

Forty years of Baltic Sea protection

- a dialogue between land and sea

Save the inland waters - save the sea
BSSSC Conference 15 September 2016
Johanna Laurila, Information Secretary, HELCOM

Summary

- Introduction to Baltic Sea features & State of play
- HELCOM in a nutshell
- Where are we now – what is missing
 - Nutrient reduction scheme
 - Migratory fish: salmon, eel
 - Agriculture: Nutrient accounting on a farm level





Finland

Sweden

Norway

Russia

Estonia

Latvia

Lithuania

Denmark

Poland

Germany

Czech Rep.

Slovakia

Ukraine





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Ukraine

The Baltic Sea

Mean depth: 55 metres

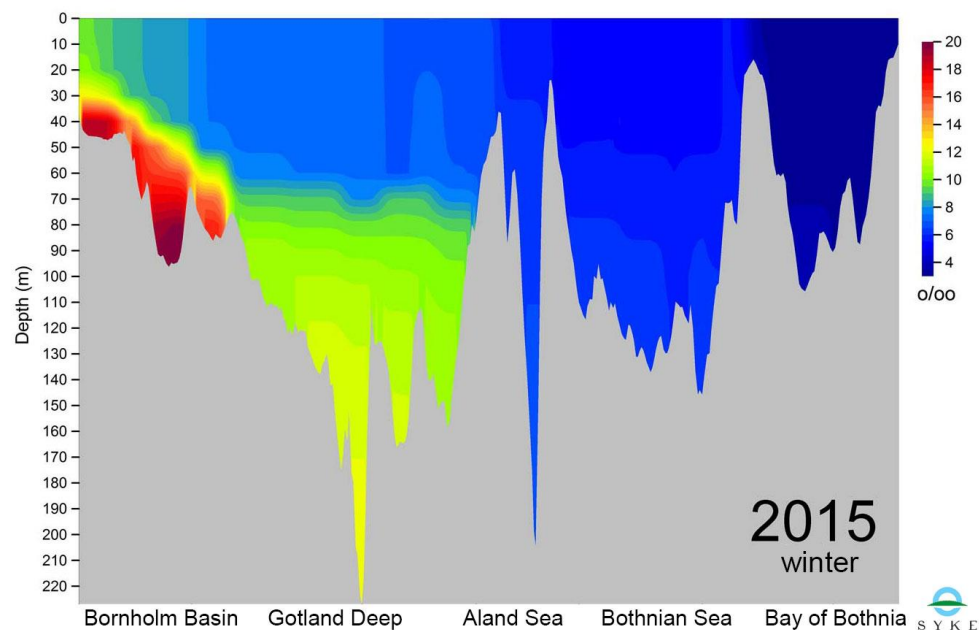
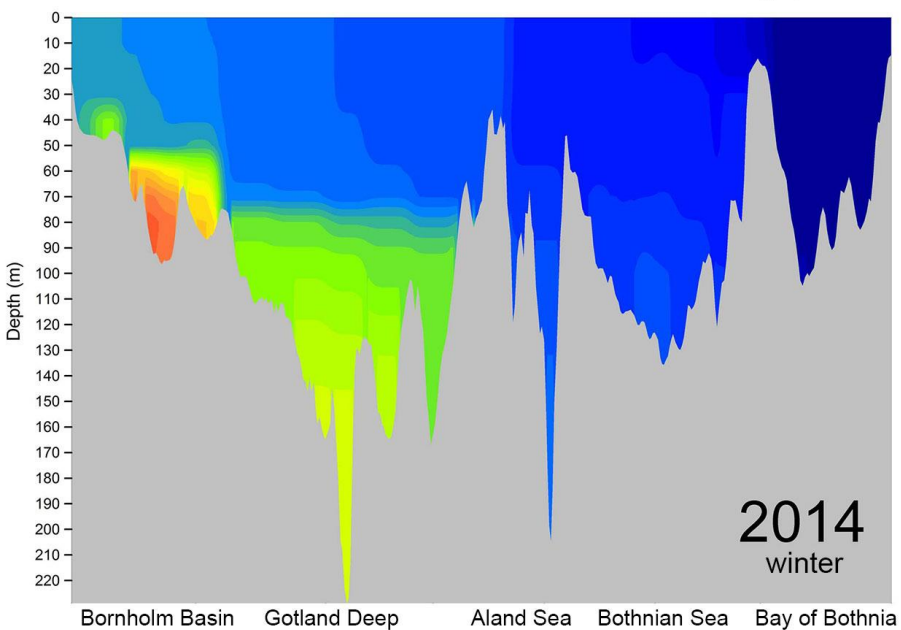
Maximum depth:
459 metres



