

Agreement on designation of a Same Risk Area in Öresund

Background

Sweden and Denmark have ratified the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (Ballast Water Management Convention), which stipulates requirements for the management and control of ships ballast water and sediments. The Ballast Water Convention aims to prevent, minimize and ultimately eliminate the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens through the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments.

According to regulation A-4 of the Ballast Water Management Convention a Party or Parties, in waters under their jurisdiction, may grant exemptions to any requirements to treatment of ballast water. Exemptions may be granted to a ship or ships on a voyage or voyages between specified ports or locations; or to a ship which operates exclusively between specified ports or locations. General procedures for granting exemptions are described in resolution MEPC.289(71), the 2017 Guidelines for risk assessment under regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention (G7). A Same Risk Area can be designated if a species-specific risk assessment, based on validated models, demonstrate that target species have a high probability of establishing throughout the area by the process of natural dispersal within the agreed time window.

Same Risk Area risk assessment and delineation

Swedish and Danish authorities initiated a Same Risk Area case study in Kattegat and Öresund (Same Risk Area Case-study for Kattegat and Øresund. Final report. DTU Aqua report no. 335-2018 by Flemming Thorbjørn Hansen and Asbjørn Christansen).

Applying a strict interpretation the case study concluded that a Same Risk Area could be delineated in Öresund and the immediate vicinity. When delineating the area, Swedish and Danish authorities have adopted a conservative approach based on the connectivity and natural dispersal of the relevant species. The borders of the Öresund Same Risk Area is set forth in the appendix to this agreement.

Terms for the Öresund Same Risk Area

The proposed borders of the Same Risk Area are solely set for the purpose of being administrative borders for the Swedish and Danish authorities to be used in relation to assessing an exemption under the Ballast Water Management Convention Regulation A-4 and Guideline G7.

Swedish and Danish authorities can at any given point of time choose not to use the Same Risk Area concept and delineated area in their requirement for a risk assessment for granting an exemption for treating ballast water.

Swedish and Danish authorities may, in waters under their respective jurisdiction, grant exemptions to any requirements to apply regulation B-3 or C-1 of the Ballast Water Management Convention, to a ship or ships operating exclusively within the designated area.

Swedish and Danish authorities may require additional information or assessments to the application, e.g. assessments of potential impacts on nearby Nature 2000-areas.

Agreement

Based on the above mentioned conditions, the Danish Environmental Protection Agency and the Swedish Transport Agency hereby agree to designate a Same Risk Area in Öresund under the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments.

Odense, date: 3/8 2020

Norrköping, date: 14/9 2020


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Deputy Director General

Danish Environmental Protection Agency

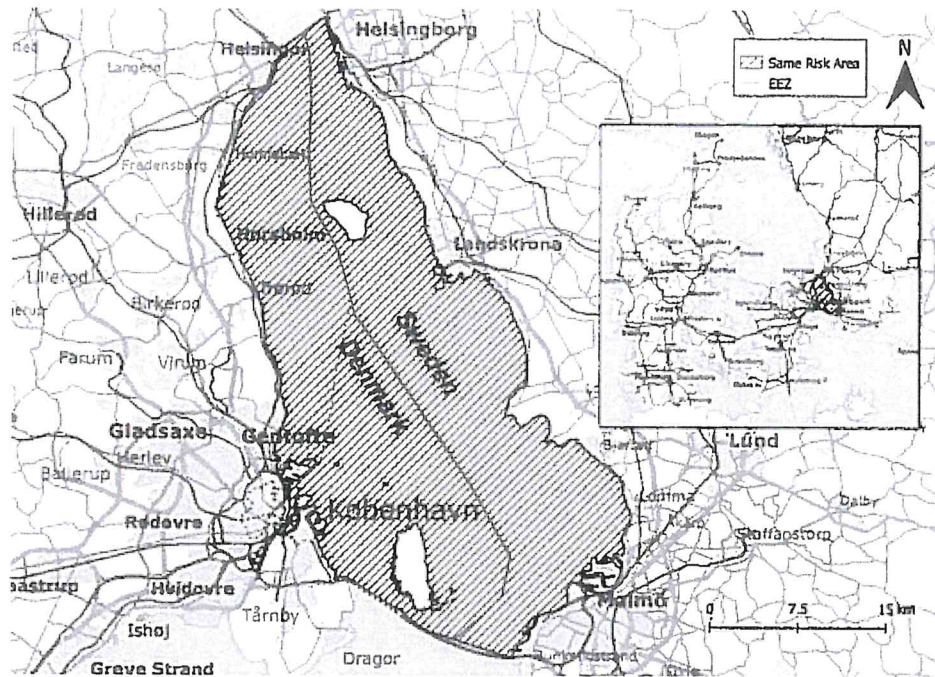

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Appendix:

Map and coordinates of Öresund as a Same Risk Area.



Sweden immediately North of Helsingborg:	56° 03' 45.8" N	12° 40' 43.8" E
Denmark immediately North of Kronborg	56° 02' 26.3" N	12° 37' 18.6" E
Denmark, Amager east coast	55° 37' 47.8" N	12° 40' 49.6" E
Denmark, Peberholm west	55° 36' 40.2" N	12° 43' 35.0" E
Denmark, Peberholm east	55° 35' 20.1" N	12° 46' 37.4" E
Sweden, west coast	55° 33' 56.1" N	12° 53' 30.3" E
Copenhagen, Amager west coast	55° 38' 33.6" N	12° 33' 09.1" E
Copenhagen, Sealand east coast	55° 38' 36.3" N	12° 33' 02.0" E