FINAL SUMMARY RECORD v1.0

Expert Group Swimway (EG-Swimway 22-4)

10 November 2022

Online

# Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting was opened by the chairperson, Adi Kellermann, at 13:30 on 10 November 2022. He welcomed Lea Riis Stenfeldt replacing Morten Frederiksen for EPA, Denmark as new member of the group and Benedikt Wiggering (Lower Saxon National Park Authority) as (transition) representative of the Lower Saxon National Park authority and passed apologies of Morten Frederiksen and Aline Kühl-Stenzel. Also Katja Heubel could not attend the meeting. The meeting started with a quick tour de table.

A list of participants is in Annex 1, the final agenda at Annex 2.

The group **noted** the information and **adopted** the agenda

# Adoption of the draft summary record

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-3-2 Summary record 21-2

The permanent action item to regularly update the living document online remains in the list of action items (Annex 2): <https://waddenseasecretariat-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/busch_waddensea-secretariat_org/EUP1yhB-3FNMuQTZ3HmrrhIBfnpvTu0bCF09ytGIo8L0AA?e=2n9Dwf>

EG-Swimway **adopted** the draft summary record of EG-Swimway 22-3.

# Announcements

## Schleswig-Holstein, NABU, Waddenvereniging

No announcements submitted beforehand

## Denmark

* Lea Riis Stenfeldt (Ministry of Environment of Denmark, Environmental Protection Agency) will take over the seat of Morten Frederiksen in the EG-Swimway;
* Discussions on Danish fish monitoring started.

## Lower Saxony

* Christian Abel retired in autumn 2022. Benedikt Wiggering is temporary replacement;
* The Lower Saxon Wadden Sea National Park Authority commissioned the regular FFH-Fish monitoring campaign, that is conducted every two years. Spring, summer and fall events all were conducted successfully at all fours stations, respectively. These were accompanied also by LAVES campaigns. The report of the planning office is expected to be provided in Winter 2022/2023.”

## Germany

* The draft proposal for a German Bottleneck-project will not be pursued any further due to recent changes in circumstances for almost all work packages. These new conditions would necessitate a fundamental revision of the otherwise almost complete draft, which is somewhere between unrealistic and impossible to achieve in the current constellation.
* EG-Swimway has pledged to be associated to the project "Coastal Futures" (https://www.io-warnemuende.de/project/291/dam\_coastal\_futures.html), funded by the German Alliance for Marine Research (DAM; <https://www.allianz-meeresforschung.de/en>). A first contribution was the support of a PhD on individual-based models for anadromous fish. A decision needs to be made early 2023 how the mandate for this cooperation can be realized over the course of the project (6 years).

## Netherlands

* The Programme of a Rich Waddensea (PRW), NL, will cease to exist by the end of 2022. Therefore, also Martha Buitenkamps membership to EG-Swimway will end at this time.

Report “Wadden Sea & Inland Waters Swimway - Swimway Wadden & Achterland” was published in August 2022 <https://rijkewaddenzee.nl/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Swimway-Wadden-English.pdf> Illustrations: <https://rijkewaddenzee.nl/en/illustrations-swimway-wadden-sea>

* Martha Buitenkamp organized a Swimway stakeholder meeting in the Netherlands: [Swimway-Wadden-English.pdf (rijkewaddenzee.nl)](https://rijkewaddenzee.nl/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Swimway-Wadden-English.pdf)

## CWSS

* The last Wadden Sea Board (WSB) of the German presidency of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, WSB 39, will be held on 29 November 2022 in Wilhelmshaven Germany. WSB 40 will be the first meeting of the Danish presidency, after the Ministerial Council meeting.
* Citizen science sampling within the eDNA expedition project ([https://ednaexpeditions.org](https://ednaexpeditions.org/)) was conducted at Wadden Sea World Heritage as first site in the project. From 21-26 September 2022, samples were collected at five different locations along the Wadden Sea coast near Esbjerg (Denmark), at Nordstrand, Neuwerk and Wilhelmshaven (Germany), and Texel (Netherlands) together with the Danish Wadden Sea National Park, the German Wadden Sea National Park Authorities and the Dutch Waddenvereniging.

The group **noted** the information

# SWIMWAY vision and action programme

## Projects

Paddy Walker and Andreas Dänhardt reported that the report of the SHIRE project is close to finishing. Paddy Walker added that a database exists with references. A decision to make it public Will be discussed by Swimway later.

The group **noted** the information

## Mid-term review

Adi Kellermann introduced the document.

