

NATIONAL REPORT DENMARK 2023

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Input from:

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INCREASE INVOLVEMENT, AWARENESS AND COOPERATION

- Fjord&Belt in Kerteminde "Marine Tracker" app for porpoise detections
- Middelfart listening station, 2017 – ongoing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPOIRi9Ouls> and
<https://bios.au.dk/forskningraadgivning/temasider/baelt-i-balance/>

- Media interviews on SCANS-IV
- hvaler.dk on Facebook - very active



Hvaler.dk - Hval og sæl observationer i Danmark

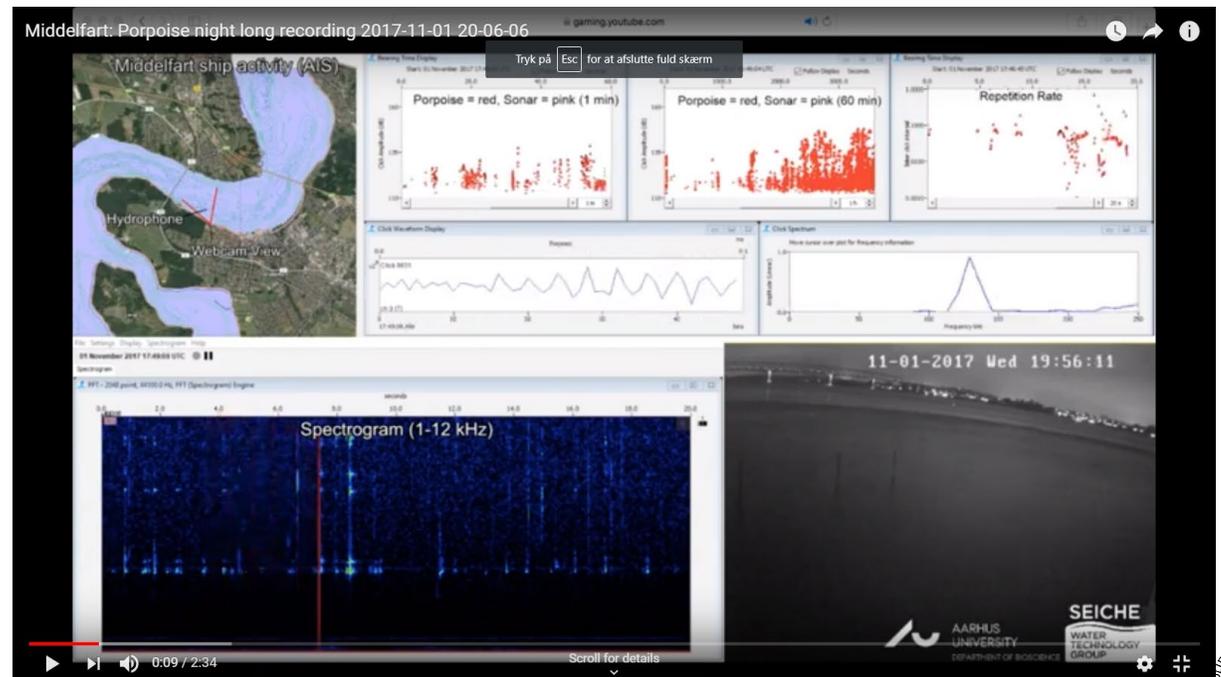
Offentlig gruppe · 10,3 tusind medlemmer



