Protection and management of underwater cultural heritage in LITHUANIA.

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Discussions about possibilities for preservation of Maritime Cultural Heritage in industrial environment could be intended to follow two principle directions:

Understanding of how the content of the maritime heritage could be understood, interpreted, valued and with what methods it could be managed.

How a maritime heritage practice could be integrated with the structures society has established concerning general heritage practices with regards to local and regional development.

9. Culture policy

Tasks regarding MSP:
A. To improve preservation, protection and accessibility of Latvian cultural heritage, especially devoting attention to the education of society about Role of cultural heritage in sustainable development.
B. To develop state programme for protection, conservation and promotion of availability of the cultural heritage by 2011.
C. To take responsibility for preservation of the cultural environment in particular areas at coast.
Consequences for MSP:

> Areas for underwater cultural heritage can be designated and new restrictions for other marine space users are expected.
> Increase of tourism activities in particular coastal territories are expected and traditional sea uses will be preserved.

National and regional strategies with relevance for Latvian maritime space
Authors: Ilze Kalvane, Anda Ruskule, Kristina Veidemane.

RESOLUTION

ON THE MARITIME CULTURAL HERITAGE
IN ESTONIA, LATVIA AND LITHUANIA

The Baltic Assembly,

taking into account that the Baltic States, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, are maritime States;

realising the need to strengthen the self-awareness of society in each of the Baltic States as maritime States;

understanding the importance of the maritime cultural heritage for the promotion of mutual understanding and co-operation of the nations and the States in the field of culture, opening-up of the heritage for tourism;

expressing concern for an increasing vulnerability of maritime cultural heritage,

calls on the Parliaments and Governments of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania and **proposes**:

- to initiate the ratification of or accession to the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage;

- to define the maritime cultural heritage;

- to draw up State programmes related to the search for, accounting, monitoring and preliminary investigations of underwater cultural heritage;

- to obligate institutions of the protection of cultural properties to enter the underwater cultural heritage identified by investigating teams, into State registers,

- to ensure preservation and use of cultural properties oı ports and coastlines, their opening-up for tourism.

Vilnius, 29 November 2003

LITHUANIAN PROPOSALS FOR THE EU BALTIC SEA STRATEGY

Lithuania welcomes timely report of the European Parliament, the initiative of Sweden, active engagement of other Baltic Sea countries and endeavors of the European Commission to launch the first EU internal regional strategy - Baltic Sea Strategy. Seeking to overcome the existing regional fragmentation and economic disparities, the Strategy should become a model of regional policy planning within the EU and beyond. It should also set the ambition for the Baltic Sea region to become a global front-runner.

Lithuania believes the Strategy will become a key instrument in promoting competition, environmental cooperation and people-to-people contacts in the region.

SUMMARY

Lithuania takes the view that there are three main issues to be addressed in the Baltic Sea Strategy:

- priorities,
- instruments and
- coherence with the existing initiatives and external aspects.

On priorities, Lithuania believes that only competitive, environmentally friendly and interactive region could create the added value for the further development of the region and effectively contribute to the aims of the EU. Therefore, it should be reflected in the Baltic Sea Strategy and real mechanisms how to achieve these goals should be set.

Only deeper integrated region can be **competitive.** Well functioning internal market would most effectively contribute to the achievement of this goal, including the speedy implementation of the missing energy and transport interconnections. It is necessary to ensure energy security, maritime safety and fight against international crime. Special attention should be given to innovations, research and development.

There can be no prosperous and attractive region by the contaminated and lifeless sea. The Baltic Sea is already listed among the most polluted and sensitive seas in the world. Therefore, **environmental issues** like marine environment, climate change should take a special place in the Strategy.

Interaction and connectivity of the region should be based on the education mobility, exchange of best practices and stimulation of **close contacts of people**. Cultural exchange, tourism and heritage fostering must be promoted.

Secondly, about financing. Baltic Sea Strategy should be financed from **all available funds**, including EU, national contributions of the Member States as well as international financial institutions, such as EBRD, EIB, NIB. **Efficient and targeted** use of funds is of utmost importance.

Thirdly, all EU countries of the region should coordinate their decisions and actions seeking the agreed objectives. In order to make the Strategy operational and viable, the existing cooperation frameworks, initiatives and ties in the region should be maintained and developed further widely engaging non-governmental actors, particularly municipalities, universities, schools, business associations and others.