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Source: HELCOM

Salinity profiles 2014 and 2015



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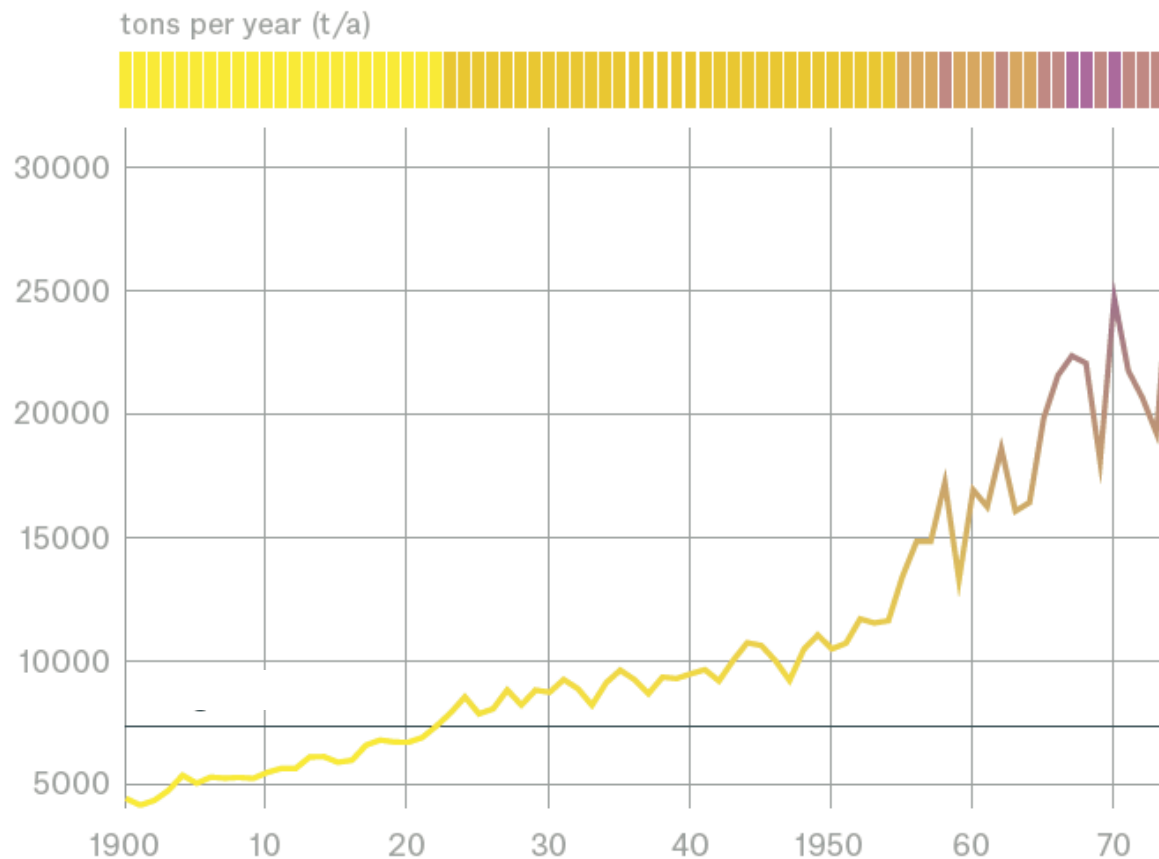


