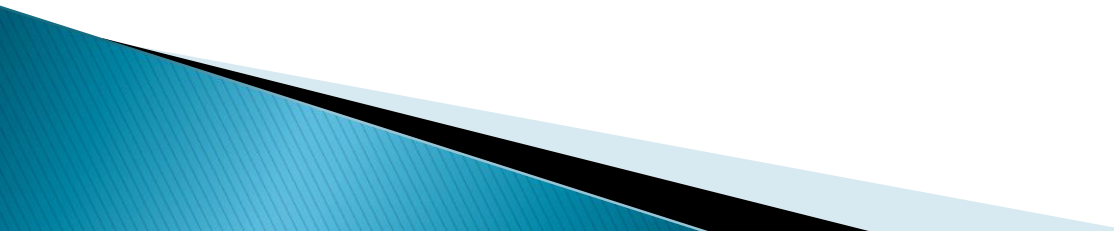


# The Development of Natura 2000 and Mussel Fisheries: Case Studies from The Netherlands and Germany

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# Content

- ▶ Natura 2000
  - ▶ Situation in The Netherlands
  - ▶ Situation in Germany – Schleswig–Holstein
  - ▶ Parallels with MSC (Germany Lower–Saxony)
  - ▶ How do we move forward?
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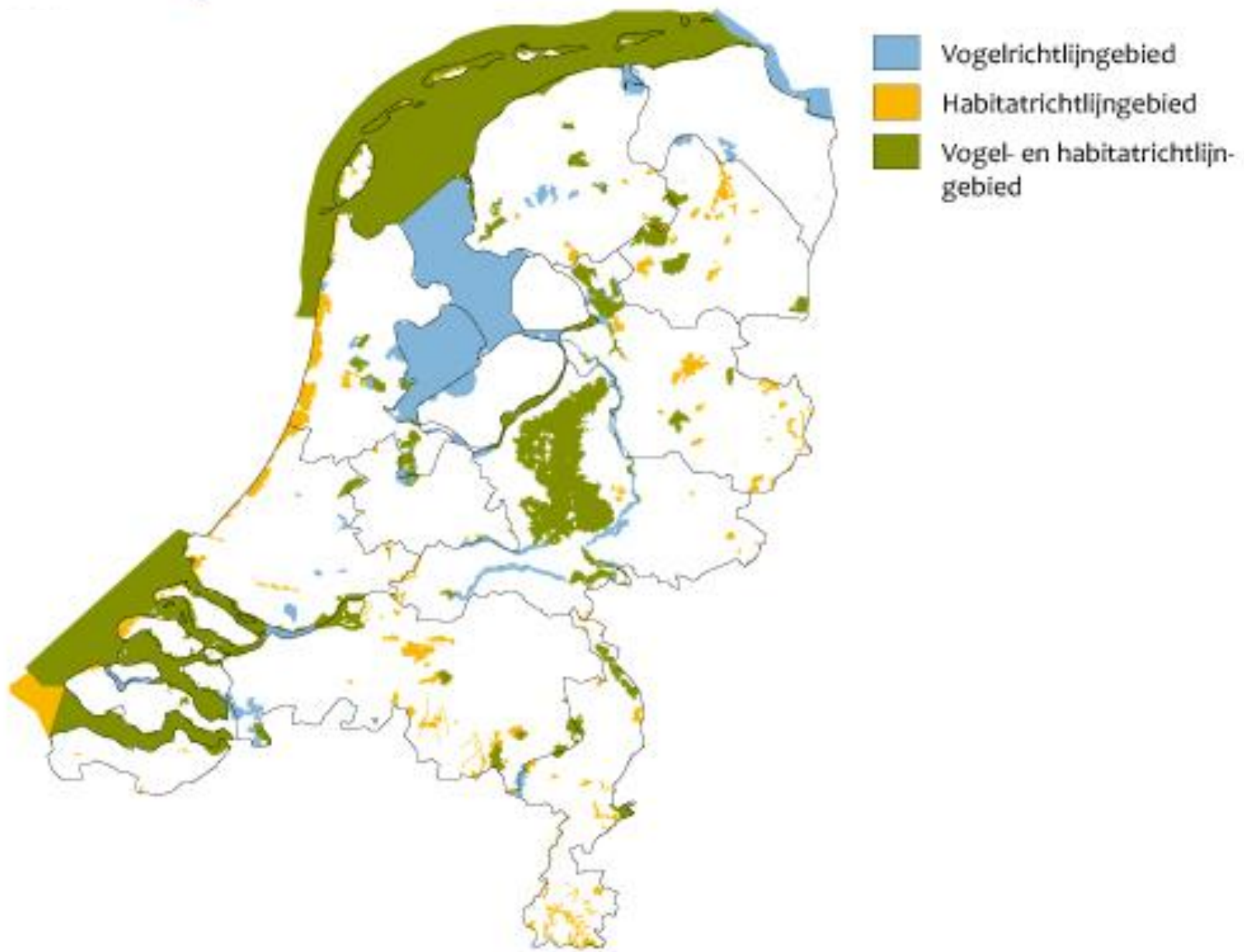
# Natura 2000

