

Re-Survey MWG Report to the BSHC 30th Conference in *Riga, Latvia*

1. Status of the work of Re-Survey MWG since BSHC 29th conference Tallinn

The main tasks for the MWG have been to encourage the member states to continue the up-to-date surveys of their waters and to continue to update and enhance the Re-Survey database. The communication within the MWG has taken place via email as well as through in-person and hybrid meetings.

At the HELCOM Ministerial meeting on 20 October 2021 the Commission adopted the updated HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). This is a remarkable milestone for BSHC, which now has the strong political commitment signed by Government representatives and the EU Commission.

BSAP sets a timeline for hydrographic surveying in the Baltic Sea. The work of MWG is not limited to seabed coverage for areas used by commercial shipping in the Baltic Sea. The aim is that the entire Baltic Sea will be surveyed according to IHO standards and with full seabed coverage.

2. Monitoring Working Group meetings

The MWG 24th meeting took place on 22 October 2024 in Gdańsk, Poland. The next meeting is planned for early November 2025 in Malmö, Sweden

3. The results of the MWG since BSHC29 (Sept 2024- August 2025)

Actions:

BSHC PERMANENT ACTION:

Continuously keep HELCOM Re-Survey Plan updated based on most recent AIS information at hand, and perform surveys in accordance with the Re-Survey Plan.

- The member states have reported their updated figures of progress of surveys at least up the end of 2024.
- All BSHC EU member states have now once completed all Cat I surveys. New routing measures in LT waters raised some new need for Cat I surveys.

BSHC29/3:

DK to give a report to MWG about SDB data usage in Kattegat area

- At the MWG 24th working group meeting, Denmark delivered a presentation on the use of SDB data in the Kattegat area. Satellite data can be obtained relatively quickly compared to field surveys but is not as accurate as traditional hydrographic survey methods, particularly in complex underwater topographies or deeper waters. SDB data is not utilized in nautical chart products and is not intended for navigational use. SDB supports the planning and management of marine resources, helping to identify suitable areas for activities like fishing,

shipping and renewable energy. SDB can support decision-making and prioritizing when and where to survey.

BSHC29/4

FI to give more information about LIDAR and MB surveys alignment to MWG

- At the MWG 24th working group meeting, Finland delivered a presentation on LIDAR and MB surveys alignment. The initial LIDAR surveys are useful for supporting multibeam surveys saving 10-20% time on MBES field surveys. One of the benefits of LiDAR surveys is the enhancement of safety in multibeam hydrographic operations.

BSHC29/5

DE to a report about AI boulder detection to MWG.

- At the MWG 24th working group meeting, Denmark reported about AI boulder detection.
 - The German representative was unable to attend the meeting so the presentation was distributed.

Presentations were given by MWG members in following meetings:

- Reporting to EUSBRs PA Safe Operational Advisory Board at videoconference on 9 April 2025 (Maarit Mikkelsen delivering a presentation remotely during a hybrid meeting)

4. Future Work of the MWG

MWG will continue to monitor the progress of the HELCOM Re-survey Scheme and update Re-Survey Database. It is of importance to have the database enhanced and interface operate reliably.

Continue cooperation with future possible EU CEF program (TEN-T) and EU REGIO (Interreg) funding projects concerning Re-Surveys in the Baltic Sea.

Follow up HELCOM Head of Delegates outcome on the need of updating Re-survey plan and perform Re-surveys especially in areas in South-Eastern Baltic, where AIS-records show commercial shipping taking place and which areas are not nationally categorized as HELCOM cat I or cat II areas - limited progress due to lack of bilateral negotiations.

Continue liaison and information exchange with NSHC.

Continue communication with relevant organisations and inform users by giving presentations and participating in relevant conferences, such as HELCOM Maritime and EU BSRS PA Safe Steering Committee.

To follow up the HSWG (of IHO) and to implement S-44 ed6 to the hydrographic work within the Baltic Sea.

To activate all the member states to send representatives to MWG meetings and participate MWG work.

To promote collecting the bathymetric data for the cartographic purpose at the Baltic Sea HELCOM Routes, with the reference to the BSCD2000 geoid model.

To follow and share experiences on current and evolving bathymetric survey systems.

