

Coherence of the MPA-network with MSP

- Experiences from Sweden

Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management

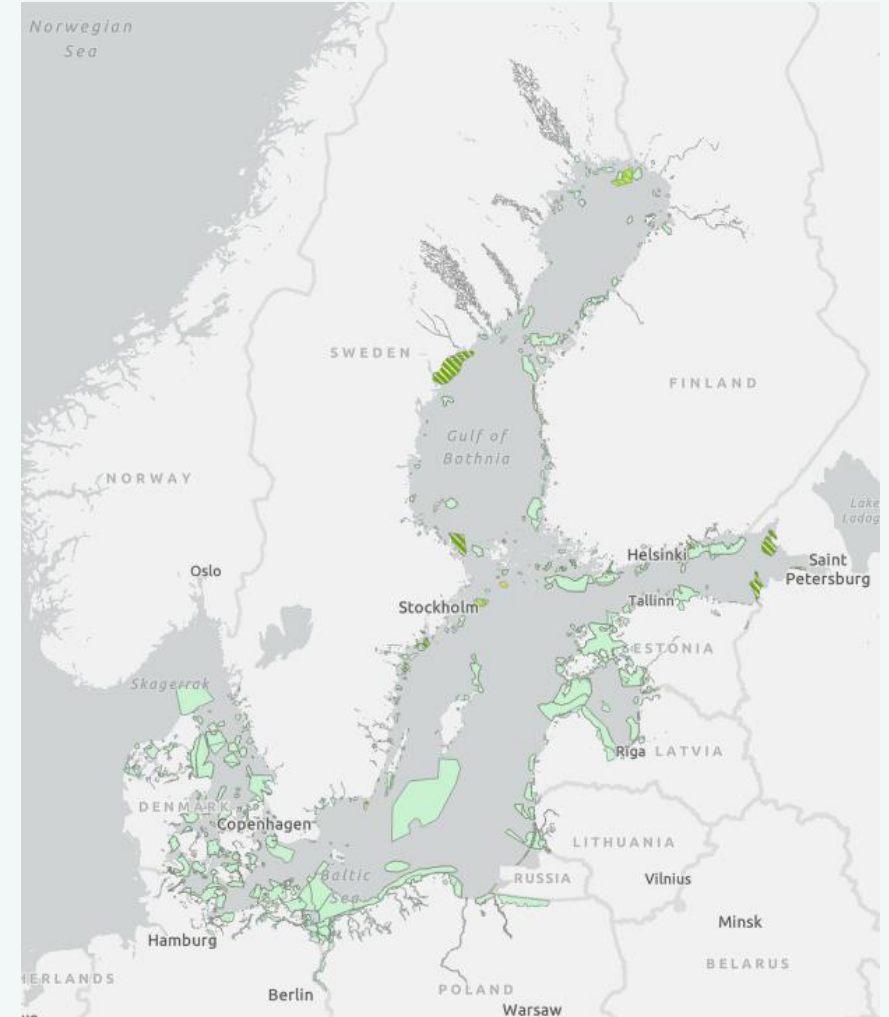


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What if?

