

A sunset over the ocean with a boat silhouette in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and red, with the sun low on the horizon. The water is dark blue with some whitecaps. A boat is visible in the lower part of the image, its silhouette dark against the water.

# **Marine aquaculture in Latvia Experience and perspectives**

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# Experience

- In the 1980ies
- In the Gulf of Riga mesh (net) cages
  - Cages - not sufficiently resistant to storms and waves
  - Wind - dramatically changes in the cold deep water and warm coastal waters inflow and outflow which caused stress for fish
  - Infectious diseases

# Current situation

- At the moment in Latvia there are not any marine aquaculture
- However interest started arise some half year ago

# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (1)

- Includes legal norms arising from Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy

# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (2)

- This law determines:
  - the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone of Latvia, as well as sovereign rights and jurisdiction in the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone thereof, taking into account the provisions of the international agreements;
  - procedures by which the marine strategy shall be developed and implemented, taking into account ecosystem approach and general environmental protection principles;
  - the rights and obligations of the sea users.

# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (3)

- User of the sea
  - regulatory enactments regulating activity and this Law (objectives thereof);
  - environment protection principles;
  - public interests;
  - maritime spatial planning.
- The licence is needed!



# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (4)

- The Cabinet shall, prior to the issue of a licence for use of the sea, determine a certain territory of the sea by the each time order
- The right to use a licence area in the sea shall obtain a person who has won a tender regarding the right to use the permit area in the sea

# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (5)

- The Cabinet shall regulate:
  - the procedures by which a permit area in the sea shall be determined;
  - the procedures by which a tender shall be organised;
  - the procedures by which a permit shall be issued, suspended or cancelled;
  - requirements in respect of establishment, construction of structures in the sea and operation thereof, as well as the requirements in respect of destruction.



# Marine Environment Protection and Management Law (6)

- Obligations and Responsibility of a User of the Sea:
  - not to allow pollution of the sea;
  - to perform environmental impact assessment for the intended activity in compliance with regulatory enactments regarding environmental impact assessment;
  - to perform measures in order to prevent threats of damage to the marine environment in compliance with the Environmental Protection Law;
  - to observe the rights of other users of the sea and of other states in the Baltic Sea region, as well as the requirements of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, the Helsinki Convention, other international agreements binding on Latvia and other regulatory enactments.

# Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (1)

- Impact assessment shall be required in accordance with the results of an **initial assessment**
- If an impact assessment is not required, the head of a Regional environmental board shall issue technical provisions for intended activity
- If the licence area is located in Natura 2000 territory, an impact assessment is compulsory

# Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (2)

- Council Directive 85/337/EEC of 27 June 1985 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment;
- Council Directive 97/11/EC of 3 March 1997 amending Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment;
- Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora;
- Directive 2009/147/EC of the European parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds;
- Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment;
- Directive 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment and amending with regard to public participation and access to justice Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC;
- Directive 2009/31/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the geological storage of carbon dioxide and amending Council Directive 85/337/EEC, European Parliament and Council Directives 2000/60/EC, 2001/80/EC, 2004/35/EC, 2006/12/EC, 2008/1/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006

# Fishery Law

- A permit from a fish resource manager, for which the accordance of the institute BIOR and the Nature Protection Board has been attained, is required for specialised fish farming and aquatic plant culture in the waters of the Republic of Latvia

# Maritime Administration and Marine Safety Law (1)

- The purpose
  - to specify the State administration institutional system concerning maritime matters and to ensure the implementation of and compliance with the requirements of international agreements and standards binding on the Republic of Latvia in the field of maritime safety and protection in order to prevent environmental pollution from ships and ensure the efficiency of maritime traffic



# Maritime Administration and Marine Safety Law (2)

- Contains legal norms arising from:
  - Directive 2001/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2001 amending Council Directive 94/57/EC on common rules and standards for ship inspection and survey organisations and for the relevant activities of maritime administrations (Text with EEA relevance);
  - Directive 2002/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2002 establishing a Community vessel traffic monitoring and information system and repealing Council Directive 93/75/EEC



# Perspectives

- Sea spatial planning
- Cabinet regulation

**Thank you for you attention!**