+ Inviter

Del

Medlem

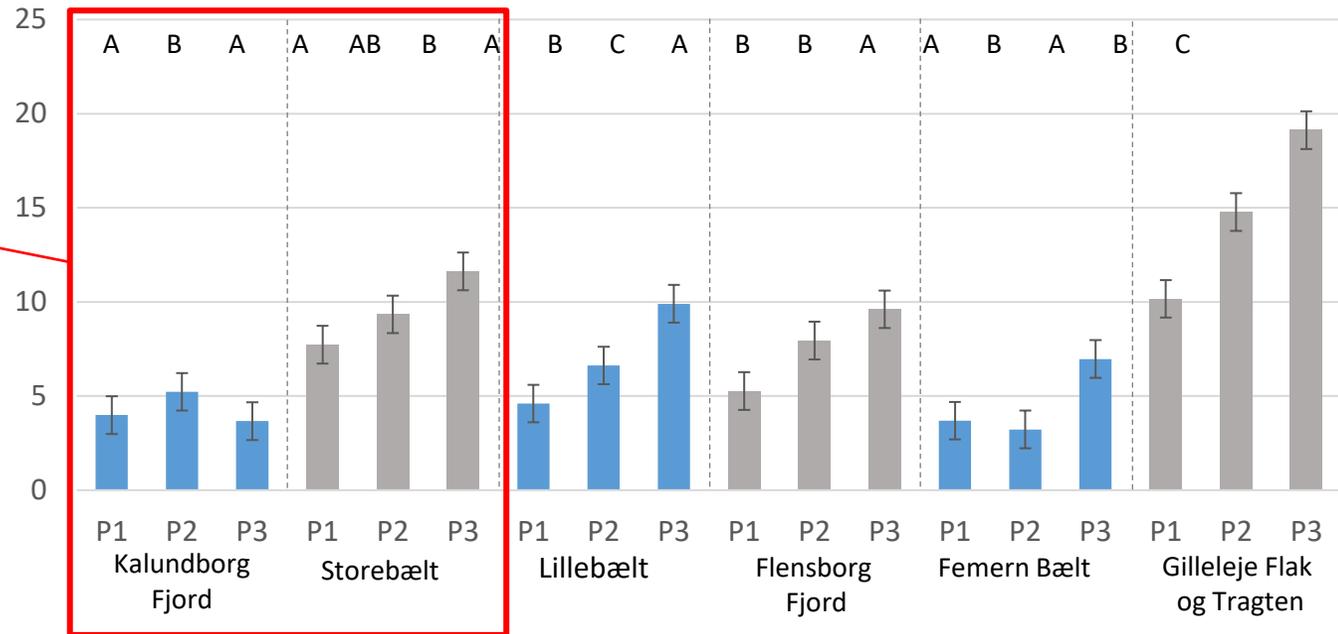
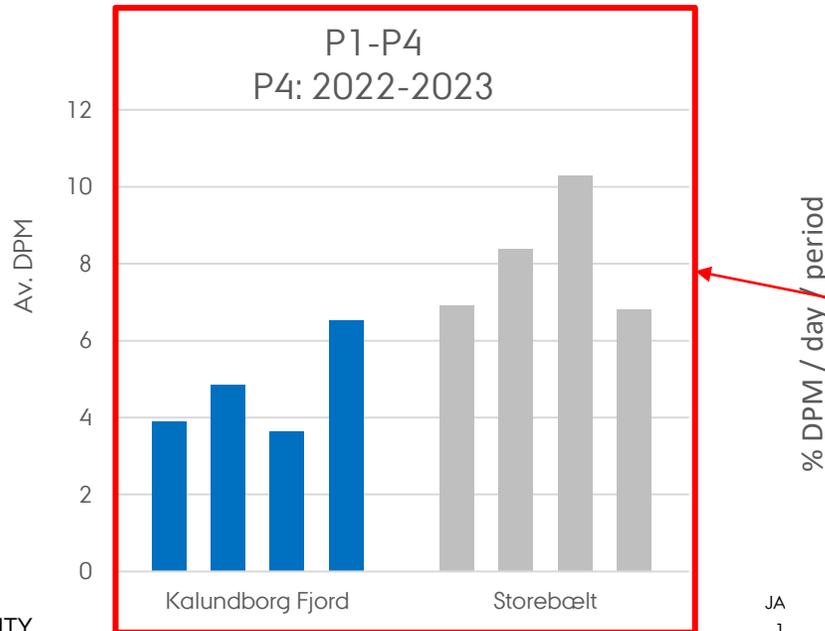
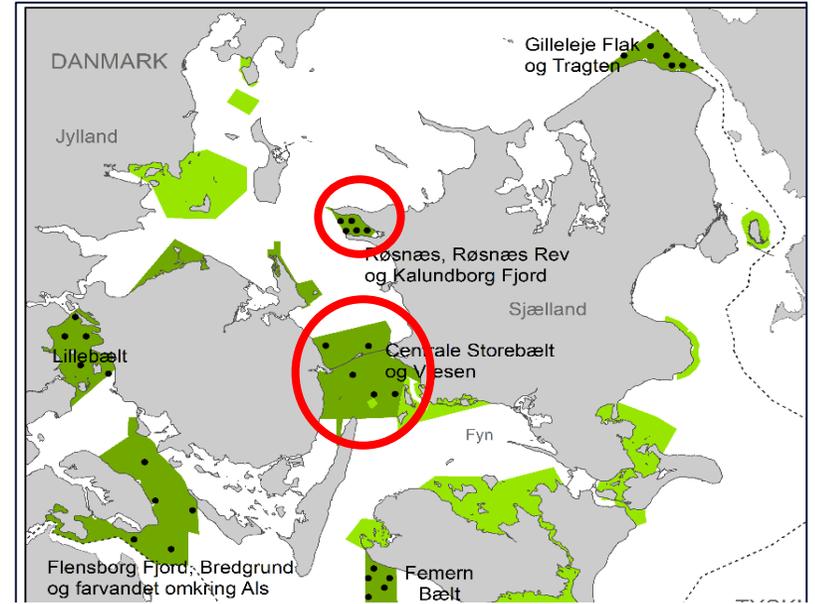


MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

WBBK

- SCANS-IV: continued decline
- PAM results 2011-2023 (2023 not published)



MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

Latest report is from 2020.

