

BSRAC news and meetings

BS RAC ExCom meeting in Gdynia 9th December

The minutes are sent to all BS RAC members and will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

The BS RAC Working group on Pelagic fisheries Tuesday 19th January, Copenhagen

The aim of the meeting is to work on BS RAC recommendations on a long-term management plan for pelagic species in the Baltic. The agenda is here.

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Dokumenter/Pelagic%20WG/190110/Draft%20Agenda190110.pdf>

We have no documents before this meeting. The Commission is preparing a non-paper on the development of a management plan for the pelagic stocks - we'll hear about that at the meeting.

We don't exclude holding a follow-up WG before the end of the current RAC year to work i.a. on the non-paper.

BS RAC General Assembly and following ExCom

These meetings will be held on 11th and 12th May 2010 in Klaipeda.

BS RAC administration

Dear members: we thank you very much for sending us commitments and payments. We hope to get our new application is as soon as possible and look forward to receiving the remaining forms/payments from you.

Joint letter from the Baltic Sea RAC and the Pelagic RAC on long term management arrangements for Western Baltic herring.

The letter was adopted by both RACs' Executive Committees and set to the Commission. The letter and the reply from the Commission are here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1416&kind=11&pagelid=1084

The recommendations from the BS RAC on CFP Reform here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1417&kind=11&pagelid=1084

Reply from the Commission to the five RACs which wrote about the technical measures proposal

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1400&kind=11&pagelid=1084

Decision-Making in the Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

The North Sea RAC has sent us the final report. Report of an Inter-RAC Conference hosted by the Scottish Government & jointly funded by Marine Scotland & DEFRA. November 3rd & 4th 2009. See here:

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Dokumenter/Inter-RAC/Final%20Report%20of%20the%20Edinburgh%20Conference.pdf>

JAKFISH workshop on Western Baltic herring management Monday 18th January, Copenhagen

This meeting is organised + held by DTU Aqua. See the background document for the meeting here:

http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Dokumenter/External%20events/JAKFISH180110/JAKFISH_Western%20Baltic%20Herring%20workshop%2018%20january%202010_AGENDA%20_v2.pdf

Commission news and meetings

Consultation on CFP Reform

DG Mare tells us that the consultation closed at the end of 2009 and the Commission have so far received 367 separate contributions: very substantial and well developed contributions and from a very diverse set of groups. DG Mare are presently working on posting all on the public web site. Go to:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/consultation/received/index_en.htm.

The Commission intends to produce by March 2010 a paper summarising the consultation.

See here an outstanding and charming example (in French) here:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/docs/o2_fr.pdf

TAC/quota regulation 1226/2009 for 2010 for the Baltic is here:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:330:0001:0009:EN:PDF>

Note that Article 2 of this Regulation will be replaced by two additional paragraphs that follow the wording on the TAC quota regulation for other Community waters adopted at the December Council. There is a derogation for fishing operations solely for scientific investigation. At the same time this won't apply to fishing operations by vessels participating in initiatives regarding fully documented fisheries where such fisheries benefit from additional quotas.

The Commission seminar on Rights Based Management January 25th Brussels

Taking part on behalf of the BS RAC will be Jenny Fors (WWF) and Mart Undrest (Estonian Fishermen's Association). The agenda is here:

http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/50_51/Draft%20RBM%20Programme%2016.12.09.pdf

Note on the agenda is a presentation by Henri Svenberg of Swedish Fishermen's Association on the introduction of RBM in Sweden.

ANSWERS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMMISSIONER –DESIGNATE Maria DAMANAKI

The new Commissioner has provided answers to the Parliament and sketched out her plans and agenda as new Commissioner at DG Mare. See here:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/hearings/static/commissioners/answers/damanaki_replies_en.pdf

The FARNET newsletter from the Commission from December

The European Fisheries Areas Network. This was established by the European Commission to help implementation of EU measures for the sustainable development of fisheries areas (Axis 4 of the European Fisheries Fund). The Support Unit acts as a platform for networking between fisheries areas and supports and guides Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) in devising and implementing local solutions to the challenges confronting Europe's fisheries areas. They produce a regular newsletter. See here:

<http://www.farnet.eu/>

Other news and meetings

Meeting on Baltic Sea Strategy Priority Area 9 21st 22nd January 2010, Helsinki.

According to this strategy and the accompanying Action Plan, Finland is responsible for Priority area 9: to reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

In October Finland hosted a kick-off meeting with administrators from the Baltic counties. The aim of the meeting was to specify key areas for collaboration.

Finland now invites national authorities, stakeholders and international organisations to a second meeting to organise and start implementation of this Priority area 9.

There will be workshops, and the subjects for fisheries will be:

- Regionalisation of fisheries management in the Baltic Sea
- Encourage sustainable aquaculture production methods
- Eradicate discards
- Encourage sustainable fishing

The BS RAC will be represented by the Secretariat.

Pehr Eriksson Swedish Fishermen's Federation, also BS RAC member, is also taking part.

Meeting papers here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1420&kind=4&pagelid=1227

ASCOBANS

17th Meeting of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee, 'Eden Project' in Cornwall, UK, 21-23 April 2010.

We have received the official invitation letter sent on behalf of the Acting Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, as well as a meeting registration form and the revised annual national report format.

See here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1421&kind=4&pagelid=1227

Less boats - more fish?

Ewa Milewska vice chair of BS RAC has sent us this WWF report in English. It outlines and details the socio-economic consequences of fleet capacity reduction programmes in the Baltic Sea. The focus is very much on Poland. It's been prepared together with the Sea Fisheries Institute (MIR) in Gdynia. In her letter accompanying the report, Ewa highlights the main conclusion of the report: The process of fishing capacity reduction, begun by the European Commission in the early eighties, aimed at adjusting the fleet size to the available resources, notwithstanding almost 30 years of its functioning, until now has not achieved satisfactory effects". To get a copy of the report, go here:

www.wwf.pl/raportnzip for the English version and www.wwf.pl/raportnzip for Polish.

News from Eurofish, Denmark: Website and IT

The Eurofish Magazine website (www.eurofishmagazine.com) was created and launched and will provide people with free access to the contents of the Magazine. The website will be promoted with a marketing campaign as well as through the next issues of the magazine. An additional service for Eurofish Member Countries is the systematic dissemination of news from their fisheries sectors both on the new Eurofish Magazine website (www.eurofishmagazine.com) and in the printed version of the Magazine. Eurofish is in the process of identifying the national contact points that can provide national news on a regular basis.

Article from Eurofish magazine December 2009 about fish processing conference in the Baltic.

Seafood processing in the Baltic area: Emphasis on quality

The December issue is here, and you can click your way to page 16 to read it:

<http://www.eurofishmagazine.com/index.php/magazine/current-issue>

The Eurofish Governing Council for 2010 is on 28th and 29th January, Copenhagen.

<http://eurofish.dk/>

The BS RAC has been invited as observer (and has accepted).

Finally, are you getting enough?

What campaigns or initiatives are there in Baltic countries to boost consumption of fish? A campaign in Denmark starts again in week 4. It involves two popular and funny Danish actors, called Minnar and Gunnar, who will feature in TV commercials to get folk to eat more fish (twice a week is the goal). Their catch phrase "It's not so bad, after all" (i.e. this fish dish isn't so bad after all) became a very common one around Denmark the first time they appeared on the screen. Also published are leaflets with the recipes which will feature in the TV campaign. Produced by "Fiskebranchen" The campaign is supported by the EFF. Contact:

www.2gangeomugen.dk



**MINNA & GUNNAR'S
VINTER-FAVORITTER**

 **2 gange om ugen**