Photo: Swedish Coast Guard



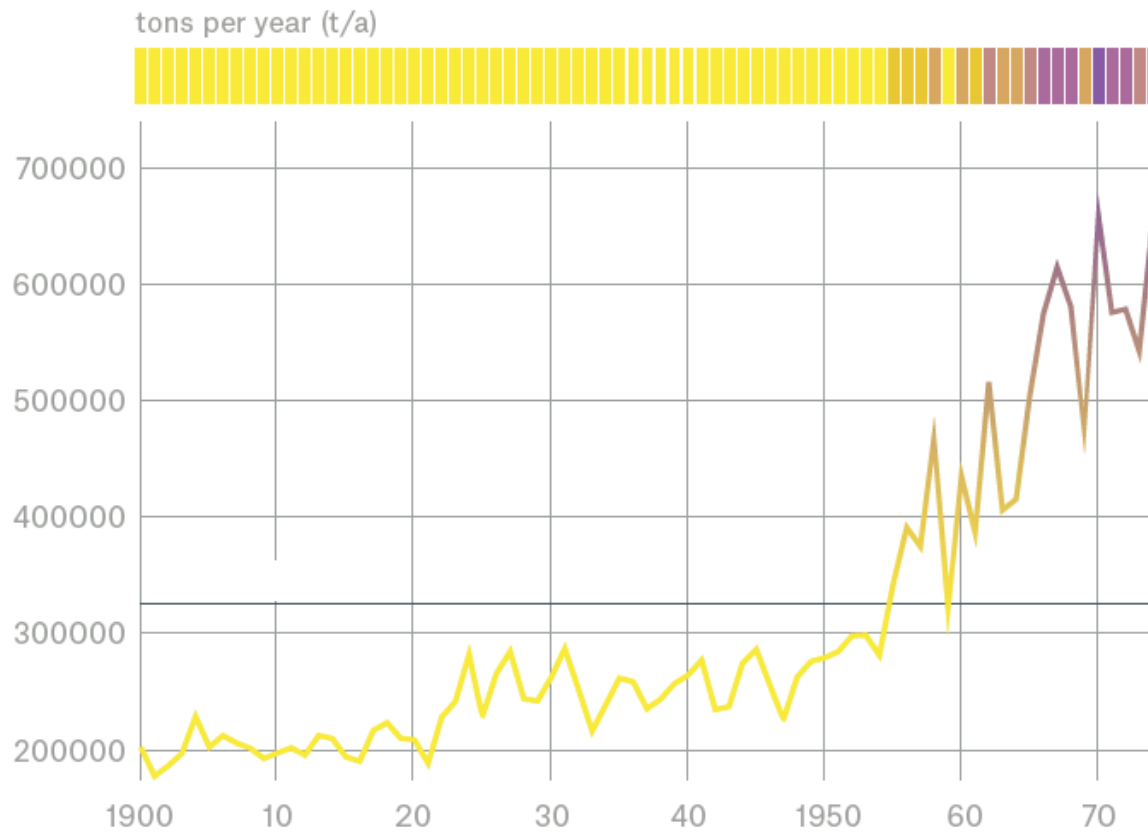
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Phosphorus inputs via waterways



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Nitrogen inputs via waterways



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Special sea needs special measures



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How to fix the Baltic Sea?