WBBK

- SCANS-IV: continued decline
- PAM results 2011-2023

BALTIC PROPER

- SAMBAH-II to begin in june 2024

MONITOR, ESTIMATE AND REDUCE BYCATCH



DTU AQUA



MONITOR AND MITIGATE IMPACT OF UNDERWATER NOISE

Projects/research/monitoring in underwater noise and its impact on harbour porpoises?

- National noise monitoring stations continued
- **SATURN**, 2021-2025. Impacts of disturbances on marine populations – the importance of animal movements and energetics. Studied by on-animal tags (D-tags).
- **A sound marin environment**: Monitoring of noise from ships and recreational vessels in Aarhus Bay, including effects on porpoises. To begin in 2024.
- **Energy Island North Sea/North Sea lot1**: Baseline monitoring of underwater noise in relation to offshore wind farm projects. – Including estimation of effect of geophysical surveys on baseline data
- **ENS screening project**: Soundscape mapping of Danish waters, with focus on contribution from wind farms.

MONITOR AND MITIGATE IMPACT OF UNDERWATER NOISE

Projects/research/monitoring in underwater noise and its impact on harbour porpoises?

Measures and mitigations

- Energy Agency **guidelines for pile driving** includes limits for exposures to noise and methods for assessment of projects. Use of noise abatement systems is de facto mandatory for pile driving.
- Energy Agency **guidelines for seismic surveys** with air guns, including requirements for soft starts
- Some guidelines for use of **detering sounds** prior to underwater explosions
- Development of **method for assessing impact** on porpoise from anthropogenic effects:
https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Notater_2024/N2024_07.pdf

