

Week 38

BSRAC news and meetings

BS RAC Conference 1st –2nd October 2009, Stockholm:

“Baltic Sea Fisheries: Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives”

This is going to be a very well-attended and hopefully successful event. Over 120 have registered to take part, including the guest speakers, ministers and their delegations.

All is going according to schedule. Member states are now considering a draft declaration on the Baltic Sea fisheries: this has been prepared by the Swedish Presidency. It will be presented to the ministers attending and will be signed after lunch before the conference begins. A report will be produced from the meeting. There will be interpreting to and from English, Swedish, Polish and German. It will be possible to speak Finnish.

You can view the programme here:

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Stockholm%20Conference/Draft%20Programme%20BSRAC%20conference13.pdf>

The conference will be followed by a meeting of the EU fisheries directors from around the Baltic to discuss, among other things, discard issues.

The BS RAC Focus Group to work on the reform of the CFP 26th and 27th October 2009

The invitation has now been sent to our members. And this is on the BS RAC website here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1365&kind=4&pagelid=1081

JAKFISH meeting on participatory modelling Wednesday 21st October, London: for Pelagic RAC and BS RAC

This meeting is now confirmed and from the BS RAC it will be attended by Reine Johansson and Lothar Fischer (German Cutter and Coastal Fishermen’s Association)

Joint RAC conference on Decision-making in the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

3rd - 4th November, Edinburgh. The NS RAC has taken the initiative to holding this event, which is jointly organised by several RACs. It is jointly funded and hosted by Marine Scotland & DEFRA. Reine Johansson is invited to present the results of the BS RAC Conference on the second day of the Edinburgh meeting. A draft updated programme for this event is here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1388&kind=4&pagelid=1106

Commission response to BS RAC recommendations on TAC/quotas for 2010

The BS RAC has received a reply from the Commission.

Recommendations and reply can be found here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1371&kind=11&pagelid=1084

Meeting 25th September Selectivity in the cod fishery

Chairman Reine Johansson and Michael Andersen will meet Commission officials to talk about the BS RAC’s project proposal on selectivity in the Baltic cod fishery. BS RAC Secretariat will also be there.

Remember this proposal? See here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1383&kind=11&pagelid=1084

Commission news and meetings

ACFA/RACs Mtg 29th September on TACs/quotas

Michael Andersen (Danish Fishermen's Association) and Jesper Kobberø (Alliance of Social and Ecological Consumer Organizations) have indicated that they would like to attend on behalf of the BSRAC. Magnus Eckeskog (Fisheries Secretariat) will be attending this meeting as representative for the environmental NGOs in ACFA.

The RACs' coordination meeting with the Commission will be on Monday 5th October in Brussels

One item on the agenda will be the creation of a common platform for all stakeholders to keep better informed of meetings of relevance to the RACs

The RAC secretariat will meet in advance of this meeting to prepare subjects of common interest.

Other news and meetings

Linking Science and Management in the Baltic Sea Ecoregion, 9th –10th September 2009

The Danish Society of Engineers, IDA and the Baltic Nest Institute invited managers, scientists and other stakeholders with interests in environmental managements of ecosystems to this event.

There were presentations of state of the art science-based management from regulating land-use in the catchment areas, consequences for the water borne and atmospheric emissions to effects for fishery, environmental quality and economy for the entire Baltic Sea Region. There were presentations of different analytical models, such as catchment simulation models, atmospheric transport models, ecological modelling of fish stocks and nutrient dynamics.

It was indeed a very scientific event and there was strong representation by scientists and not so many managers or stakeholders. It was not possible to follow all the presentations and subjects.

The BS RAC secretariat took part and followed the theme on fisheries: state of the Baltic stocks, progress made in assessment models, climate impact on fish stock dynamics, and presentations on how to bring together the different models in the form of "ensemble" modelling where climate, temperature and fishing effort are put together to make predictions on the state of fish stocks. Chris Hopkins, former general secretary of ICES gave a presentation on how to develop an integrated approach to developing fisheries "outlooks" and stressed the need to gather together all the information available, which in turn can help to bring together governance and advice, and incorporating the stakeholders right at the beginning of the process.