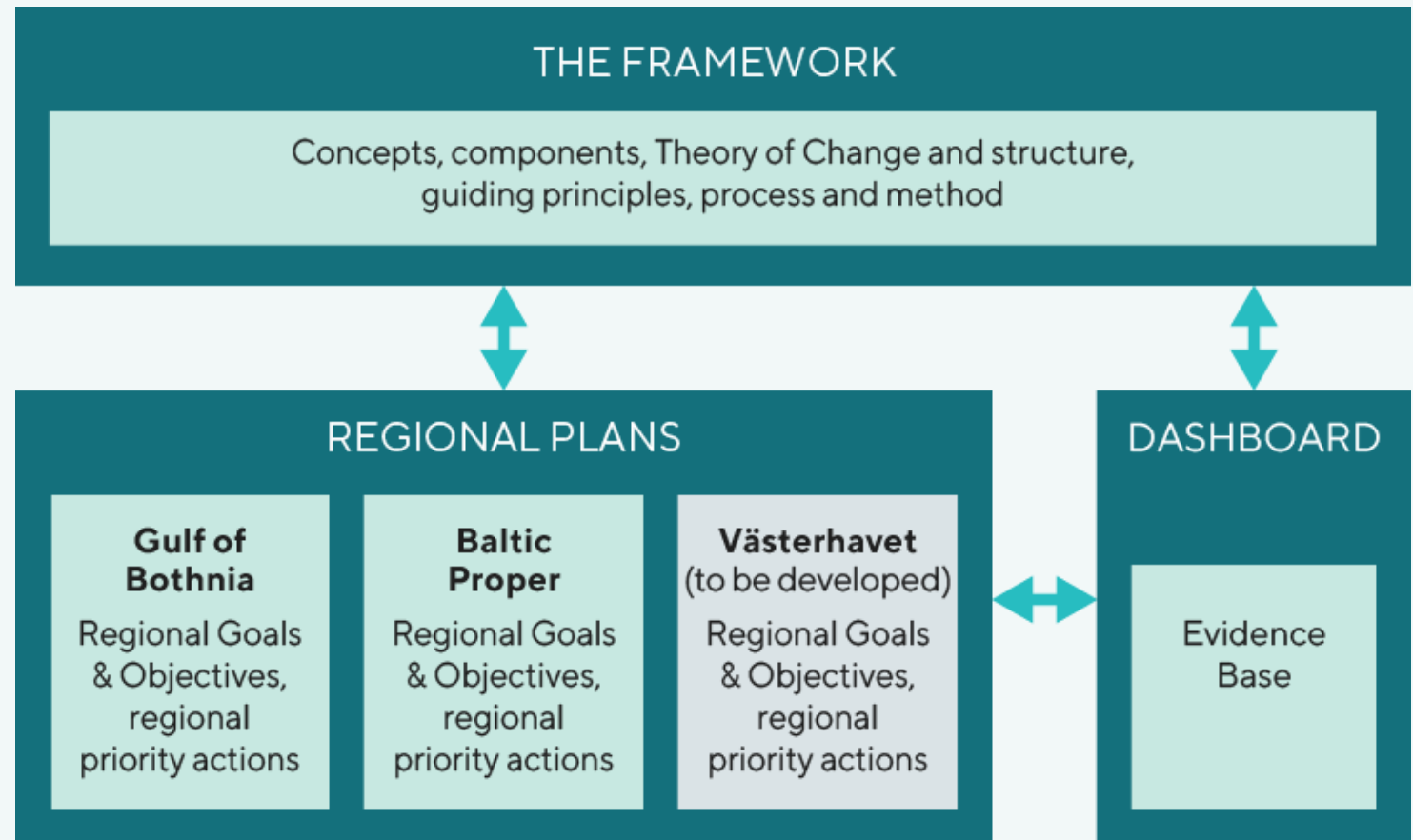
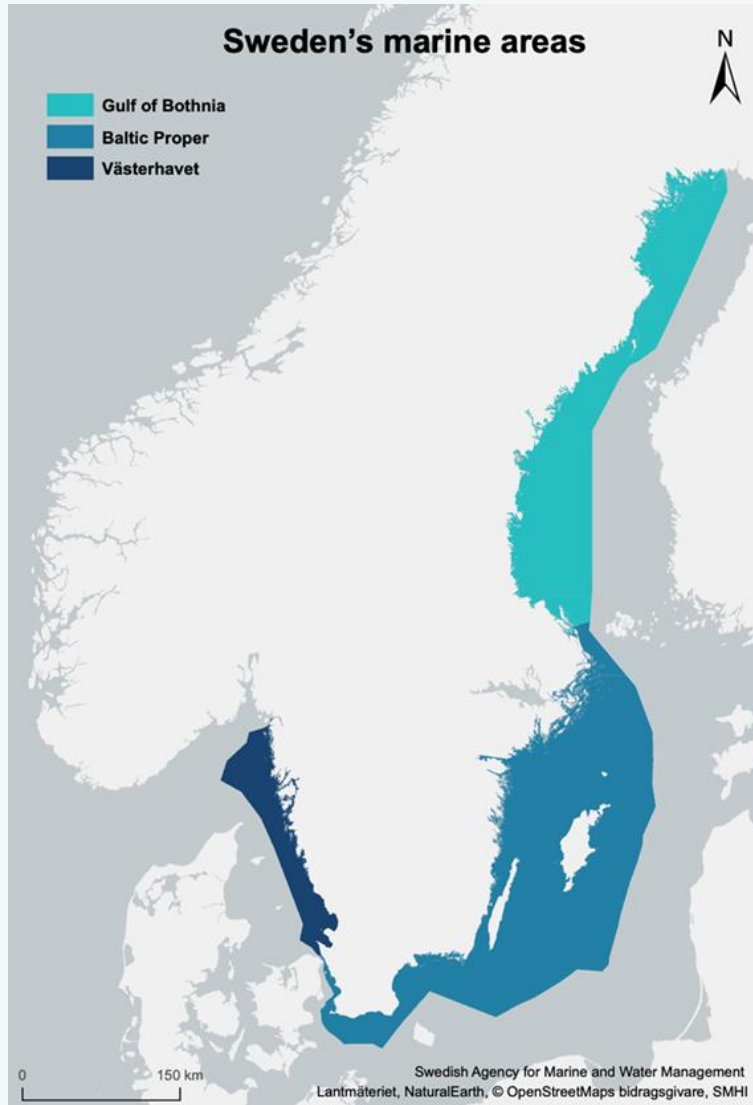
- The 30% target of MPAs → Not enough to reach biodiversity targets?
- Sustainable use is needed in the non protected 70% part of the sea?
- Maritime Spatial Planning could have a role to play in reaching sustainable use in 100% of the sea area?