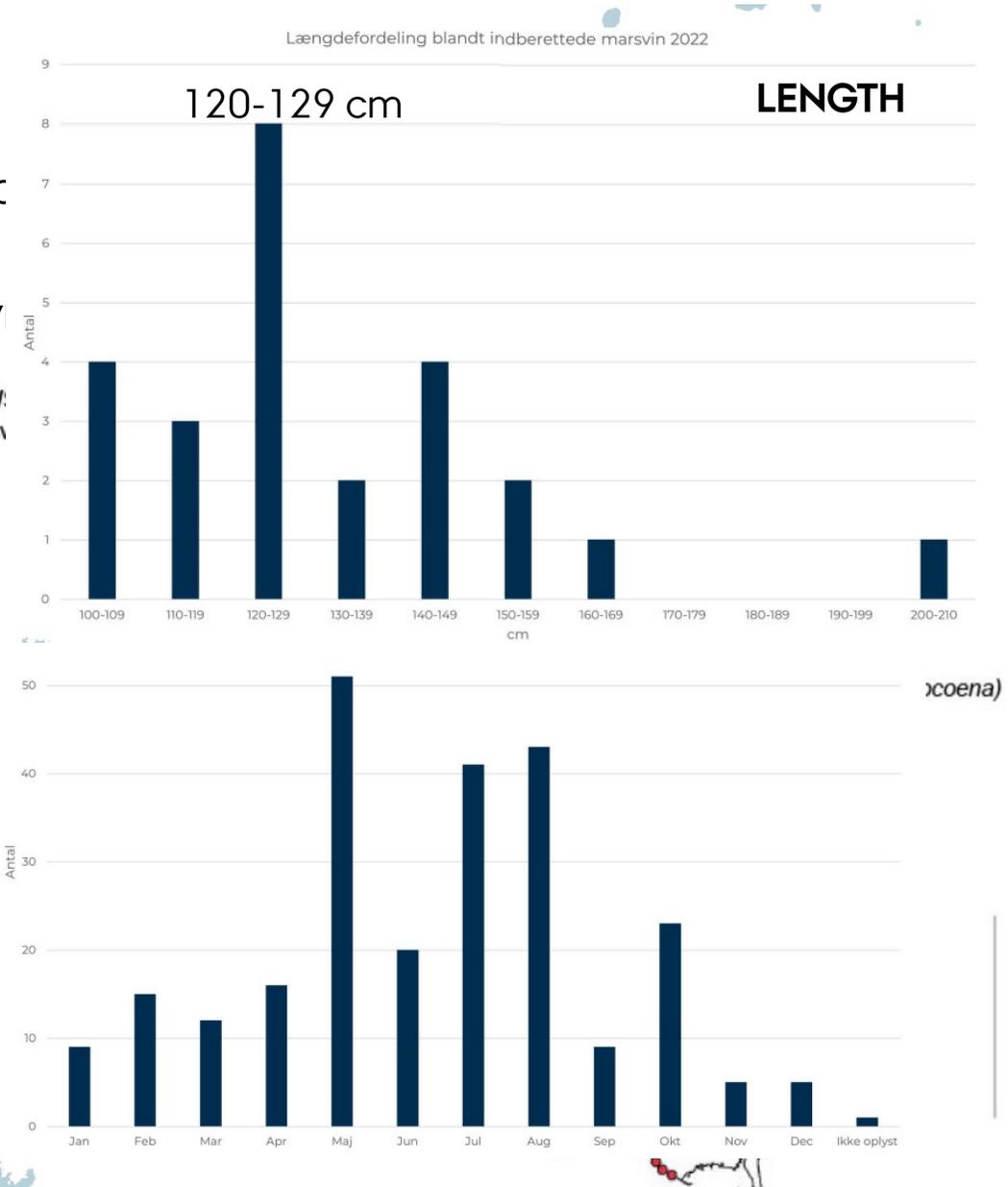
MONITOR AND ASSESS POPULATION HEALTH STATUS

Status of collection of dead porpoises:

Data from the **2022** Report of the National Contingency Plan (Chc Bie Thøstesen, Fimus)

- 250 dead harbour porpoises registered (245 stranded/5 known bycatch)
- 30 porpoises necropsied – 53% assumed bycaught