The group **thanked** Adi Kellermann and **agreed** on the midterm review (with two minor changes which will be sent to Adi Kellermann by Marina Sanns) and to publish it on the CWSS website.

## Windows of opportunity - interconnectivity

Jeroen Huisman reported that work on an interconnectivity map is in progress and will be completed in time for the Trilateral Governmental Conference (TGC) side event (see Agenda item 5). In February 2023, a scientific paper will be completed, once the database is complete

A paper on windows of opportunity to consider life cycle connectivity of fishes when refurbishing sluices, weirs and pumping stations is currently prepared by Jeroen Huisman and co-authors. Anticipated outlets include the journals Global Change Biology or Marine Biodiversity. Marina Sanns informed on the possibility to submit to “Marine Biodiversity” (deadline: 1 April 2023), also beyond the collection of papers from the International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium 2022.

The group **noted** the information; Danish colleagues will support with contacts for Danish contributions.

## Microsite

Julia Busch presented the draft [Swimway Wadden Sea microsite](http://wsswimway.demo4.creativeconcern.com/). The site now contains general information on Swimway Wadden Sea and the Swimway vision and action programme, as well basic information on fish in the Wadden Sea (related to the latest Quality Status Report fish). Information which requires regular updates are avoided.

Marina Sanns informed on a new logo of the Schleswig-Holstein National Park, to be substituted on the “vision” subpage.

Andreas Dänhardt suggested adding a map (bottleneck mapper/fish life cycles) to the microsite, when this is ready to use. This mapper was originally planned for the bottleneck proposal, but it will be discussed with HEREON, if this could be integrated to the Coastal Future project.

The group **noted** the information and **agreed** with launching the Swimway microsite in time for the TGC, and to add additional information step by step.

The group further **agreed** to getting in contact with CWSS to support filling the site. An integration/visualisation of Swimway related projects will be discussed in one of the next Swimway meetings.

# Trilateral Governmental Conference 2022

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-4-5-Swimway-TGC

Julia Busch information on the Swimway side event, which was progressed by a coordination group (Adi, Andreas, Jeroen, Oliver, Paddy, Martha, CWSS). The group discussed core messages for the minsters´s tour (Annex 4 in track changes).

Besides the mentioned group members in the document, also Benedikt Wiggering may be able to support.

The group **noted** the information and **agreed** with the general setup of the products (posters, flyer, pin, bookmark).

The group further **agreed** with the general outline of the minster´s tour and that CWSS will adapt the outline accordingly and Jeroen Huismann will elaborate on exact wording for introducing the topic to the minsters, with support of outreach department and CWSS.

# Swimway conference

SwimCon24: Andreas Dänhardt informed that a kick-off meeting with Xenia Salomonsen and Morten Frederiksen (DK-National Park and environmental ministry), Katja Philippart and Klaas Deen (NL-Wadden Academie), Heleen Jansen and Wouter van der Heij (NL-Waddenvereniging), Ingrid Tulp (NL-WMR), Jeroen Huisman (NL-van Hall Larenstein), Katja Heubel (D-Kiel University) was held on 2 September 2022. It was agreed to hold the conference in Leeuwarden in 2024, with financial contributions from Waddenacademie, Ruim baan for vissen and the Swimway waddentools projects A concept for the conference is currently under preparation, a first draft will be produced by Andreas Dänhardt to be discussed and further developed during the second meeting in mid-December 2022.

The group **noted** the information.

# Any Other Business and next meeting

The group **thanked** Adi Kellermann for four years of commitment, time and for bringing the Expert Group Swimway to “stand on own feet” as chair. A present will be handed over during the Trilateral Governmental Conference. Adi Kellermann thanked the group, which to chair was an honour and pleasure and huge fun to join forces to make life better for fish in the Wadden Sea.

**Next meeting:**

The group **agreed** that CWSS will prepare a doodle for Jan/Feb 2023

# Closing

The meeting was closed by the chair Adi Kellermann at 16:00 on 10 November 2022. He thanked the participants for the good discussions and thanked CWSS for smooth organization.

