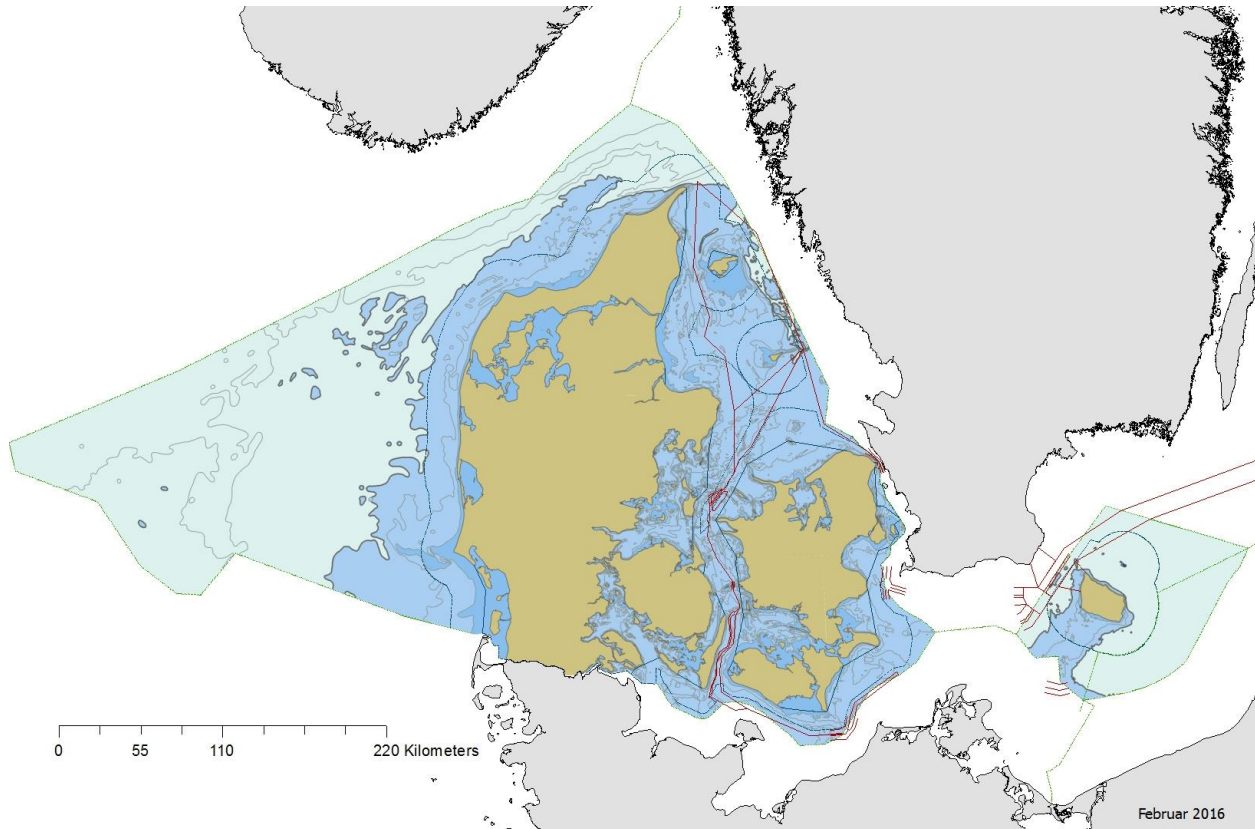




Country Fiche

Denmark

1. General information



- Total Danish Sea areal: 105.000 km²
- Marine internal waters: 3.500 km²
- Territorial sea (12 nm zone): 40.000 km²
- Exclusive Economic Zone: 61.500 km²

1.1. Governance

The Danish territorial water belongs to the public and is managed by the Government.

