

Intangible Maritime Cultural Heritage in MSP

BALTIC 4th
FORUM **MSP**

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Marine culture

Wide approach to marine culture:

Connections and meanings people put on the sea and their relations with this environment

Gee et al. 2017

Narrower approach: maritime heritage

Meanings and relations are linked with the resources originating from the past

Lehtimäki et al. 2020

Both include tangible and intangible elements although the second is – to some extent – missing contemporary elements of culture



Marine culture in the Polish MSP

- ❑ Marine culture was reduced to tangible underwater cultural heritage
- ❑ The heritage was defined rather narrowly, it only included objects such as wrecks or remains of ancient constructions under the sea
- ❑ The concept of paleo-landscapes was relatively new for the Polish MSP; it was existent in the proceedings for the whole PMA
- ❑ Paleo-landscapes were raised as stakeholders' concerns during the proceedings for the Gulf of Gdańsk
- ❑ Interactions between sea and coast (e.g., lighthouses and associated landscapes) lying outside the scope of MSP



Culturally significant areas

1. **Cultural uniqueness:**

Why is the area important? Why is the place unique?

2. **Broad Cultural/Community Reliance:**

Who rely on it? What functions does it fulfill?

3. **Importance of the feature to the resilience of the socioecological system:**

What would happen if it is lost?

4. **Degree of tradition:**

How long have it been used?

5. **Dramatic cultural change:**

Is it changing in a sudden or rapid fashion?

Gee et al. 2017

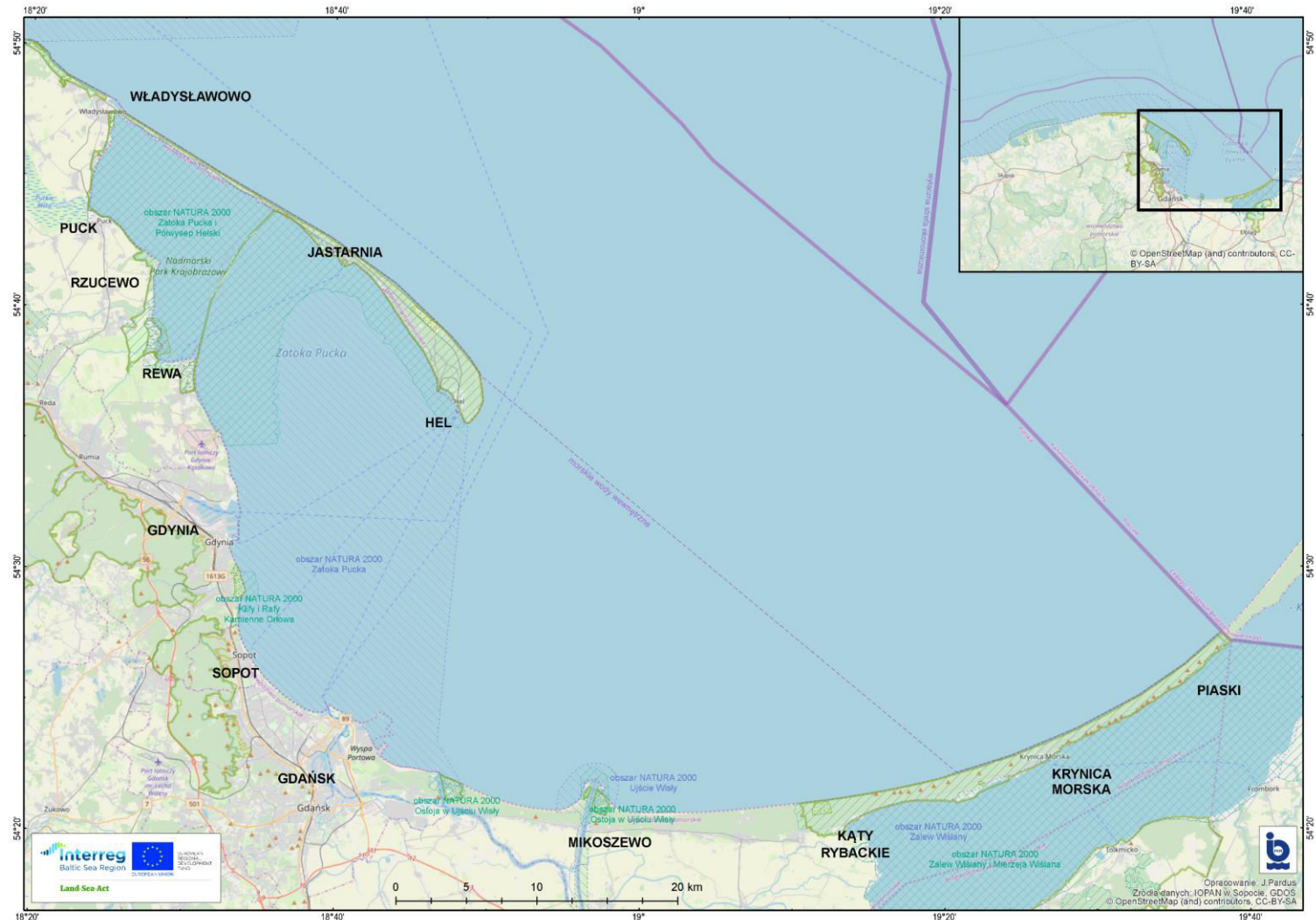
Case study: Gulf of Gdańsk

Divided into two sub-case studies:

- ❑ Gulf of Gdańsk
- ❑ The Vistula Lagoon

Historical backgrounds

Levels of „being marine”





Methods

Semi-structured interviews:

- ❑ 20 interviews performed before the COVID-19 pandemics, mainly with the representatives of the fishing sector; (face-to-face)

- ❑ 30 interviews performed during the COVID-19 pandemics (phone interviews)

 - Local decision-makers

 - Representatives of the tourism sector

 - Social organizations, including these representing the citizens



What was assessed: first experiences

- ❑ **Semi-structured interviews were useful for assessing:**

- Cultural Uniqueness

- Broad Cultural/Community Reliance

- (Dramatic cultural change – concerning coastal fisheries but this change was also visible in the narratives from respondents coming outside the sector)*

- ❑ **Difficulties in assessing the following features:**

- Importance of the feature to the resilience of the socioecological system

- Degree of tradition (outside the fishery sector; differences between sub-cases)



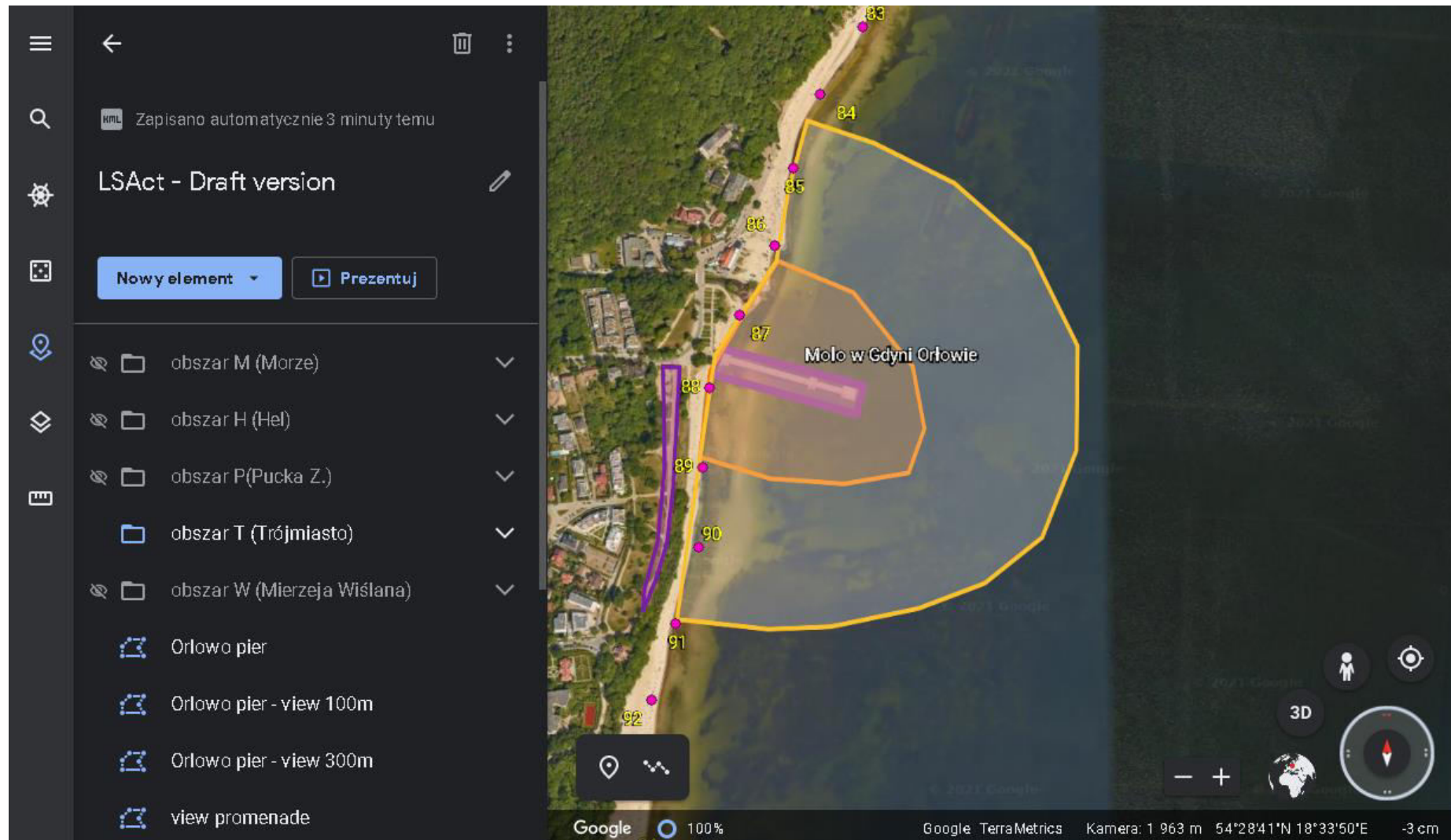
Analysis: from qualitative data to maps

Step one: Eliciting features and places and attributing them spatially

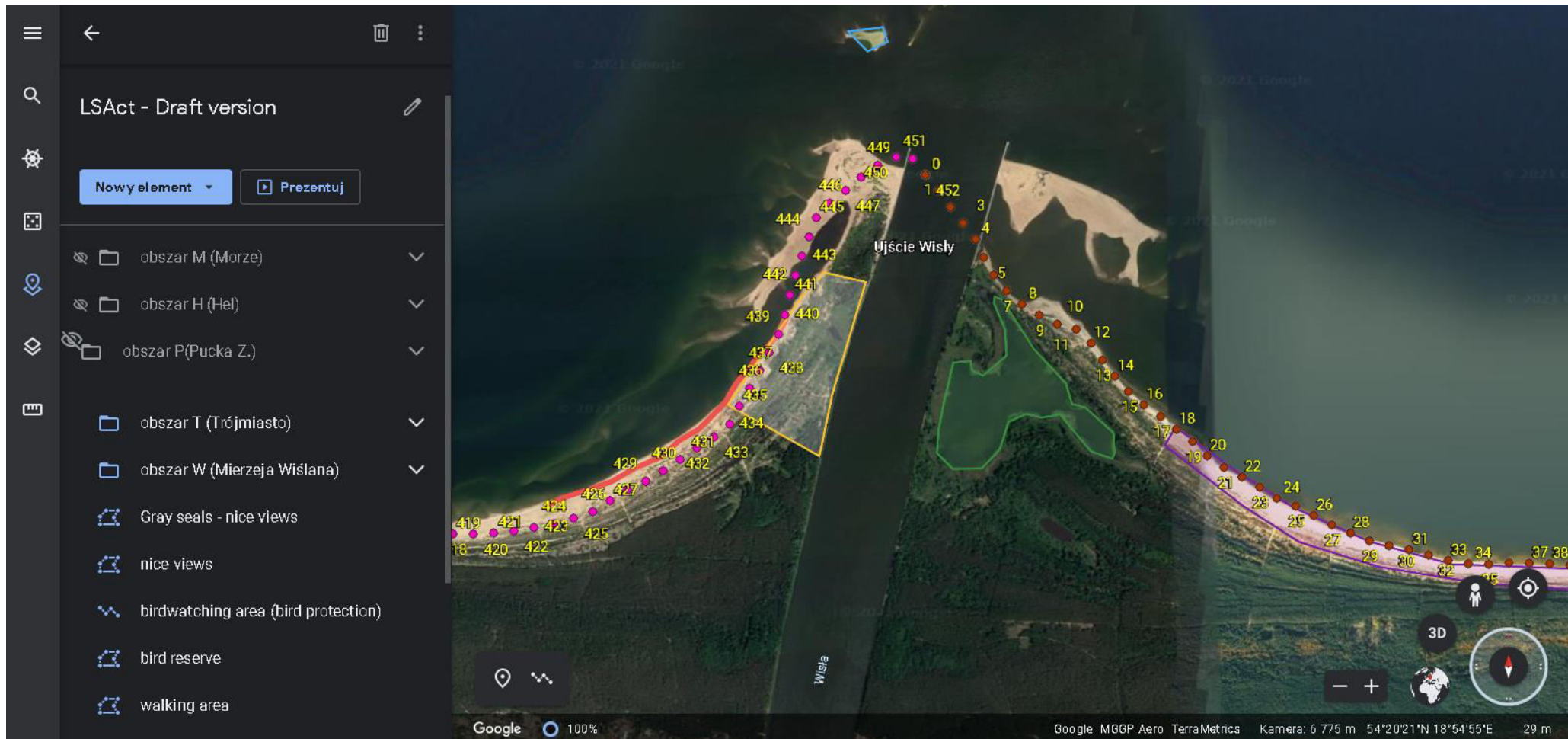
Step two: Discourse analysis

- ☐ **Identification of a place or a feature** (e.g., a pier, a coastal path etc.)
- ☐ **What is valued** (e.g., landscape, view, history, specific experience, etc.)
- ☐ **Level of importance** (e.g., personal level, community level, economic sector such as tourism, coastal fishery etc.)
- ☐ **Form of interactions:** on land, on sea, 'land' influencing the 'sea', 'sea' influencing the 'land'

Examples of maps (1)



Examples of maps (2)





Emerging values and issues

- ☐ Landscapes
- ☐ Views
- ☐ Positive, unique coastal experience
- ☐ Relaxing
- ☐ Recreation

How to protect the view (the buffer zone)?

How to assess importance (weighting)?

Issues with spatial boundaries; limited exercised with maps due to the COVID-19

Specific indications:

Walking, biking, sightseeing, surfing, birdwatching



Further steps

Discourse analysis of the interviews: more insight into other elements of significantly important areas, including importance to resilience

Validation workshops (when maps are ready)

Workshops with experts to cover the missing elements of culturally significant areas

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Delivering MSP Interactions and Capacities Across All Levels