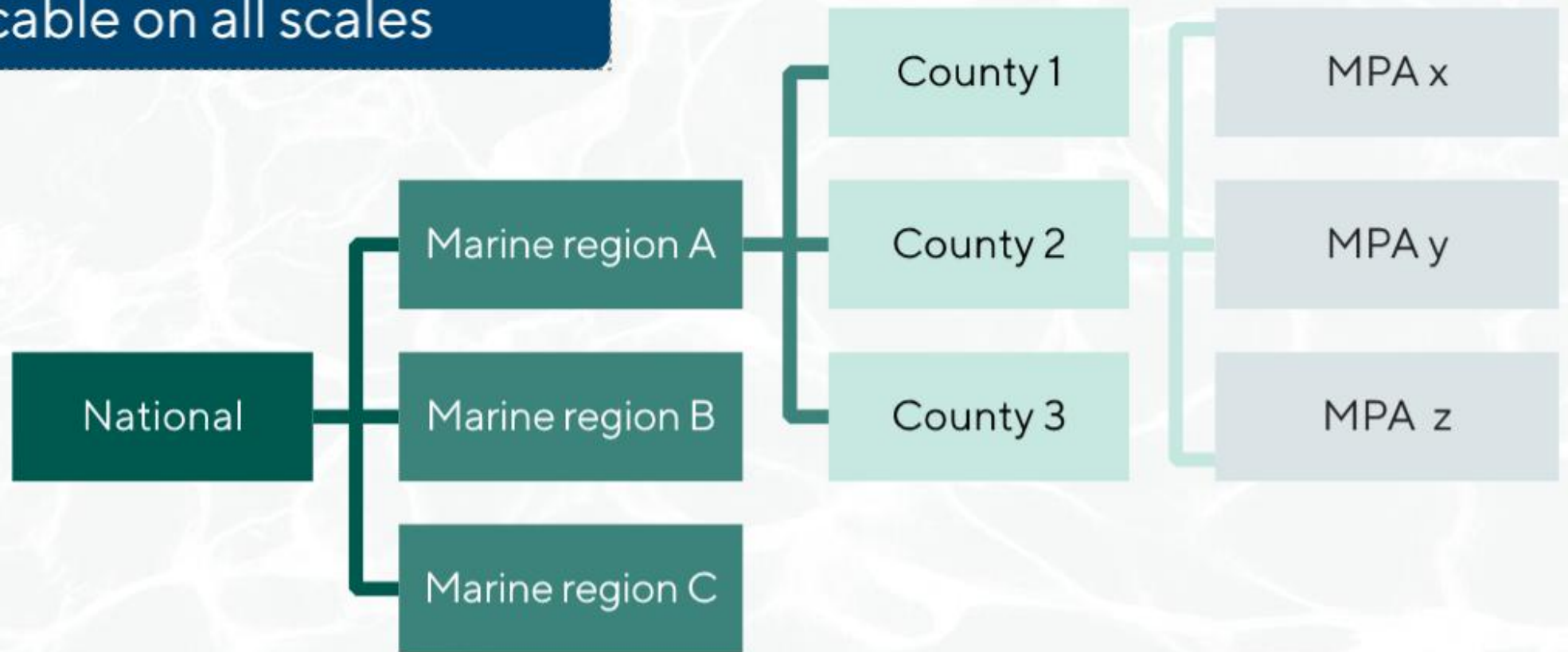
Current network of MPAs

SWEDISH MPA network design & management

MPA



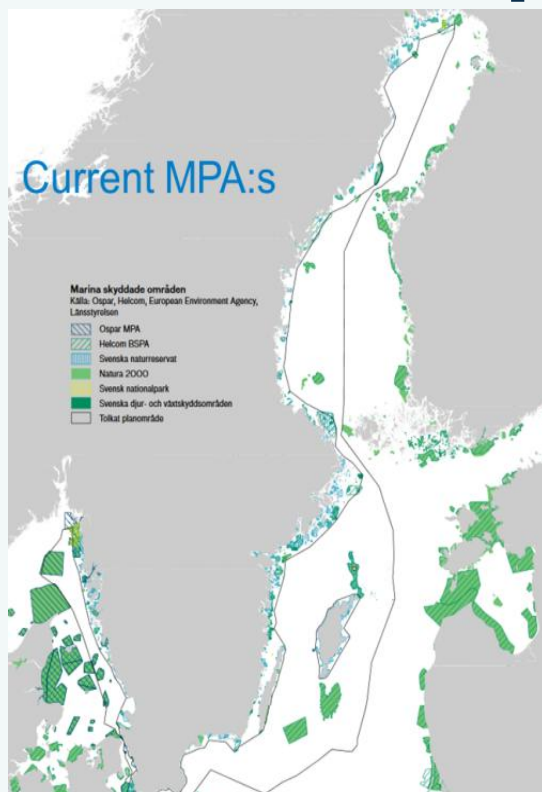
Applicable on all scales



MPA

