HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Group

Sixth Meeting

Riga 29-30 January 2013

Lessons learnt from the Plan Bothnia project

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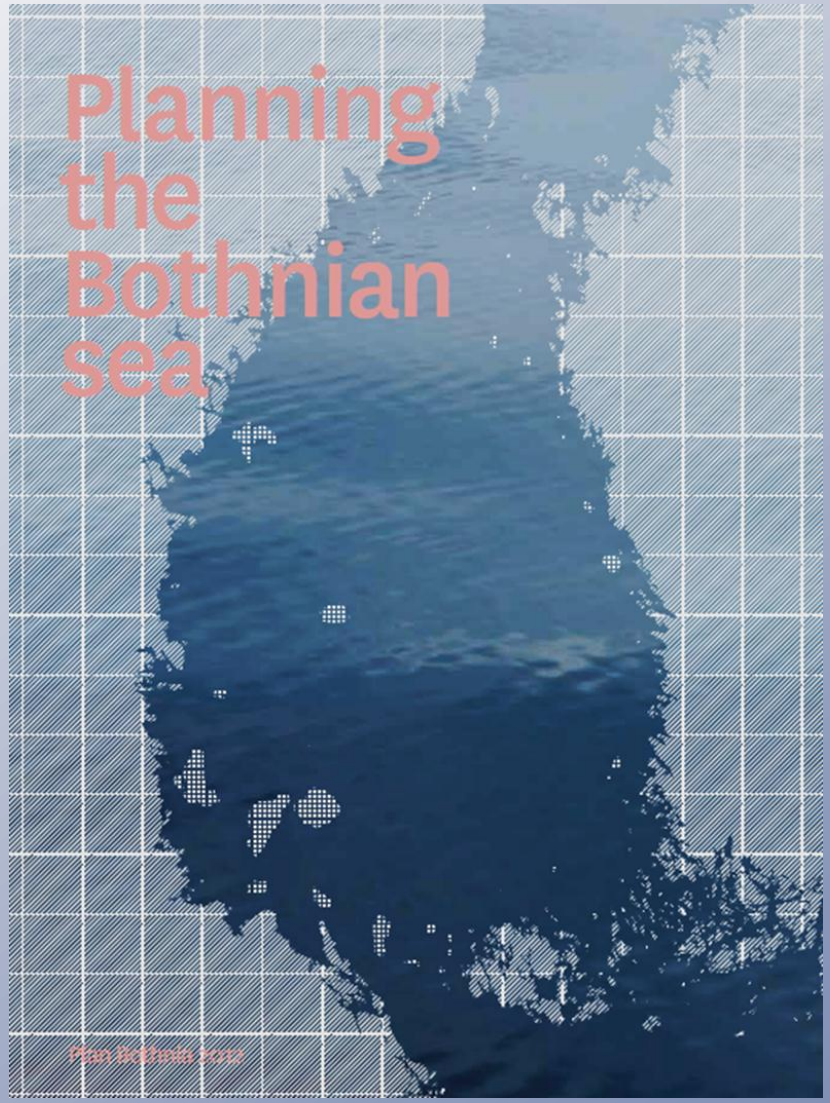
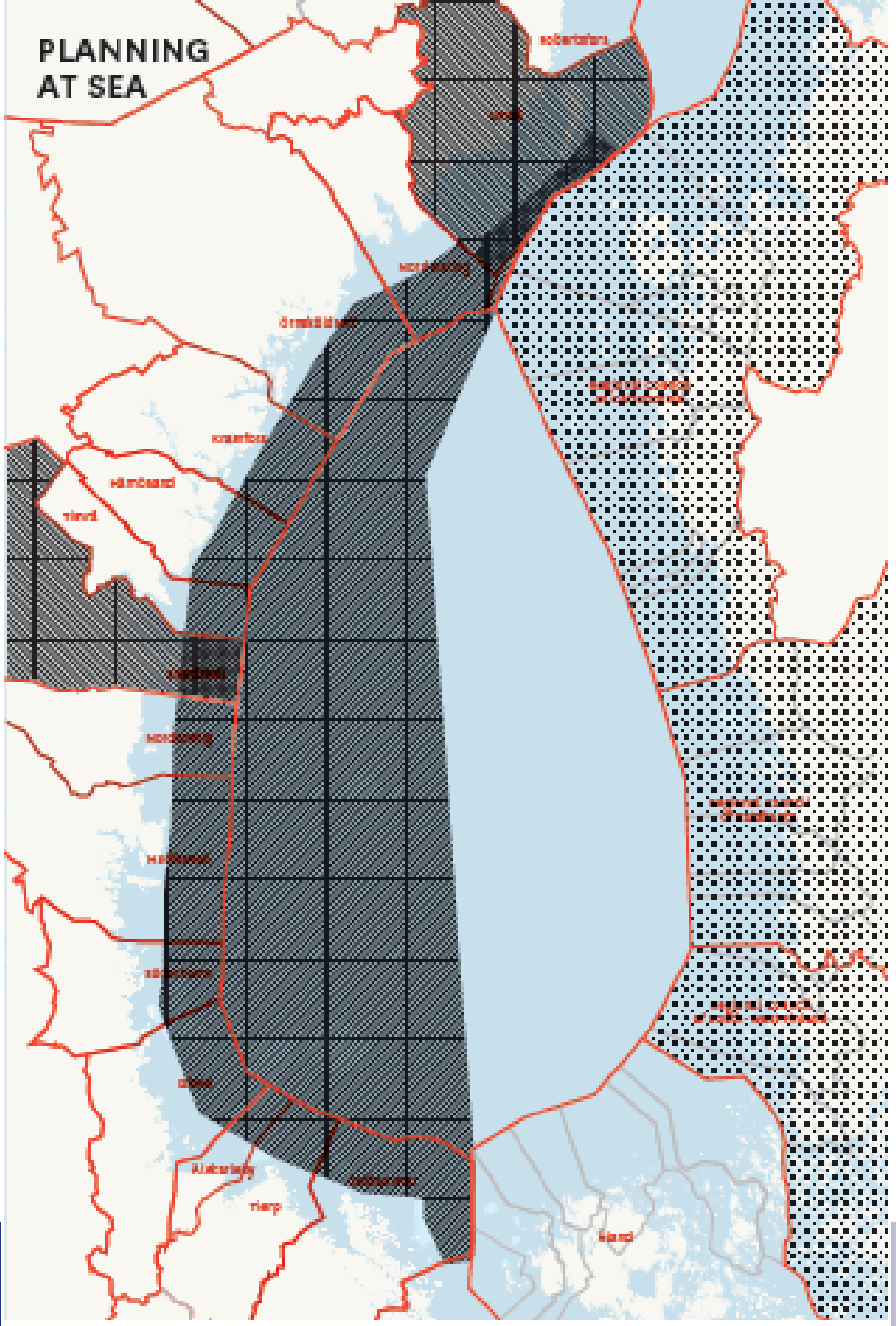
PLAN BOTHNIA

