

TRANSNATIONAL MAPPING OF COASTAL AND MARITIME USES AND FUNCTIONS: TOWARDS A MARITIME SPATIAL TYPOLOGY

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Within the Wadden Sea Region an innovative GIS-based transnational Planning Portal maps both existing and planned anthropogenic activities as well as protection needs and functions. The Planning Portal has a trans-boundary focus on coastal and off-shore areas in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark. It contains a wide range of uses, facilities and protection demands and is designed to meet the information needs of integrated management and marine spatial planning. The intensity not only of infrastructure projects but also the different national planning approaches are made visible by this application. A tool like this provides the basis for an assessment of the present state of development of clusters of maritime industries and of future development opportunities associated with the different European Seas. In turn this informs the definition of the spatial distribution of different types of maritime/coastal regions and is the basis for a development of an associated maritime/coastal typology. It is showed that the approach to classifying maritime regions with different categories as developed within the ESPON project ESaTDOR can be applied to all of Europe's regional seas.