

# German offshore MPAs – managing activities beyond 12 miles

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# Outline



- 1) Designated MPAs in the German EEZ**
- 2) Current human activities**
- 3) Management**
- 4) Future Prospects**

# Marine Protected Areas in the German North and Baltic Seas

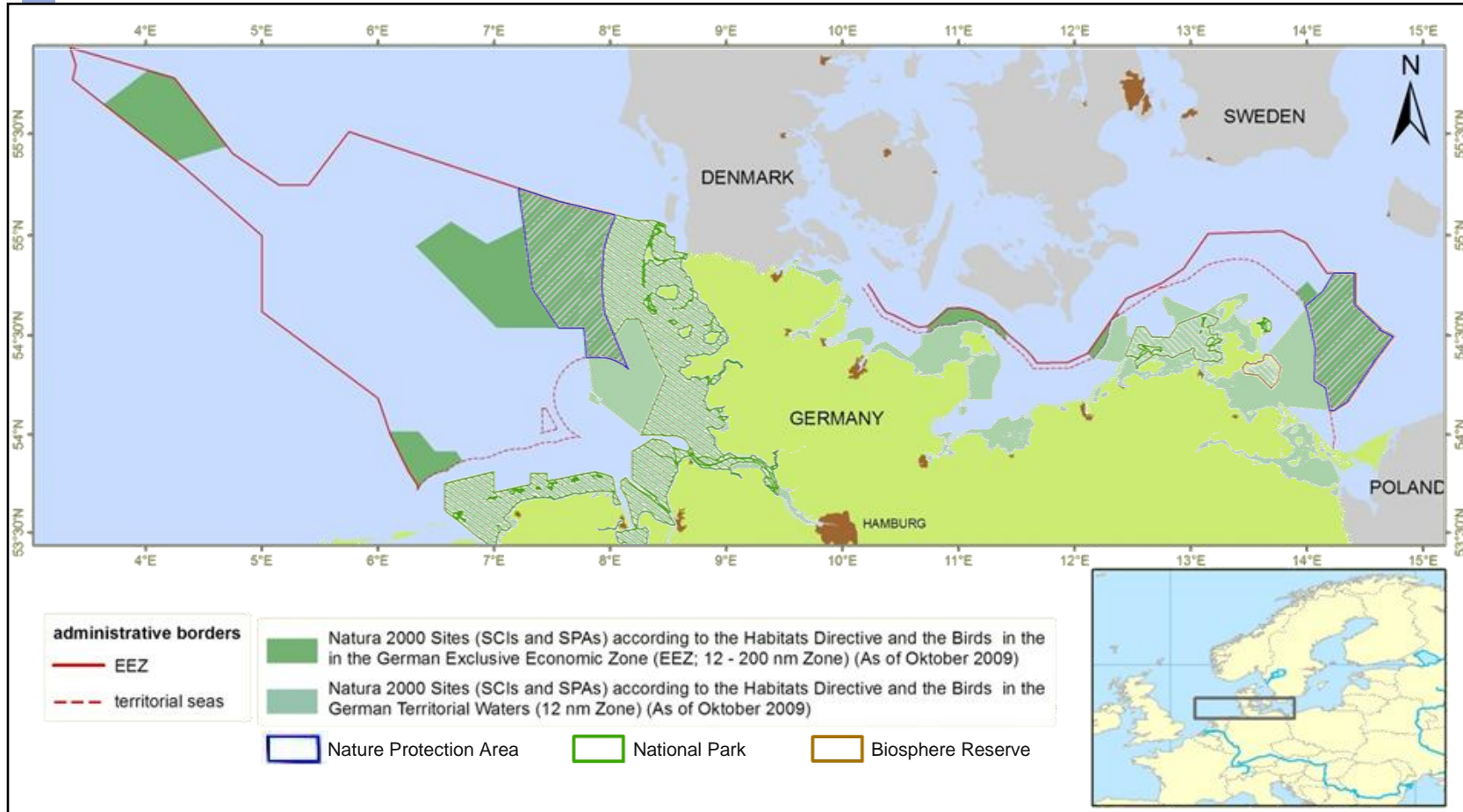
Introduction

Designation

Activities

Management

Prospects



-> also nominated to OSPAR/HELCOM

# Marine Protected Areas in the German North and Baltic Seas

## Introduction

- 28 % of EEZ in North Sea

## Designation

## Activities

- 55 % of EEZ in Baltic Sea

## Management

## Prospects

- including territorial waters: 43 %

# Shipping

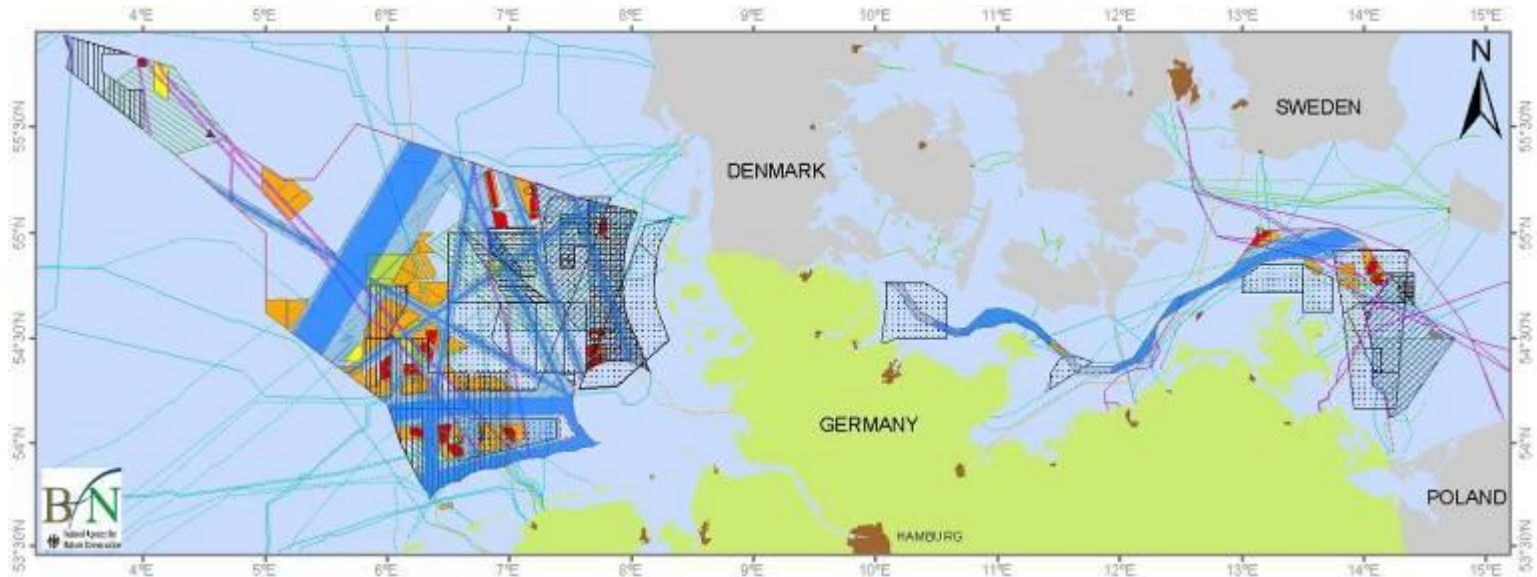
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### Boundaries

- Exclusive Economic Zone (12-200 nm Zone)
- - - Territorial Waters

### Natura 2000 Sites

- Sites of Community Importance (SCI) in the German Exclusive Economic Zone (Date: June 2007)
- Special Protected Areas (SPA) in the German Exclusive Economic Zone (Date: May 2007)

### Offshore Wind Farm Projects (Date: 10/2009)

- Under construction
- Approved
- In approval procedure
- Planned
- Rejected
- Research Platforms

### Licensed Fields

- Prospection for hydrocarbons
- Applied for prospection of brine

### Sediment Extraction

- Licensed Field
- Extraction applied
- Extraction permitted

### Gas platforms

- Processing Platform
- ▲ Compressor Platform

### Pipelines

- Planned reservation area
- Planned priority area
- Gas pipelines

### Cables

- Power cable (in service)
- - - Power cable (planned)
- Telecommunication cable (in service)
- - - Telecommunication cable (out of service)
- - - Telecommunication cable (planned)
- Unknown cable (in service)
- - - Unknown cable (out of service)

### Military

- Military exercise area

### Shipping

- Planned reservation area
- Planned priority area

plus Fisheries!