Finnish-Swedish Maritime Spatial Planning project in the Bothnian Sea



HELCOM

PLAN BOTHNIA MARE/2009/16 Co-financed under European Integrated Maritime Policy



Finland's land use planning system

National land use guidelines
Approved by council of state

Regional land use plan
Drawn up and approved by Regional Council
Confirmed by Ministry of the Environment

Joint master plan
Approved by joint local authority body

Confirmed by Ministry of the Environment

Local master plan
Prepared and approved by local authority

Local detailed plan
Prepared and approved by local authority

Sweden's land use planning system

Planning and building act

Environmental code

Regional plan (rare)

Comprehensive plan

Area regulations

Detailed development plan

Property regulations

Building permit

Permits according to the Environmental code, the Road Act etc.

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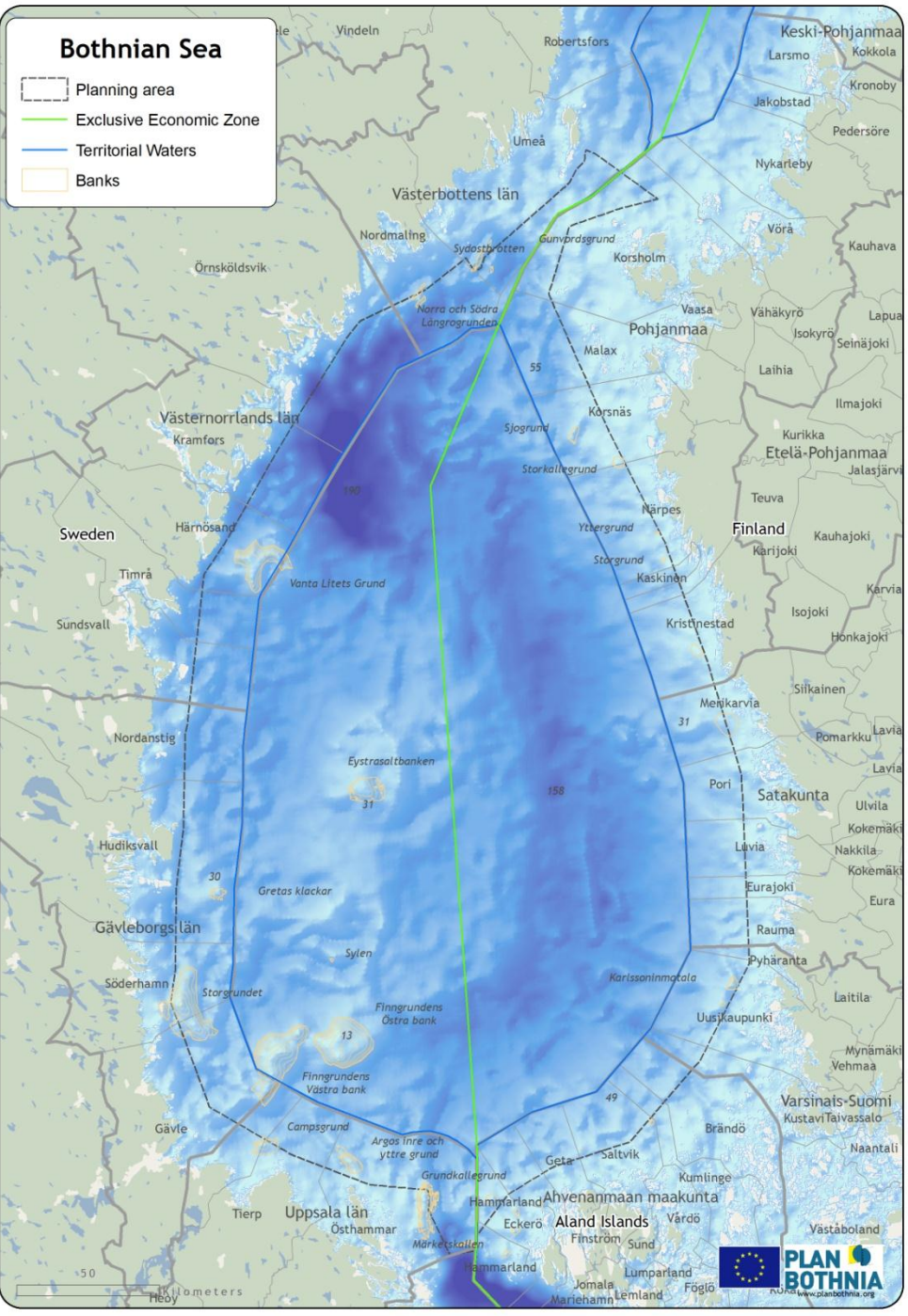
Bothnian Sea
Planning area
Exclusive Economic Zone
Territorial Waters
Banks
Vindeln
Robertsfors
Keski-Pohjanmaa
Larsmo
Kokkola
Kronoby
Jakobstad
Pedersöre
Umeå
Nykarleby
Västerbottens län
Nordmaling
Sydostbrotten