The Strategy should also reflect **external aspects** of the cooperation. First of all, it is of utmost importance to engage Russian Federation and its Northwestern regions of Kaliningrad and Saint-Petersburg in the Baltic Sea Region cooperation in the framework of the EU-Russia partnership and to stimulate Russia's positive approach towards the implementation of the Strategy. Council of the Baltic Sea States and Northern Dimension, as two major cooperation formats in the region, involving the EU, the Member States individually and the third countries, provide a sound basis for the implementation of external aspects of the Strategy. Lithuania would also like to see the Baltic Sea Region open for cooperation with its neighbors, particularly providing opportunity of closer interaction on working level with Belarus as well as with other interested countries, for example the Visegrad Four. The potential of inter-regional cooperation with Black Sea and Caspian regions should be utilized more effectively, emphasizing cooperation in energy and transport fields. Such partnership would contribute to more instrumental European Neighborhood Policy. Possibilities of establishing contacts with the Mediterranean region could also be explored, especially taking into account Union for the Mediterranean initiative.

PRIORITIES

1. COMPETITIVE REGION

Necessary actions have to be taken in order to ensure that the Baltic Sea region attains increased economic growth and cohesion within the EU taking into account the global economic challenges, including increased competition, growing inflation and changes in the labor market. The region's economic growth and cohesion could be ensured by developing the integrated network of **sea and land transport, energy infrastructure, promoting innovations, modernizing agriculture (including fisheries)** as well as coordinating the sustainable development, Baltic Sea region could become a global front runner.

- #### FUNCTIONING INTERNAL MARKET

Fully integrated and flexible internal market is a keystone for the EU competitiveness in the world. Therefore it's necessary to strengthen single market and competition, enhance sectoral market monitoring, and improve regulation in key services and network industries, paying particular attention to the development of missing energy and transport interconnections, postal services and telecommunications. There is also a need to facilitate exchange of knowledge through the mobility researchers and students, the promotion of the so called fifth freedom. We believe that the strategy could serve as an instrument in achieving these goals in the region.

- #### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Systematic multi-field based scientific research and experimental development;

Legal and operational aspects of protection of UCH

The UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage was ratified by the Republic of Lithuania in year 2006.

The Republic of Lithuania implemented the Law on Protection of Immovable Cultural Heritage (28/09/2004. Nm.IX-2452) in 1994. As last amended on 2008 – No X-1531). After this amended Law the **UCH monuments are the objects of immovable cultural heritage.**

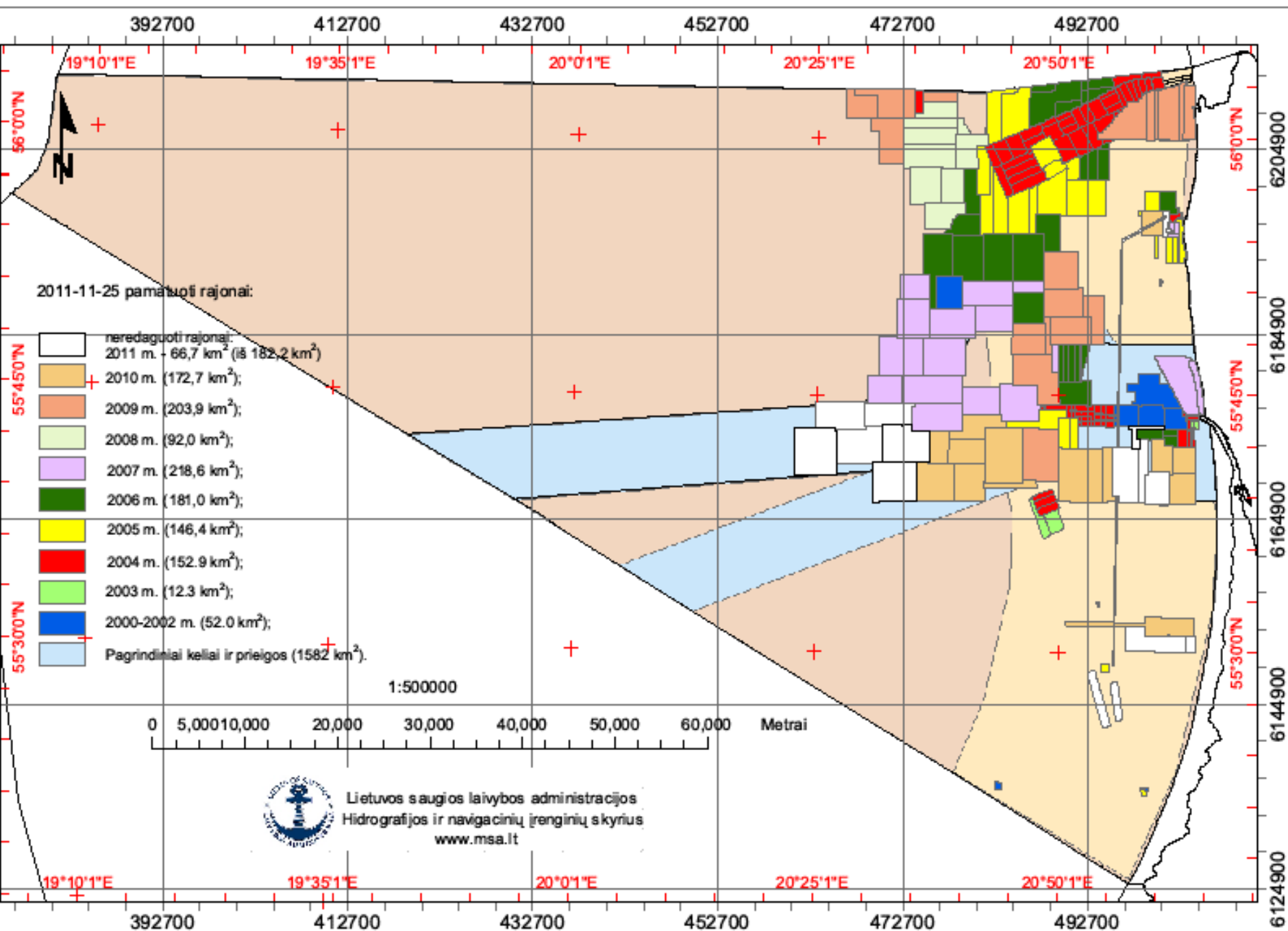**Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage says:**

