



Environmental cumulative risk profile

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KEY MESSAGES

Data availability

- Data availability plays a major role in developing methodology for pressures and risk analysis, it depends upon improvements in data access and agreed standards for data processing if they are to be used to set future management objectives.
- The Baltic Sea can provide an interesting possibility to develop the methodology due to the fact that extensive datasets are available for analyses.

Cumulative anthropogenic pressures

- HELCOM Baltic Sea pressure index – BSPI was used to represent the geographical distribution of intensity of cumulative anthropogenic pressures. BSPI is calculated based on multitude of human pressures weighed by their general potential impacts on ecosystem. All datasets and methodologies used in the index calculations are approved by all HELCOM Contracting Parties in review and acceptance processes. This dataset covers the time period 2011-2015 (HELCOM, 2018).

Cumulative risk evaluation

- According to ISO 10000 2018 (ISO, 2018) the risk is the “effect of uncertainty on objectives” and the risk analysis is a process that is used to understand the nature, sources, and causes of the risks that are identified. Additionally, to estimate the level of risk, study impacts and consequences and to examine the controls that currently exist.

Environment-friendly planning solutions

- Differences in the environmental cumulative risk value can guide planners toward the most environment-friendly planning solutions.
- Establishment of environmental cumulative risk-related tolerability levels require extensive consultations with regulators, stakeholders, and the public in order to determine the level of risk that is acceptable to all stakeholders.

Environmental cumulative risk profile (ERP) – a spatial data layer that incorporates the environmental vulnerability profile (EVP) and cumulative human pressures - higher value indicates higher likelihood to damage nature values.

ERP is a cross-border cumulative risk profile of the Gulf of Finland, which together with EVP can be used for ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning processes in Estonia and Finland, in order to find solutions that lead to sustainable use of resources and to improved planning and management of the marine and coastal areas.

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