- ▶ European network of protected nature areas
  - To preserve unique European nature
  - To realize favourable state of conservation = to maintain or restore ecological value
  - Stop the decline in biodiversity

# Dutch procedure

- ▶ Designation of areas:
  - Boundaries
  - Goals: Species and habitats
  - Management Plan
- ▶ Burden of proof lies with the initiator

## Natura 2000-gebieden

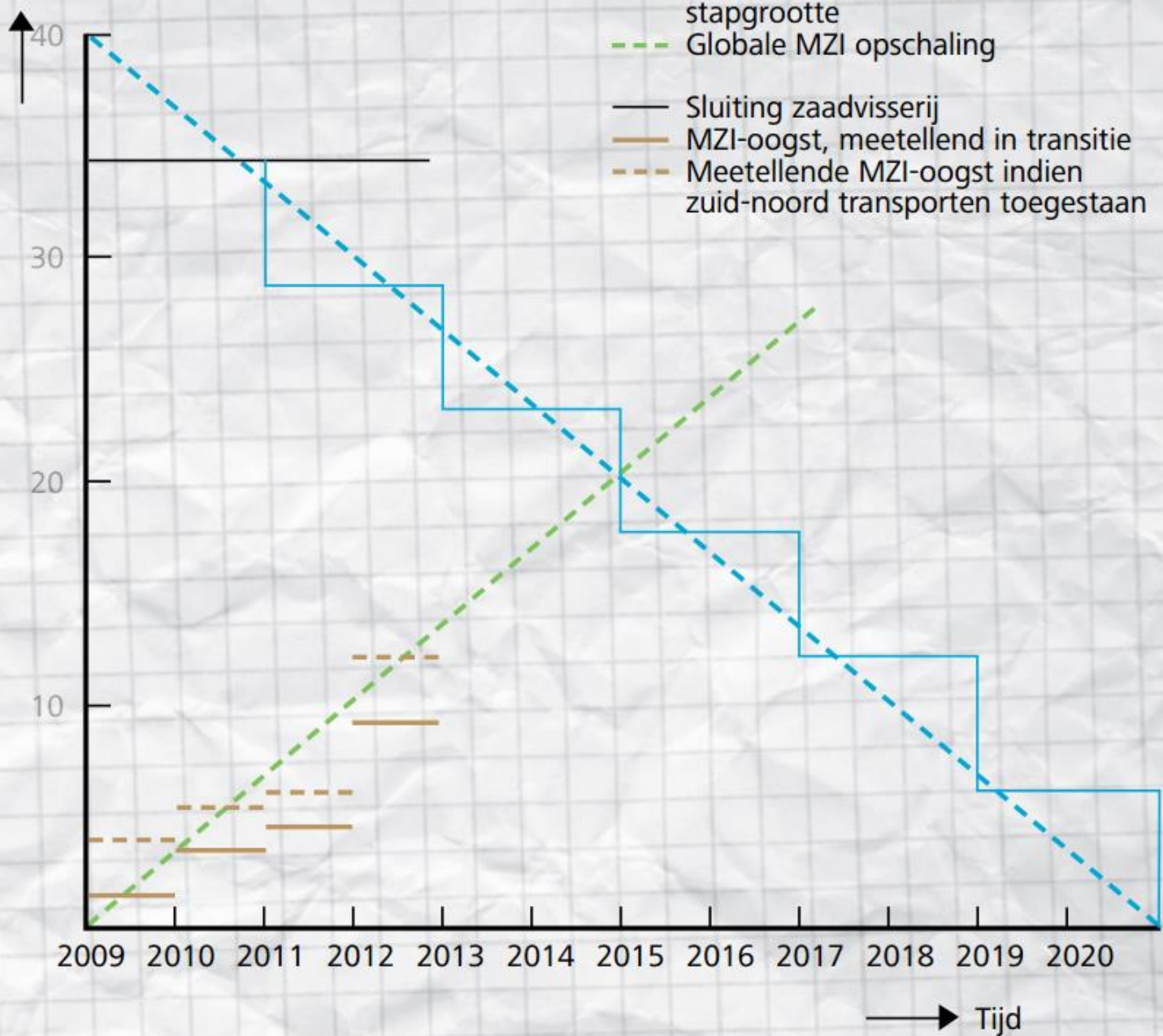


# Dutch mussel case

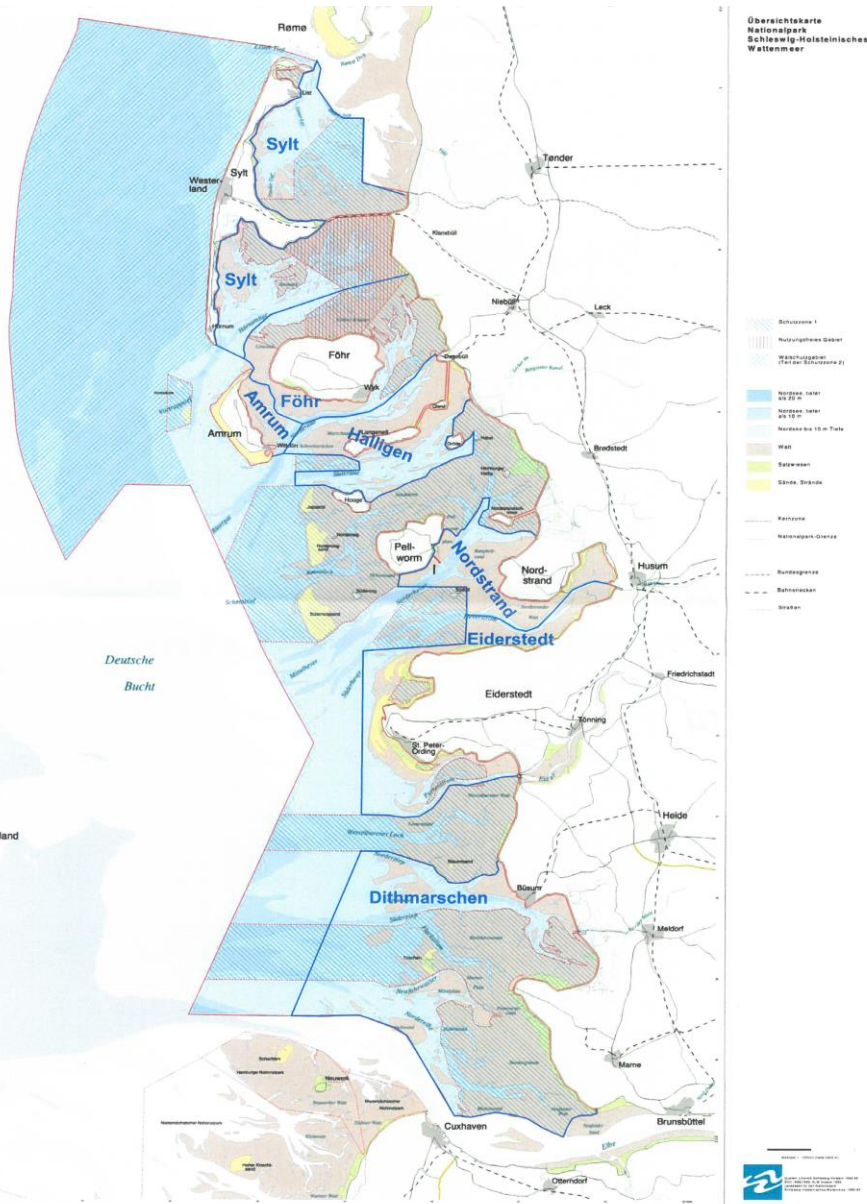
- ▶ Court case 2008: license 2006 abolished
- ▶ Debate between NGO's and industry lead to agreement:
  - In 2020 no more bottom seed fisheries
  - Development of alternative means of spat collection
  - No more court cases

Bodemzaadvisserij  
(Mkg/jaar)

