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Newsletter #6 | December 2025

DEMASK newsletter #6: wrapping up 2025

Dear ,

We have reached the end of the second year of DEMASK.

The DEMASK team has worked very hard and I'm proud of the progress we have made. The topic of underwater noise is clearly gaining interest of the worldwide efforts during this UNESCO Ocean Decade.

For DEMASK I would like to name our first results in the analysis of shipping scenarios and the paper on the noise from Crew Transportation Vessels (CTVs) for the offshore wind energy. Also DEMASK developed a framework for the selection of indicator species, which is much needed for the assessments to be prepared in the coming years. And last, but not least, a strategy for the assessment of recreational vessels was developed and tested for the Swedish coastal areas.

2026 promises to be an exiting year. We will further contribute to efforts to make our oceans less noisy.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Newyear.

Niels Kinneging
DEMASK project manager

Project news

German round table on underwater noise and shipping

The DEMASK team attended the 3rd round table on underwater noise and shipping in Hamburg. The meeting offered valuable insights into international developments, new technologies, and plans for a future measurement station in German waters. Read the full article on the website to learn more.

Read the full article here

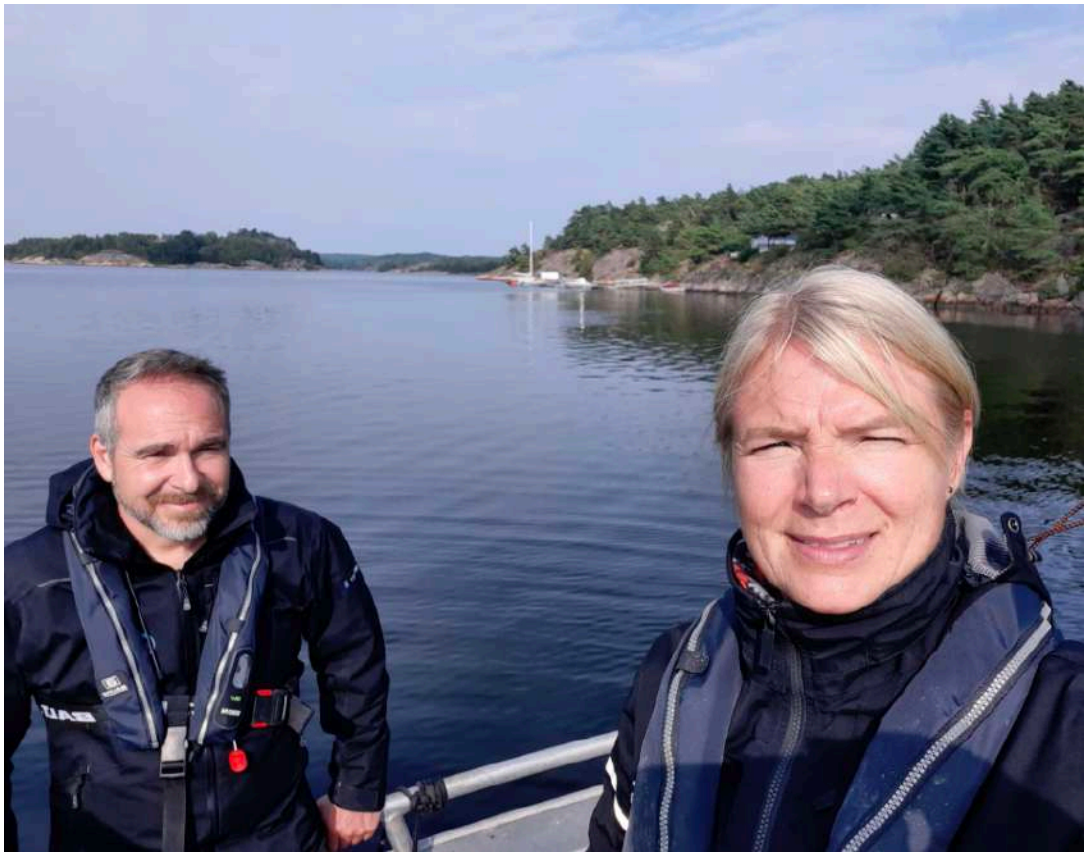


Photo: Anna-Sara Krång

IVL's work on noise mapping and species vulnerability in the North Sea

As one of the scientific partners in DEMASK, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute contributes expertise in both

underwater acoustics and marine ecology. Their work spans two parts of the project: mapping underwater noise from recreational boating (work package 2) and assessing the vulnerability of invertebrate species (work package 3).

IVL is developing one of the first detailed underwater noise maps for recreational boating and a new trait-based framework to identify which invertebrate species in the North Sea are most sensitive to underwater sound. These results will feed into DEMASK's ecosystem-based risk maps.

