



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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Riga

16.01.2024 No. 4-04/49/2024

Ref. 01.08.2023 J.no. 2023 – 9292

The Danish Environmental Protection Agency
Espoo@mst.dk

Regarding the transboundary strategic environmental assessment of the proposal for new strategic marine protected areas in Danish waters

The Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau) would like to express gratitude to the Danish Environmental Protection Agency for information sent on the results of the strategic environmental assessment (hereinafter – the SEA) concerning proposals for the new marine protected areas in Danish waters (hereinafter – the Planning document).

Taking into account your request the Bureau has published the information regarding the public consultation of the Environmental Report of the Planning document and relevant documentation on the Bureau`s webpage¹ as well as has sent directly to the various authorities. Please be informed that we have received response from the Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of the Climate and Energy of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the State Environment Service and the Nature Conservation Agency. The Bureau has not received comments from the public.

The above-mentioned authorities informed that they have reviewed received documentation and have no comments or suggestions regarding the results of the SEA. The State Environment Service and the Nature Conservation Agency provided more detailed comments. After assessing the submitted information and conclusions expressed regarding transboundary impacts, the State Environment Service informed that it welcomes the extension of marine protected areas and has no objections to the Environmental Report. In addition, the Nature Conservation Agency (hereafter – the Agency) expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be acquainted with the results of the assessment performed. The Agency highlighted that experience of the other Baltic Sea States is useful for the implementation of the Agency's project LIFE19 NAT/LV/000973 REEF “*The study*

¹ The Bureau`s webpage: <https://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/jaunumi?category%5B448%5D=448>.

of marine protected habitats and determination of the necessary protection status in the exclusive economic zone of Latvia”, within the framework of which a nature protection plan for all marine protected areas is developed, as well as recommendations are prepared for the protection regime and permitted uses.

Sincerely yours,

Daiga Avdejanova (signature*) Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

**Document is sign with secure electronical signature*

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