Gunvordsgrund
Vörå
Kauhava
Örnsköldsvik
Korsholm
Norra och Södra Långrogrunden
Vaasa
Vähäkyrö
Lapua
Pohjanmaa
Isokyrö
Seinäjoki
Malax
Laihia
Ilmajoki
Västernorrlands län
Kramfors
Kårsnäs
Sjogrund
Kurikka
Etelä-Pohjanmaa
Storkallegrund
Jalasjärvi
Teuva
Närpes
Sweden
Härnösand
Yttergrund
Finland
Kauhajoki
Karijoki
Timrå
Storgrund
Kaskinen
Vanta Litets Grund
Karvia
Isojoki
Sundsvall
Kristinestad
Honkajoki
Siikainen
Merikarvia
Nordanstig
Pomarkku
Lavia
Eystrasaltbanken
Pori
Satakunta
Ulvila
Hudiksvall
Luvia
Kokemäki
Nakkila
Gretas klackar
Eurajoki
Eura
Gävleborgs län
Rauma
Sylen
Pyhäranta
Karlssoninmotala
Söderhamn
Storgrundet
Laitila
Finngrundens Östra bank
Uusikaupunki
Mynämäki
Vehmaa
Finngrundens Västra bank
Varsinais-Suomi
Kustavi Taivassalo
Gävle
Campsgrund
Brändö
Naantali
Argos Inre och yttre grund
Geta
Saltvik
Grundkallegrund
Kumlinge
Ahvenanmaan maakunta
Hamptarland
Tierp
Uppsala län
Eckerö
Aland Islands
Vårdö
Östhammar
Finström
Sund
Västaboland
Märketskallen
Hammarland
Lumparland
Jomala
Föglö
Lemland
Mariehamn
50
Kilometers
Hoyo
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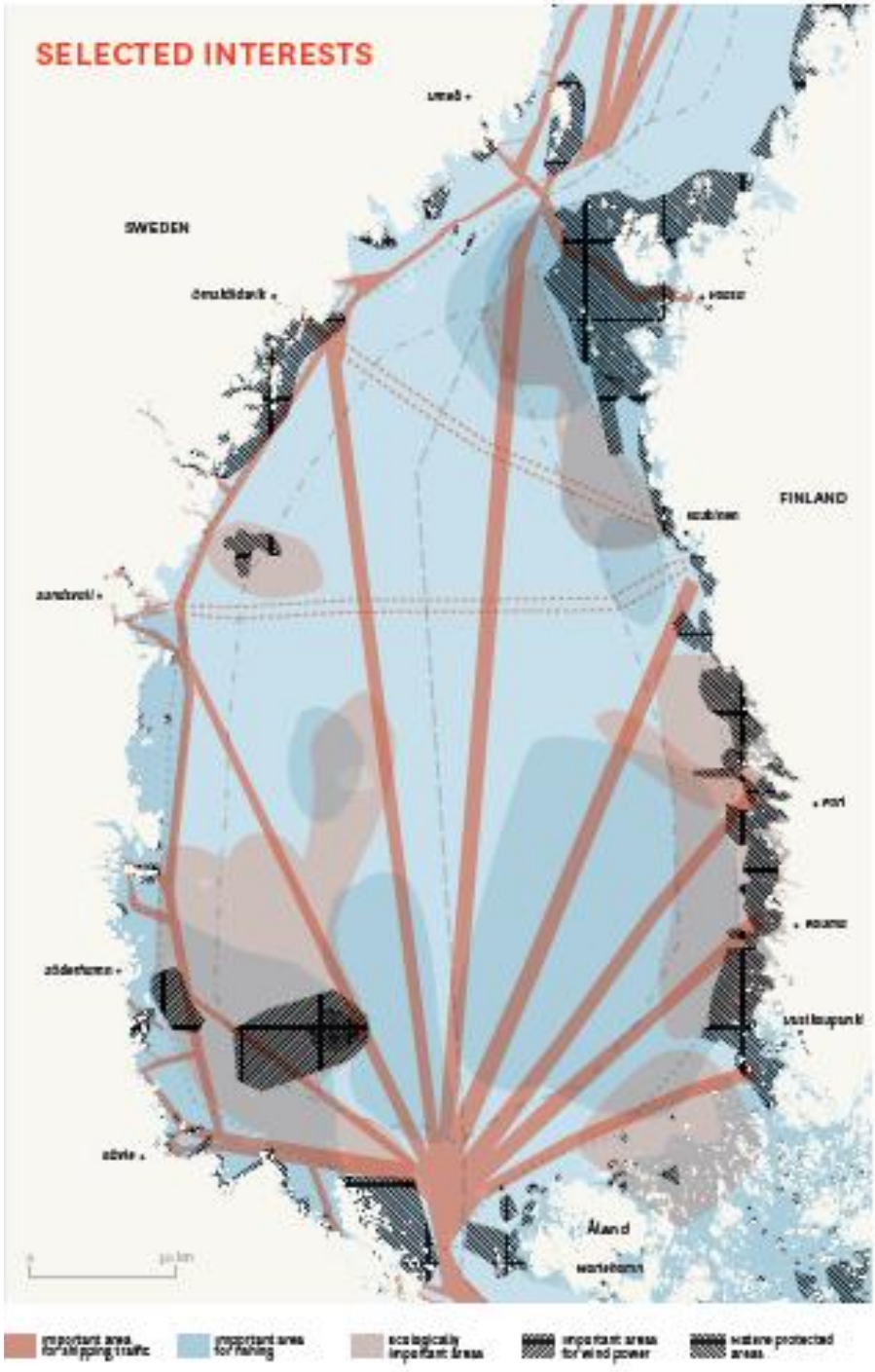
www.planbothnia.org