5. Actions for the BSHC 30th Conference

The BSHC 30th Conference is invited to

1. note this Report
2. encourage member states to study and review Cat I & II areas in their waters based on the existing AIS-information on commercial shipping
3. encourage member states to perform re-surveys in all revised HELCOM Re-Survey Scheme areas
4. encourage member states to participate actively to MWG work
5. give further guidance to MWG, as seen appropriate

Annexes (below):

1. MWG TORs and work program
2. HELCOM Re-Survey status

Annex 1

MWG Work Programme for 2021 - 2026

[Version 9, proposed on 24 Sept 2020 at BSHC25]

MWG Tasks: [based on MWG TORs as approved by BSHC 13th Conference, 20 August 2008]:

- 1.1 To maintain the Baltic Sea Harmonised Re-survey Scheme
- 1.2 To maintain the re-survey metadata database
- 1.3 To monitor the progress of the execution of the Harmonised Re-Survey Scheme
- 1.4 To identify possible problems and propose solutions or workarounds to them
- 1.5 To specify and propose updates and changes to the Harmonised Re-Survey Scheme
- 1.6 To liaise with national Maritime Administrations, HELCOM Secretariat, and other relevant organisations.
- 1.7 To support IHO working groups and other European projects in issues concerning IHO S-44 and survey status, e.g. IHO HSWG. Any official decisions shall be brought to BSHC Conference be decided.
- 1.8 The MWG should report to the BSHC at least once a year.

Tasks for 2021 - 2026:

No	Task	Resp.	Priority	Remarks/Status
B.1	MWG to monitor the implementation of Re-survey Scheme	All	High	
B.2	MWG Members to update national re-survey plans	All	High	Awareness needed for the South-Eastern Baltic Sea
B.3	MWG Members to take necessary harmonisation actions between countries	All	High	Awareness needed for the South-Eastern Baltic Sea
B.4	MWG Members to keep Re-survey database updated	All	High	
C.1	MWG to develop specifications for new re-survey database	All	High	More specific development tasks may be listed.
C.2	To contribute to IHO C-55 development and harmonise the developments	Chair / BSHC Chair	Medium	
C.3	To contribute to IHO S-44 work	All / team participants	High	through representation at IHO HSWG
D.1	To liaise with other relevant organisations (HELCOM, NMAs, NSHC, EU SBSR...),	Chair	Medium	
D.2	To report to BSHC yearly	Chair	High	
D.3	To write articles (relevant publications, conferences, etc.)	Chair	Low	There are articles on IHR 10/2014.
D.4	To promote collecting the bathymetric data for the cartographic purpose at the Baltic Sea HELCOM Routes, with the reference to the BSCD2000 geoid model	All	High	

MWG Meetings past 9 years:

MWG12, 17 June 2015, Riga, Latvia
 MWG13, 10 February 2016, Norrköping, Sweden
 MWG14, 11 November 2016, Rostock, Germany
 MWG15, 8 March 2017, Malmö, Sweden
 MWG 16, 21-22 September 2017, Rostock, Germany
 MWG17, 7 March 2018, Malmö, Sweden
 MWG18, 27 August 2018, Aalborg, Denmark
 MWG18 B, 14-15 November 2018, Riga, Latvia
 MWG19, 16-17 April 2019, Tallinn, Estonia
 MWG20, 10 Sept 2019, Gdansk, Poland