"*Underwater cultural heritage" means all traces of human existence having a cultural, historical or archaeological character which have been partially or totally under water, periodically or continuously, for at least 100 years such as:* (etc., etc.)".
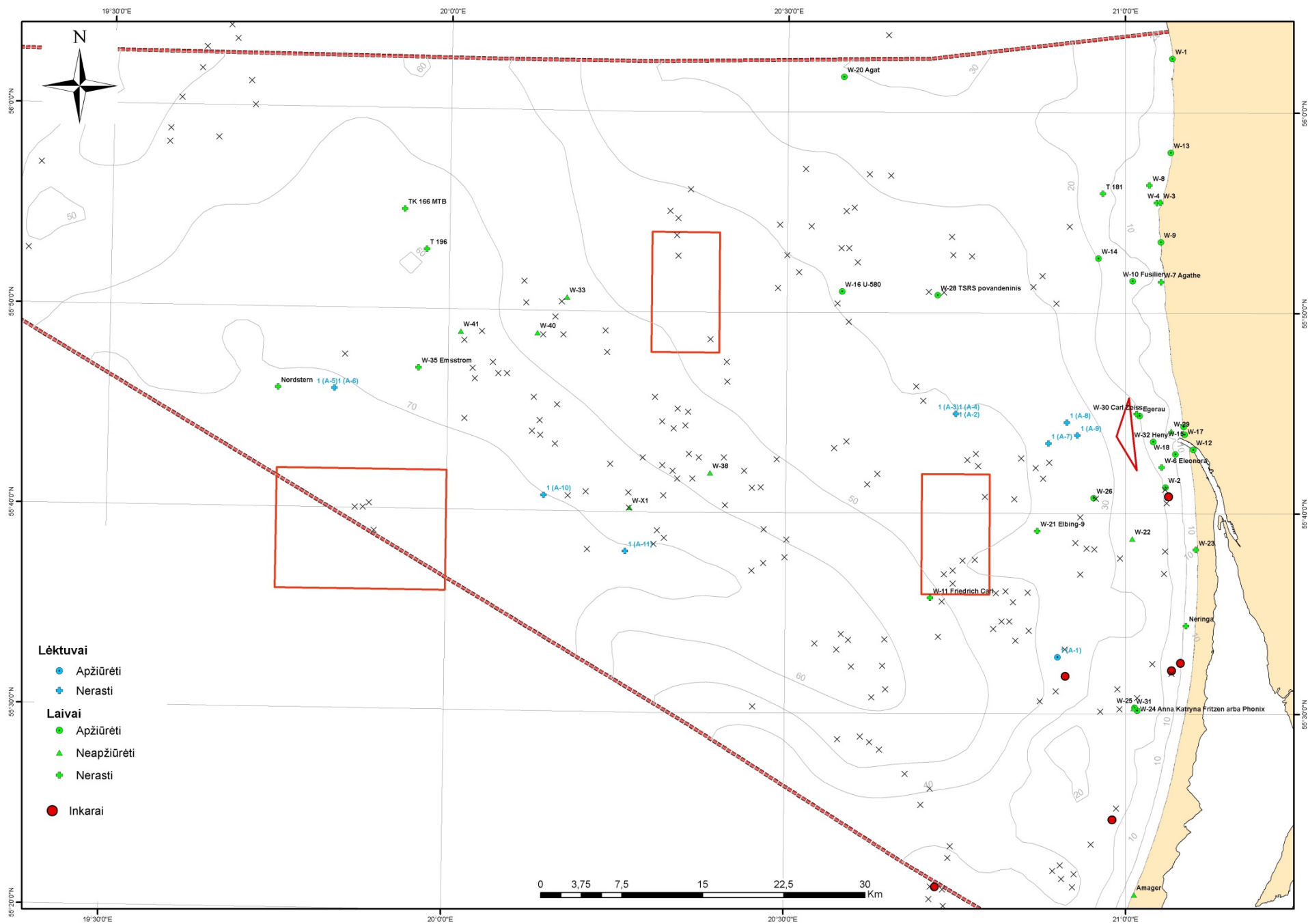
The Law on Protection of Immovable Cultural Heritage of Lithuania suggest:

