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# Multi-Use in the Belgian Part of the North Sea



Jesse Verhalle

Marine Environment Service

# Content

- ▶ Need for MSU
- ▶ Examples of MSU
- ▶ Opportunities and difficulties



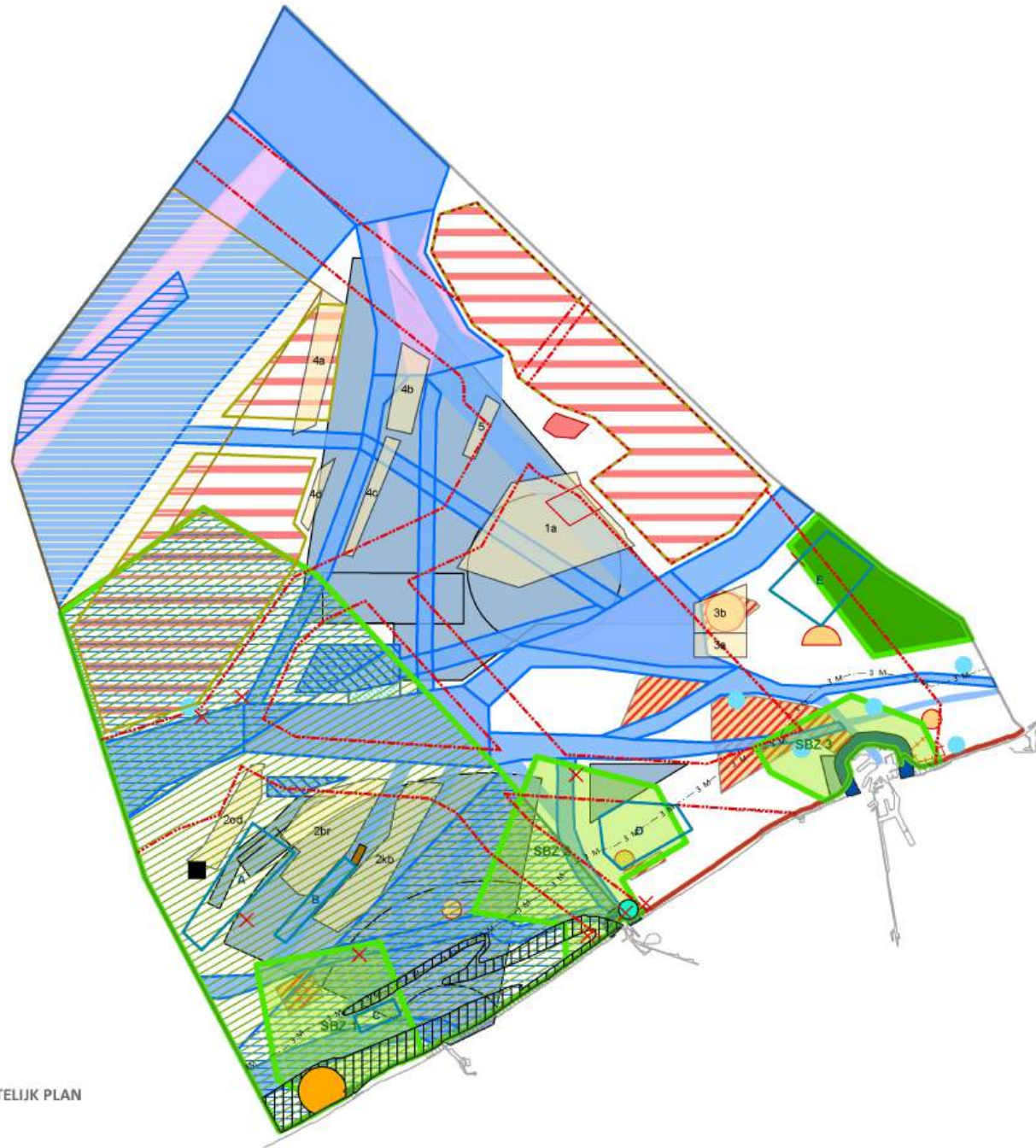
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# Need for MSU



# Need for MSU

- ▶ Belgian part of the North Sea is only 0.5% of the total North Sea (3,454 km<sup>2</sup>)
  - ▶ 520 km<sup>2</sup> designated for offshore wind (15%)
  - ▶ Over 1200 km<sup>2</sup> designated for nature protection (37%)
  - ▶ 230 km<sup>2</sup> designated for sand extraction (6%)
  - ▶ 530 km<sup>2</sup> designated for military activities (15%)
- ▶ If you add fisheries, shipping, aquaculture, scientific zones, ports, cultural heritage ... the use of space is over 100%.
- ▶ Traditional uses feel pressured by the new emerging activities.



