

Facilitation of the transboundary consultations for offshore projects – presentation and case study

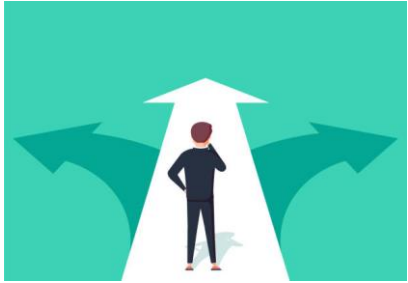
Swedish Agency
for Marine and
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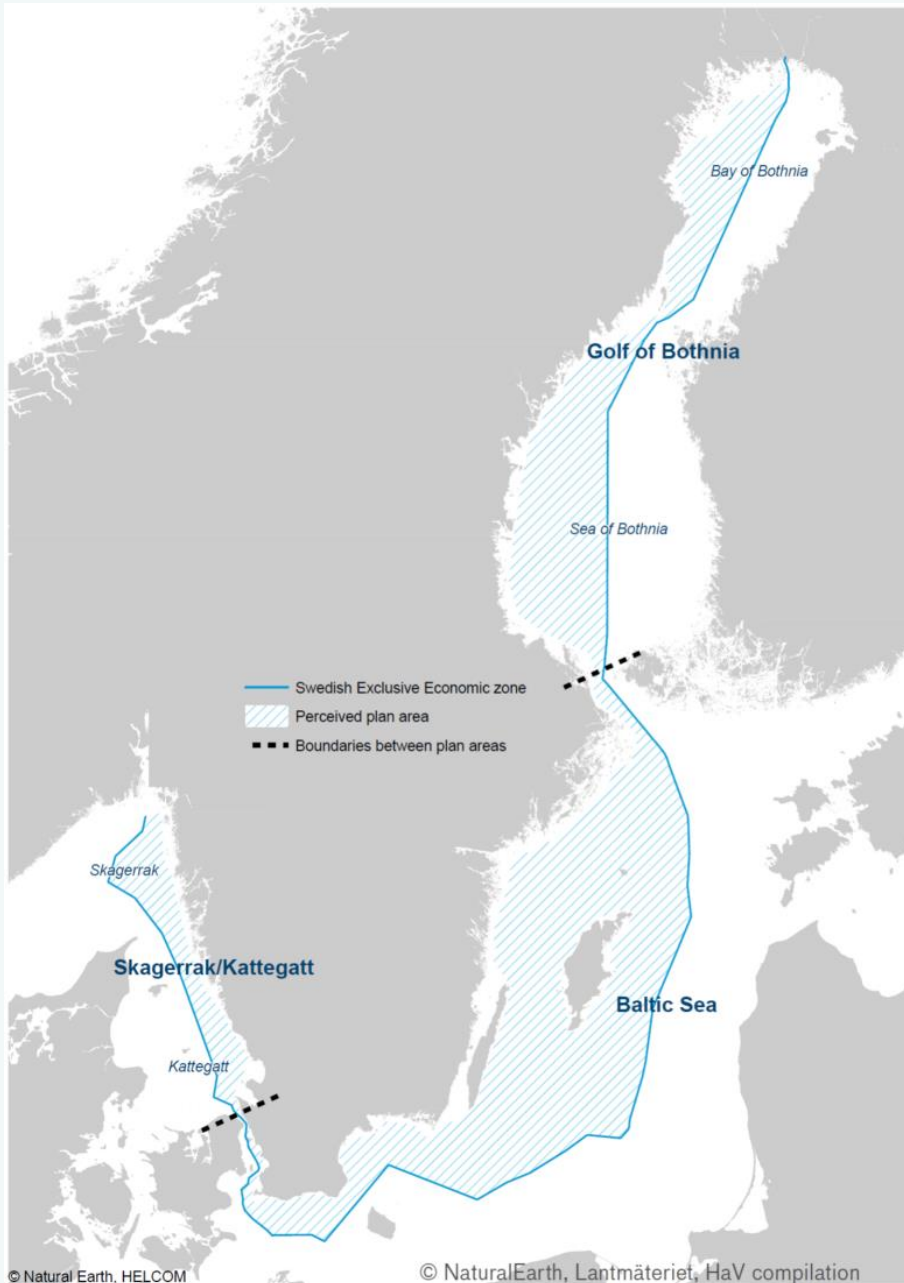
Spatial planning and permitting