Back to MSP - green infrastructure approach

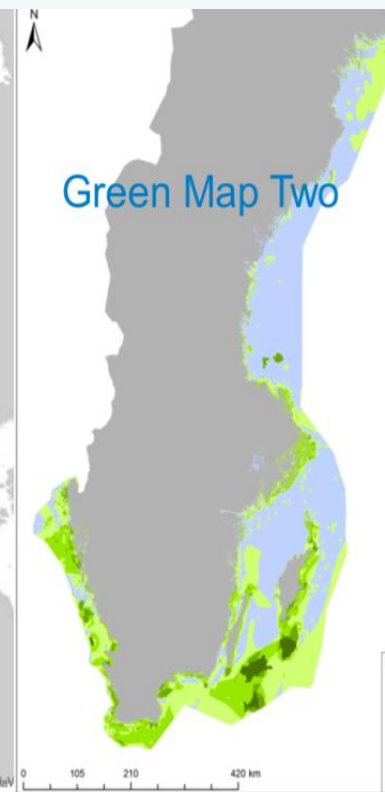
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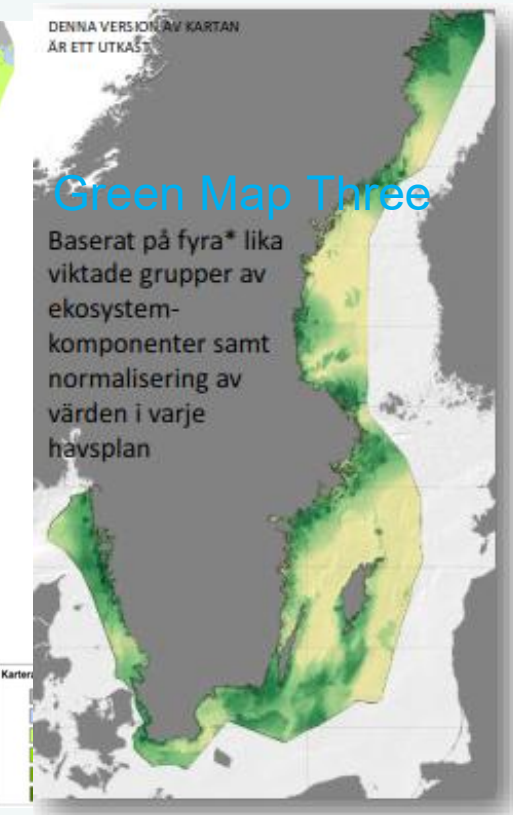
2012