underwater immovable cultural heritage is – *the archaeological objects, sites and the items of immovable or movable property recognised as significant which are totally or partially under water,* *where the only or one of the main sources of scientific data thereon is underwater research and findings.*
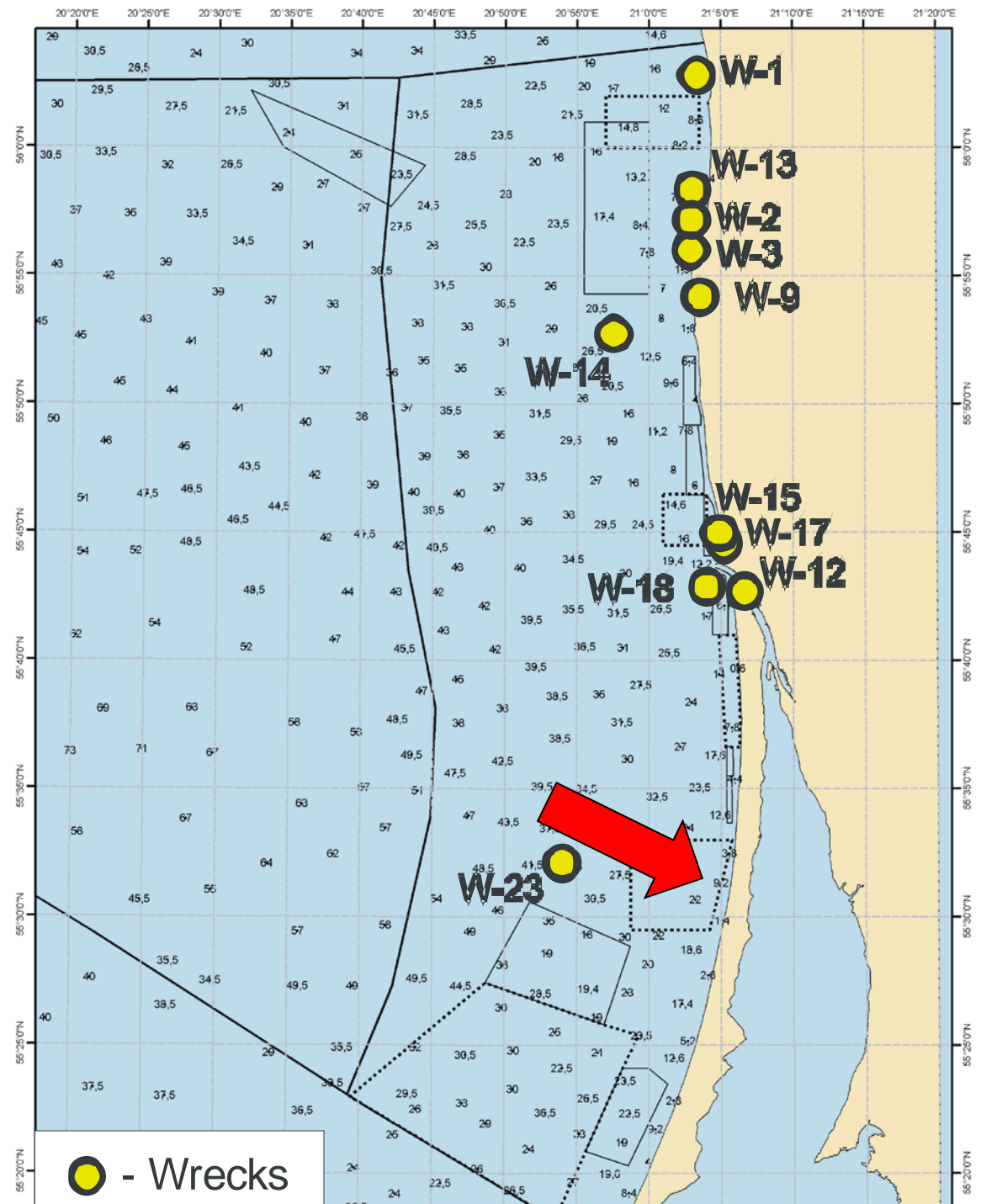
The Law on Protection of Immovable Cultural Heritage of Lithuania is posing the problems for protection of UCH sometimes because this Law says: *The data of the Register of Cultural Property shall be public.* (III. 8: 12).