SELECTED INTERESTS
SWEDEN
FINLAND
Åland
important area for shipping traffic
important area for fishing
ecologically important areas
important areas for wind power
nature protected areas

Guidelines for areas referred to on the plan map

Nature protection, Natura 2000
Area with high natural value. The entire area or a large part of it belongs to the EU Natura 2000 network. Areas off the Finnish coast also to a maritime national park. RECOMMENDATION: *Natura 2000 values should be protected and activities harmful to these values should not be allowed. The National Park regulations must be followed.*

Nature protection and wind power
Shallow banks of high ecological value and conditions for wind power. Part of Finngrundet has sand and gravel extraction interests, but this would be harmful to its natural/ecological values and wind power interests. RECOMMENDATION: *Natural values should be protected. Shipping and fishing harmful to these values should not be allowed. New activities that could significantly harm the possibilities for wind power in the area should not be permitted.*

Nature protection, other
Area with high natural and ecological value that should be protected. RECOMMENDATION: *The biological and ecological conditions that create its high natural values should be protected. Activities harmful to these values should be made to avoid the area.*

Important fishing area
Area identified as of particular importance for commercial fishing. RECOMMENDATION: *The possibilities of sustainable fishing should be ensured. The conditions that are fundamental to its natural values and rich fish stocks should not be harmed.*

Potentially high natural value, spawning and nursery area
Area of particular significance for spawning or nursery of fish. Due to the shallowness and varied seabed, the area is expected to be of higher natural/ecological value than most of the Bothnian Sea. RECOMMENDATION: *The area's qualities for spawning of fish should be preserved. The effects of new activities on the area's values should be assessed, harmful activities should be avoided. Existing activities such as fishing should be performed in a way that does not harm.*

Potentially high natural value
Due to the relatively shallowness and varied seabed conditions the area, particularly the banks, could be expected to be of higher natural value and biodiversity than most of the Bothnian Sea. RECOMMENDATION: *The natural and ecological values in the area should be preserved. New activities should not be allowed unless their environmental effects have been assessed. Existing activities such as fishing should be performed in a way that is not harmful.*

Valuable geology and landscape view from land
An important part of UNESCO High Coast World Heritage is that the views from the high coastal cliffs are free of visible constructions. RECOMMENDATION: *Permanent constructions that could be visible from land and harm cultural values should be avoided.*

Military practice area
Area used for live ammunition practice by the military. RECOMMENDATION: *The area should be protected against uses that can significantly harm its use for military purposes.*

Shipping route
Recommended route for commercial shipping. RECOMMENDATION: *Constructions, activities and other measures that would hinder passage should only be allowed if the measures are of great importance for society and if no other acceptable place can be found.*

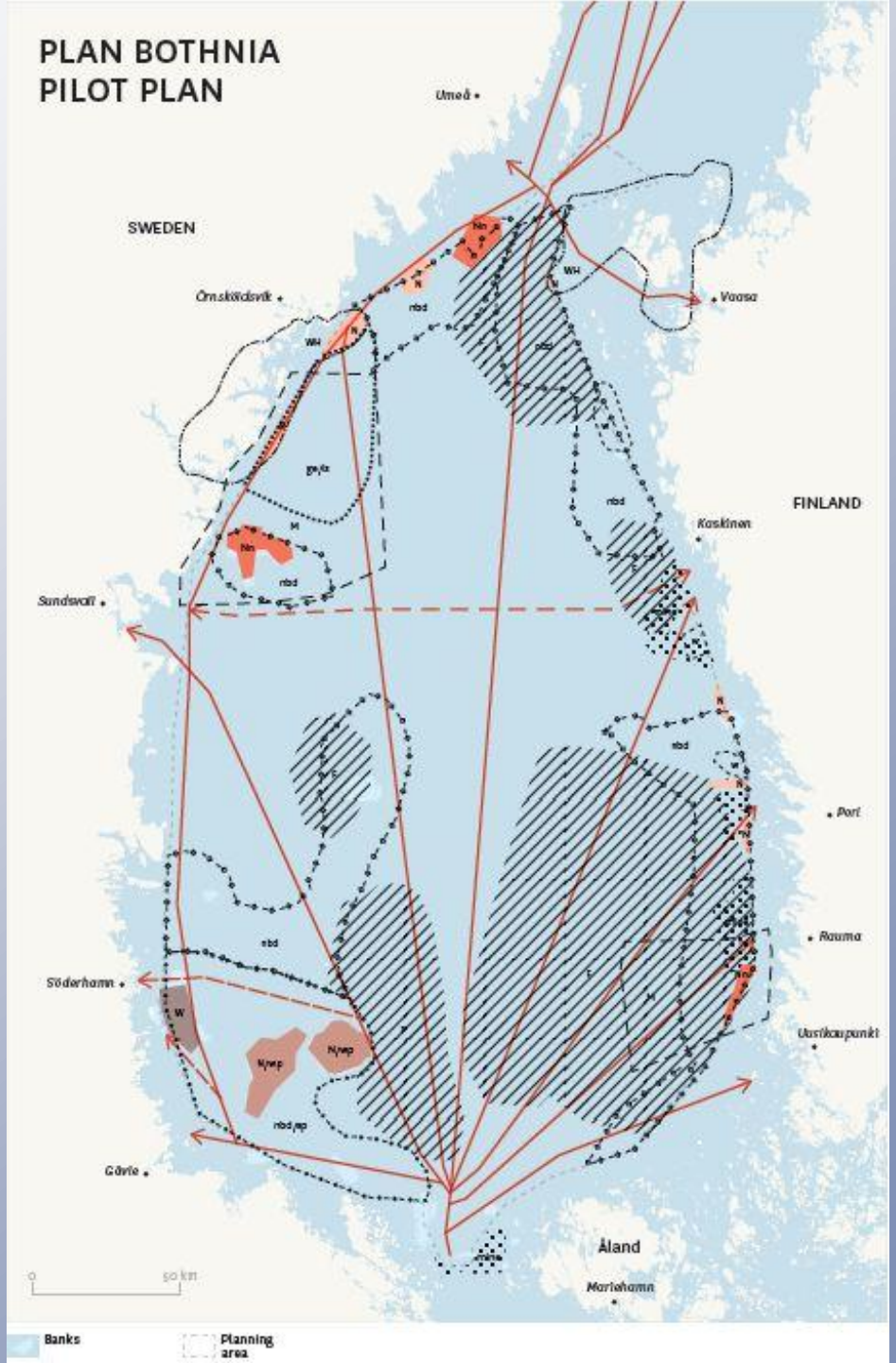
Future shipping route
Future potential fairway for cross-Bothnian shipping. RECOMMENDATION: *Measures that could prevent the establishment of the route should be avoided.*