**ANNEX 1: List of participants**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Expert Group Swimway (EG-Swimway 22-3)

5 July 2022

Online

|  |  |
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| **Denmark** | |
| **Mr Niels Jepsen**  DTU AQUA/National Institute of Aquatic Resources  Section for Freshwater Fisheries Ecology  Technical University of Denmark  Vejlsøvej 39  DK-8600 Silkeborg  Phone: +45 35 88 31 31  E-Mail: nj@aqua.dtu.dk | **Ms Xenia Salomonsen**  Danish National Park Wadden Sea  Nationalpark Vadehavet  Havnebyvej 30  DK-6792 Rømø  Phone: +45 72 54 36 52  Mobil: +45 26 28 44 66  E-Mail: xemsa@danmarksnationalparker.dk |
| **Ms Lea Riis** **Stenfeldt**  Ministry of Environment of Denmark  Environmental Protection Agency  Jacob Gades Alle 12A  DK-6600 Vejen  Phone: +45 72 54 40 00  Mobile: +45 22 12 44 16  E-Mail: lears@mst.dk |  |
| **Germany (Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein)** | |
| **Ms Marina Sanns**  Schleswig-Holstein Agency for Coastal Defense, National Park and Marine Conservation  National Park Authority  Schloßgarten 1  D-25832 Tönning  Phone: +49 486161645  E-Mail: Marina.Sanns@lkn.landsh.de | **Mr Oliver-David Finch**,  Lower Saxony Water Management, Coastal Protection and Nature Conservation Agency (NLWKN)  Oldersumer Straße 48  D-26603 Aurich  Phone: +49 (0) 4941 176-155  E-mail: Oliver-David.Finch@nlwkn.niedersachsen.de |
| **Mr Benedikt Wiggering**  National Park Authority Lower Saxony  Virchowstr. 1  D-26382 Wilhelmshaven  Phone: +49 (0) 4421 911 256  E-Mail: [Benedikt.Wiggering@nlpvw.niedersachsen.de](mailto:Benedikt.Wiggering@nlpvw.niedersachsen.de) |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Netherlands** | |
| **Ms Ingrid Tulp**  Wageningen, University & Research (WUR)  Dept. Wageningen Marine Research  Postbus 68  NL-1970 AB Ijmuiden  Phone:+31 (317) 487112  E-Mail: ingrid.tulp@wur. | **Mr Jeroen Huisman**  Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Science (VHL)  PO box 1528  NL-8901 BV Leeuwarden  Phone: +31 58 - 2846245  Mobile: +31 6- 22839827  E-mail: [jeroen.huisman@hvhl.nl](mailto:jeroen.huisman@hvhl.nl) |
| **Ms Martha Buitenkamp**  Programme towards a rich Wadden Sea (PRW)  Brusselseweg 6  NL - 9321 TN Peize  Phone: +31 (0) 621578477  E-Mail: m.buitenkamp@anantis.nl nl |  |
| **Participants from advisors to WSB and external experts** | |
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| **Chair and** **Secretary** | |
| **Mr Adi Kellermann (Chair)**  Kellermann-Consultants  Ostdeutsche Str. 28  D-25840 Friedrichstadt  Phone: +49 4881610  E-Mail: [akellerman@t-online.de](mailto:akellerman@t-online.de) | **Ms Julia A. Busch (Secretary)**  Common Wadden Sea Secretariat |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Invited guests** | |
| **Mr Andreas Dänhardt** (D)  Phone: +49 179 5171539  E-Mail: andreas@daenhardt.com | **Ms Paddy Walker** (NL)  Tethys: aquatic ecosystem advice  Mûnebuorren 25  NL 9132 EJ, Engwierum  Phone: +31622278193  E-Mail: tethysadvice@gmail.com |

**ANNEX 2: Agenda**

A picture containing diagram

Description automatically generatedFINAL AGENDA v1.0

**Expert Group Swimway**

**(EG-Swimway 22-4)**

10 November 2022

Online meeting

# Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting will be opened by the Chairperson at 13:30 on 10 November 2022. Proposal: Adopt the draft agenda of the meeting.

# Adoption of the draft summary record and next meeting

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-4-2 Summary record 22-3

Proposal: Adopt draft summary record of previous meeting

# Announcements

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-4-3-Announcements

Meeting participants are invited to hand in their information to CWSS before the meeting. Individual general announcements will not be repeated in this online format, but time given for questions. Focus is on exchange of information on SWIMWAY related projects and proposal initiatives.

Proposal: Note the information.

# SWIMWAY vision and action programme

* 1. Projects

Presentation of SHIRE project report (Paddy, Andreas)

Proposal: Note the information

* 1. Mid term review

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-4-4-2-Draft-midterm-review

Discussion of draft Wadden Sea Swimway Action Programme mid-term review (Adi).

Proposal: Agree on mid term review

* 1. Windows of opportunity - interconnectivity

Present draft paper (Jeroen).

Proposal: Note the information

* 1. Microsite

Present draft [Swimway Wadden Sea microsite](http://wsswimway.demo4.creativeconcern.com/) (CWSS).