Michael Andersen of the Danish Fishermen's Association gave a presentation on the use of stock assessment models and the ecosystem approach and underlined the importance of reliable data. His concern was that models are too simplistic and should be used with caution. Applying the ecosystem approach had to be done in dialogue with all those involved.

If you want to see all the presentations, look here:

<http://ida.dk/netvaerk/idaforum/U0615a/Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2fnetvaerk%2fidaforum%2fU0615a%2fDocuments%2fLinking%20Science%20and%20Management%20in%20the%20Baltic%20Ecoregion%2fPresentations&FolderCTID=&View=%7bAFA39D30%2d710E%2d4DF7%2d99CA%2d3B19F631A9E3%7d>

Meeting at the Community Fisheries Control Agency on Monday 14th September 2009

On Monday 15th October 2009 the CFCA in Vigo, invited the RACs to its regular meeting of the Agency's Advisory Board in Vigo. Five RACs took part: NWW, SWW, LDRAC, BSRAC and NSRAC (represented by chairmen, vice-chairs and secretariats). The CFCA staff (Harm Koster and Pedro Galache) reported that the CFCA was now up and running – a good achievement since it only started in 2007. They had developed 6 Joint Deployment Programmes (JDPs) for NAFO, NEAFC, N. Sea, Baltic Sea, Western Waters and Bluefin tuna. Cooperation with the member states was good, and there were benefits to be gained from these JDPs. The CFCA's Data Monitoring Centre had been operational since April 2009, and was proving to be a good tool. Training by CFCA of fisheries inspectors had become a very important part of its work. The CFCA was working in the framework of the IUU Regulation, and an IUU handbook will be published soon. The JDP held a seminar in Vigo in July 2009 to focus on: 1. Risk management and 2. Assessment and performance indicators. The target of this seminar was national control authorities, not the industry; and in fact one of the recommendations from this seminar was that stakeholders' views must be considered. The fishing industry seems to agree that the CFCA is not discriminating and that it applies to everyone.

For the year 2010 the general activities of the CFCA are 1. to ensure a uniform and effective application of the CFP and 2. to promote a culture of compliance: this will be done by joint deployment and coordination with member states. The priorities are IUU fishing and consolidation of the JDPs for bluefin tuna and cod in the Baltic (165,000 € allocated to cod fishery in the Baltic). The LDRAC and BSRAC secretariats were pleased that these two JDPs remained a priority. The NWW RAC was sad that their waters not included in this year's WP. The Control regulation was not seen as a big change – but it was a consolidation of existing rules and would provide training for inspectors. The CFCA invited suggestions as to how the RACs could cooperate with the CFCA. The LDRAC informed of a workshop that it was planning to hold jointly with the CFCA on control. The BSRAC mentioned the initiatives taken on selectivity in the cod fishery and the importance of dialogue with the CFCA. The NSRAC underlined the importance of involving the stakeholders where possible. It was agreed that for 2010 the LDRAC would present the RACs on the CFCA's and Administrative Board, and that the BS RAC take part as an alternate representative – these two RACs because they both featured in the WP for 2010.

The BS RAC took the opportunity of thanking Harm Koster for agreeing to come to the BS RAC conference on 1st and 2nd October – it would give him the opportunity to give a “health check” on control and inspection in the Baltic.

BIMA GROUP at NEVA 2009

[BIMA Group](#) invites you to visit our stand (**no 808, hall VIII**) at the International Maritime Exhibition **NEVA 2009**, which will be held in St. Petersburg from the 22nd till 25th of Sept. 2009 at the Lenexpo Exhibition Complex.

You will receive information how to get a free copy of [Worldwide Shipyards 2009](#) handbook...

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Don't forget Danfish on 6th -9th October See the link here:

<http://www.danfish.com/show.asp?id=188>

And the conference on A NEW FISHERIES POLICY FOR FISHERS TO TAKE OVER STEWARDSHIP OF THE FISHERY on 8th Oct.