### Geïntegreerde visiekaart

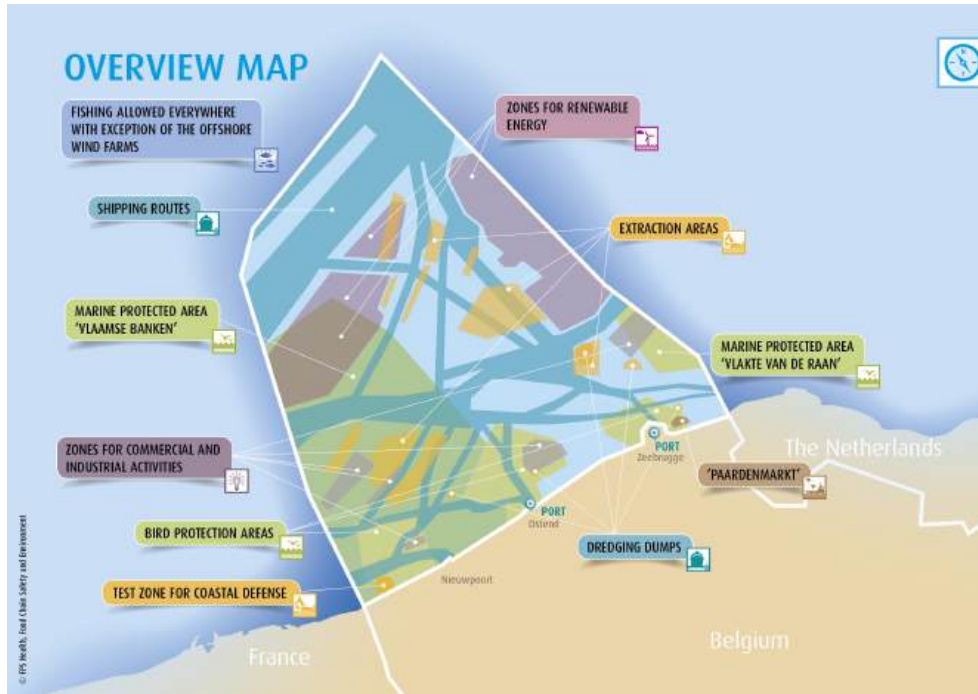
- Lijn 3-zeemijl -3 M
- Zone commerciële en industriële activiteiten
- Zone aquacultuur
- Zone aquacultuur en passieve visserij
- Erkend scheepswrak, met ruimtelijke beschermingsmaatregelen
- Meetpaal
- Radartoren
- Testzone zeevering
- Kalibratiegebied akoestische instrumenten
- Projectzone mariene innovatielocatie
- Zone kabels en pijpleidingen
- RAMSAR
- Natura-2000-Netwerk
- Vogelrichtlijngebied
- Habitatrichtlijngebied Vlakke van de Raan
- Habitatrichtlijngebied Vlaamse Banken
- Zoekzone bodemintegriteit
- Monitoringgebied
- Zoekzone zandwinning
- Controle- of exploitatiezone
- Ankergebied
- Te vermijden gebied
- Zone installatie transmissie van elektriciteit
- Zone hernieuwbare energie
- Uitbreidingszone haven
- Scheepvaartroutes
- Scheepvaart
- Scheepsrouteringssysteem
- Zone baggerstorten
- Zoekzone baggerstorten
- Munitiestortplaats Paardenmarkt
- Zone voor militaire activiteiten
- Basislijn

## The Result





# The result



- ▶ MSP 2020-2026
- ▶ Structure
  - ▶ RD
    - ▶ Legally binding for all
    - ▶ Sets the framework and
  - ▶ 1. Analysis
    - ▶ Which activities are there
    - ▶ Which conditions are necessary
  - ▶ 2. Policy choices
  - ▶ 3. Actions

