

# The European experience in the North Sea: From theory to reality



Bela H. Buck

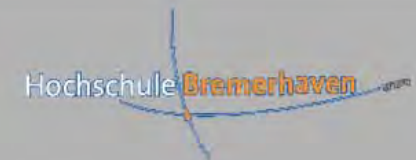


<sup>1</sup> Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)

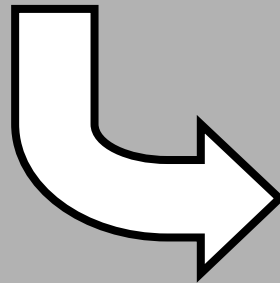
<sup>2</sup> Institute for Marine Resources (IMARE)


<sup>3</sup> University of Applied Sciences Bremerhaven

International Workshop on Bioextractive Technologies  
for Nutrient Remediation,  
Dez. 3-4 '09, UCONN - Stamford, CT



## Research Fields Involved





# Introduction

Current Situation Germany/EU

Site-Selection

Moving Offshore



## Candidate Species

*Saccharina latissima*  
(*Laminaria saccharina*)

Sugar Kelp



*Laminaria digitata*, *Solieria chordalis*,  
*Palmaria palmata*, *Gracilaria vermiculophylla*

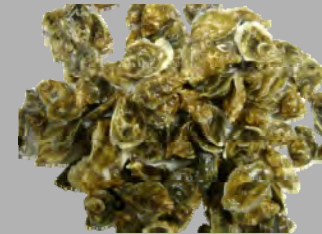
*Mytilus edulis*

Blue Mussel



*Crassostrea gigas*

Pacific Oyster

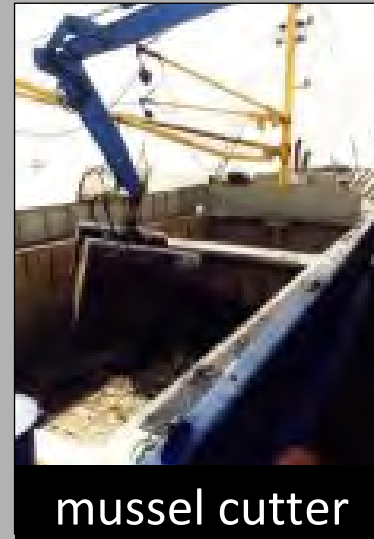


*Ostrea edulis*

European Oyster



# On-Bottom Cultivation of Mussels



Production depends on the availability of spat.

How is the spat fall in the next year?



No expansion possible, due to stakeholder conflicts.

# Poches-Culture of Oysters



Production depends on the availability of juveniles (Ireland).

Transfer of species allows hitchhiking of other organisms.

Strom events and ice can damage the constructions.

Regulations...