2012



2015



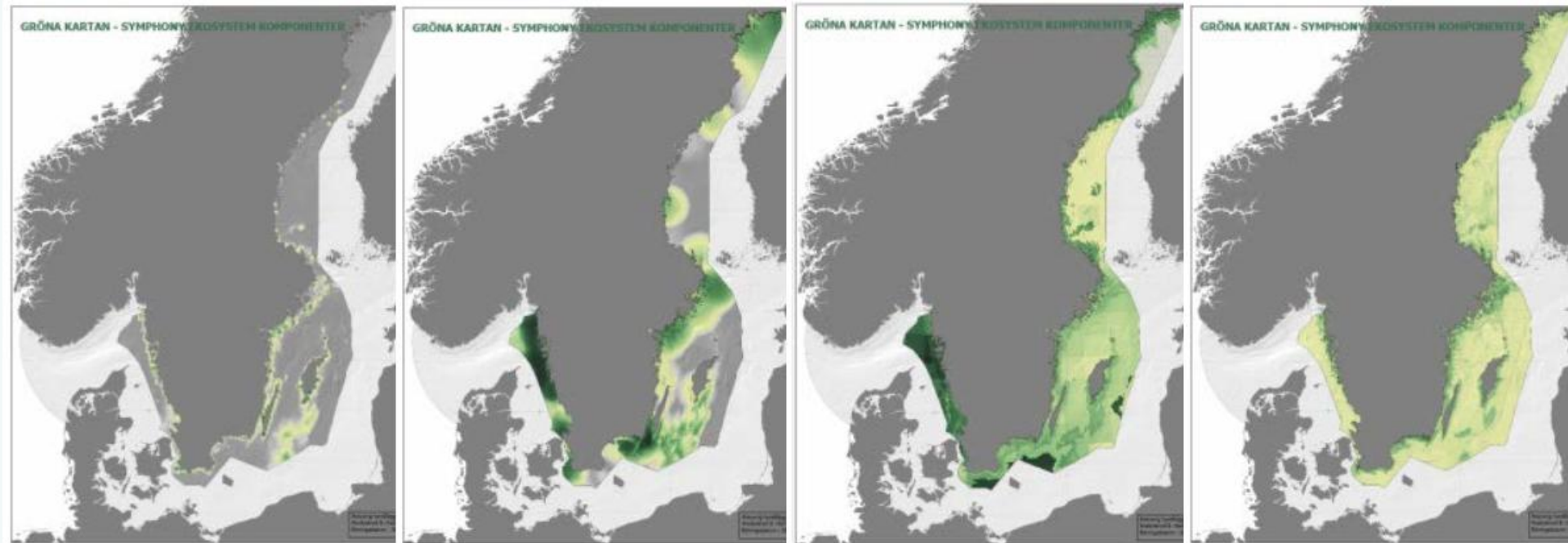
2017

MSP

MSP

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Environmental baseline – Green map 3 Symphony