- No harbour porpoises from the Baltic Proper necropsied.
- Denmark has funding for dissecting 25 porpoises per year.

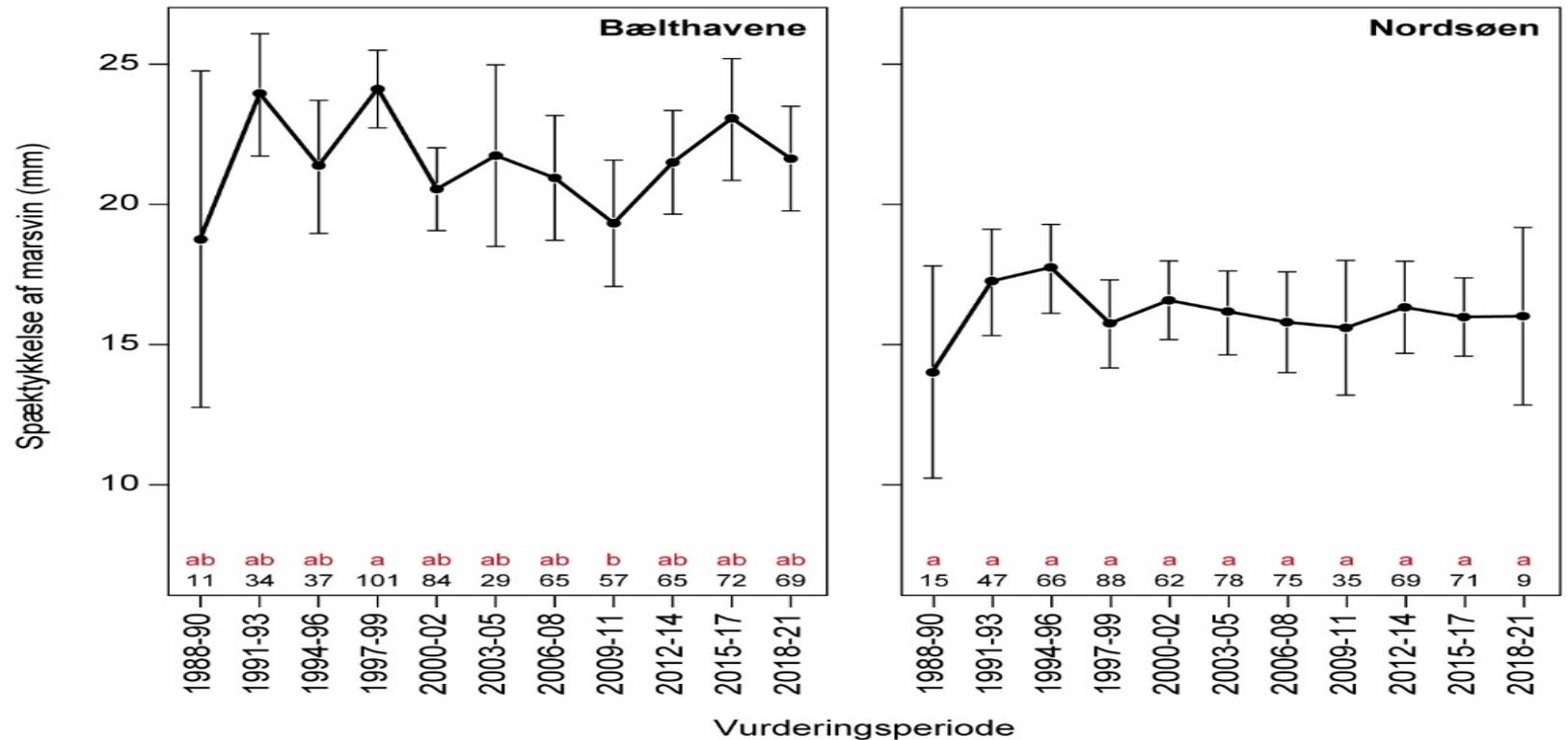
Yearly reports from the Contingency Plan can be downloaded here https://fimus.dk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Beredskabsrapport_2022_Final_2.pdf