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Let's watch a video



HELCOM'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE IS A HEALTHY BALTIC SEA

HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

“...achieve a Baltic Sea in
good environmental status by 2021”

Eutrophication



Baltic Sea
unaffected by
eutrophication

Hazardous Substances



Baltic Sea life
undisturbed by
hazardous
substances

Biodiversity



Favourable status
of Baltic Sea
biodiversity

Maritime activities



Maritime
activities in the
Baltic Sea carried
out in an
environmentally
friendly way



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<http://maps.helcom.fi/website/HELCOMexplorer/>

Level of implementation	Action	Regional status	National status	BSAP segment	Pressures/measures		
Please select country or region : <div>Selected: Joint actions ▾</div>	Sort ▴ ▾			<div>Sort ▴ ▾</div> <div><div>Biodiversity and nature conservation × ✓</div><div>Eutrophication × ✓</div><div>Maritime activities × ✓</div><div>Hazardous substances × ✓</div><div>Monitoring and assessment × ✓</div><div>Awareness × ✓</div><div>Financing and implementation × ✓</div></div>	<div>Select tag</div>		
		Joint action	Develop in 2008 specific efficiency	Not accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Screening of the occurrence of	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Screening of sources of selected	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Testing and possible introduction	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Introduction of ban on the use,	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Restrictions on cadmium content	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Need to strictly control the	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Collect more information and	Partly accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
		Joint action	Monitoring and assessment of	Accomplished	N/A	Hazardous substances	Inputs of contaminants
Joint action	Develop a regional action plan on	Accomplished	N/A	Biodiversity and nature conservation	Inputs of litter		
Joint action	Extend monitoring of non-	Not accomplished	N/A	Maritime activities	Inputs of contaminants		

Where are we now?

Some achievements so far –
and what is still missing

Large mandate, many requirements

- Agriculture: Annex III of the Helsinki Convention (1992)
- Recommendations on wastewater
 - 28E/5 on Municipal wastewater treatment
 - 28E/6 on Scattered settlements
- Recommendations on salmon
- [HELCOM Recommendation 32-33/1](#) "Conservation of Baltic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) and Sea Trout (*Salmo trutta*) populations by the restoration of their river habitats and management of river fisheries"
- [HELCOM Recommendation 19/2](#)
"Protection and improvement of the wild salmon (*Salmo salar*) populations in the Baltic Sea area"