Birds

Mammals

Fish

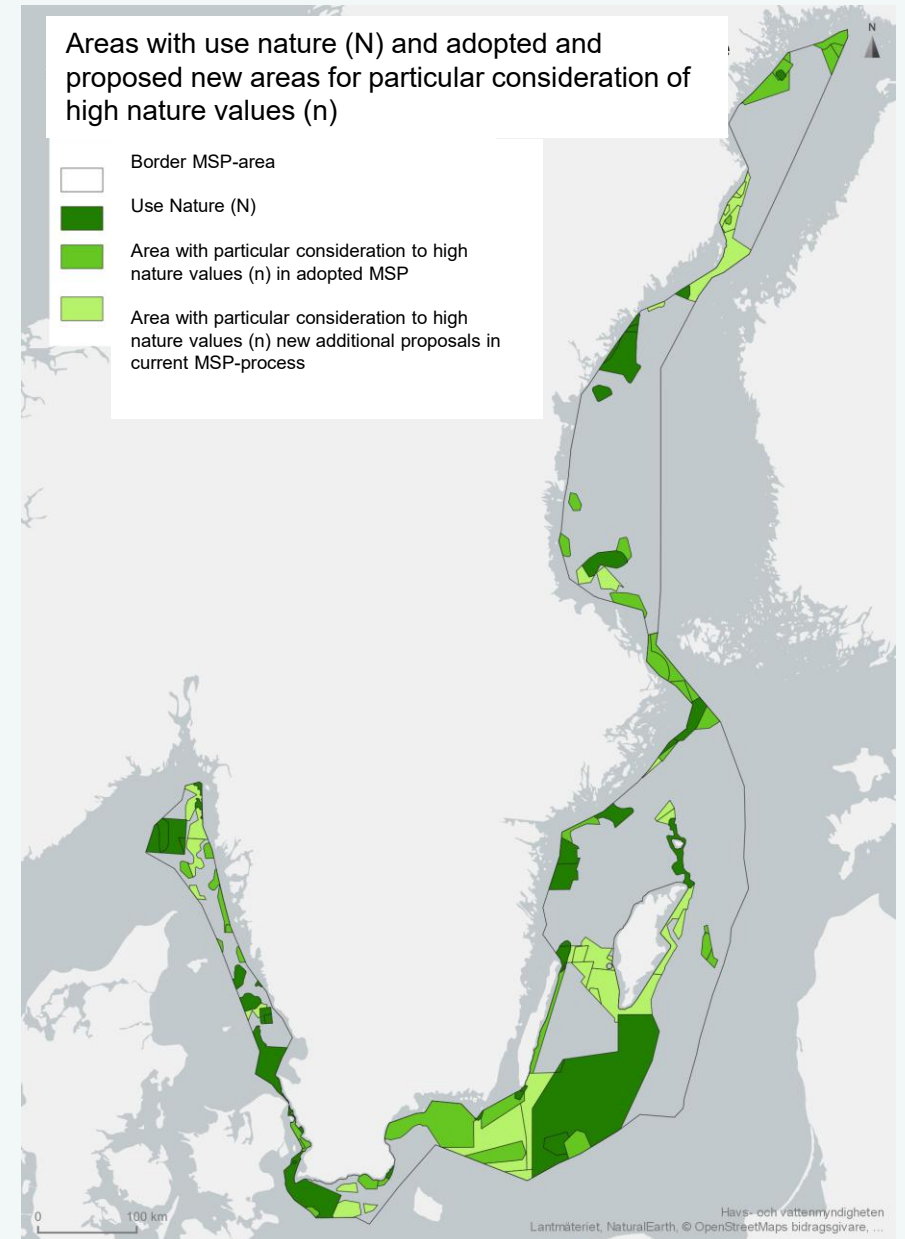
Benthic habitats

Including green infrastructure areas in Swedish **MSP**

Swedish MSP includes current MPA-areas as designation N-areas for Nature. National Interests areas for Nature conservation are also designated as N-areas.

In addition areas with high nature values are designated as "n-areas" calling for "particular consideration to high nature values".

→ MSP- contribution strengthening green infrastructure/blue corridors



To summarize: Parallell procedures MPA and MSP in Sweden

» **MPA-procedures:**

- Guidance from national level, SwAM,
- Regional County Administrative Boards developing proposals in accordance with national MPA-framework and regional MPA-development plan.
- Government adoption eg Natura 2000-areas and Natural Parks.

» **MSP-procedure:**

- Government or SwAM initiates MSP-revision
- National level agency, SwAM, carries out planning process and prepares MSP-draft for Government
- Governmental adoption of MSP

MPAs + MSP

Commonalities MPA- and n-area-frameworks

- » Involvement of regional County Administrative Boards in identification of ecosystem components and potential areas for both MSP and MPAs
- » Shared list of conservation species/ecosystem components → n-areas part of the same management system
- » Shared three regions (actually from MSP)
- » Shared principle of MPAs → protection while n-areas in MSP → sustainable use

MPAs + MSP

Complementary procedures supporting biodiversity conservation, ecosystem functionality and ecosystem services.

Where the procedures are aware of each other and share some commonalities but **Is there TRUE LOVE?**

The marine management marriage:

MPAs + MSP = 

MPAs + MSP =

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Steps on the way towards love, marriage and more

1. **Meet and Understand Each Other**