Proposal: Agree on process to finalise until Trilateral Governmental Conference

# Trilateral Governmental Conference 2022

###### Document: EG-Swimway22-4-5-Swimway-TGC

Information on Swimway side event outline, products and planning for the Trilateral Governmental Conference (TGC), including presence of group members on site (Adi, Andreas, Jeroen, Oliver, Paddy, Martha, CWSS).

Proposal: Agree on outline, products and staffing of the side event

# Swimway conference

Inform on next steps and current status of conference outline (Andreas)

Proposal: Note the information

1. **Any Other Business and next meeting**

Discuss any other business (AOB) and next meeting(s).

Proposal: Note the information

1. **Closing**

The meeting will be closed no later than 16:00 on 10 November 2022.

**ANNEX 3: Action items**

ACTION ITEMS

Expert Group Swimway (EG-Swimway 22-4)

10 November 2022

Online

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Action #** | **Agenda item** | **Actions agreed upon** | **Person responsible** | **Deadline** |
| 1 | 4.2 | Final changes to midterm review /share trilaterally and publishing on CWSS website | Chair/CWSS | ASAP |
| 2 | 4.3 | Support with contacts for Danish contributions | Danish members | ASAP |
| 3 | 4.4 | Support CWSS with input for the microsite/launch microsite | All/CWSS | Before conference |
| 4 | 4.4 | Discuss visualisation of projects on the microsite | all | Next meeting |
| 5 | 5 | Continue preparing side event | Coordination group | TGC |
| 6 | 6 | Next meeting for SwimCon committee – written concept for conference | Andreas | December 2022 |
| 7 | 7 | Prepare doodle for next meeting | CWSS | ASAP |
| **Pending from previous meetings** | | | | |
|  | 21-1: | Regularly update the [living document](https://waddenseasecretariat-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/busch_waddensea-secretariat_org/EUP1yhB-3FNMuQTZ3HmrrhIBfnpvTu0bCF09ytGIo8L0AA?e=2n9Dwf) online | all | Permanent reminder |
|  | 22-2/4 | Discuss a follow-up of the SHIRE project | all | After final report |
|  | 5/6 | Take up communication plan in mid term review | all | TBD |
| 8 | 4.2 | Continue exchange in EG-Swimway, e.g., by theme sessions on fish targets or SWIMWAY pillars, or on topics, such as salt marsh management, underwater activities, nursery function of the Wadden Sea, migration, connectivity or sluices. | all | On-going |
| 1 | 3 | Consider joint planning of trilateral event(s) for the World Fish Migration Day 2024, including support in involvement of the general public |  |  |
| 2 | 3 | Take up a discussion on the “extend” of restoration activities vs reduce pressure on the system and let nature develop itself for fish in the Wadden Sea. |  |  |
| 3 | 4.1 | Take up application for Wadden Sea fish graduate school in 2023 | Katja, all | 2023 |
| 5 | 5 | Prepare roadmap (with timeline) | Chair with support CWSS | After midterm review |

**ANNEX 4: Outline minister´s tour at the TGC 2022, including track changes of discussion at EG-Swimway 22-4**

**Time:** Wednesday 30.11.22 – 9:30 – 10:15

**Duration**: ca 3 minutes

**Core messages**:

1) Several fish species are in decline due to various known and unknown reasons.

3) Climate change- and sea level rise will pose increasing challenges to migratory fish

2) Various bottlenecks constricting life cycle connectivity of fish exist and need to be mitigated, among them physical barriers, [anthropogenic mortality at different life stages and habitat destruction.]

4) Until 2050, numerous sluices and pumping stations need to be refurbished, offering a window of opportunity to consider life-cycle connectivity for migratory fish.

5) The Trilateral Expert Group Swimway aims to develop measures to improve life cycle connectivity for fish, e. g. between tributaries and the Wadden Sea.

**Format**: By pressing a green button at the Swimway Wadden Sea booth, the three Ministers will symbolically show their commitment for continuing the implementation of the Swimway Vision and Action Programme (as depicted in the Ministerial Declaration Wilhelmshaven) and, in the next four years, to continue using windows of opportunity for improving ecological connectivity/ fish migratory routes (e.g., when existing structures, such as sluices are refurbished).

Upon pressing the red button by the ministers, two sluice doors (symbolized by two poster walls with posters of sluice doors) will open and allow student(s) with stuffed pet-fish to pass. The ministers will be handed one of the pet-fish each.

**Who will present and explain**:

Jeroen Huisman (Van Hall Larenstein University, Netherlands) will welcome the Ministers and introduce the topic. Synchronised with the introduction, cards with buzzwords (climate change, sea level rise, connectivity,…) may be shown.