See the programme here:

<http://www.danfish.com/page2322.aspx>

The BS RAC has been invited to attend this event and has accepted.

Conference in the Baltic Sea Forum on October 15th - 16th 2009 on Sustainable fishery - from theory to practice

This will be held in Simrishamn, southern Sweden and is organised by the Marine Center. Reine Johansson has been invited to hold a presentation on Reflections on the Sweden/Poland/Lithuania initiative. This was a meeting of representatives from Poland, Lithuania and Sweden in Klaipeda to share their expectations on the Baltic Sea Forum and future cooperation. This conference will also include workshops on such subjects as selective fishing gear, ghost nets, vessel engines and fuel consumption from an environmental perspective, socio-economic preconditions in the countries around the Baltic, marine Protected Areas (MPA) and the eastern cod stock.

We have a draft programme here:

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/week38/Draft%20programmeBSF.pdf>

And invitation here:

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/week38/Invitation%20BSF.pdf>

VASAB Expert and Stakeholder Workshop on Maritime Spatial Planning Challenges in the Baltic Sea Thursday 15th October 2009

VASAB 7th Ministerial Conference Vilnius, Lithuania Friday 16th October 2009

All information on these events can be found here:

<http://www.vasab.org/conference/page/45>

<http://www.vasab.org/conference/page/18>

If you have any questions about these meetings, contact project manager Ms Unda Krievina – unda.krievina@vasab.org, mob phone: +371 2835 58 28, fax: +371 67350626

VASAB would be very delighted if BS RAC is represented at the VASAB workshop on maritime spatial planning. You are important stakeholder in this process and would contribute a lot to the discussion on practical implementation of MSP in the Region.

www.vasab.org

The 3rd International Symposium on Treatment of Wastewater and Waste on Ships - SOWOS November 13th 2009, Hamburg.

Subjects are the regulations and experience with **ballast water** and the topics of **flue gas emissions** (greenhouse gas, SO_x etc.).

The attendants of the symposium will be, among others, authorities, ship owners, manufacturers and research institutes. An exhibition open to all manufacturers who wish to present their equipment and technology as exhibitors, will accompany the Symposium. We would like to invite you to present your products in the **trade exhibition**, by **advertising** or by an **expert contribution in the quotable conference volume**. Organizers are the See-BG (Marine Insurance and Ship Safety Association), the VDR (German Ship-owners Association) and the PIA e.V. (Development and Assessment Institute in Waste Water Technology at RWTH-Aachen University). The conference volume will be a quotable publication (ISBN - 978-3-938996-25-6).

In the evening of **November 12th 2009**, there will be a “**warm-up**” meeting at a traditional brewery in Hamburg. If you would like to present your company and products, please send back the attached reply form. Submission deadline for publication in the conference volume: 28th September 2009

Registration deadline Exhibition: 15th October 2009

See agenda here:

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/week38/Draft%20programmeBSF.pdf>

From Ascobans Information Material for Fishermen

From Jo Wharam, Marine Science & Policy Consultant

ASCOBANS (the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas) has identified a need to produce targeted information material on bycatch (and other small cetacean conservation issues) for distribution to fishermen in the region. With a view to achieving this, I have been employed as a consultant to ASCOBANS to develop a Leaflet for Fishers in the ASCOBANS Area.

In order to gain an overview of what information is already available, I would like to ask your help in obtaining copies of any relevant material in existence in your country - whether published by the government, fishermen's organisations or other stakeholders. If possible, please can you indicate when the material was produced and by whom, where and how the material was distributed, and how well the information was received. I am also asking relevant international organisations for anything they have produced or are aware of.

Once I have gathered and compiled an overview of material available in the ASCOBANS area, I intend to identify gaps (geographical and/or thematic) and develop a proposal for material to be produced (including the development of a leaflet for fishers) in order to complete this work plan activity.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to colleagues and members of fishermen's organisations who may find it of interest.

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