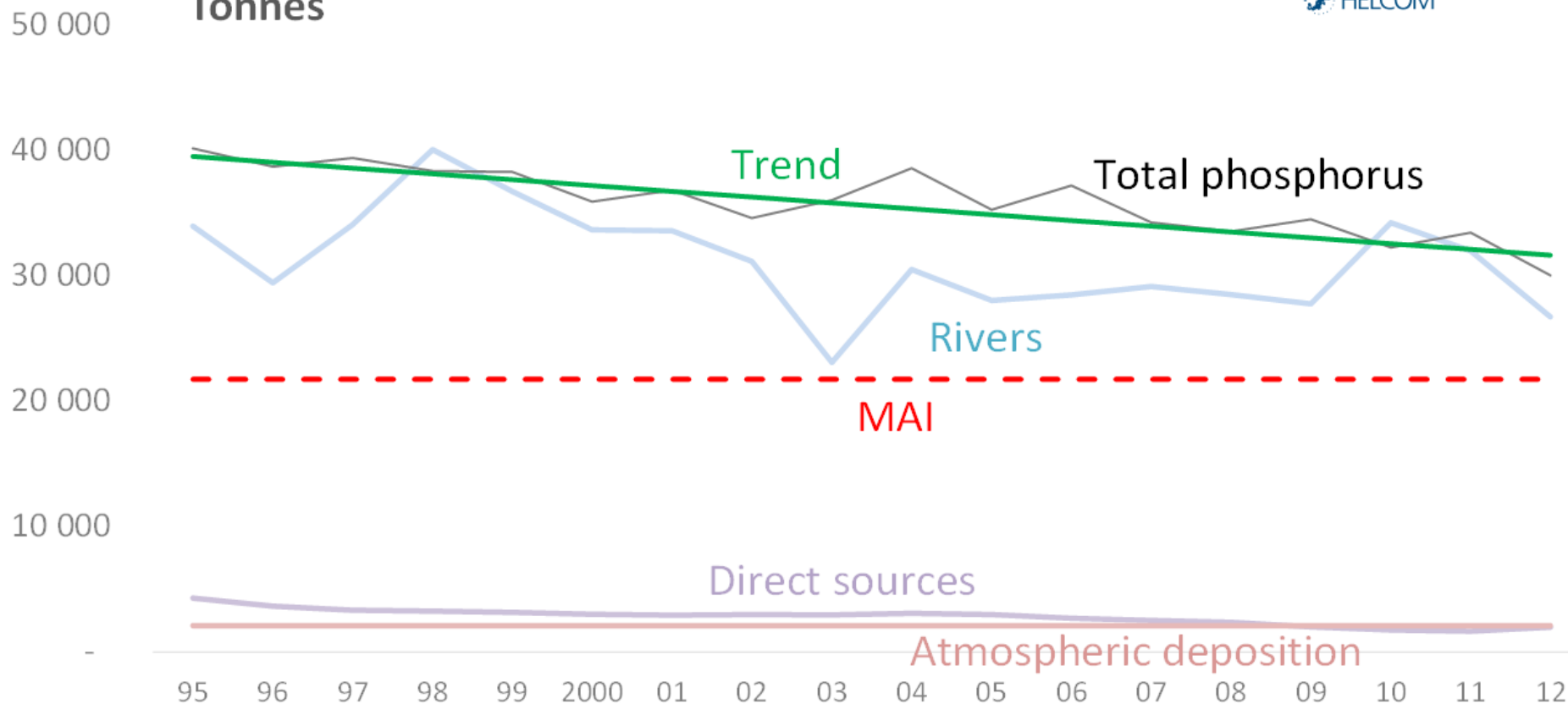
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HELCOM Nutrient Reduction Scheme

- Maximum Allowable Inputs (MAI) of nutrients: highest amount of inputs of nitrogen and phosphorus into the Baltic Sea sub-basins that can be allowed for a non-eutrophied sea
- Country-Allocated Reduction Targets (CART): how much nutrient inputs the HELCOM countries need to reduce