# The EMPAS Project

”Ecologically Sound Fisheries Management  
in Marine Protected Areas”



- Joint research project between ICES and BfN
- 3 years, 3 workshops
- Conflicts between fishing and conservation objectives
- Involvement of international stakeholders

# Fishing intensity in German waters (North Sea)

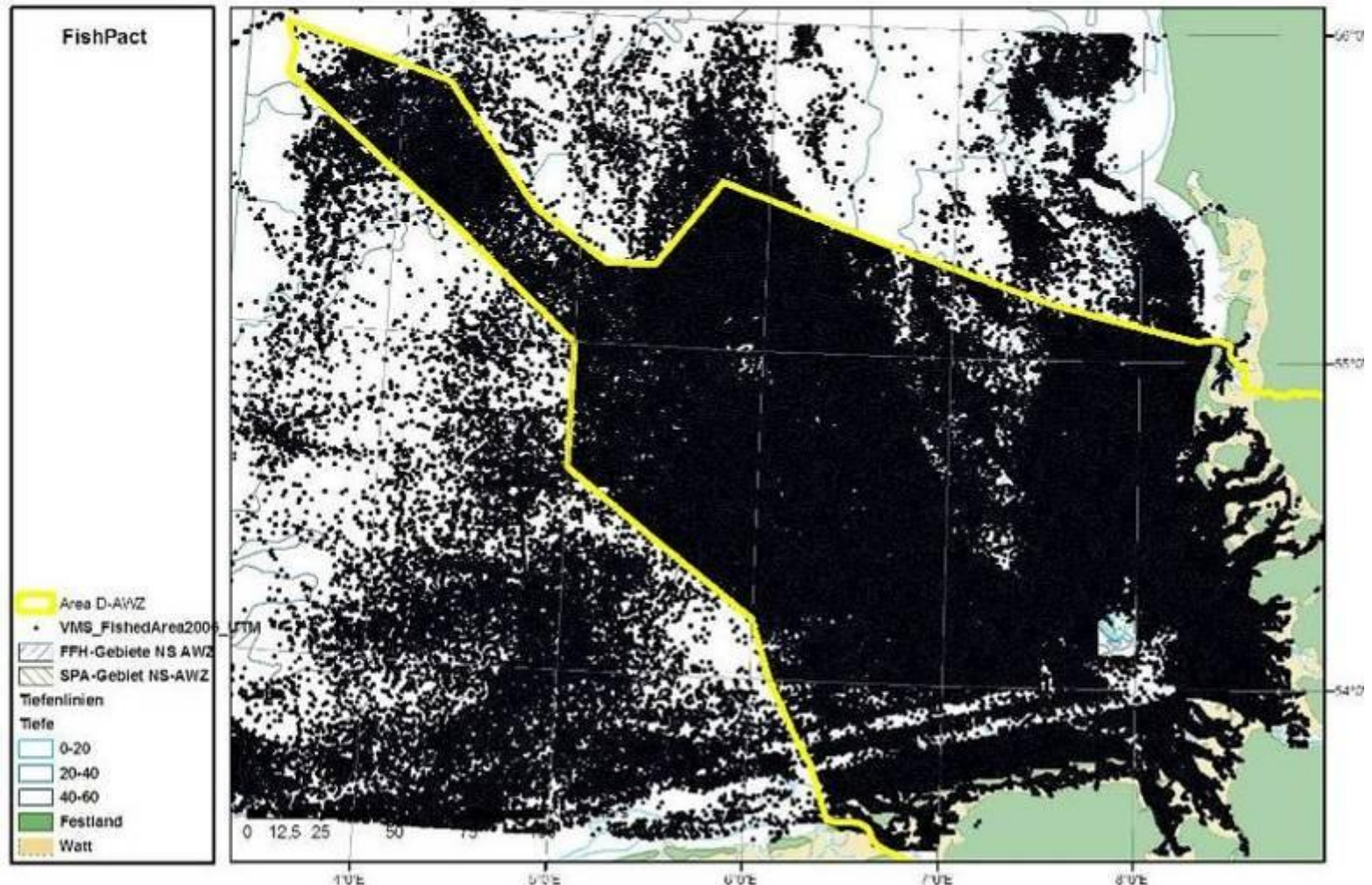
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Vessel Monitoring System data, 2006