Mine/dumped ammunition risk
Site where mines or other kinds of ammunitions have, or are supposed to have, been dumped. RECOMMENDATION: *Activities that could lead to risks of explosions should be avoided, or carried out with great caution.*

World heritage
Area in the UNESCO World Heritage list, mainly coastal. RECOMMENDATION: *When granting permission for new activities and measures, within or close the area, the impact on world heritage values should be assessed. Activities and measures that could harm world heritage values should not be allowed.*

Wind power
Area for wind power production. The area is also of relatively high natural value. RECOMMENDATION: *Activities and measures that could harm wind power production should not be allowed. Natural values should be preserved as far as possible.*

Good wind power conditions
Area with good wind power production conditions. RECOMMENDATION: *Activities and measures that could harm the potential to use the area for wind power production should not be allowed.*



Designating areas for sea-based energy

Without compromising the ecosystem and taking in to account the affect on the visual landscape, the potential for sea-based energy production should be utilised. So far, this mainly involves wind power. The ambition is to reach a Bothnian Sea production capacity of 5-10TWh before 2020, developed in an ecologically and aesthetically-responsible way. To preserve the natural values of untouched banks and other areas, and to avoid harm to wildlife such as migrating birds, building on offshore banks should be minimised, by clustering wind farms into larger units and directing them to deeper waters. The environmental harm of cables and their laying should be minimised.

Maintaining spawning, nursery and fishing areas

The ecological sustainability of commercial fishing should be promoted. Management actions should be taken to ensure the preservation of viable herring stocks and other fish species of commercial value. Actions should also be taken to avoid negative effects to the ecosystem, including the destruction of habitats, and the release of toxins and nutrients from seabed. Important fish spawning and nursery areas should be protected.

Ensuring a network of offshore nature protected areas

Offshore areas in the Bothnian Sea identified as especially ecologically valuable should be designated as protected areas with efficient management measures, including Natura 2000.

The sea and coastal communities

In the areas close to the shore and also in offshore areas, importance should be given to uses and activities that benefit coastal communities -such as local small-scale fishing and aquaculture, tourism and recreation.

Nm **Nature Protection, Natura 2000**

Area with high natural value. The entire area or a large part of it belongs to the EU Natura 2000 network. Areas off the Finnish coast also belong to a maritime national park.

Recommendation

Natura 2000 values should be protected and activities harmful to these should not be allowed. The national park regulations must be followed.