Trend of total phosphorus input to the Baltic Sea

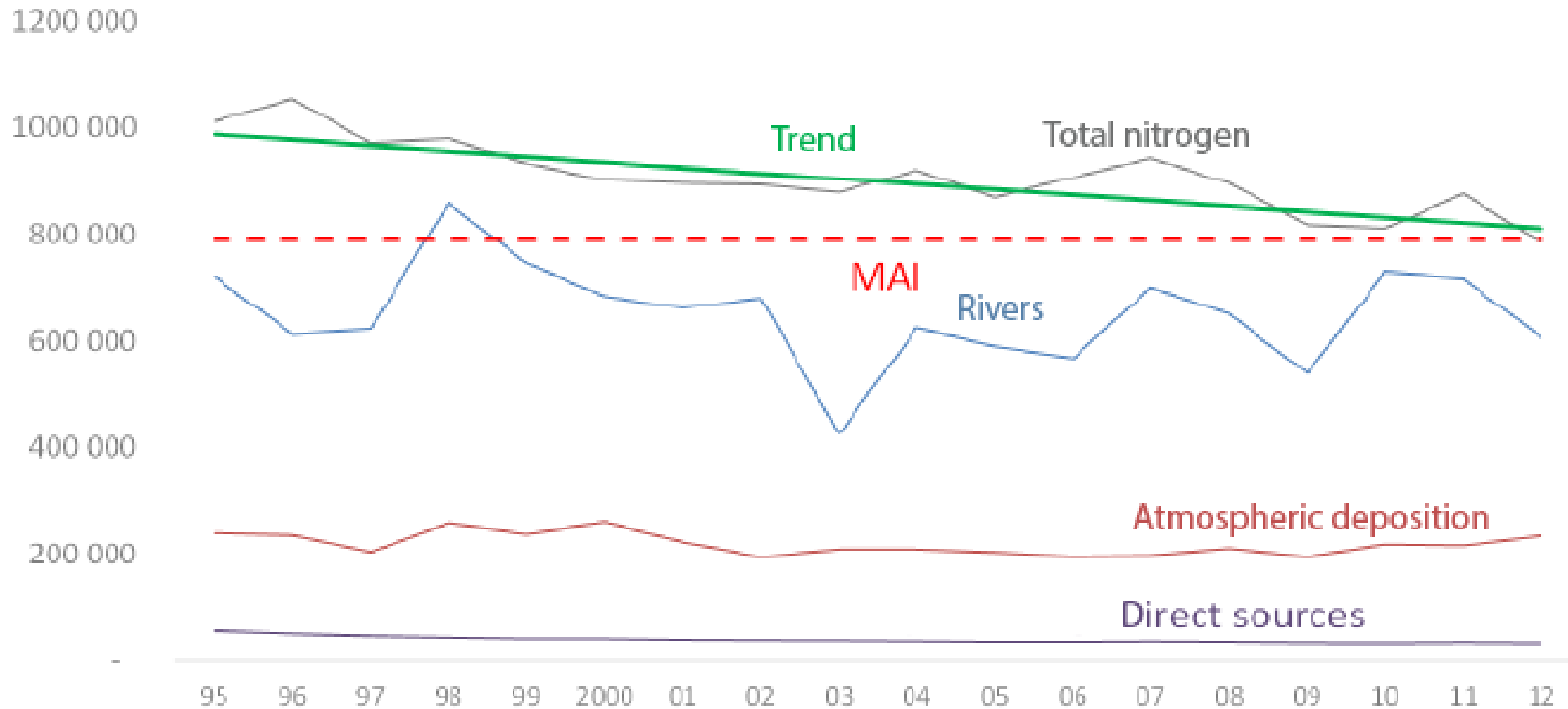
Tonnes



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Trend of total nitrogen input to the Baltic Sea

