

Wadden Sea Board

WSB 6
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Wilhelmshaven



Agenda Item: 5
Subject: Workshop Maritime Heritage
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Attached is a summary of the outcome of the workshop Indicative Mapping of the Maritime Heritage of the Wadden Sea, Husum 24-26 September 2012.

Jos Bazelmans is member of the (Dutch) Wadden Academy and director at the Dutch State Service for the Cultural Heritage, and chaired the workshop.

Proposal

The meeting is proposed to note the document.

WORKSHOP INDICATIVE MAPPING OF THE MARITIME HERITAGE OF THE WADDEN SEA, HUSUM, 24-26 SEPTEMBER 2012

1. Objective

Inform on the outcome of the workshop indicative mapping.

2. Background

The workshop was held in continuation of the workshops in Ribe (May 2011), Hannover (September 2011) and Amersfoort (January 2012). The goal was to address the values of the cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea and to discuss methods to map the evidence of cultural history.

The workshop was held in Husum at the invitation of the Archaeological State Service of Schleswig-Holstein in cooperation with the county council of Nordfriesland. About 25 experts participated in the workshop. The programme of the workshop is attached. On the first day of the workshop, a series of presentations made the participants familiar with the approach:

1. Overview of actions with regard to paragraph 19 and 20 of the Sylt declaration and aims of the workshop (Jos Bazelmans);
2. Development Holocene period, the geological and geomorphological aspects (Martina Karle and Henk Weert);
3. Cultural use of the maritime space (Menne Kosian);
4. Habitation and use of the Wadden Sea from an archaeological perspective (Martin Segschneider).

The following day, the meeting discussed in breakout and plenary sessions the needs, rationale and perspectives of the indicative mapping approach. In a second step, the possible outputs of a common project were discussed and potential partners were defined.

Preceding the workshop, an excursion was held to a sunken settlement of 21 houses in the Wadden Sea south of Nordstrand. Some remains were still visible and illustrated life more than 400 years ago.

3. Outcome

Often the archaeological evidence is poorly recognizable because it is under water or covered by thick sediments. The method of indicative mapping could be a tool to also predict the unknown values and potential locations of archaeological remains for use in spatial planning and conservation. A task of the workshop was to reach common understanding on the approach of indicative mapping and to agree on a project, introducing the approach in the entire Wadden Sea area.

Overall the workshop agreed that the indicative mapping would be a very useful tool for policy and management of the Maritime cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea also in terms of integration with the overall nature protection and management of the Wadden Sea. There was also consensus that such a project proposal could constitute an important input to the 2014 Wadden Sea Conference. It was, however, too premature to agree on a project pending clarification of a number of still outstanding issues and concerns.

The following agreements and actions were therefore **adopted** by the meeting:

- 1) A further common understanding of indicative mapping and usage is a necessary precondition to proceed;
- 2) All knowledge systems have to be integrated to formulate a common perspective;
- 3) There will be several steps to contribute to the Wadden Sea Conference in 2014, which are
 - Elaboration of a pre-project plan by a core group with the responsible authorities and research institutions;
 - Information workshop on indicative mapping with a wider audience to get a common understanding;
 - Information workshop and study on data availability and reliability with regard to geology, archaeology and ecology;
 - Elaboration of a project plan with different work packages (themes) like methodology, data quality, geology of Holocene deposits, assessment of erosion and sedimentation in different tidal basins;
 - Meeting of project partners to discuss and adopt the project plan;
 - Submission of the project plan to the WSB in June 2013.

A more extensive report will be available shortly.

4. Proposal

Note