How so? What's with the publications of exact coordinates?

2011-11-25 pamatuoti rajonai:

neredaguoti rajonai: 2011 m. - 66,7 km² (iš 182,2 km²)	
2010 m. (172,7 km²);	
2009 m. (203,9 km²);	
2008 m. (92,0 km²);	
2007 m. (218,6 km²);	
2006 m. (181,0 km²);	
2005 m. (146,4 km²);	
2004 m. (152.9 km²);	
2003 m. (12.3 km²);	
2000-2002 m. (52.0 km²);	
Pagrindiniai keliai ir prieigos (1582 km²).	

1:500000

0 5,000 10,000 20,000 30,000 40,000 50,000 60,000   Metrai

Lietuvos saugios laivybos administracijos
Hidrografijos ir navigacinių įrenginių skyrius
www.msa.lt

Research for the Wrecks and relict cultural Landscapes

THE PROBLEMS

- **Hulls of ancient ships, which are lying in erosive beaches, will be washed up more often and inevitably destroyed by wash and human activity.**

- **Wrecks in accumulative coastal and littoral zones are more and more covered with sand. Though in shallow waters, these wrecks are more affected by strong winds and swell.**

Wrecks covered with sand.

How to protect these wrecks from littoral zone?

- **They could be discover with magnetometer and subbottom profiler only.**

- **We need a programm and funding for advance research.**

- **Othervise they wrecks can be destroyd by development of offshore industrial projects.**

- **And Spatial Planning? Littoral zone can be designated like vulnerable area in regard to UCH**

Underwater remains of settlements dated to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods are mainly found in the south-westerly parts of the Baltic Sea region, in Sweden, Denmark and Germany. Oldest site has been dated to between 8000-6500 BC and located at Gåbense, Denmark.
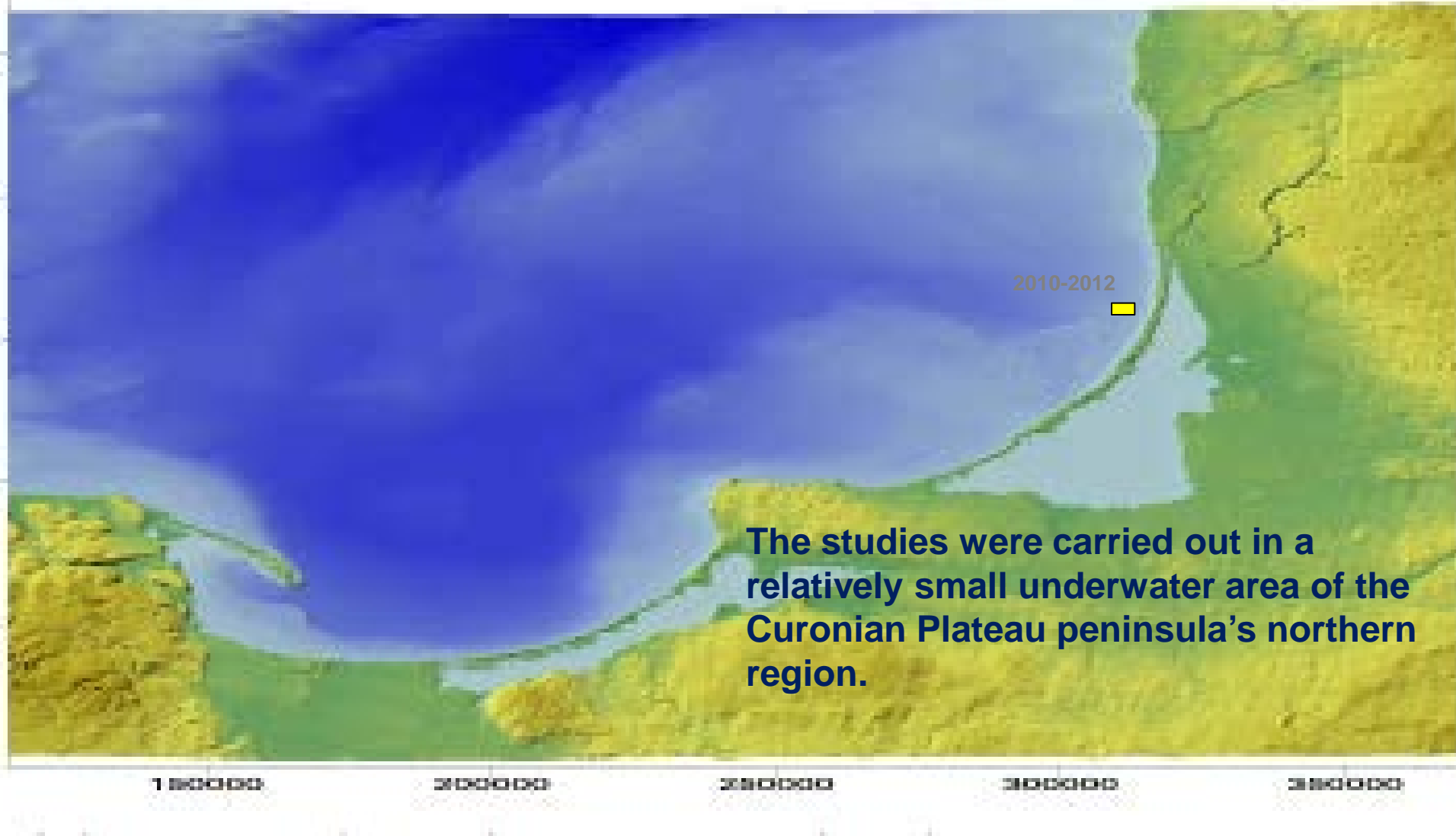
Due to the exceptional preservation conditions in the Baltic Sea some remains of landscape and cultural landscape are, as well as important aspects of coastal change and environmental changes throughout the period.