- » Protocol of the Espoo Convention and the SEA-directive is implemented mainly in strategies, national spatial planning and regional spatial planning.
- » Strategies and National plans (spatial plans including) are guiding rather than binding.
- » Coexistence between uses is the normal case.
- » The Convention and the EIA-directive is implemented in the environmental permitting procedure.
- » The environmental permitting procedure is at land a well integrated procedure.
- » At sea the permitting is split between different authorities.

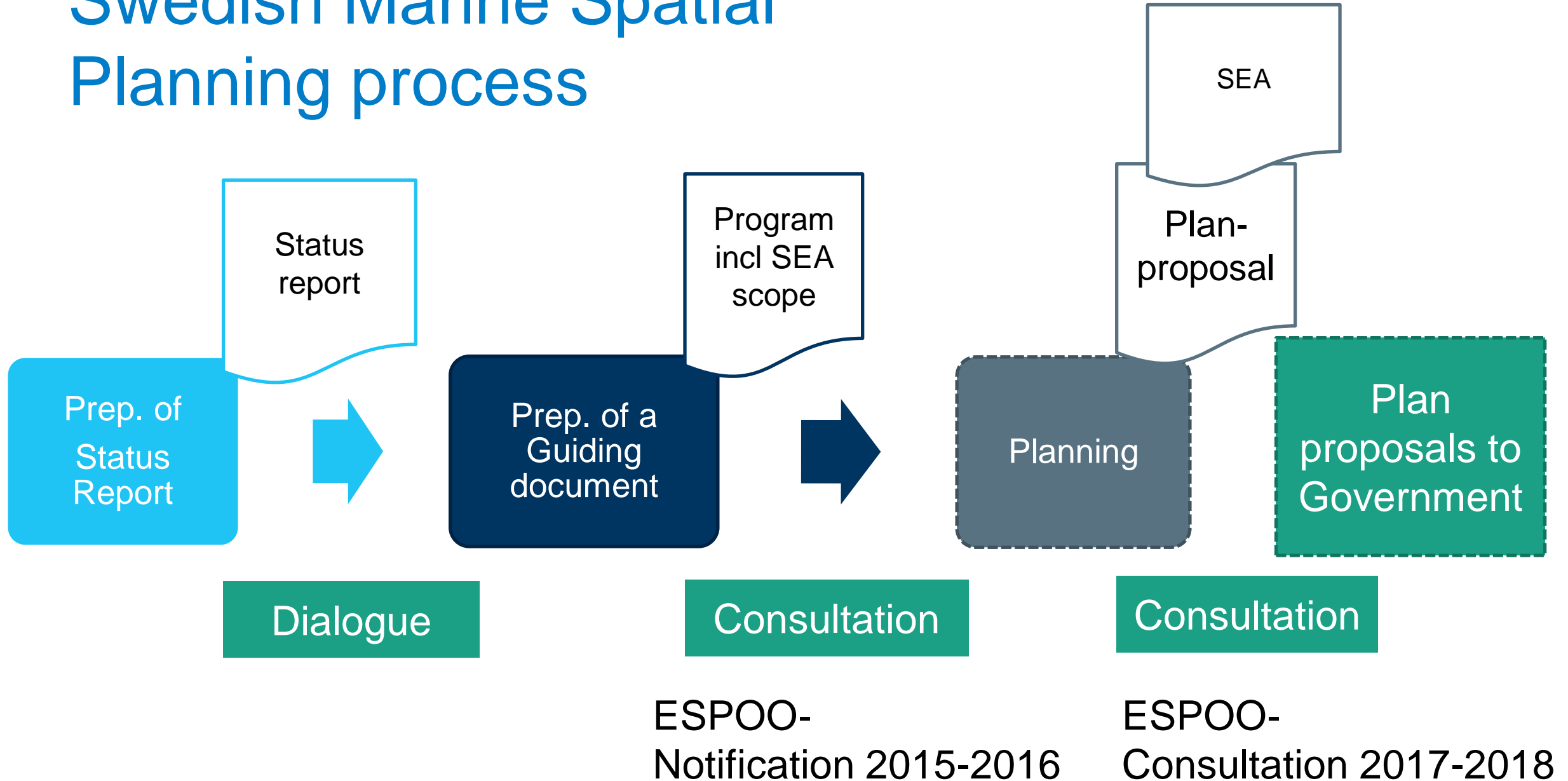


Swedish MSP



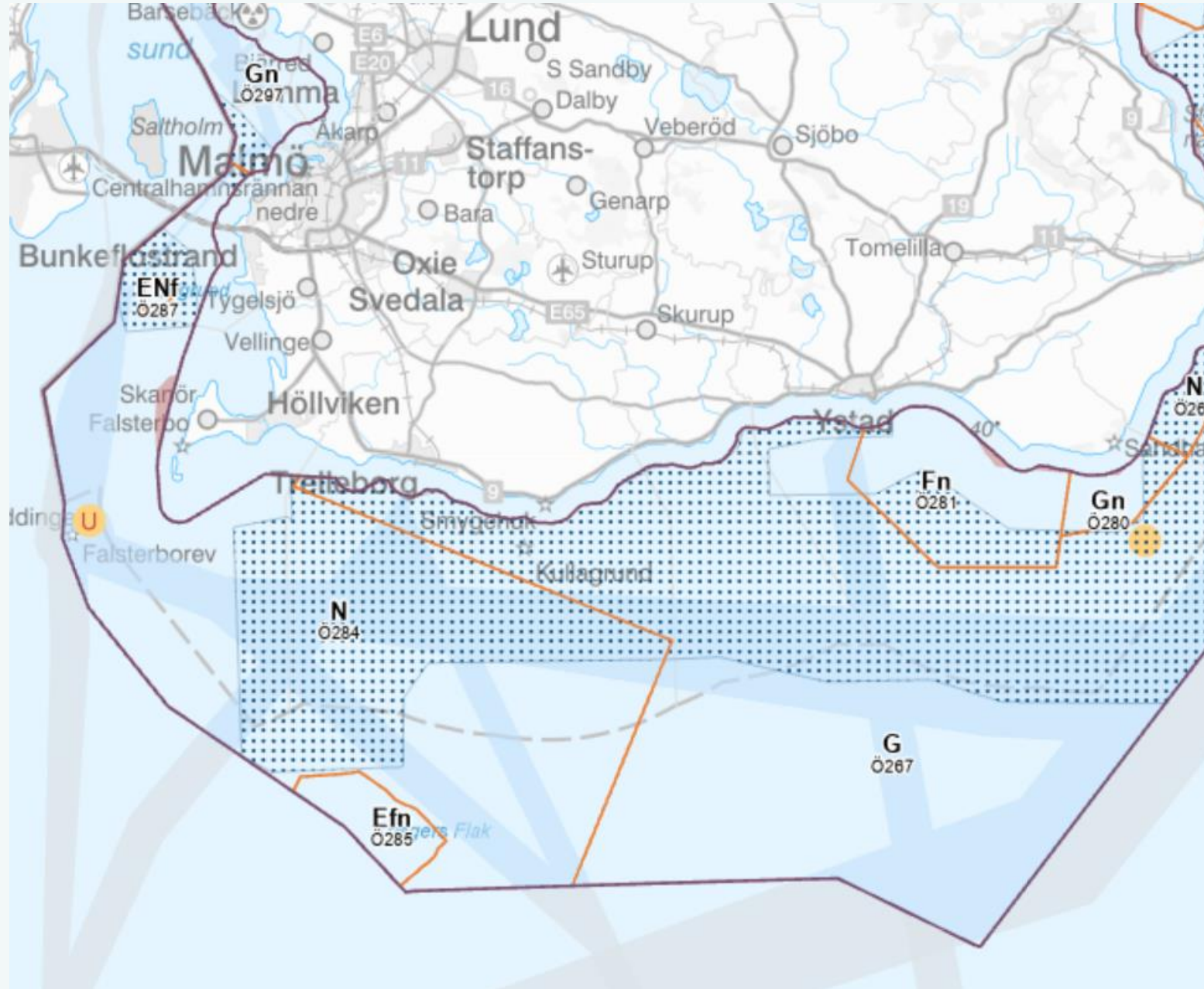
- » Three spatial plans:
Gulf of Bothnia, Baltic Sea and Skagerrak/Kattegat
- » Objective is to contribute to sustainable development
- » Plans are adopted by the Government
- » Plans are guiding for municipality comprehensive planning and in licensing
- » Promote coexistence between different uses
- » Prioritize between national interests and uses
- » Government may adopt regulations prohibiting or limiting activities in destined geographical areas

