

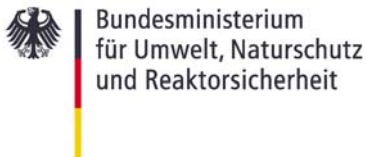
FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

SCIENCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

THE WADDEN SEA ECOSYSTEM AND EU DIRECTIVES

12th International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium 2009,
Wilhelmshaven, 30 March – 3 April 2009

Convened by:



Ministry of Environment, Nature
Conservation and Nuclear Safety,

Nationalpark
Wattenmeer



Nationalpark Wattenmeer
(Niedersachsen, Hamburg,
Schleswig-Holstein)



Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
(CWSS)

Introduction to the theme

The Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation has been supporting the implementation of the EU Directives by providing over 20 years of experience of integration, coordination and harmonization of research, monitoring and management for the entire ecosystem Wadden Sea. Examples are the Wadden Sea Plan and the Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Program (TMAP), both of which are based on an ecosystem approach.

The scientific conference will focus on how research and monitoring can provide input to conservation and management, by developing new methods and assessment tools. In addition, limitations or gaps in knowledge will be identified. Recommendations will be given on how EU Directives should be applied in future to ensure a harmonized management of the Wadden Sea, based upon an ecosystem approach.

Objectives

- To provide new scientific insight for the integrated assessment and management of the Wadden Sea ecosystem as an entity (e.g. how to deal with alien species and impacts of climate change, what triggers the ecological processes?),
- To identify future work areas for science, monitoring and management in the Wadden Sea,
- To give recommendations for harmonization and adaptation of the implementation of the EU Directives in the Wadden Sea.

Themes to be addressed

1. The dynamic Wadden Sea ecosystem versus a static threshold value approach:
 - What do population trends, abundances or species composition really tell us?
 - How to define scientifically sound conservation objectives and assessment criteria?
 - How to deal with Neobiota?
2. Wadden Sea habitat management:
 - Habitat definition (a.o. reefs, sublittoral habitats)
 - Restoration in a dynamic environment (estuaries, de-embankments),
 - Examples of site management;
3. How to integrate human use, nature conservation and EU Directives?
 - How to substantiate sustainability? (Economic and societal aspects, ICZM)
 - How to assess “cumulative effects of human activities”?
 - Examples of best practice.
4. Marine Strategy Directive: The Wadden Sea as a sub-region? (Workshop)

Call for Papers and Posters

Papers and posters are welcomed for all of the themes outlined above. Those wishing to present a paper or poster should send an **abstract** in English of no more than 400 words to the CWSS **no later than 15 November 2008**.

Language

The symposium language is English. Simultaneous translation will not be available.

Venue

The symposium will be held in the Wilhelmshaven, Hotel Columbia.

Preliminary registration

Please return the preliminary registration form if you wish to receive the next circular or would like to offer a paper/poster no later than 15 November 2008.

A draft program (2nd circular), posted in mid December 2008, will contain the draft program and information on transport, accommodation, meals and excursions.

Dates

Deadline for abstracts	15 November 2008
Acceptance of contributions	15 December 2008
Draft Program / 2 nd Circular	15 December 2008
Deadline for final registration	15 February 2009
Deadline for hotel bookings	15 February 2009

Program Outline (version 17.9.2008)

Monday afternoon, 30.3.2009

Morning **Arrival and registration**
Afternoon **14:00 – 17:30 Opening session**
 Welcome Addresses
 Key Notes

Evening **18:00 Reception – Ice breaker**

Tuesday, 31.3.2009

1. Ecosystem and assessment

Morning **Session 1**
Afternoon **Session 2 / Poster Session**
Evening **Lecture by invited Speaker**

Wednesday, 1.4.2009

2. Habitat management

Morning **Session 3**
Afternoon **Workshop Marine Strategy**
Evening **Dinner**

Thursday, 2.4.2009

3. Human use and nature conservation

Morning **Session 5**
Afternoon **Session 6**
 Plenary discussion: conclusions and recommendations
Evening **Symposium dinner**

Friday, 3.4.2009

Excursions