SPLASHCOS recomendations:

Monuments entering into an active economic area can be fully investigated or are adapted to each country the existing separate cultural heritage legislations.

2011 – 2012 the Klaipėda University researchers, worked on the research project "*Early Holocene natural and cultural landscapes research at the bottom of the Baltic Sea ("Yoldia")*.
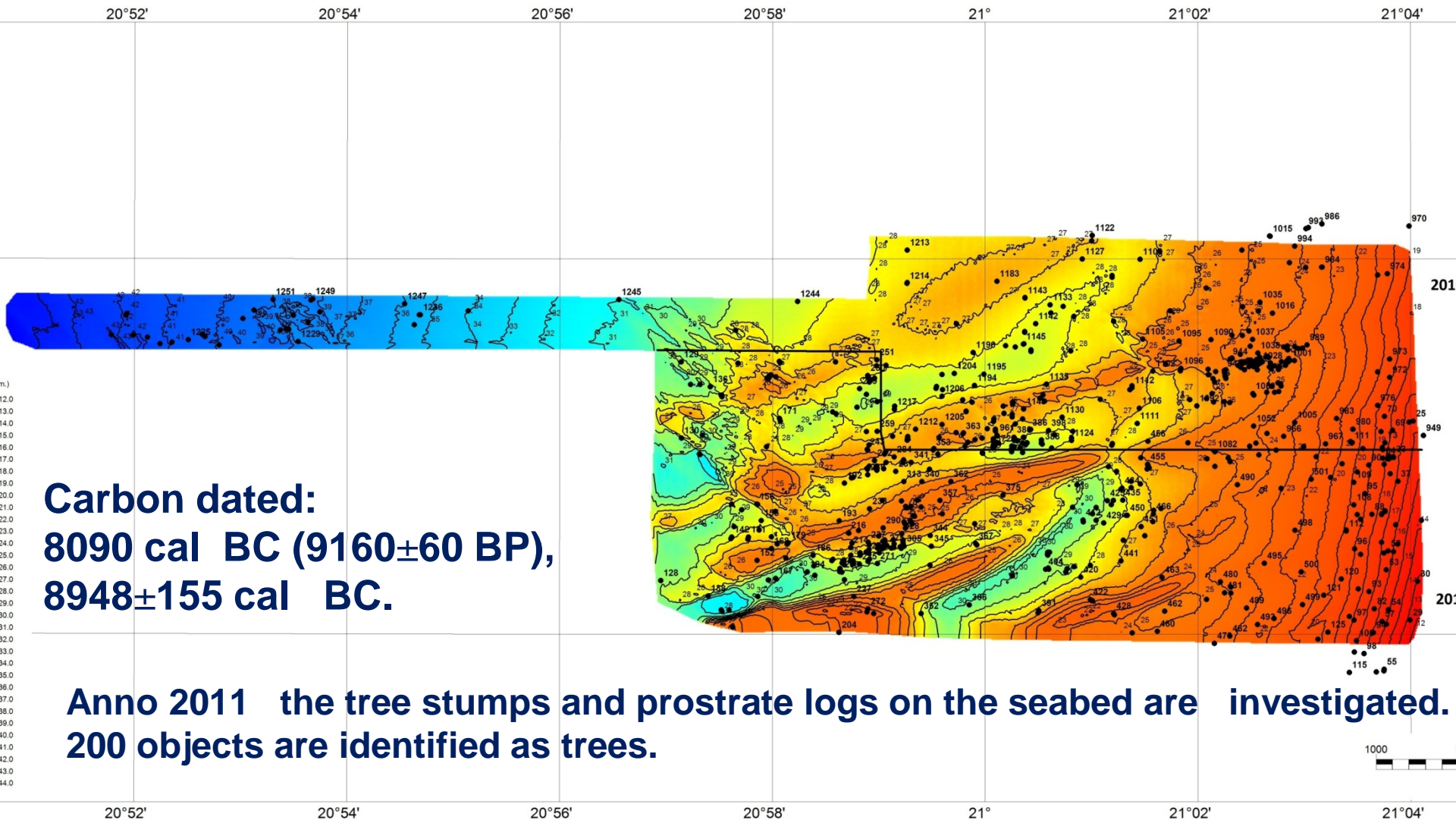