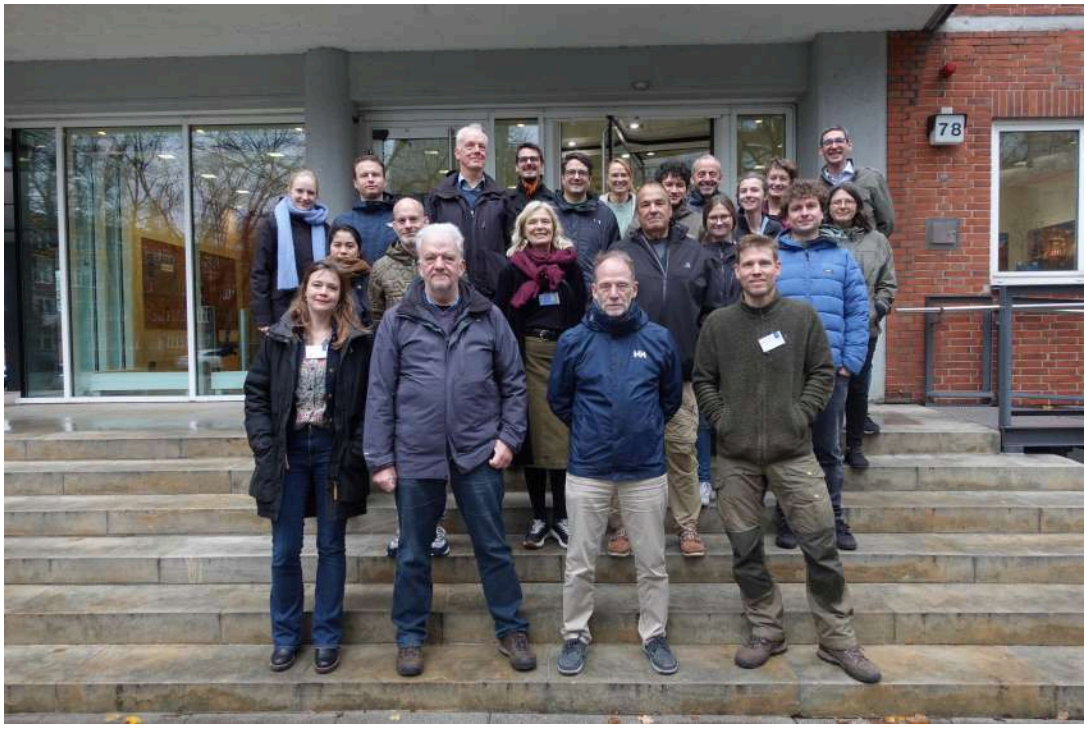
Curious to learn more about their methods and insights? Read the full interview with Torbjörn Johansson and Anna-Sara Krång on our website.

Read the full article here

DEMASK at the IMO workshop on energy efficiency and underwater radiated noise

On 6–7 November, DEMASK joined the IMO and GloNoise workshop in London to discuss the link between energy efficiency of ships and underwater radiated noise. We met international experts, shared updates about our project and learned more about current research, standards and challenges for measuring underwater noise. Curious about our key takeaways and what this means for DEMASK?

Read the full article here



DEMASK Consortium Mid-term Meeting in Hamburg

The DEMASK team recently gathered in Hamburg for the project's mid-term meeting, hosted by the Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH). Partners reviewed project progress, exchanged knowledge, and discussed the next steps towards protecting the North Sea's acoustic ecosystem.

New projectpartner: Institute of Marine Research

Institute of Marine Research is Norway's largest center of marine science. The main task is to provide advice to Norwegian authorities on aquaculture and the ecosystems of the North Sea, the Norwegian Sea, the Barents Sea, and the Norwegian coastal zone. The aim of research and management advice provided by IMR is to ensure that Norway's marine resources are harvested in a sustainable way.

The Institute of Marine Research is responsible for providing advice on the impact of anthropogenic sound sources on marine life.

WP1: IMR will use its contacts to discuss and disseminate mitigation policy measures to Norwegian policy makers and management, such as the Ministry of Trade Industry and Fisheries, the Norwegian Ministry of Energy, the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate, the Norwegian Environment Agency, and the Directorate of Fisheries.

WP2: IMR can provide information on sound levels at an offshore wind farm site in the North Sea, as ground truth for modelled sound levels?

WP3: IMR will participate in meetings and contribute to reports and outputs from this work package. IMR already contributed with the ”traffic light” table used for species evaluation in national advice, which was used as a starting point for the work on selecting indicator species in WP3. IMR will also provide species distribution maps.

Warm Holiday Wishes from the DEMASK team!

As 2025 draws to a close, we want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone involved in the DEMASK project. Your dedication to understanding and managing underwater noise in the North Sea - and to supporting sustainable soundscape strategies - has made this year meaningful and impactful. We wish you a joyful holiday season and a bright, inspiring New Year. See you in 2026!