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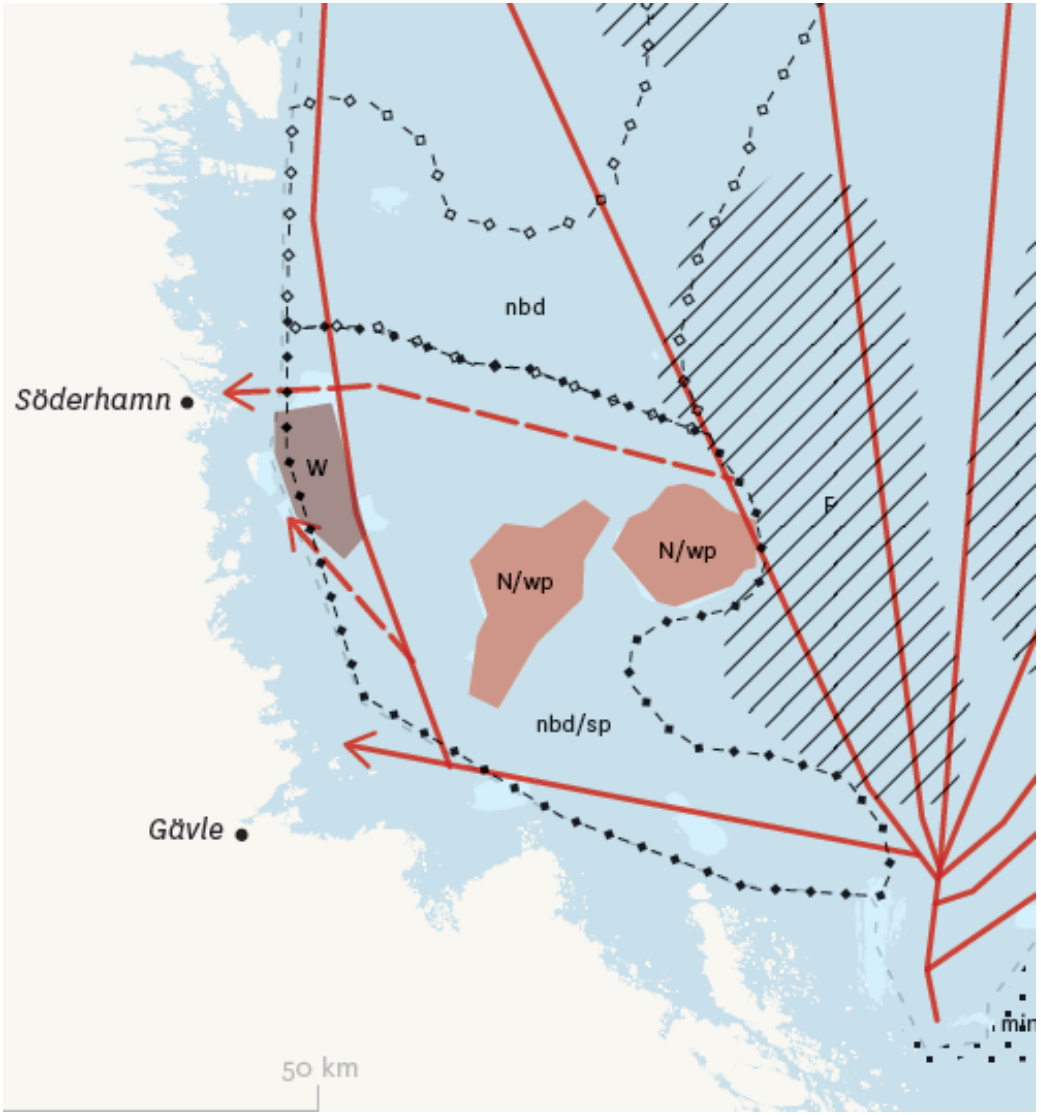