- Globaal transitietraject
- Transitietraject bij afgesproken  
stapgrootte
- Globale MZI opschaling
- Sluiting zaadvisserij
- MZI-oogst, meetellend in transitie
- Meetellende MZI-oogst indien  
zuid-noord transporten toegestaan

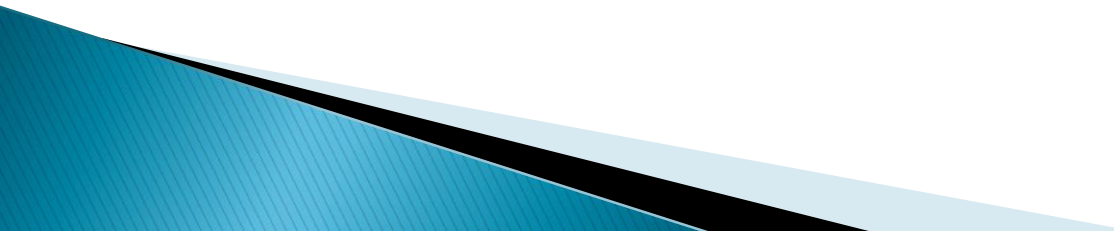


# Schleswig-Holstein case

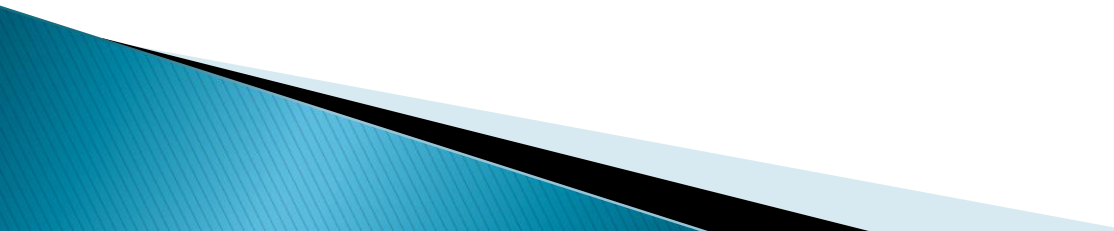




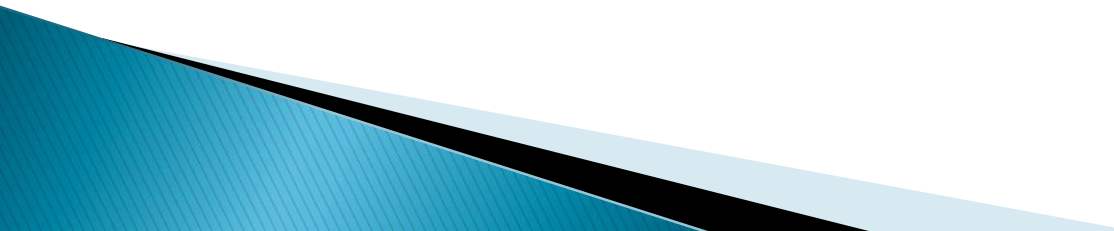
# Schleswig–Holstein vs Netherlands

- ▶ 60 companies in NL, 6 in Schleswig–Holstein
  - ▶ Dutch Wadden Sea: 272,449 ha vs. Schleswig–Holstein: 452,455 ha
  - ▶ German mussel fishers use approx. 0.5–0.8% of the Nation Park Wadden Sea for mussel plots and spat collectors
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# Small industry – big problems

- ▶ Licensing on two levels:
    - Member State
    - County
  - ▶ National Park
  - ▶ Strong NGO influence
- 

# Parallels with MSC

- ▶ NL: MSC profited from agreement
  - ▶ Lower-Saxony: MSC after appeal from WWF/NABU
  - ▶ Schleswig-Holstein: still no MSC
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# Critical issues shellfish conference

- ▶ Shared problems with Natura 2000, licenses, NGO's
- ▶ Discussion on MSC: do we need it, do we want it?

# Problem → Solution

- ▶ All countries experience the same problems: look for possibilities to cooperate.  
EMPA is currently not existing/active.  
Aquaculture RAC not in place yet.  
*Possibility to come together as a group once a year to discuss problems and solutions?*
- ▶ More international cooperation, throughout the whole 'chain': from producer to wholesale  
*International stance on ecolabels*

# Problem → Solution

- ▶ Make use of each other's research/knowledge:  
Put reports and existing studies on critical issues on a website, make research available
- ▶ Let's find an easy way to share information

Google group: Shellfish industry EU

Message me for membership:  
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