Swedish Marine Spatial Planning process

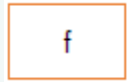


Most suitable use, examples:

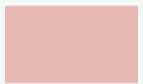
- E Energy extraction
- F Defence
- G General
- K Culture
- N Nature
- Sand extraction
- Shipping
- Investigation area shipping
- Recreation
- Commercial fisheries
- Electricity transfer



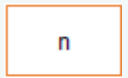
Areas for particular consideration



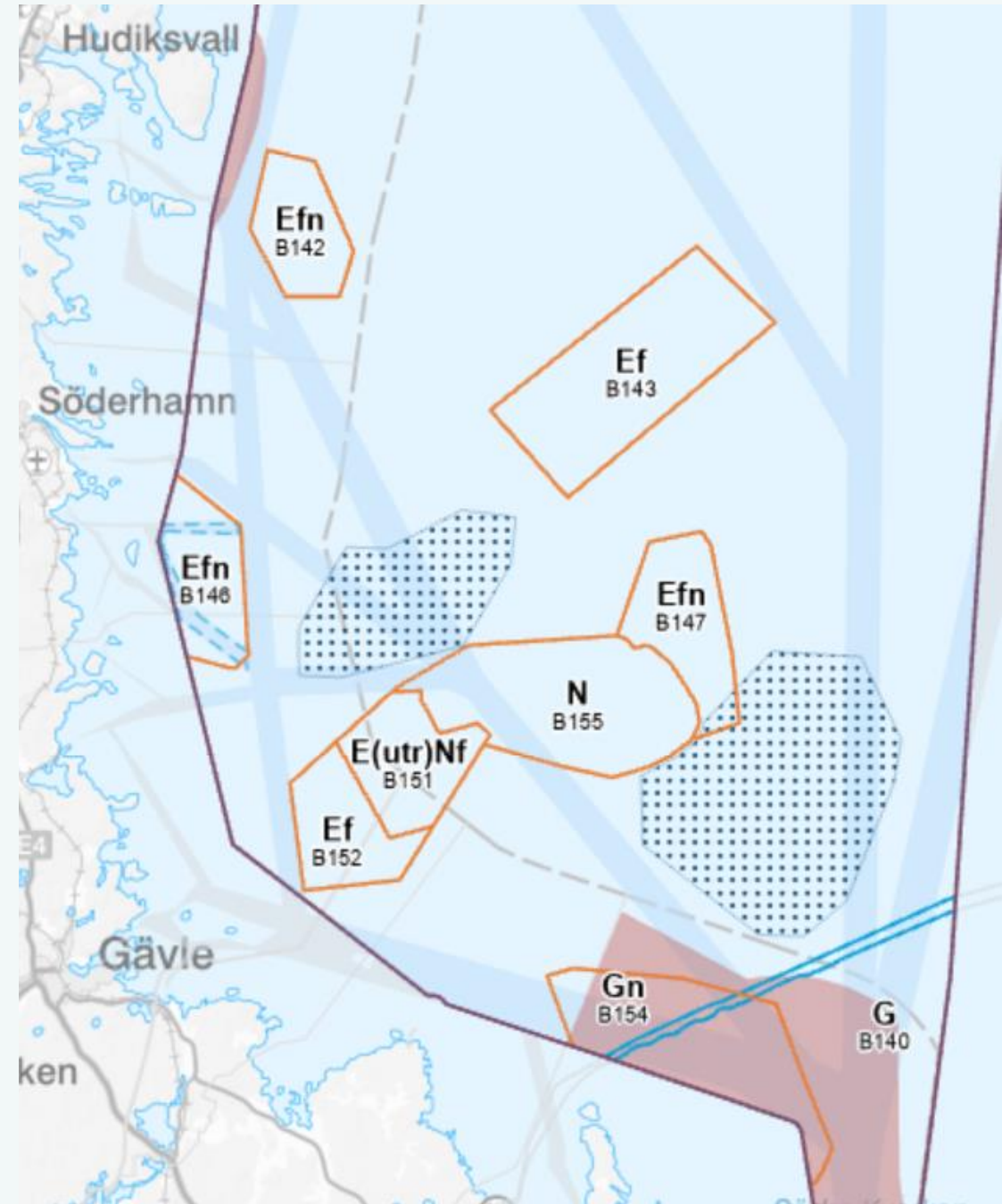
total defence
(all energy extraction areas)