# The EMPAS Project

”Ecological Sound Fisheries Management  
in Marine Protected Areas”

1. Bottom contacting gears in the German North Sea  
**benthic communities of reefs and sandbanks**
2. Gillnets in the SPA Pomeranian Bay, Baltic Sea  
**by-catch of seabirds**
3. Gillnets in SCIs in German North and Baltic Sea  
**by-catch of harbour porpoises**



## Introduction

- Advice by ICES after passing formal procedure

## Designation

- Final WKFMMPA report available on [www.ices.dk](http://www.ices.dk)

## Activities

- National concertation with the aim of a national proposal to EU commission

## Management

- International harmonization of management – Dogger Bank

## Prospects

# Management: Plans and Projects

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- EIAs
- Habitats Directive Art. 6 & 12
- New Federal Conservation Act:
  - Special approvals in species protection – BfN competent authority for EEZ
  - Full extension of ‘impact regulation’ into EEZ – e.g. compensation measures/payments



# Offshore Windfarms

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Prospects

- Main conflict: sea bird roosting sites and migration routes
- Natura 2000 sites originally excluded from subsidies by Renewable Energy Law
- Recently: Permanent exclusion of new permits within all North Sea Natura 2000 sites by Marine Spatial Plan
- Additional agreement to ban permits within main wintering areas of divers in North Sea



# EEZ Marine Spatial Plan

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# Shipping

Introduction

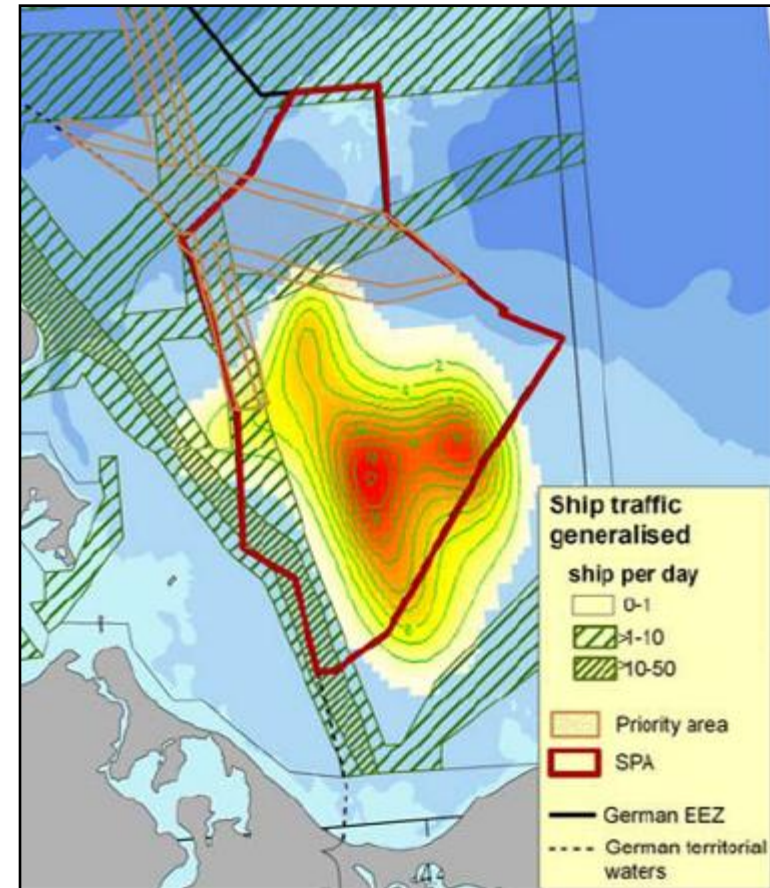
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- Recent research project on flight distances of seabirds (S. Garthe, University of Kiel, FTZ)
- Identification of sensitive bird areas
- Priority areas for possible ATBAs



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- Many more steps necessary
- Increasing legal requirements for effectively managed MPAs
- Intensify international collaboration





**Thank you!**

# Fractions of international landings (t) in the German EEZ