Marine protection learns the goals of maritime spatial planning (MSP), and MSP recognizes the ecological needs of marine protection.

2. **Find Common Values**

Both agree on the shared purpose: a healthy ocean that supports biodiversity conservation and livelihoods.

3. **Build Trust Through Data Sharing**

Exchange spatial data, ecosystem maps, and ocean-use information — transparency builds confidence and collaboration.

4. **Define Boundaries (Respectfully)**

Clear zoning for protected areas and use areas avoids conflict — understanding our limitations.

5. **Communicate Regularly**

Regular coordination meetings and shared monitoring help adapt plans together and keep the relationship dynamic.

6. **Celebrate Diversity**

Recognize that marine management is the product of our joint efforts.

7. **Integrate Families (Stakeholders)**

Fishery, tourism operators, environmental NGOs, scientists, and policymakers all become part of the marine management “family.”

8. **Plan Joint Adventures**

Co-develop ocean plans that include networks of MPAs, blue carbon projects, and sustainable use areas.

9. **Resolve Conflicts Peacefully**

Use ecosystem-based management tools and conflict-resolution frameworks to maintain harmony.

10. **Renew the Vows**

Evaluate, adapt, and reaffirm the partnership every few years — because love, like the ocean, evolves.

Baltic Love?

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MPAs + MSP = ❤️ ?



HELCOM-VASAB
MSP WG dating
HELCOM BioDiv WG
on Biodiversity,
Protection and
Restoration and
more

HELCOM
HOLAS 4

Protect Baltic results → MSP

The background of the slide features a dark blue, textured pattern resembling water ripples or a close-up of a liquid surface. This pattern is visible in the top and bottom sections of the slide, while the middle section is a solid white background.

THANK YOU

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