

S55 and the Resurvey Scheme in the Baltic Sea

The status of surveys is one important element of the S55 database, where a percentage of the area covered by a certain quality of surveys is listed. The BSHC Resurvey Monitoring Working Group has developed a similar overview of the status of surveys for the main shipping routes and ports, classified according to the orders in S44.

As the MWG wants to extent its scope and include the national resurvey schemes, it become more important to harmonise the resurvey metadata database and the S55 database.

In addition, it is difficult currently to indicate the up-to-dateness of surveys with the metadata. At least for Germany this is an important issue, as all sea areas are subdivided in subareas classified according to survey intervals (ranging from 5 to 25 years in the Baltic Sea). These intervals are dependent on the changeability of the sea floor in the subarea and form the basis for the annual national resurvey schedule.

Germany therefore invites the BSHC members to consider:

- the inclusion of suitable parameters in the resurvey metadata database to indicate the up-to-dateness of survey data especially in areas of unstable sea bottom, in order to accommodate the national resurvey schemes,
- the harmonization of the S55 database and the BSHC resurvey metadata database.