

MEETING DOCUMENT

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 30)

21 November 2019
Wilhelmshaven, Germany



Agenda Item:	5.1 World Heritage
Subject:	Progress Report TG-WH
Document No.:	WSB 30/5.1/1
Date:	30 October 19
Submitted by:	TG-WH Chair

Attached is the progress report from the Task Group World Heritage. The main focus of this year's meetings was preparation of the SIMP (see separate document WSB 30/5.1/2).

TG-WH agreed that CWSS submitted the MAPAS (Management and Action Plan for Alien Species) to the World Heritage Centre implementing the decision of the WH Committee request 2009 (33 COM 8B.4). With letter of 24 October 2019, the Centre acknowledged receipt of the MAPAS and informed that they have shared the plan with IUCN.

Furthermore, TG-WH supported the states parties in responding on state of conservation requests, and discussed the progress in implementing the WH strategy and road map (see attached document).

Proposal: The meeting is invited to note the document.

Progress Report TG-WH

The TG-WH met in Wilhelmshaven on 30 August 2019 and in Bremen on 11 October 2019 and discussed

- the preparation of the **Single Integrated Management Plan** (see separate document WSB 30/5.1/2),
- the discussion of state of conservation requests from the World Heritage Centre (WHC),
- the TG-WH work plan.

1. State of Conservation request

Regarding the planned extension of Esbjerg harbour, a response letter was submitted to the WHC by Denmark with input from TG-WH on 8 May 2019 confirming that the property's OUV would be fully considered in the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Further State of Conservation requests from the WHC were sent to the states parties Germany and The Netherlands regarding plans for the deepening of the River Elbe and mining in the Dutch Wadden Sea. The draft answer for the River Elbe is under preparation by the competent German authorities and will be submitted to the TG-WH for discussion. The draft answer regarding mining was discussed by TG-WH in August 2019; a response letter to WHC is in preparation by the Dutch ministry.

2. TG World Heritage work plan

According to the TWSC work plan 2019 -2022, the main focus of TG-WH in 2019 was the preparation of the SIMP (LD §3), the implementation of the World Heritage strategy / roadmap (LD §9) and cooperation with the UNESCO WH marine programme (LD §10). All activities are proceeding according to the work plan.

TG-WH is actively involved in the development of the Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CVI) and at present supports EG-Climate in the preparation of the workshop (see EG-C document).

WH strategy / roadmap

TG-WG identified four work topics to be handled with priority with regard to the supplementary budget 2020: IWSS, cooperation with the WH marine programme, WSFI / arctic workshop, and the communication strategy. The latter one should be updated as soon as possible to define target audiences, to develop WH communication material accordingly (update or new flyer/brochure and video) and define appropriate communication channels (e.g. social media).

With regard to the Wadden Sea WH logo use, TG-WH agreed to extend the EU trade mark registration for the Wadden Sea WH logo to five additional product classes in order to prevent non-appropriate registration by third parties. CWSS is currently preparing the application documents for the EU trade mark organisation, registration costs are covered by the CWSS budget.

WH Marine Programme

The Wadden Sea WH was represented by Ms Sobottka (National Park Authority Lower Saxony) at the 4th World Heritage Marine Programme site managers' conference (Glacier Bay, Alaska, 4 – 9 September 2019) ([see CWSS news](#)). Various topics were discussed such as private-public partnerships, climate adaptation, and satellite technologies for management. She presented the results of international workshop on marine litter (Norderney, November 2018) which were well received. The conference supported enhancing exchange on this topic in future.

TG-WH will discuss at the next meeting how the cooperation with the marine programme can be further strengthened.

WHC Project on renewable energy

TG-WH was informed that the World Heritage Centre (WHC) has announced an initiative for developing an online Guidance Tool for the installation of renewable energy projects within or near World Heritage properties.

Funded by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, the project is currently in its first stage of development (the project period runs from 1 August 2019 to 31 March 2021), and will focus on wind energy installations in the Europe and North America region of the World Heritage Convention.

WHC asked the states parties to share this announcement with relevant national authorities and stakeholders concerned with the protection and management of World Heritage properties in the respective country.

TG-WH will get in contact with the national focal points in Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands regarding a participation of experts and stakeholders from the Wadden Sea World Heritage.