



Participants:

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MPA Program(s) Description or Highlights:

- Coastal MPAs managed by the federal states
- Offshore MPAs managed by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
- 2004: nomination of ten Natura 2000 sites across the German EEZ in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea
- 2017: protection of these sites under national legislation as nature conservation areas
- 2020: adoption of management plans for the nature conservation areas in the North Sea

Key Program Challenges/Priorities:

- Regulation of commercial fishing (via the common fisheries policy of the EU)
- Regulation of underwater noise (main sources: shipping, renewable energies, clearance of unexploded ordnance)
- Restoration of reefs (e.g. via reintroduction of the European flat oyster *Ostrea edulis*)
- Establishment of administrative structures to enforce compliance with regulations