Balancing coastal tourism and nature conservation

FEHMARN ISLAND, GERMANY

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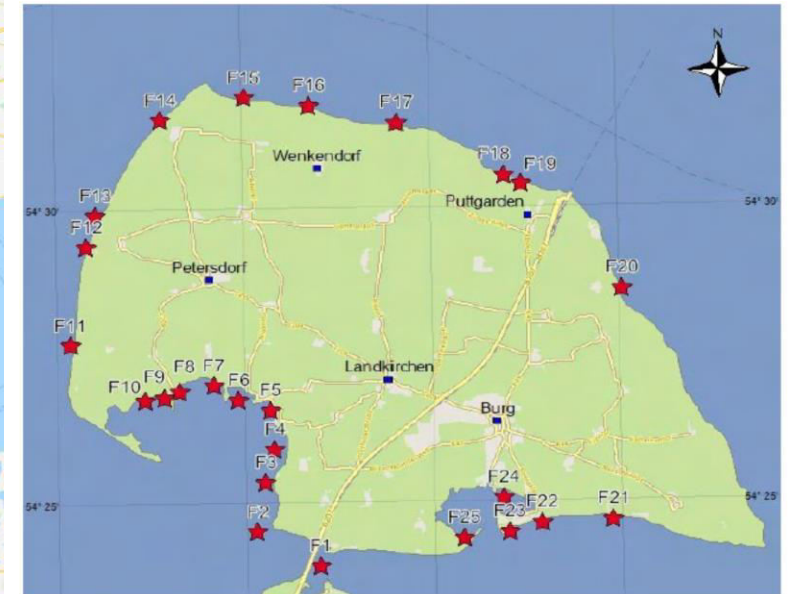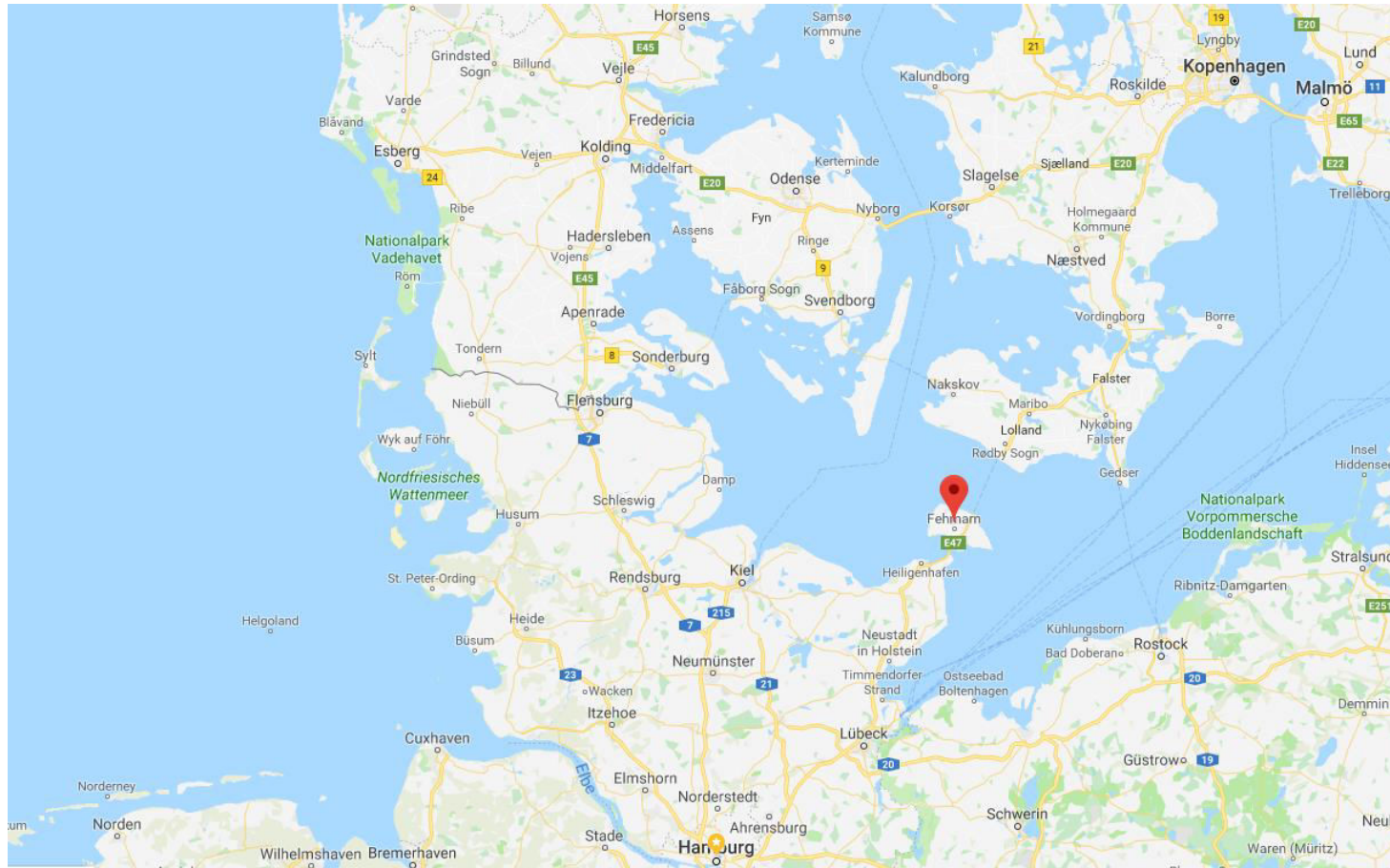BALTIC 4th MSP FORUM