This research was funded by a grant from the Research Council of Lithuania. The project was designed to continue and expand on studies in 2010, which revealed the existence of relict forest remains from the formation of the Baltic Sea in Yoldia-Ancylus period at the seabed.
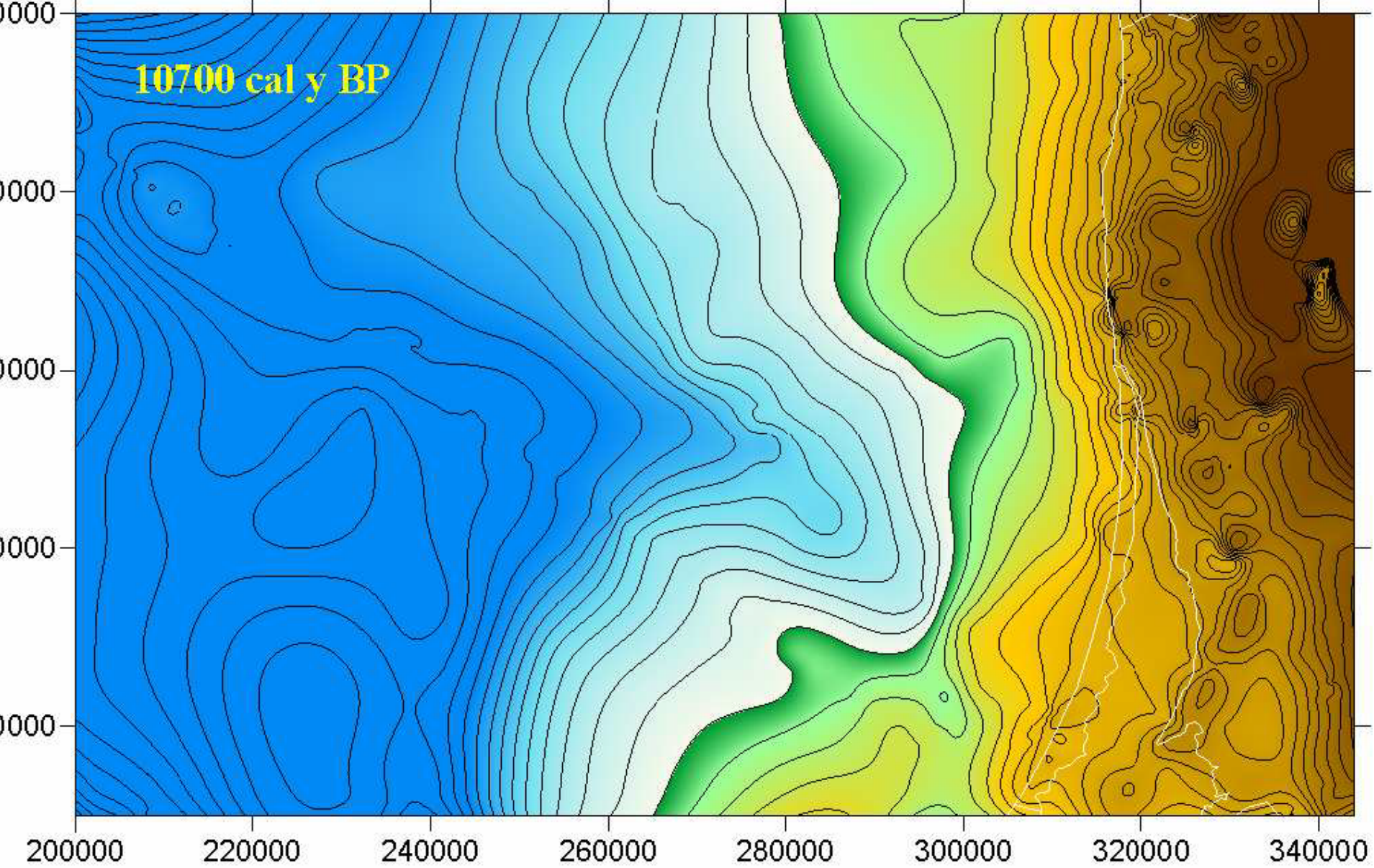
The studies were carried out in a relatively small underwater area of the Curonian Plateau peninsula's northern region.