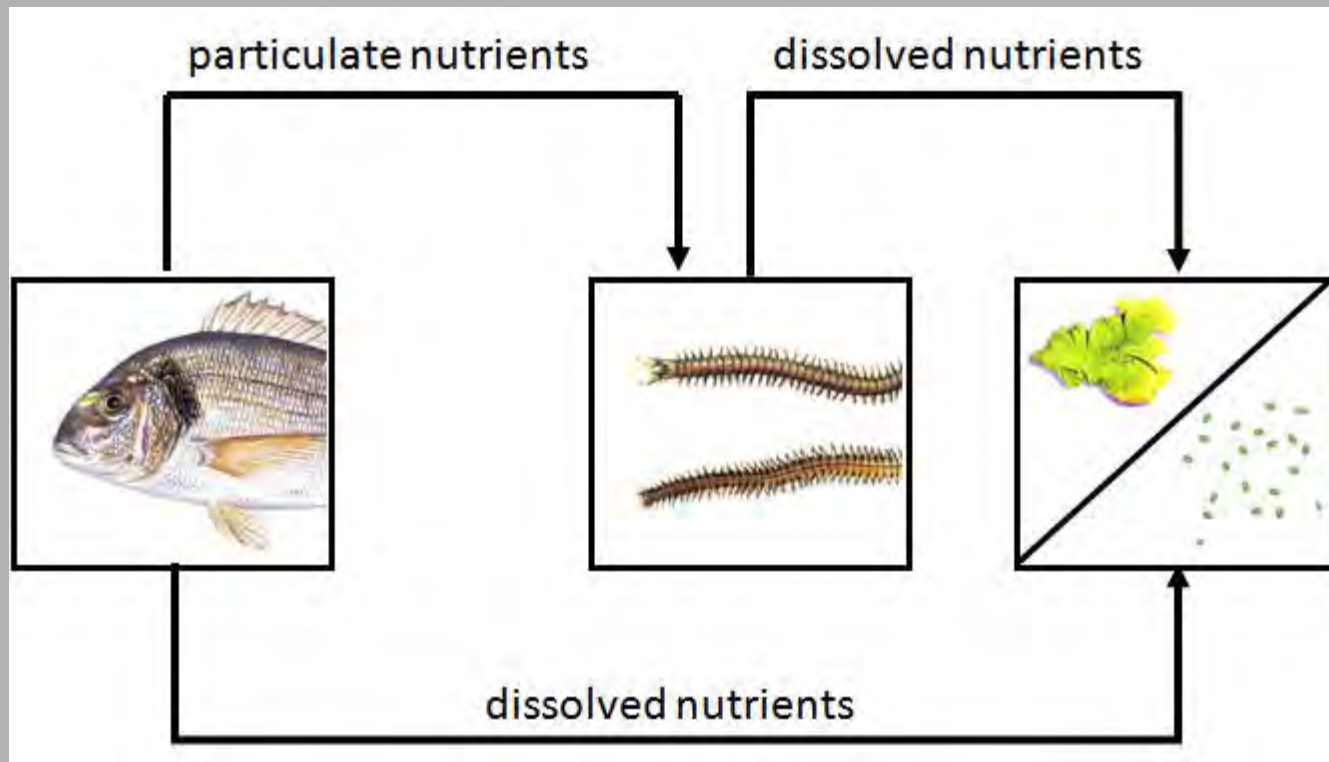




## Other Aquaculture Species & Techniques

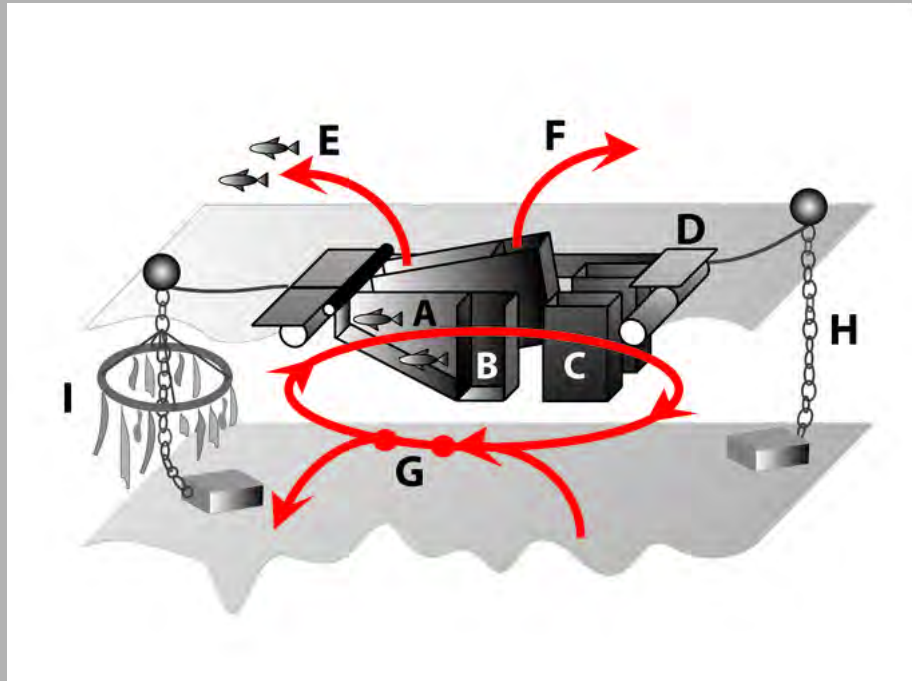


# land based IMTA



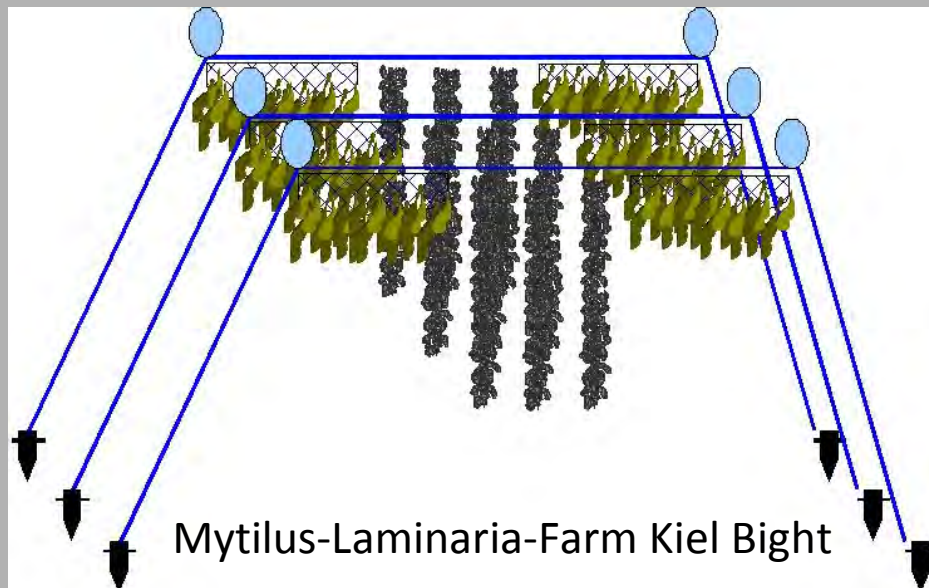


# IMTA – in one System



In-Pond-Raceways” (IPR) and  
“Recirculation-Aquaculture-  
Systems” (RAS) in one  
ecologically compatible,  
floating plant