1-2 JUNE 2021, ONLINE

Interreg Baltic Sea Region

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
EUROPEAN UNION

LAND SEA ACT

CAPACITY4MSP

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Republic of Latvia

VASAB VISION & STRATEGIES AROUND THE BALTIC SEA

Fehmarn Island

Figure: Partial map of Northern Germany/Fehmarn
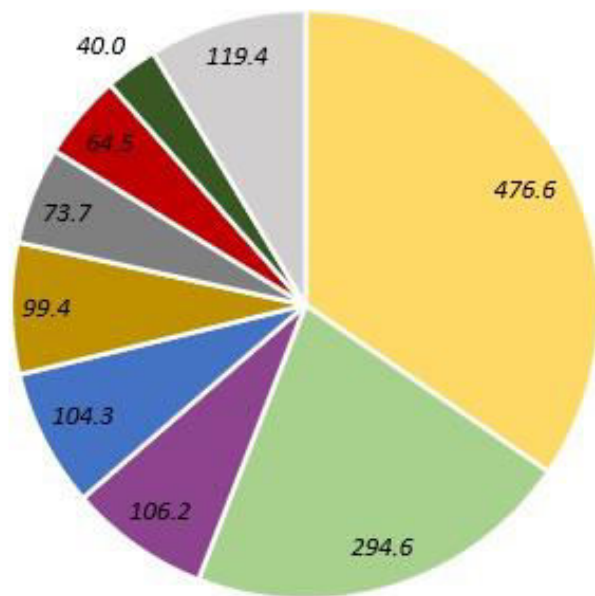

Figure: Surf spots at Fehmarn

Fehmarn

- Third biggest island in Germany (area 185 km²)

- One municipality („Fehmarn Stadt", capital: „Burg")

- Intensive tourism, mostly domestic (~2 million overnight stays per year)

- Connected with a bridge to the German mainland

Land cover & use at the coastal zone

Distribution of land uses within 250 m from the coastline of Fehmarn (in ha)

- Agriculture makes up circa 35% of the coastal land use.

- Open green spaces (e.g., meadows) about 24%.

- The area of beaches (~100ha) is nearly the same as the area of campsites, respectively 7% and 8 %.

- Circa 20% of the coastline perimeter under nature protection.