Tonnes



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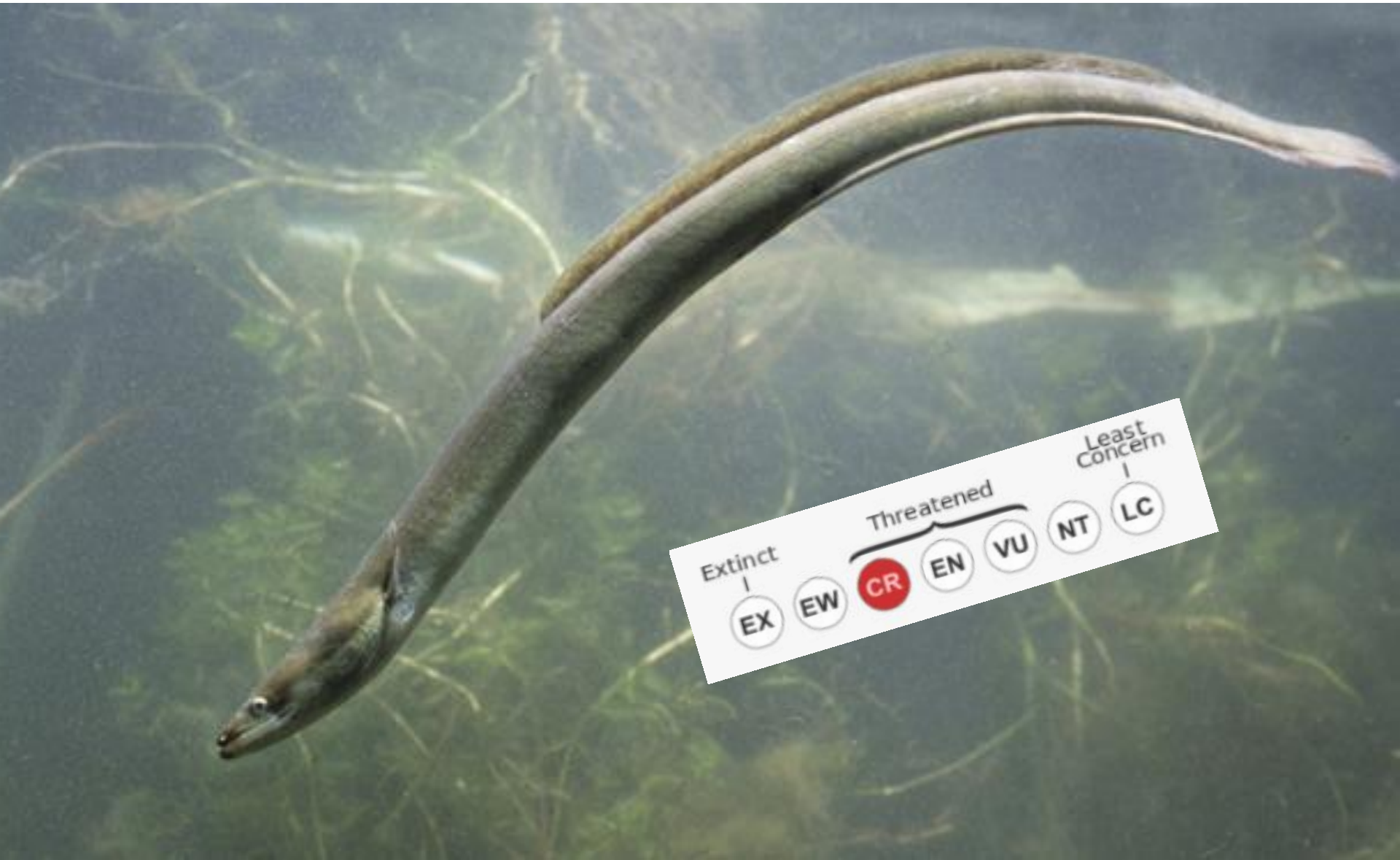
Total Phosphorus. Evaluation of fulfillment of CART

Country/basin	Bothnian Bay	Bothnian Sea	Baltic Proper	Gulf of Finland	Gulf of Riga	Danish Straits	Kattegat
Denmark			↓			↓	↓
Estonia					↓		
Finland		↓					
Germany						↓	
Latvia			↑		↑		
Lithuania			↓		↑		
Poland			↓				
Russia					↑		
Sweden		↓	↓			↓	
Belarus			↓		↑		
Czech Republic			↓				
Ukraine			↓				
Baltic Sea shipping							
Other countries							
MAI		↓	↓			↓	↓

Total Nitrogen. Evaluation of fulfillment of CART

Country/basin	Bothnian Bay	Bothnian Sea	Baltic Proper	Gulf of Finland	Gulf of Riga	Danish Straits	Kattegat
Denmark	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Estonia	↓	↓	↓			↓	↓
Finland	↑		↓		↓	↓	↓
Germany	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Latvia							
Lithuania							
Poland	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Russia							
Sweden	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Belarus							
Czech Republic							
Ukraine							
Baltic Sea shipping	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
Other countries	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
MAI		↓	↓			↓	↓