# IMTA – Kiel Bight





# Problems & Limitations of Aquaculture in Germany

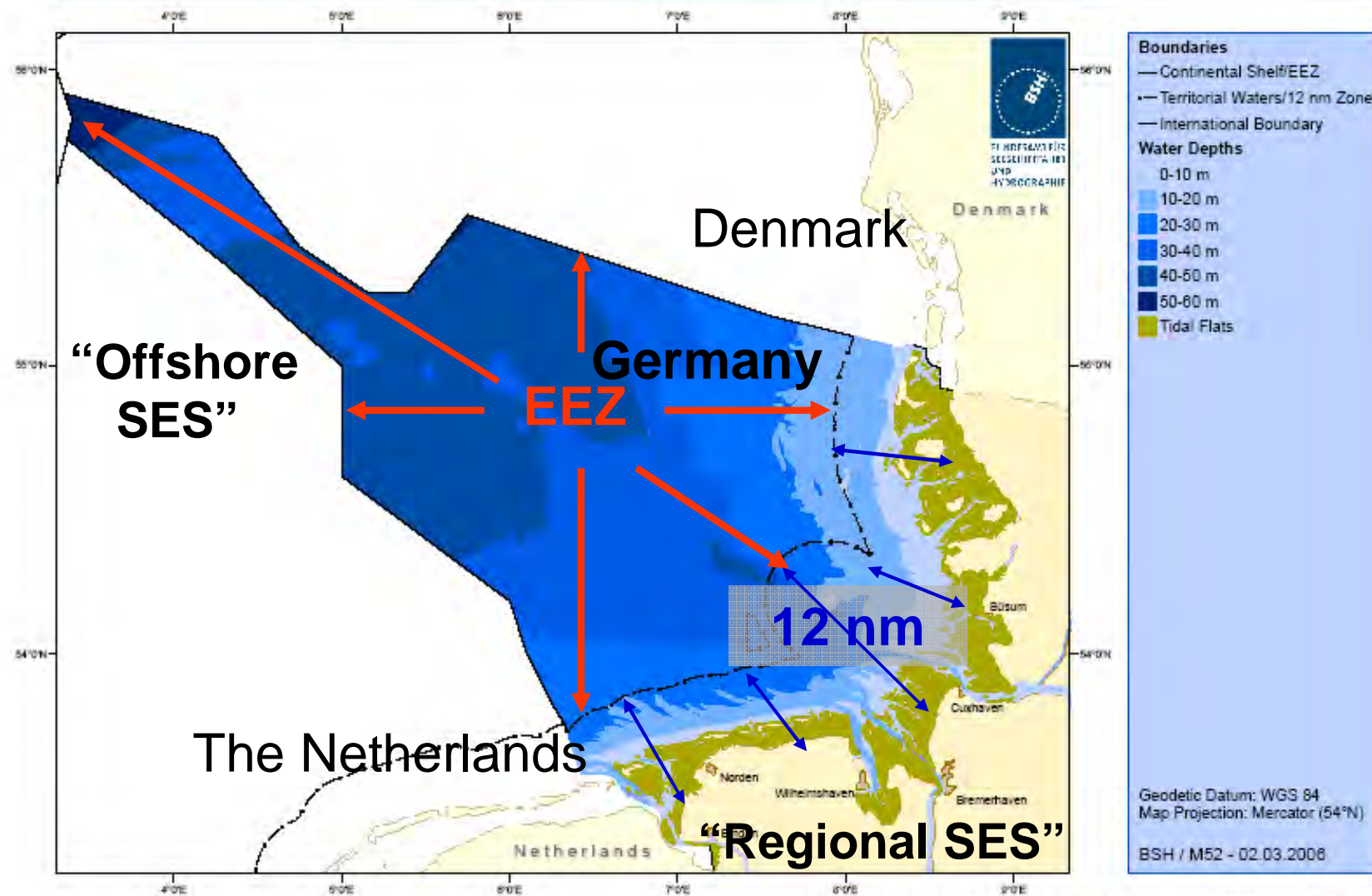


## Is nearshore aquaculture in Germany stagnating?

- shallow sea (low depth)
- high sediment load (Wadden Sea)
- harsh conditions
  - high waves (- 8m)
  - strong currents (  $1.8 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  )
  - wind speed
- high tidal level (4 m)
- conflicts
  - user and consumer
  - regulations
  - environment (impacts and quality)
  - health