Total coastline perimeter	Coastline perimeter in protected areas
86.2 km	19.6 %

Nature, camping and water sports

- Many activities take place around two nature reserves at "Altenteil".

- Nature reserves are closed during the summer and breeding space for birds is expanded via the use of floating platforms.

Legend
- ⭕ places
- ▨ parking
- 🔵 fishingspots
- 🟠 surfspots
- ▭ nature reserve
- 🟪 camp site
- **roads**
- ‐ ‐ ‐ walking/biking paths

Spatial planning for watersports

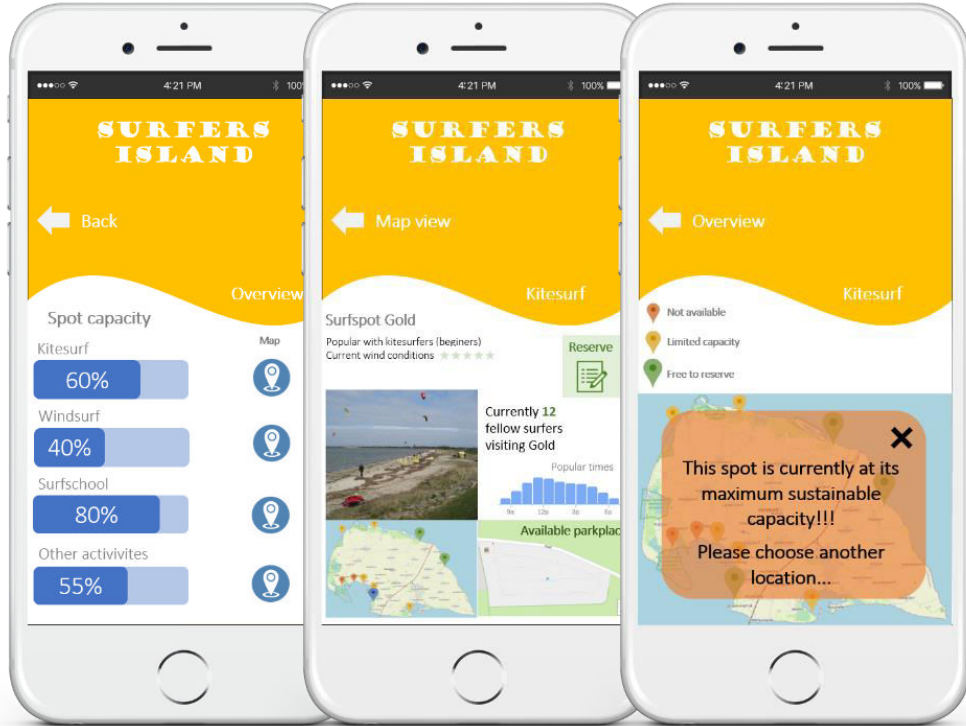1. **Steering entrances to coastal zones**

    - A separation according to wildlife species needs and tourist's behavior is necessary

2. **Guidance for watersports and labeling**

    - Water sports enthusiasts are directed to the surf spots which include parking space and other infrastructure
    - Simultaneously watersports will be prohibited in other areas to protect wildlife
    - The access to nature protected areas will be made difficult. Buoys and notice boards are installed to make spatial separation visible

Avoiding an overcrowded coast

Potential look and fuctionalities of the app
(NOT a functioning prototype).

- Even if no major negative effects on biomass was found at "Orther Bucht", surfing and other watersports should be kept within tight limits.

- As a result of the Land-Sea-Act project, an agreement between stakeholders was made.

- A potential tool to prevent overcrowding of surf spots could be an App that controls access to parking places.

- App requirements:
  - Sets the maximum capacity for surf spots
  - Can open barriers at parking spots with reservation code
  - Allows to reserve parking place from home (avoids unnecessary travel)
  - Discourages to go to spots that are already at the limit
  - Provides additional information such as beach rules, events etc…
  - Co-developed with relevant stakeholders
  - Easy to use

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Delivering MSP
Interactions and Capacities Across All Levels

Thanks for your attention!

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