

Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 19
24 March 2017
Wilhelmshaven**



Agenda Item: 5.10
Subject: Progress report on website re-launch Rev. 1
Document No. WSB 19/5.10/2
Date: 22 March 2017
Submitted by: Secretariat

Secretariat's note:

As decided by the 16th meeting of the Wadden Sea Board 16 (9-10 March 2016, Leeuwarden, Netherlands), the TWSC-site and WH1-site should be merged into one website displaying both World Heritage and the TWSC work. The new website will be the central platform for communicating the Wadden Sea World Heritage to the general public as well as for interacting with experts and cooperation partners.

Proposal: The meeting is invited to take note of the progress.

Progress report on website re-launch

(15.03.2017)

As decided by Wadden Sea Board 16 (9-10 March 2016, Leeuwarden, Netherlands), the TWSC-site and WH1-site should be merged into one website displaying both World Heritage and the TWSC work. The new website will hence be the central platform for communicating the Wadden Sea World Heritage to the general public as well as for interacting with experts and cooperation partners.

In 2014 a new WSWH-website was designed, which was to include Danish as the fourth language, but has not yet been launched. This website is now taken as basis for the design of the new merged website to accelerate the implementation process and keep costs low.

The new site structure is currently being discussed and formed to include both the WH and the TWSC. However, at the same time the web design office, Creative Concern, and CWSS are working on creating a microsite for the soon to be finalized QSR. As the QSR will be presented at the ISWSS in May, the creation of the QSR-microsite and uploading of the reports have highest priority for the next two months. As long as the overall website is under construction, the QSR-microsite will be accessible through the current WH- and TWSC-sites.

Together with the QSR Editorial Board, five overarching themes were formulated to increase user friendliness: When accessing the QSR online, the user can choose between the topics “Geomorphology & Climate”, “Habitats & Communities”, “Species”, “Human activities”, and “Pollution”, under which the 29 thematic reports are divided accordingly.

Mock-up 1:

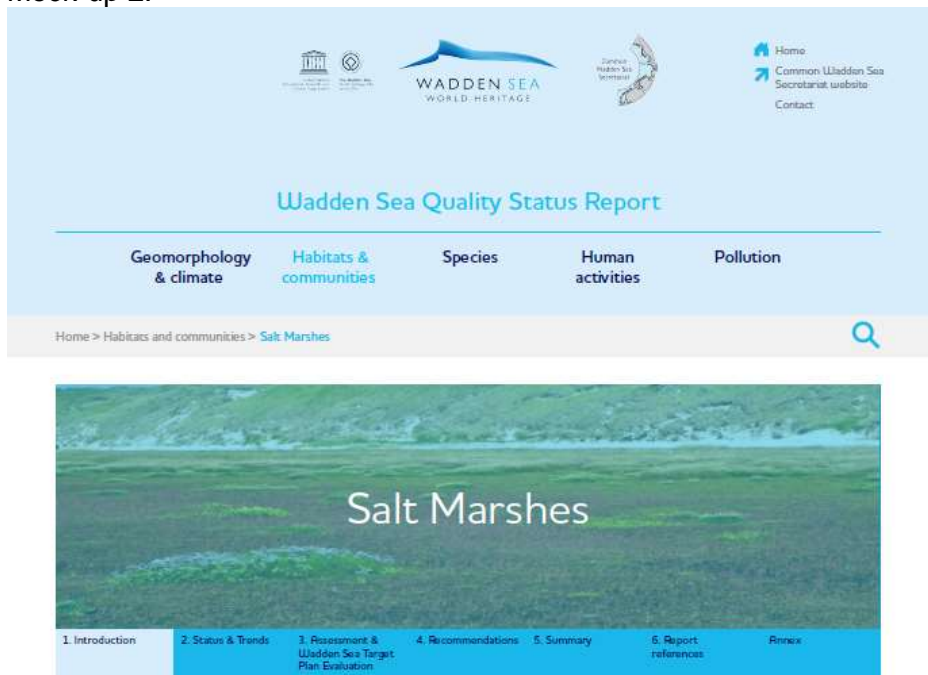


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In each thematic report, the user can easily switch between sub-chapters as well as overarching themes. An in-text search engine is also envisioned.
Mock-up 2:



Introduction

Coastal salt marshes may broadly be defined as areas, vegetated by herbs, grasses or low shrubs, which are subject to periodic flooding (tidal and non-tidal) as a result of fluctuations in the level of the adjacent saline-water bodies (Adam 1990), and where saline water is defined as not being fresh, i.e. when the annual average salinity is greater than 0,5 g of solutes per kg of water (Odum 1988). In tidal systems, salt marshes form the upper part of the intertidal zone, i.e. the interface between land and sea. They may extend vertically from well below the mean high-tide level up to the highest water mark. Salt marshes reach their greatest extent along low-energy coasts where wave action is limited and mud can accumulate (Allen & Pye 1992; Balke et al. 2016).

According to the EU Habitat Directive, salt marshes include the habitat types 1210

The QSR microsite is scheduled to go online at the end of April/ beginning of May. The overall website is scheduled to go online in late summer/ early fall.