**Buck et al. (2004), *Ocean & Coastal Mgmt.***  
**Buck et al. (2003), *Kluwer Law International***

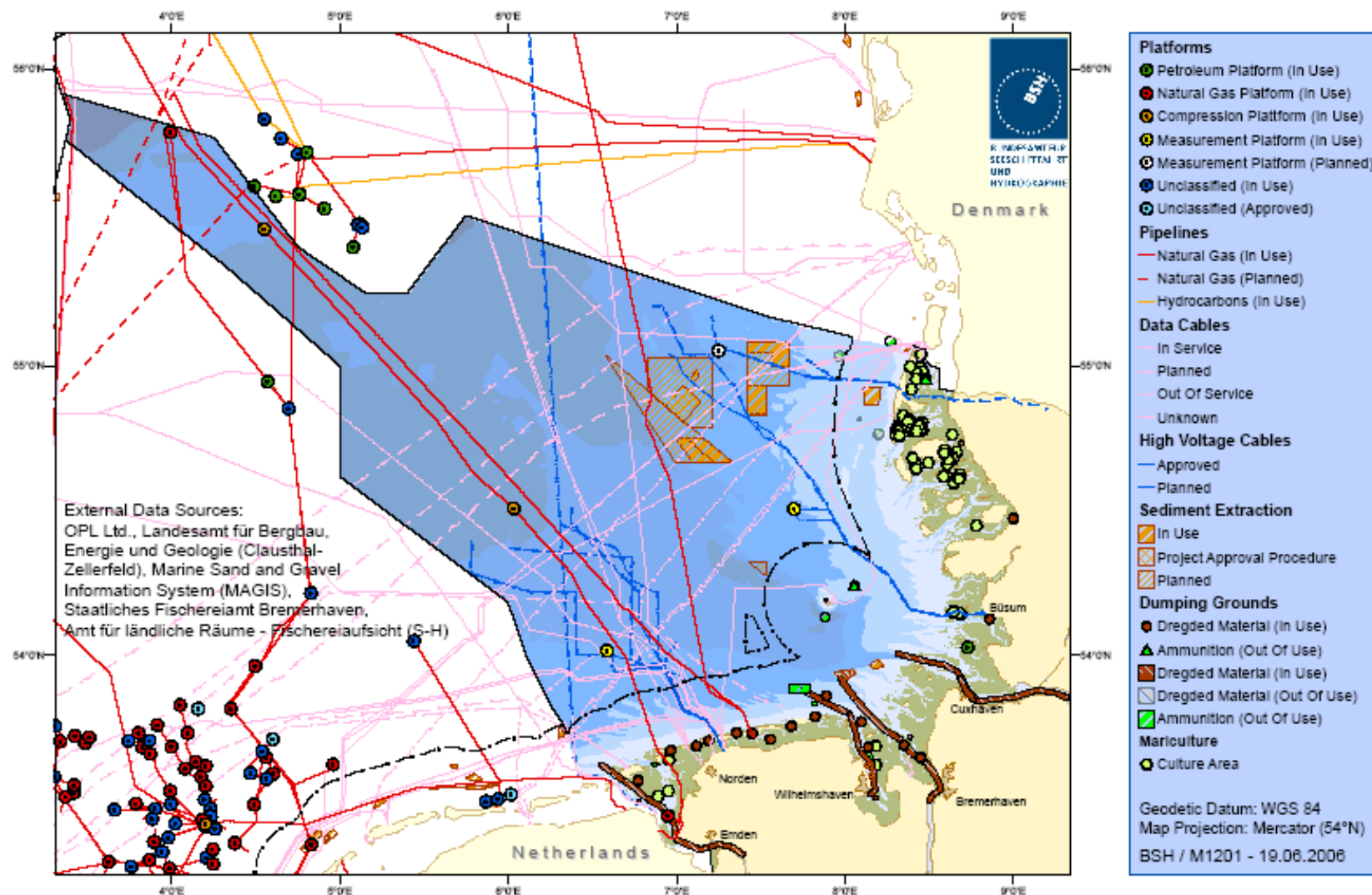
## North Sea: Continental Shelf/Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)