high culture values
(landscape)



high nature values
(38 areas; reefs, mammals,
climate refugia) etc)



State of play as of May 2022- New planning round for more energy



- » Swedish Government adopted Swedish marine spatial plans on 10 February 2022
- » Framework for monitoring & follow-up to be adopted
- » New planning round for more energy - Government assignments for revised plan proposals by 31 December 2024 (aim to substantially add offshore wind areas)
- » Aim to quadruple the potential for offshore wind energy (from 30 TWh to 120 TWh annually)
- » EU and national energy targets incl. targets for offshore wind
- » Decarbonisation and electrification of the industry (iron, steel, concrete..) and transport sector
- » Security (REPowerEU)
- » Re-investment



Speeding up permitting procedures

- » **Government inquiry on streamlining the permitting procedures** Presented this morning. Permitting, changes to existing projects and re-examination, consultation, authority mandate etc.
- » **Government mandate of preparing base of cultural heritage.**
- » **Government mandate examining exclusivity at Sea.** Examining time-limited permits for investigation of the sea bed/data collection at sea, appropriate permitting for projects at sea, ex wind farms due to great interest and lack of auction system.
- » **Government mandate on preparing the transmission at sea.**



Challenges in MSP cooperation in the Baltic Sea region

- » Shared resources and use of the sea sets a need to collaborate:
- » MSP in an already existing marine governance system
- » Political perspectives and priorities
- » Not always aligned data and information
- » Unsolved issues (borders, planning issues, defence interests etc)
- » Driven by needs as well as obligations in EU-directive
- » Planning systems
(from strategic and guiding to detailed and binding)
- » Time schedules, (already existing and RePower)



Proposals for improving cooperation in the Baltic Sea region

- » **Apply a multi level (planning-permitting) perspective and a multi lateral (sea basin/cumulative impacts) perspective**
Developing harmonized assessments, exchange of guiding principles, condition and mitigation measures etc. on strategic level and permitting level in according reach efficient effective processes – Re-Power
- » **Take use of work being performed under other Conventions**
Ospar and Helcom whereas ongoing development of a Baltic SEA-framework including themes, common data, assessment methods for impact evaluation, cross-border consultations. [Example: Regional-Maritime-Spatial-Planning-Roadmap-2021-2030.pdf \(helcom.fi\)](#) OSPAR eg ICG on Offshore Renewable Energy Development
- » **Strengthen shared knowledge on planning- permit systems**
Developing gathered and coordinated information on planning and permit proceures of states in the Baltic Sea Region. [Example: MSP Country Fiches | VASAB](#)
- » **Carry out Espoo consultations as part of a greater crossborder dialogue**
Espoo consultations carried out as a formal complement to other bi- and multi lateral Baltic cooperation as part of MSP and sector working groups, networks, projects or as case by case workshops on specific topics.



Thanks for listening

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