MONITOR AND ASSESS POPULATION HEALTH STATUS

Kyhn, L.A., Beest, F.V. & Galatius, A. 2022. Spæktykkelse hos tre danske havpattedyr 2019-2021. Overvågning udført for Miljøstyrelsen. Aarhus Universitet, DCE – Nationalt Center for Miljø og Energi, 42 s. - Teknisk rapport nr. 253

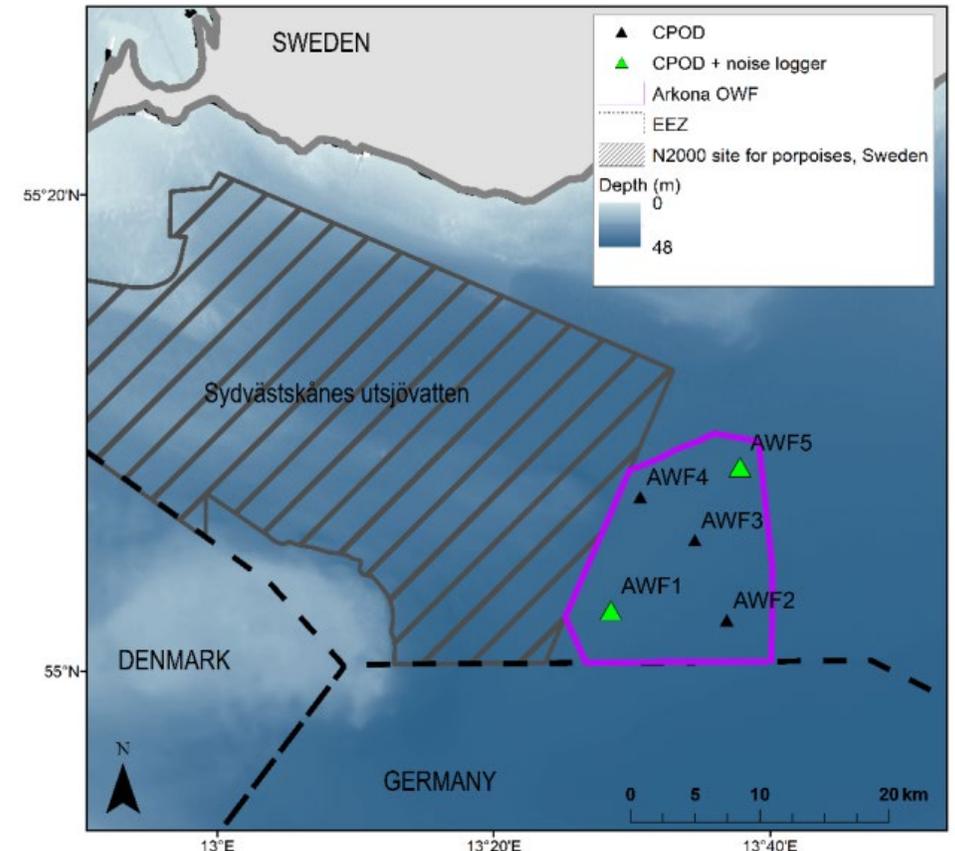
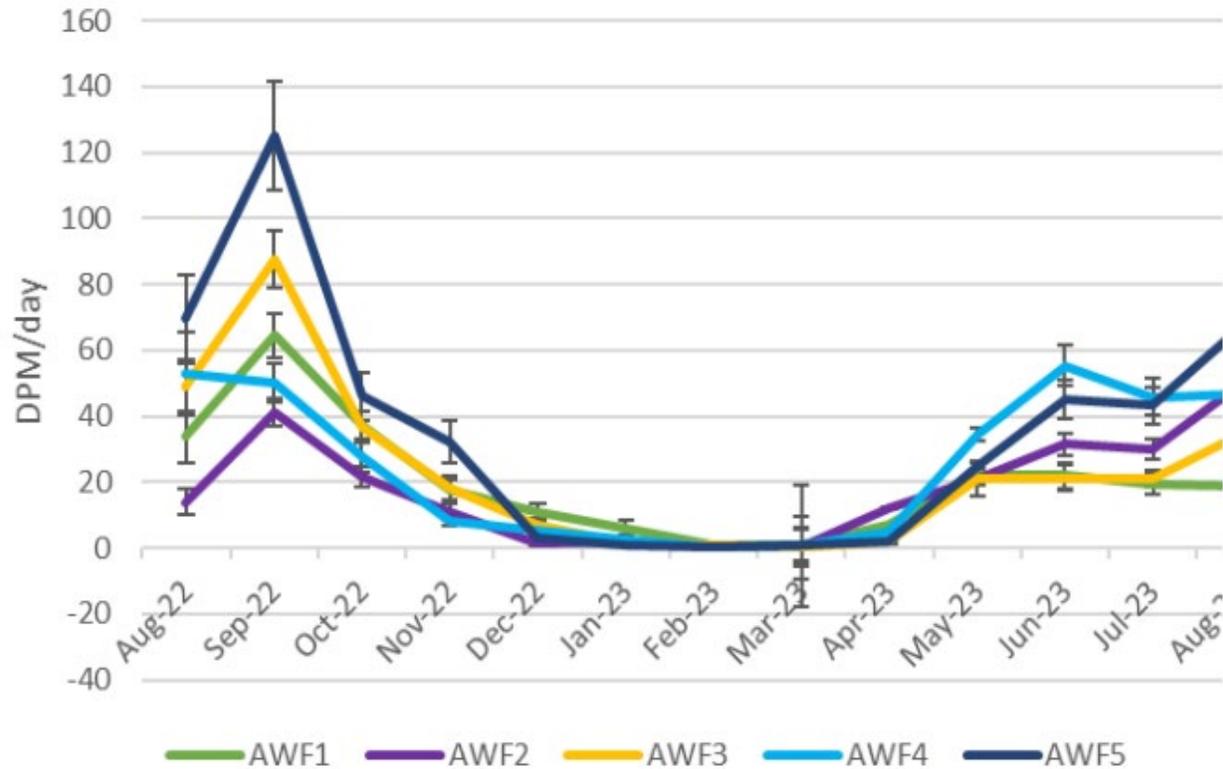
<http://dce2.au.dk/pub/TR253.pdf>