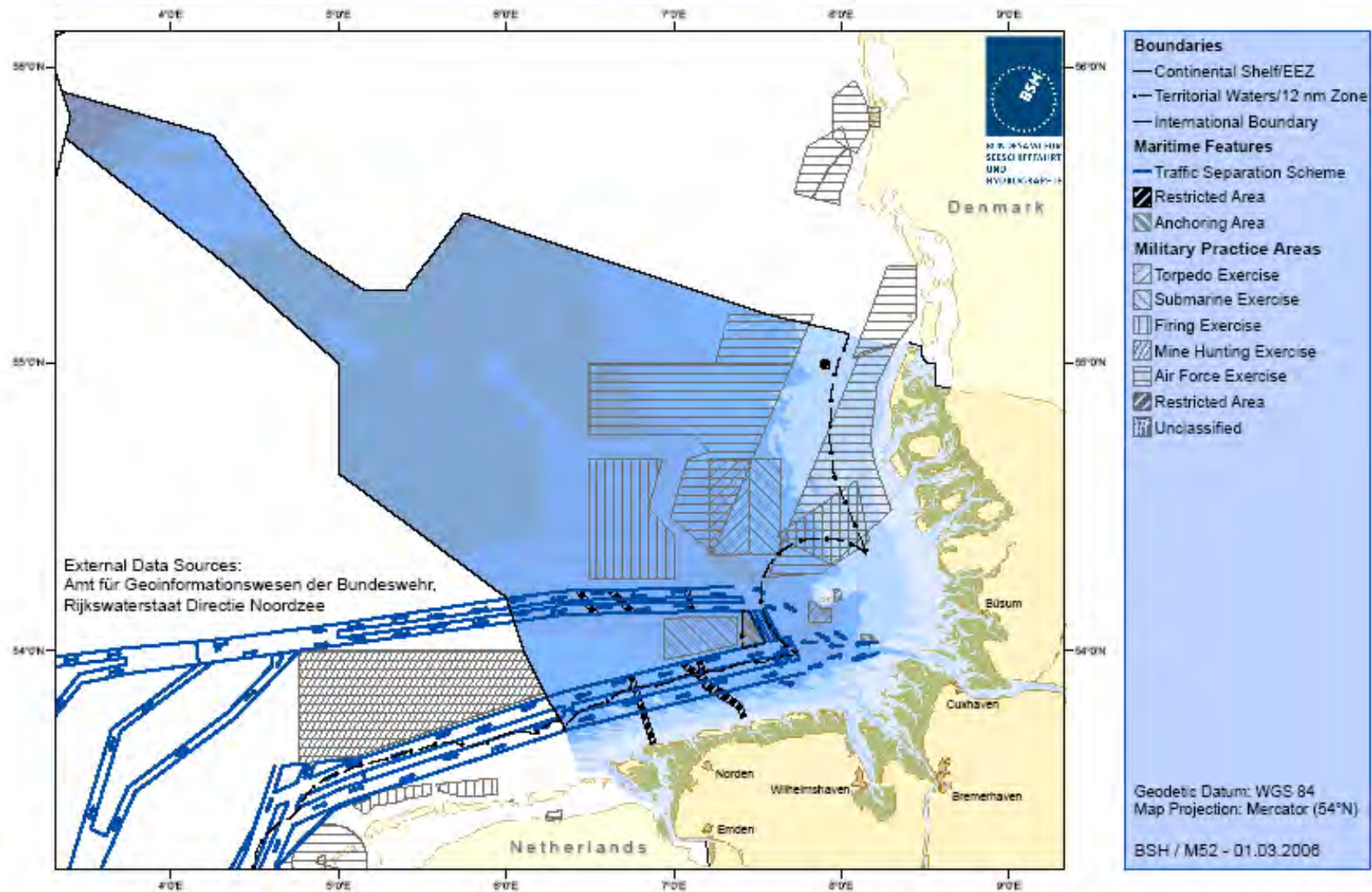
<http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine%20uses/Industry/CONTIS%20maps/index.jsp>



