

Maritime Spatial Planning in Sweden

Swedish Marine Waters

- Territorial sea (12-nm zone): 70 000 km²
- Exclusive Economic Zone: 60 000 km²
- The EEZ is limited to the central line between adjacent states because the width of the sea is shorter than 400 nautical miles.

In Öresund and the Åland Sea, the territorial seas meet at a central line agreed on with Denmark and Finland respectively, at the Norwegian border in the Skagerrak and at the Finnish border in the Bothnian Bay.

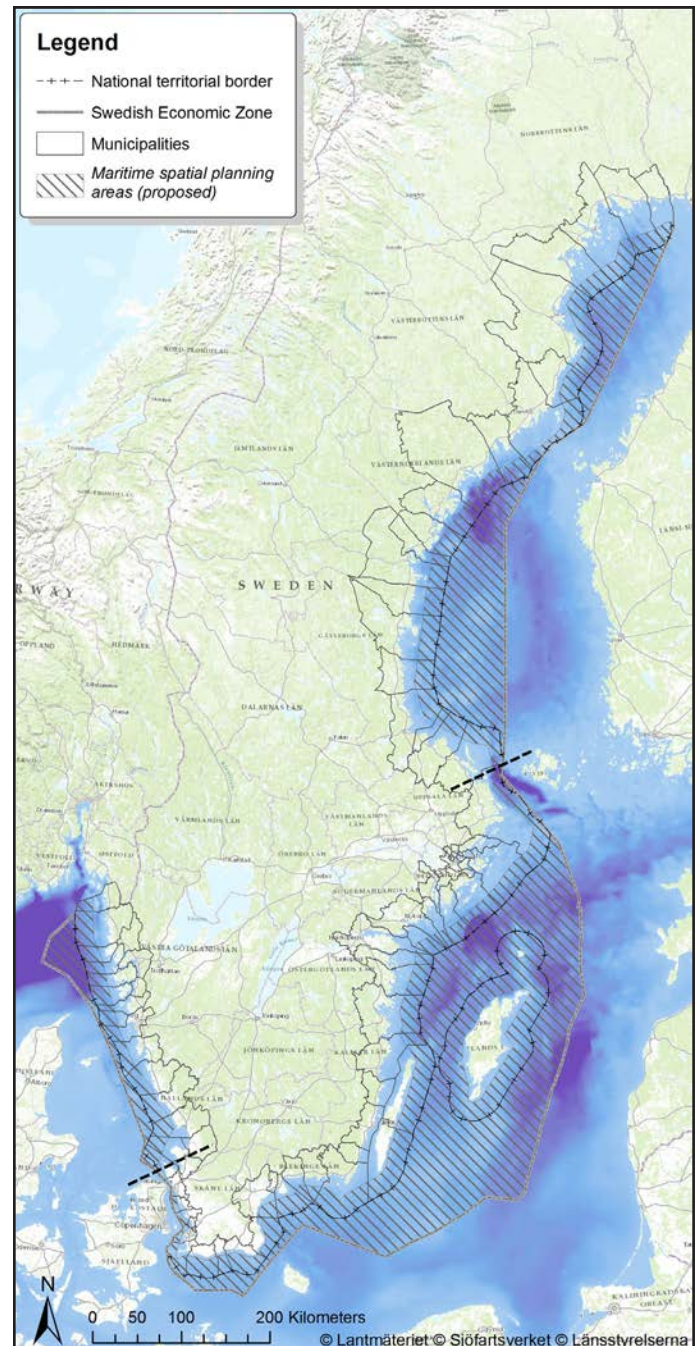
Governance of the Sea Space

- The Swedish territorial water is divided into two zones, Public Waters and Private Waters. In Private Water zones, both water and sea bottom are parcelled property governed by the Real Property Formation Act and comprise the water area 300 m from the shore line and further to the contour line of 3 m depth if it is situated outside the area of 300 m. In sounds, bays, fjords and areas with islands and archipelagos special rules regulate the boundary between Private and Public waters.
- The Public Water belongs to the public and is represented by the Legal, Financial and Administrative Service Agency. Private water can be owned by a person, a juridical person, a municipality and the state. Several properties in the Private Water are jointly owned.
- Municipalities have obligations concerning spatial planning for 12 nautical miles from the base line.
- The government has the responsibility for management of the Swedish EEZ.

Use of the Sea Space

- The use of the coastal sea areas is very intense, especially in areas with big cities and high population, in archipelagos and in narrow areas such as Öresund and Åland Sea.
- In the sea space outside coastal waters, use is dominated by increasing international commercial shipping, fishing, tourism, national defence and other uses.
- Future uses: energy industry (wind, wave, shale gas), mariculture and protection.

The main driving force behind MSP in Sweden is the risk for future spatial conflicts due to increased use of the sea.



Swedish marine waters

Maritime Spatial Planning Legislation

- The Swedish Plan and Building Act (PBL), issued on July 1, 2010 and in force since May 2, 2011 regulates the responsibilities and mandates for the municipalities to plan the territorial water.
- Basic principles and objectives guiding the spatial planning of the territorial sea and coastal areas can be found in PBL chapters 1 and 2, which also refer to the application of the Environmental Code (EC), chapters 3 and 4, referring to basic and spatial provisions concerning land and water management, and chapter 5 concerning the Environmental Quality Standard and Environmental Quality Administration. The Environmental Code is applicable in the territorial waters.
- New legislation regulating national marine spatial planning including the EEZ is under preparation.
- Identification of areas of national interest for a number of sectors is part of the Swedish planning system. These identified areas have to be considered in all planning and when authorities are granting permission for activities within different sectors. Areas of national interest can be e.g. cultural heritage management, nature protection, outdoor recreation, shipping, energy production, mineral extraction or commercial fisheries.

Maritime Spatial Plans

- Only a few non-binding comprehensive municipality plans actually cover the 12 nautical miles.
- No maritime special plans cover the EEZ.
- Areas of national interest have been identified and are protected through regulations in the environmental code.

Maritime Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection

- Inventory work focused on defining the ecological values, protected species and ecosystem services of the planned areas has taken place through various projects.
- NATURA 2000 areas and the provisions for their management plans are considered.
- The concept of ecological connectivity, methods for using the ecosystem and the connectivity approach are key criterions for delimitation of sub-basins assigned with concrete use regulations (i.e. restrictions and stipulations).
- Comprehensive municipality planning in Sweden, programmes, plans and projects of all kinds with potential to have an impact on the environment have to include a forecast of environmental impact (SEA).
- Sweden has identified 16 environmental objectives and two of those are directly related to the sea: "A Balanced Marine Environment and Flourishing Coastal Area" and "Archipelago and Zero Eutrophication".

Contact Points

For maritime spatial planning:
Swedish Agency for Marine and
Water Management
Box 11 930
SE-404 39 Göteborg
Sweden
Tel: +46 (0)10 698 60 00
www.havochvatten.se

For comprehensive planning:
Swedish National Board of
Housing, Building and Planning
Box 534
SE-371 23 Karlskrona
Sweden
Tel +46 (0) 455-35 30 00
www.boverket.se

For Espoo:
Swedish Environmental
Protection Agency
(Naturvårdsverket)
SE-106 48 Stockholm
Sweden
Tel +46 10 698 10 00
www.naturvardsverket.se/