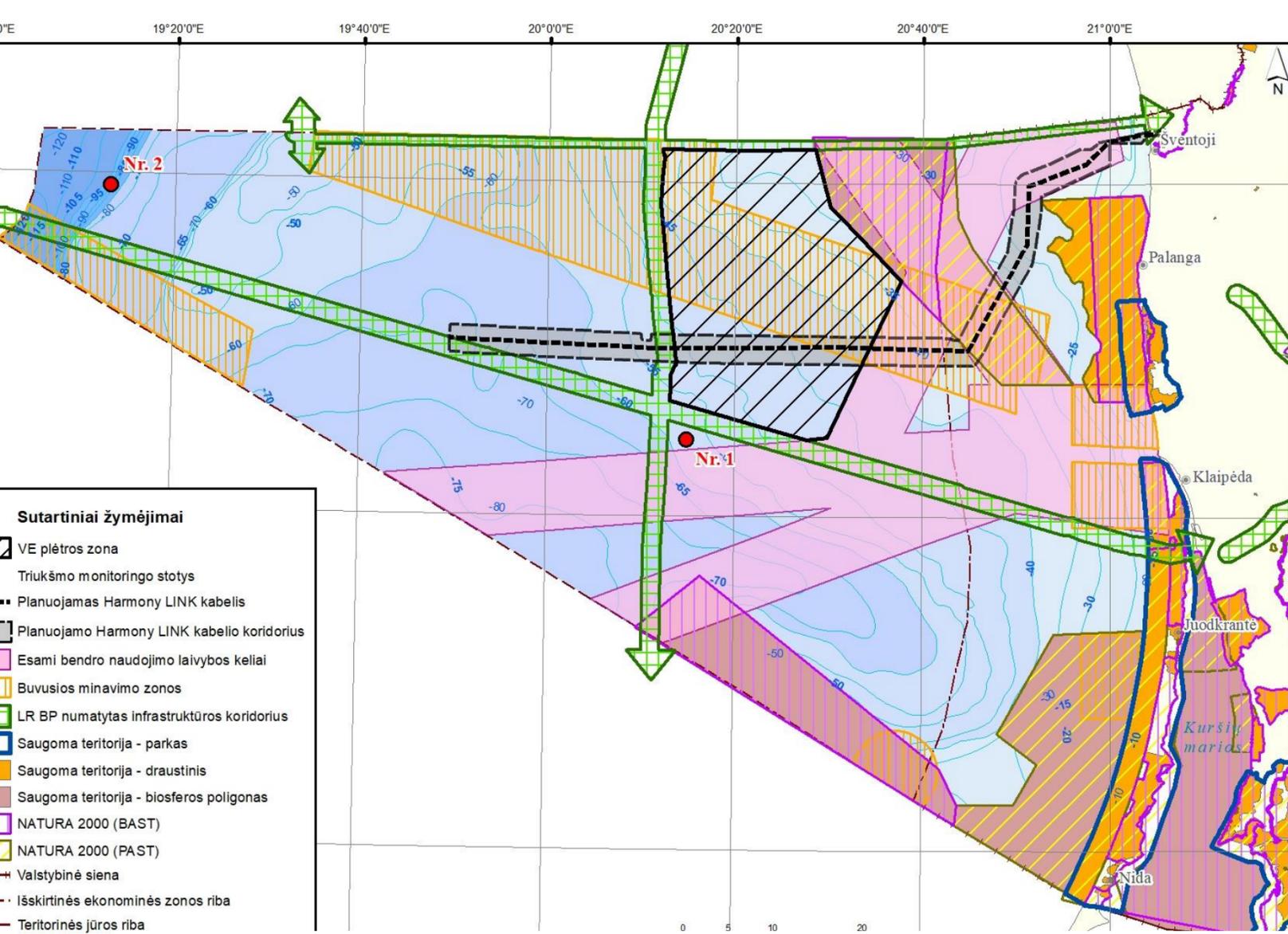
### **3. Monitor and mitigate impact of underwater noise**

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*

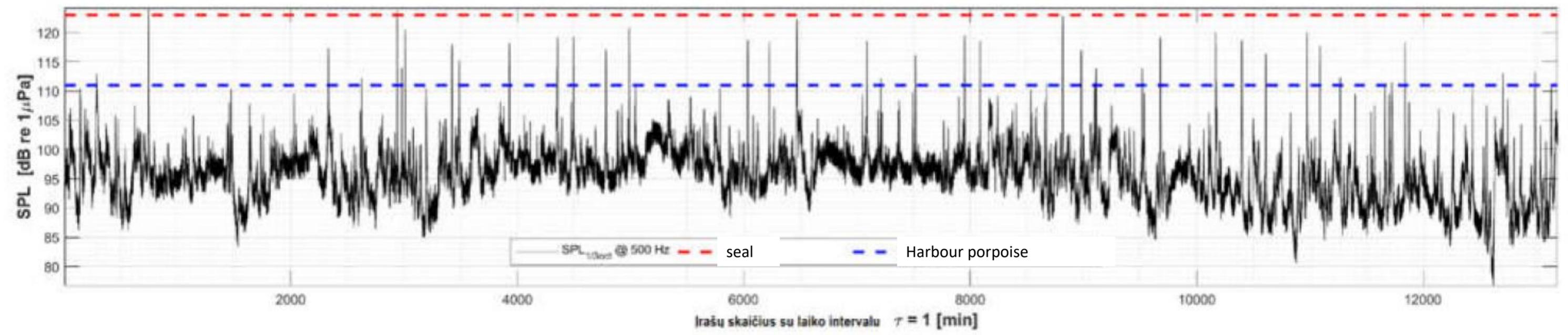
*Environmental Protection Agency in LT*

- 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

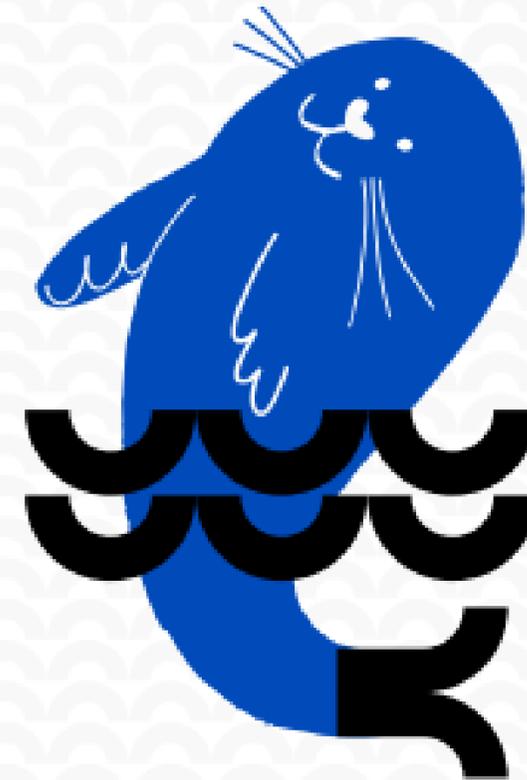
- Baltic Sea Animals Rehabilitation Center opened in 2022 October
- Established for seals health state assessment according to HELCOM recommendations:
  - 1) monitor reproductive state
  - 2) monitor blubber thickness
- Harbour porpoise can be necropsied here too.



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!