## North Sea: Platforms, Pipelines, Cables, Sediment Extraction, Mariculture



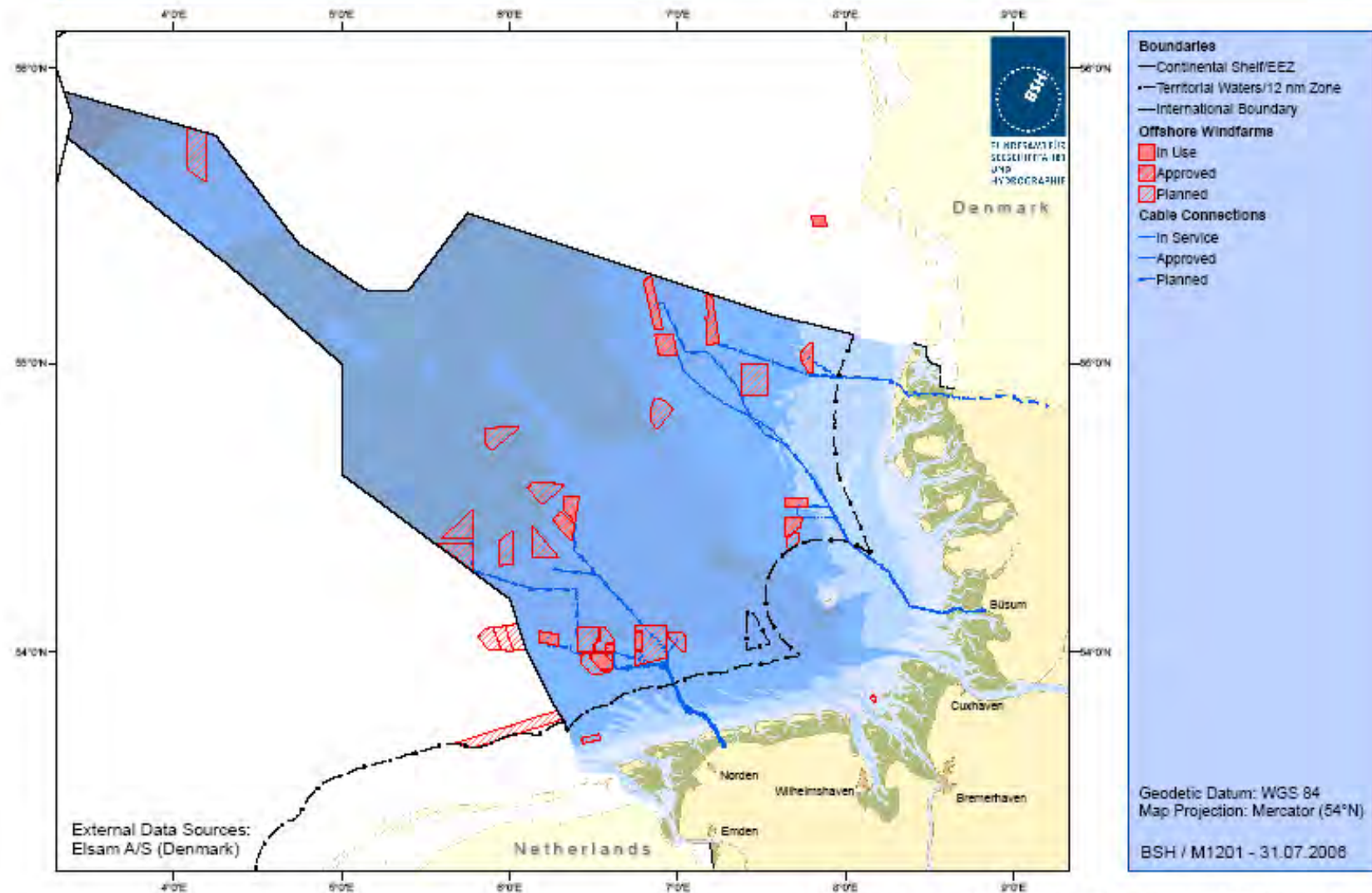
## North Sea: Maritime and Military Features



<http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine%20uses/Industry/CONTIS%20maps/index.jsp>