2010-2012

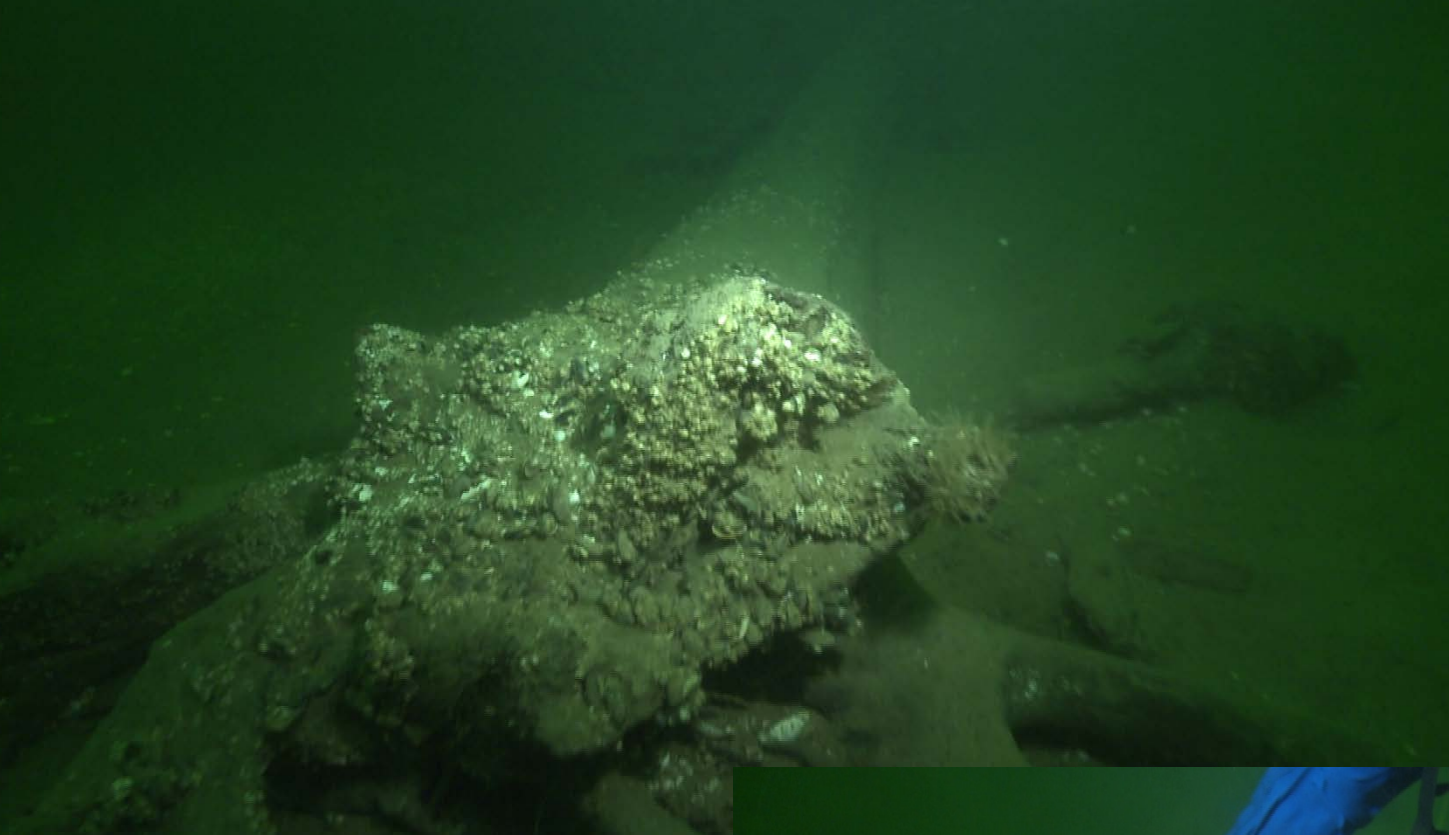*Digital elevation model of south-eastern part of the Baltic Sea.*

L. Ž. Gelumbauskaitė, J. Šečkus

In 2010 -2011 seabed images in the area of
30 sq.km. were also received by side scan sonar and multibeam .

Carbon dated:
8090 cal BC (9160±60 BP),
8948±155 cal   BC.

Anno 2011   the tree stumps and prostrate logs on the seabed are   investigated.
200 objects are identified as trees.

Yoldia Sea shorelines in the territory of Lithuania (according to J. Šečkus, 2009, p. 22.)

The coast was favorable place for human settlement.

Only Late Mesolithic settlements are found in the Lithuanian Baltic Sea coast. In 2009-2012 four of them were identified.

Early Mesolithic settlements should be concentrated in the Baltic Sea's Yoldia coasts, which are now in the bottom of the sea (in 25 to 30 m depth)

Thank you for attention