TRAFICOM

30th BSHC Conference
22 - 24 September 2025
Riga, Latvia

Agenda Item C.2
MWG Report
Finland

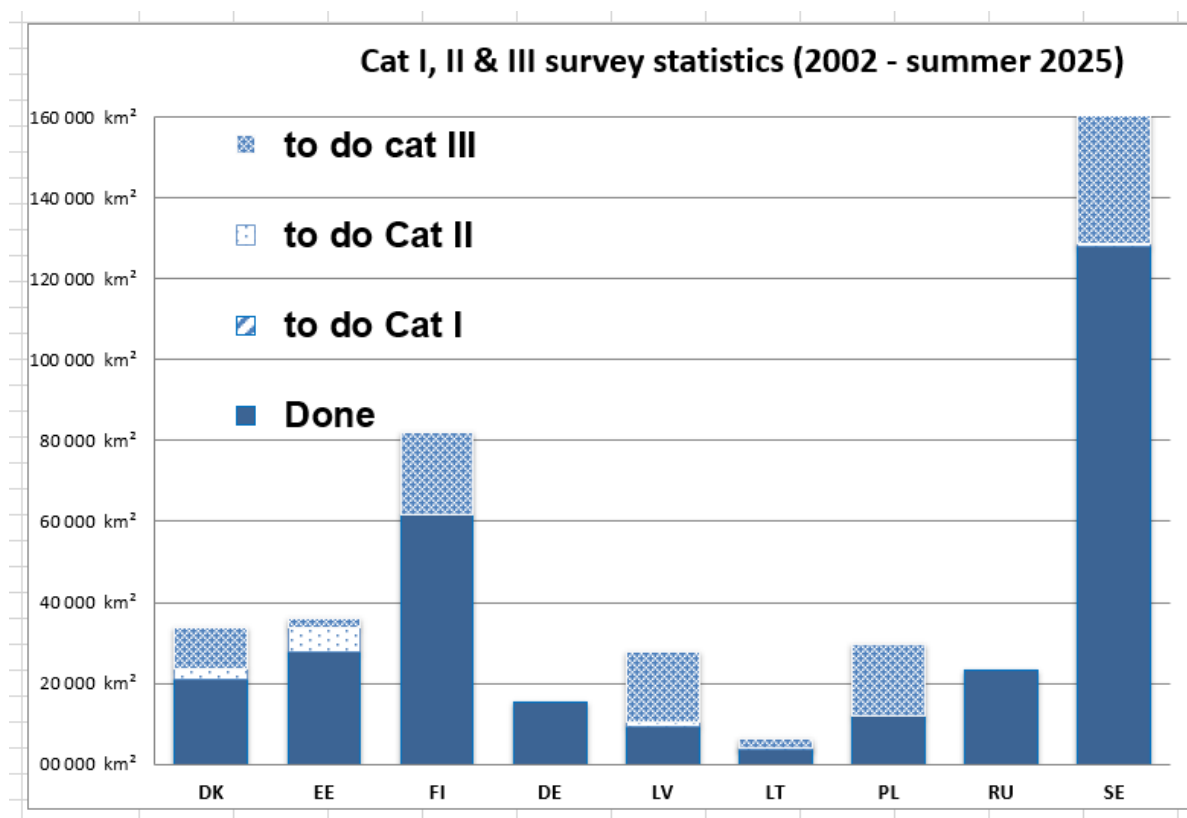
MWG21, 24 March 2020 SKYPE video conference
MWG22, 26 April 2021 SKYPE video conference
MWG23, 16 March 2023 Hybrid meeting; Helsinki Finland + SKYPE video conference
MWG24, 22 October 2024 Hybrid meeting; Gdansk Poland + Teams video conference

Annex 2

HELCOM Re-Survey status statistics (Summer 2025)

HELCOM Survey statistics, spring/summer 2025 [based on e-mails of member states summer 2025]					Completed field surveys and data verified				
Country	CAT I [~year compl]	Cat I area total / remaining [~km ²]	CAT II [~year compl]	Cat II area total / remaining [~km ²]	CAT I & II total [~km ²]	CAT III [~year compl]	Cat III area remaining [~km ²]	Cat III area total [~km ²]	statistics by
Denmark	2013	7 631 / 0	2030	14750 / 2874	22 381	2033	10 199	11 556	12.2.2025
Estonia	2015	8 465 / 0	2035	24 822 / 6877	33287	2040	2515	2956	45667
Finland	2016	22 321 / 0	2016	28 678 / 0	51 000	2040	20 260	31 077	31.12.2024
Germany	2019	3 273 / 0	2025	12 127 / 0	15 400	not applic	-	-	17.6.2024
Latvia	2015	2 461 / 0	2027	6 368 / 927	8829	2045	17590	19048	4.7.2025
Lithuania	2019	1 574 / 2	2027	1 829 / 392	3 404	2040	2 325	3 050	21.7.2025
Poland	2024	3 782 / 0	2021	906 / 0	4688	2039	17 789	25 126	8.7.2025
Russia	2018		2018		1 200	2017		22 204	
Sweden	2023	48 568 / 0	2023	69 302 / 898	117 870	(*) 2036	36 373	(*) 47 516	31.12.2024

(*) SE has prioritized and categorized their Cat III areas (High/Medium/Low). Areas used for navigation completed 2036



Shipping routes remaining to be surveyed

<https://helcomresurvey.sjofartsverket.se/>