1.2. Contacts

MSP in general: Ministry of Business and Growth
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2. General information on legislation

The Danish Parliament has adopted the “Act on Maritime Spatial Planning”, which establishes the framework for spatial planning in the Danish marine areas. It is available in an English translation here: <http://www.dma.dk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Legislation/Acts/2016/L-615-08062016-marine%20planning%20act.pdf>

Sea-based activities are currently regulated by a large number of sectoral acts, e.g. the marine environment protection act, the raw materials act, the subsoil act, the continental shelf act, the electricity supply act, the harbour act, the act on safety at sea and the fishery act. With the adoption of the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning, provisions are made for establishing an integrated maritime spatial plan for the Danish marine areas. The purpose of the Act is to promote economic growth, the development of marine areas and the use of marine resources on a sustainable basis. The Act aims to contribute to achieving the goals of maritime spatial planning while taking account of land-sea interaction and strengthening cross-border cooperation.

With the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning, the Danish Government has recognised the need for greater coordination between activities conducted in the Danish marine space and between the authorities that manage and regulate these activities. These authorities have worked together through formal channels to coordinate their work and to establish new joint initiatives. Implementation of the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning will draw and build upon the established background of interagency collaboration.

Sectors to be included in the future maritime spatial plan include: the energy sector, maritime transport, fishing, aquaculture, the extraction of raw materials, transport infrastructure and the preservation, protection and improvement of the environment, including resilience to the consequences of climate change. Military activities, cultural heritage, municipal plans for use of coastal waters, etc. will not be regulated by the plan but it will take these into account. Economic growth is a strong focus for the maritime spatial planning of the Danish marine waters.

3. General applicability (e.g. territorial Sea, EEZ, other distinctions)

The coming spatial plan will apply to the marine internal waters, the territorial sea and the EEZ. The Danish sea, the EEZ as well as the territorial waters, belong to the public and are managed by the Government.

4. Spatial Plans

Denmark does not yet have a spatial plan covering its sea areas. However, a range of sectorial plans has been developed, and these provide key input to the planning process.

The maritime spatial plan will be completed by March 2021.

4.1 Designation categories

The Danish spatial plan for the ocean is still currently in development, and the designation categories are therefore not finalized. The proposed model that is being reviewed consists of three designation categories (or zones as described in the model): a general use zone, a reserved development zone, and zones where the Danish MSP does not cover.

Using this model, Danish marine areas will be covered by the general use zone, unless other is specified in the plan. This means the general use zone is the default zone-type, which can include any activities that does not require fixed installations/structures. The zone can therefore contain activities such as sailing, fishing, recreational activities, and tourism.

Areas that are expected in the future to be put in use by any of the previously mentioned four sectors will be categorized as reserved development zones. Until the reserved development zone is actually put to use, the area functions as a general use zone.

It has to be noted that even though the development zones do not cover fishing, there can as required be designated development zones for areas that are crucial for the fishing industry (e.g. spawning grounds).

The last category, zones not covered by the Danish MSP, encompasses two area-types: coastal waters that are within the jurisdiction of municipalities and local-plans and areas that are either used by the military or have national security purposes.

4.2 Information about where to access the MSP data (via pan-Baltic and/or national web services)

It is not completely settled where the plan will be located. The current idea is to set up a Danish website where the map should be accessible. It is expected that the website will provide users with access to WMS, WFS etc.

5. What countries want to share

N/A

6. New developments / current status

The DMA has throughout 2018 collected data on current and future plans for the use of marine areas from all the sectors that are covered by the MSP. DMA is currently, in collaboration with the Danish interministerial workgroup for the MSP, working towards creating a plan that takes all sectors of interest into consideration.

End of 2018, transport infrastructure (e.g. bridges and tunnels) was included in the MSP.

A task force is working on developing a prototype in order for the first MSP to be digital legislation via a digital map of Denmark and the Danish waters.

7. How coastal and marine Baltic Sea protected areas (HELCOM MPAs) are taken into account in MSP

All current uses of marine space, including existing protected areas, will be mapped and used as a foundation for developing the comprehensive plan.