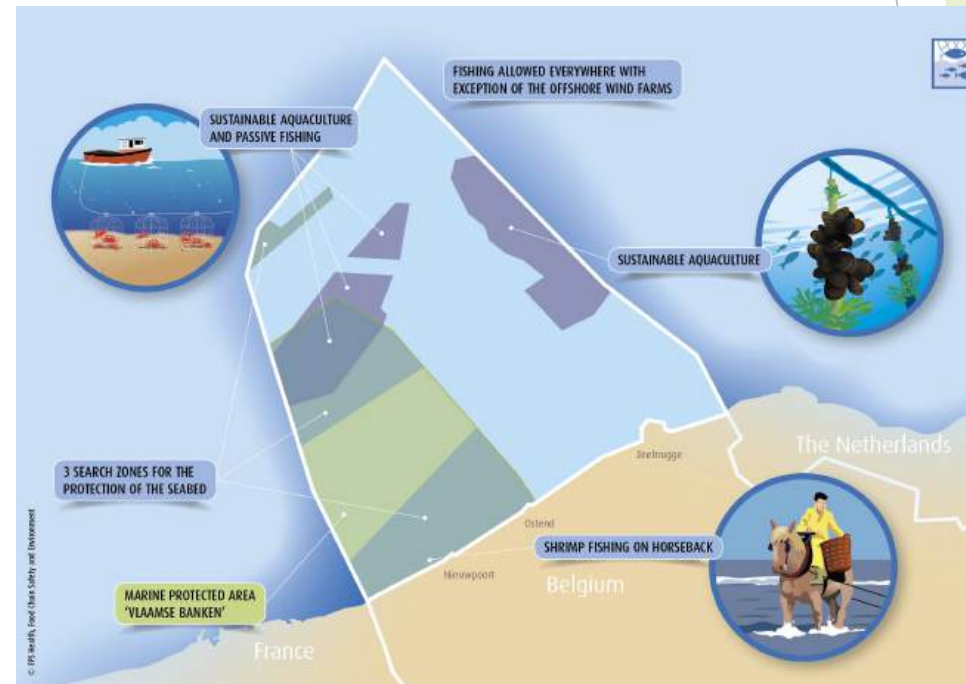


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# Examples of MSU



# MSU and Offshore Energy





# MSU and Offshore Energy

- ▶ Zone for production, transmission and storage of energy
  - ▶ Possibilities for future developments (solar, hydrogen)
- ▶ Overlap with zone for sand extraction
  - ▶ Non-compatible use
  - ▶ RD determines rules
- ▶ Overlap with MPAs
  - ▶ Additional studies
- ▶ Overlap with aquaculture
  - ▶ Basic conditions
  - ▶ Difference between old and new energyzone

# Zones for commercial and industrial activities



# Zones for commercial and industrial activities

- ▶ Other activities can take place as long as they are compatible
- ▶ Separate RD determines how the zones can be used
- ▶ 8 criteria including MSU
  - ▶ Bottom-up approach (initiative comes from the applicant)

# Opportunities and difficulties in doing the puzzle



# Opportunities

- ▶ Think futureproof
  - ▶ Try to make your MSP compatible with possible new trends and development
  - ▶ Consider your wording
- ▶ Keep the reigns
  - ▶ Societal interests and business interests will not always align
- ▶ Some unexpected synergies
  - ▶ Safety zones around wind farms and fishery measure zones can be monitored together
- ▶ MSP is a starting point, not the be-all and end-all
  - ▶ Not everything can be developed at the same time as the MSP
  - ▶ MSP is not only a legal framework, but also a communication device



# Difficulties

- ▶ Some activities are not compatible or have a possible negative effect
  - ▶ E.g. sand extraction and offshore energy
  - ▶ Higher insurance costs for wind farms
- ▶ Conditions for activities may differ
  - ▶ E.g. policy choice to place wind farms further from the coast, is an inconvenience for MSU with aquaculture
  - ▶ Vessels with one or two motors
- ▶ Comparing apples with oranges
  - ▶ MSU is important but can't be a dogmatic goal.
- ▶ Unpredictable future
  - ▶ A month ago, the Belgian government decided to increase the aimed capacity of the new zone from 2.2 GW to 3.5 GW
  - ▶ Impact of higher density on MSU?



THANK YOU