European eel

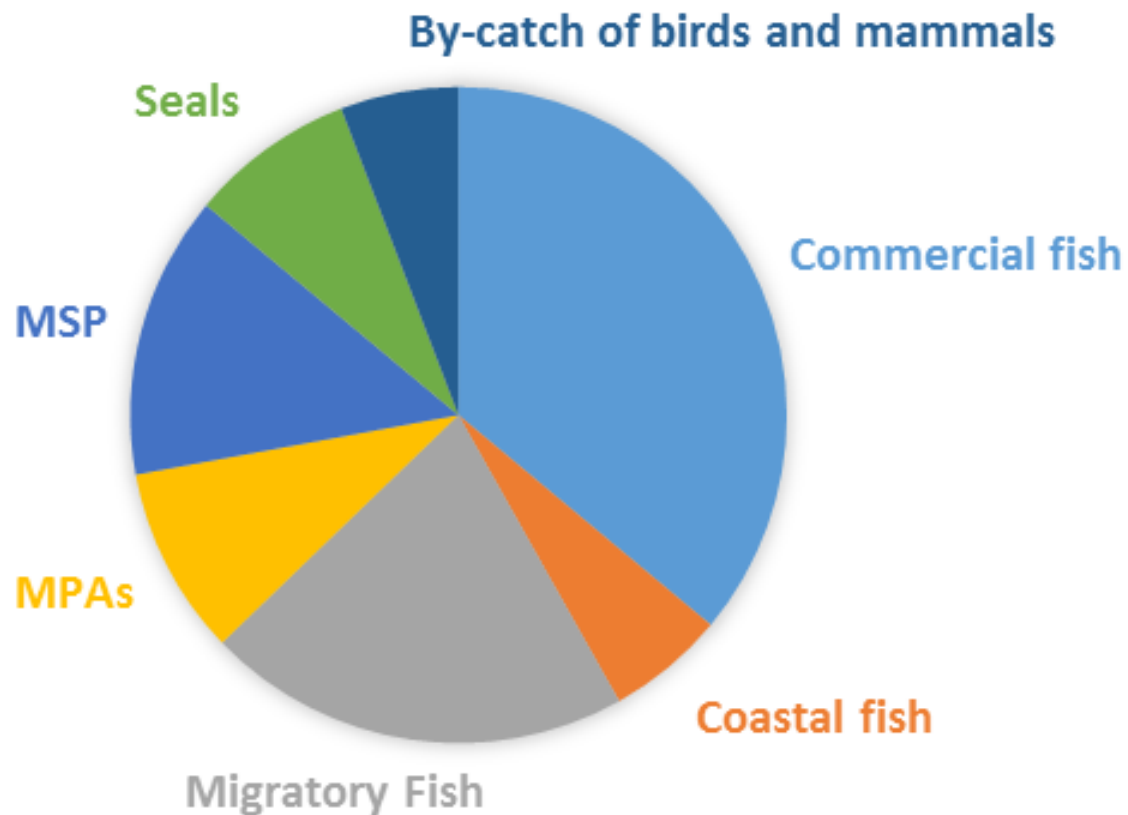


Salmon



HELCOM follow up

NOT ACCOMPLISHED TOPICS UNDER BIODIVERSITY NATIONAL ACTIONS



Migratory fish

- Development of restorations plans to reinstate migratory fish species (national action)

6/9



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Eel

- Competent authorities to implement national programs for the conservation of eel stocks as a contribution to a Baltic coordinated programme to ensure successful eel migrations from the Baltic Sea drainage basin to national spawning grounds

8/9



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Eel

- Classify and make inventories of rivers with European eel
- Competent authorities to take action to implement existing long-term management plans for eel to improve their distribution size/age-range

2/9



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Agriculture

Nutrient accounting on farm level

Advanced standards needed for
managing nutrient content in manure

Nutrient recycling on farm level

Treating manure not as waste but as a resource

-> valuable nutrients contained in manure are fully considered when fertilizing crops

Urgent Top-3

1)

More could be done for migratory fish: restoring rivers, regulating recreational fisheries, improving the status of the sea, etc



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Urgent Top-3

2)

Agriculture: Implement nutrient recycling on farm level

- efficient method to reduce nutrient losses
- necessary for nutrient balanced fertilization



Urgent Top-3

3)

Make the nutrient reduction scheme used also on local level

- translate the regional and national targets into local action
- would also facilitate obtaining financing



Thank you!

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