N/wp

Nature protection and wind power

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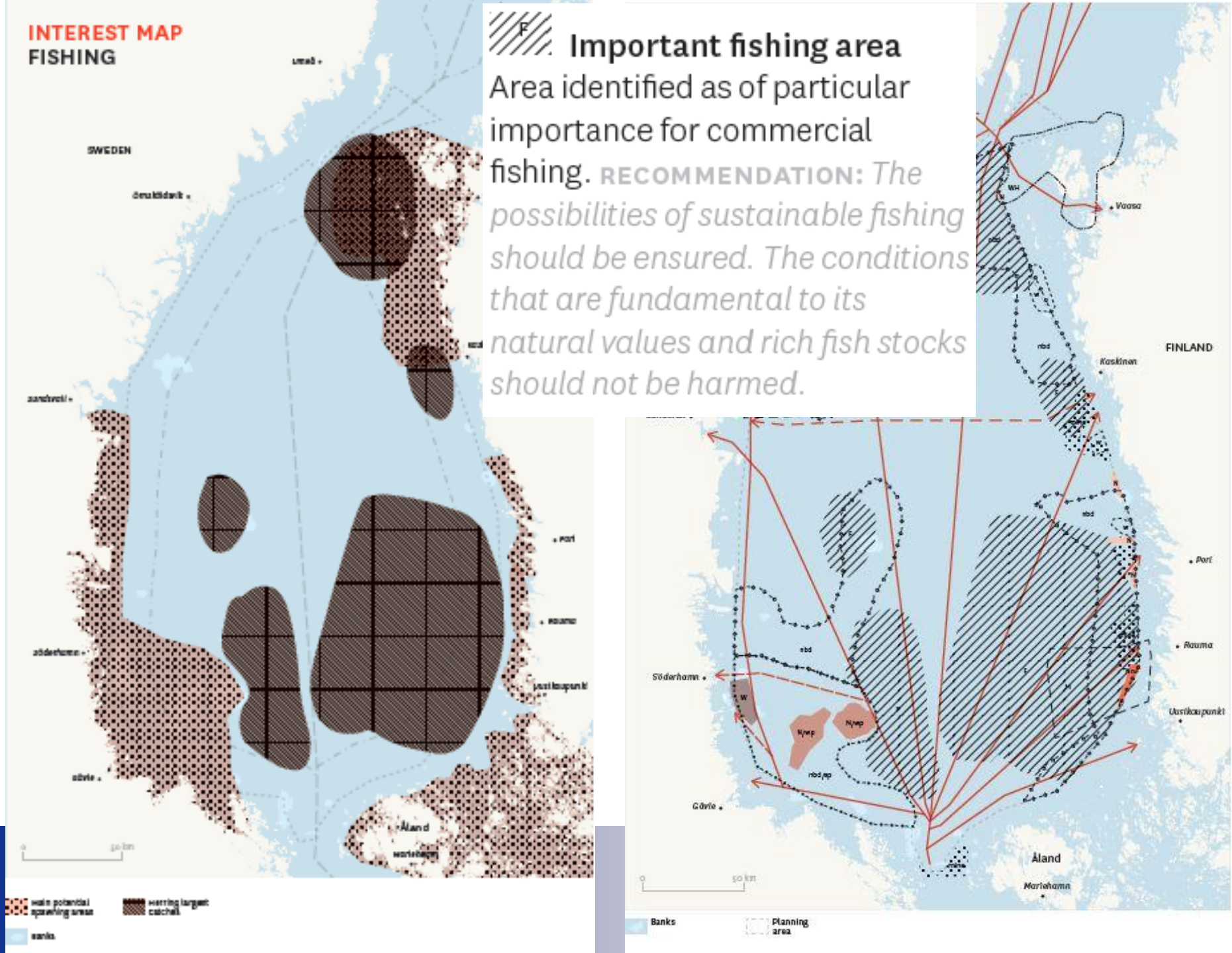
RECOMMENDATION: *Natural values should be protected. Shipping and fishing harmful to these values should not be allowed. New activities that could significantly harm the possibilities for wind power in the area should not be permitted.*


INTEREST MAP
FISHING
SWEDEN
FINLAND
Vaasa
Kaskinen
Pori
Rauma
Uusikaupunki
Söderhamn
Gävle
Åland
Mariehamn
Banks
Planning area
Important fishing area
Area identified as of particular importance for commercial fishing. RECOMMENDATION: The possibilities of sustainable fishing should be ensured. The conditions that are fundamental to its natural values and rich fish stocks should not be harmed.

Lessons learned – Finnish experience

- Vision and joint goals needed
- A political order and decision needed
- Lack of data is a major question
- A lot of similarities in planning systems
- Differences in planning cultures
- To use right tools
- Decisions bound by national law
- Future development plays key role

Plan Bothnia
Swedish experience

Insight into present state of data and information for MSP

Ecosystem approach require analysis and planning of *whole* regional sea

SE – FIN more similarities than differences – good prospects for transboundary planning

Overall conclusion

Shows transboundary MSP necessary and possible

Reflections on MSP legislation

- **Who owns the plan (adopts it)?**

  Government

- **Whose decisions should be influenced by it?**

  Government, agencies, courts, municipalities

- **How much should the plan influence?/Power of the plan (recommendations-regulations)**

  Recommending, some (excluding) binding elements

- **Purpose of plan**

  Good and sustainable management of marine uses