INVESTIGATE HABITAT USE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS

Projects/Research on porpoise distribution or habitat use?

Several EIA assessment studies using PAM in western Baltic 2020 – 2022, Results confirm known distribution. Example: Arkona OWF baseline:

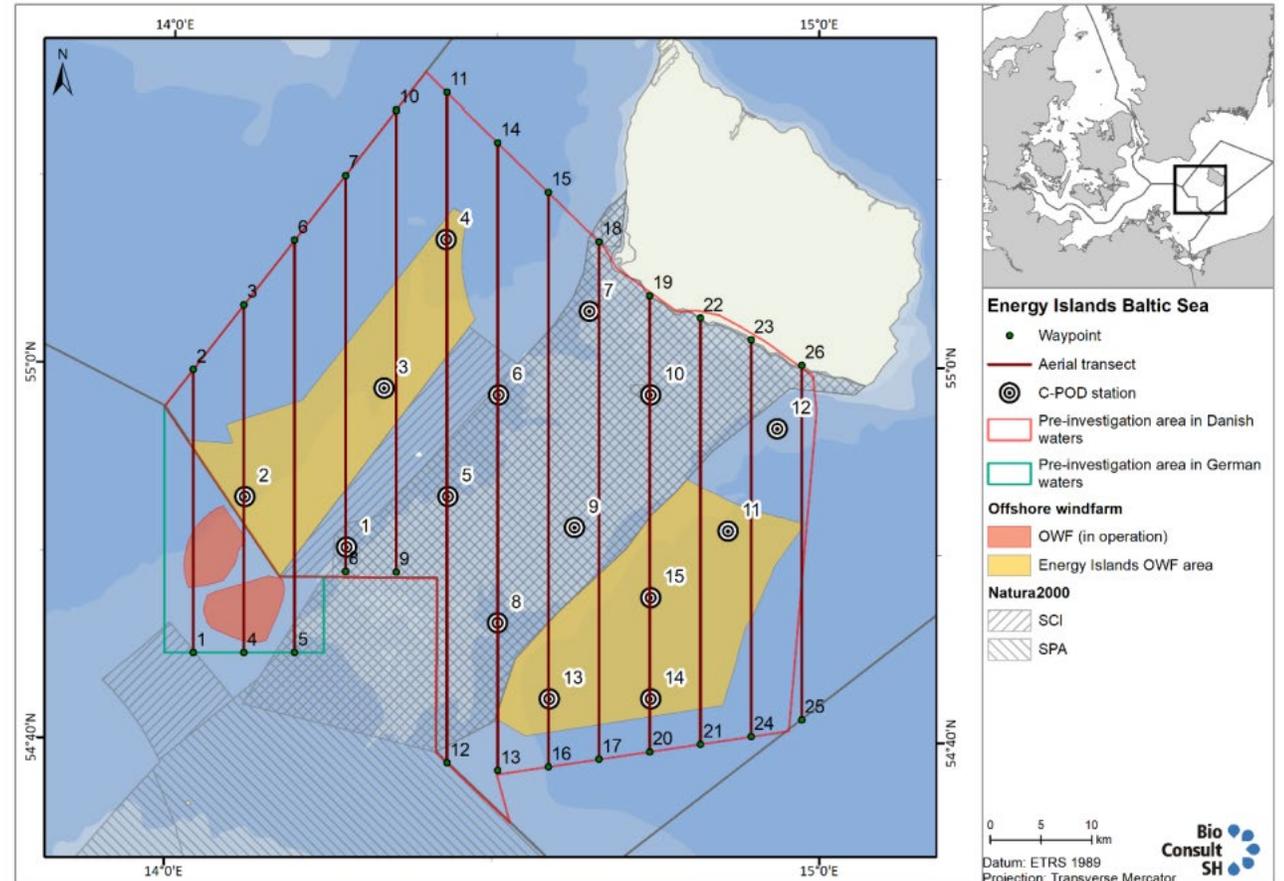


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Baltic Sea: “**Energi Island Bornholm**, 3 GW wind farms” Assessment in 2021-2023. PAM and aerial surveys.



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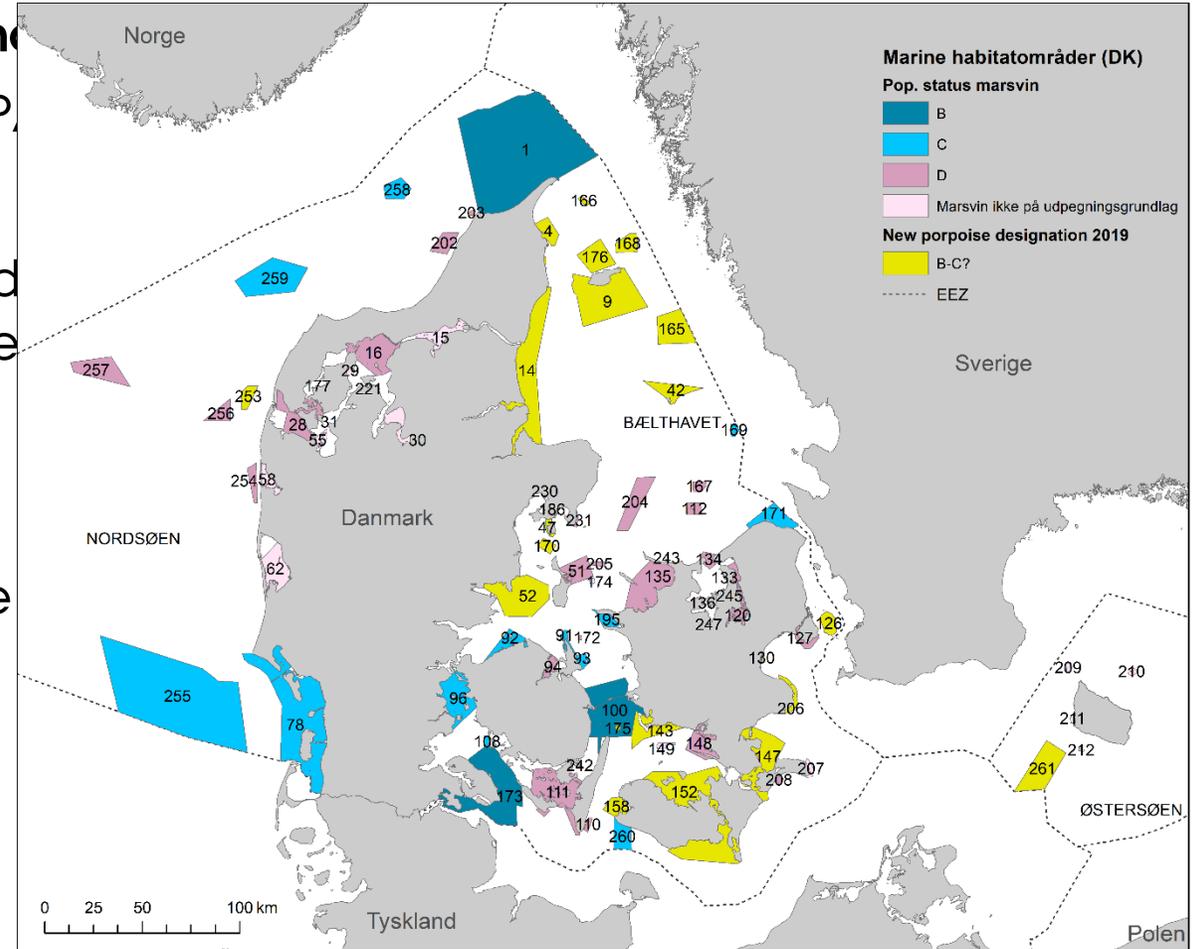
Baltic Sea: several EIA assessment studies using PAM and aerial surveys to assess known distribution.

Baltic Sea: “Energi Island Bornholm , 3 GW wind farm EIA Assessment in 2021-2023. PAM and aerial surveys

New protected areas designated for harbour porpoises?

In 2020, 20 new N2000 sites were added to the existing 16 sites.

Monitoring began in 2023



INVESTIGATE HABITAT USE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS

Projects/Research on porpoise distribution or habitat use?

Belt Sea: several EIA assessment studies using PAM in Kattegat 2020 – 2022, Results confirm known distribution.

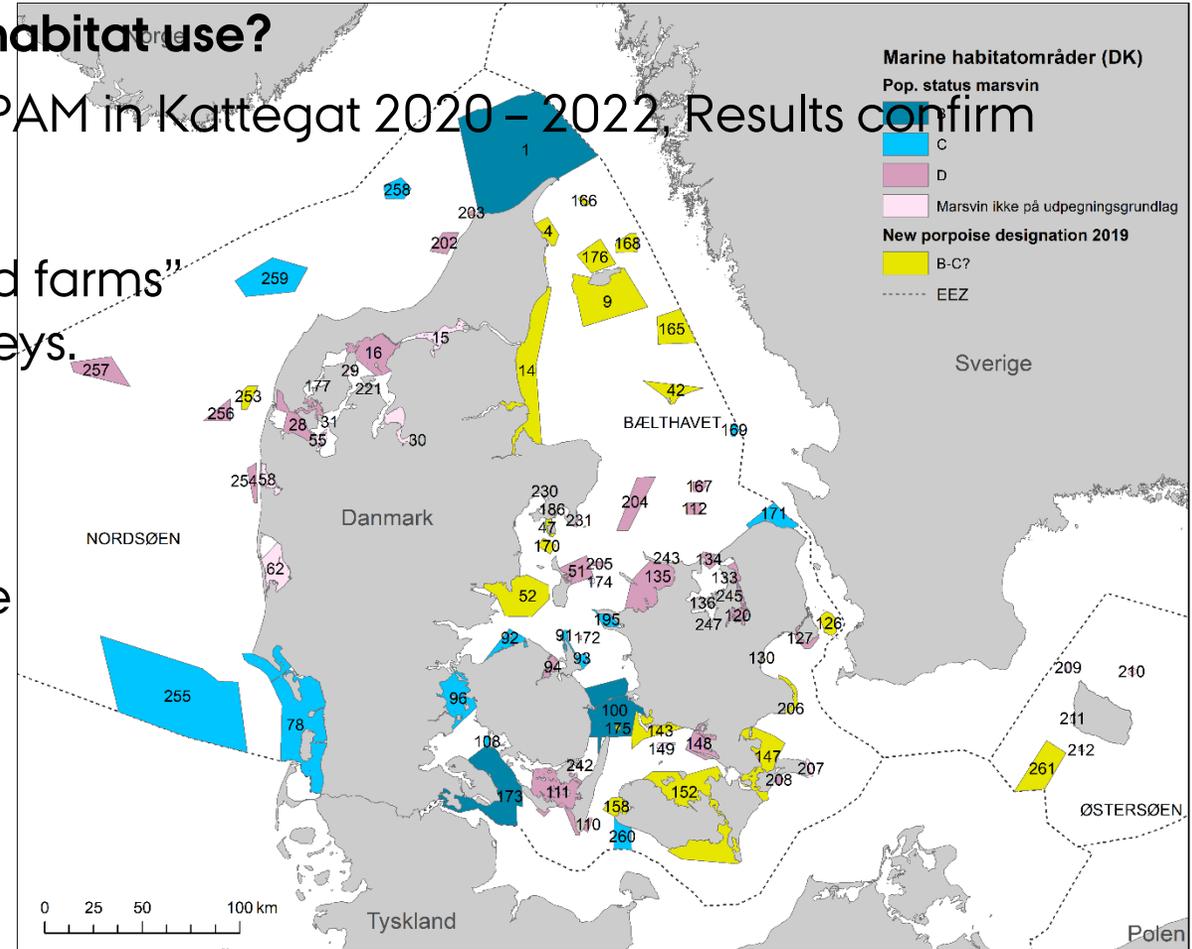
Baltic Sea: “Energi Island Bornholm , 3 GW wind farms” Assessment in 2021-2023. PAM and aerial surveys.

New protected areas designated for harbour porpoises?

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Conservation measures and/or management plans in place for existing areas?

No, but monitoring began 2023.





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