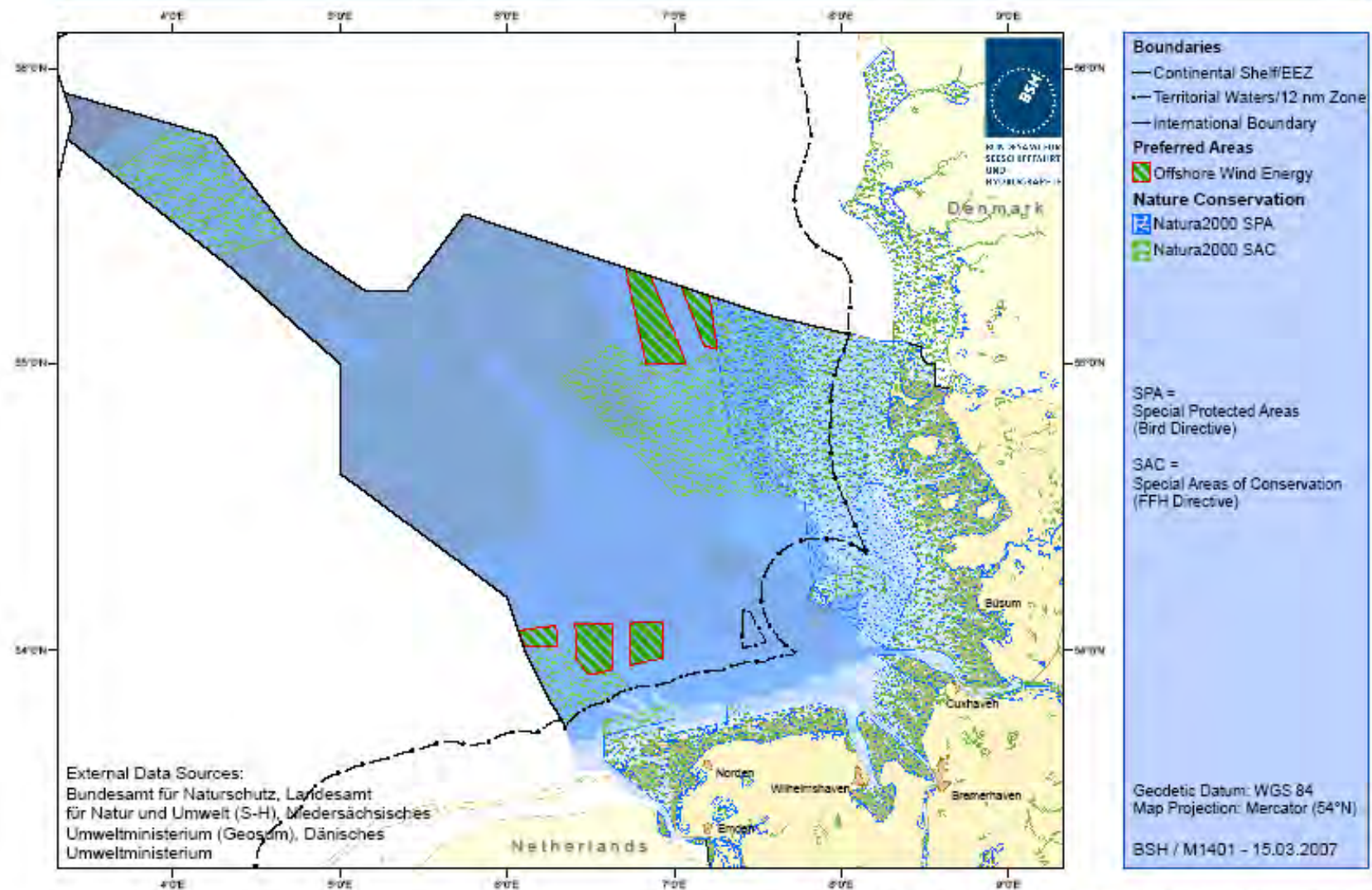


## North Sea: Offshore Windfarms



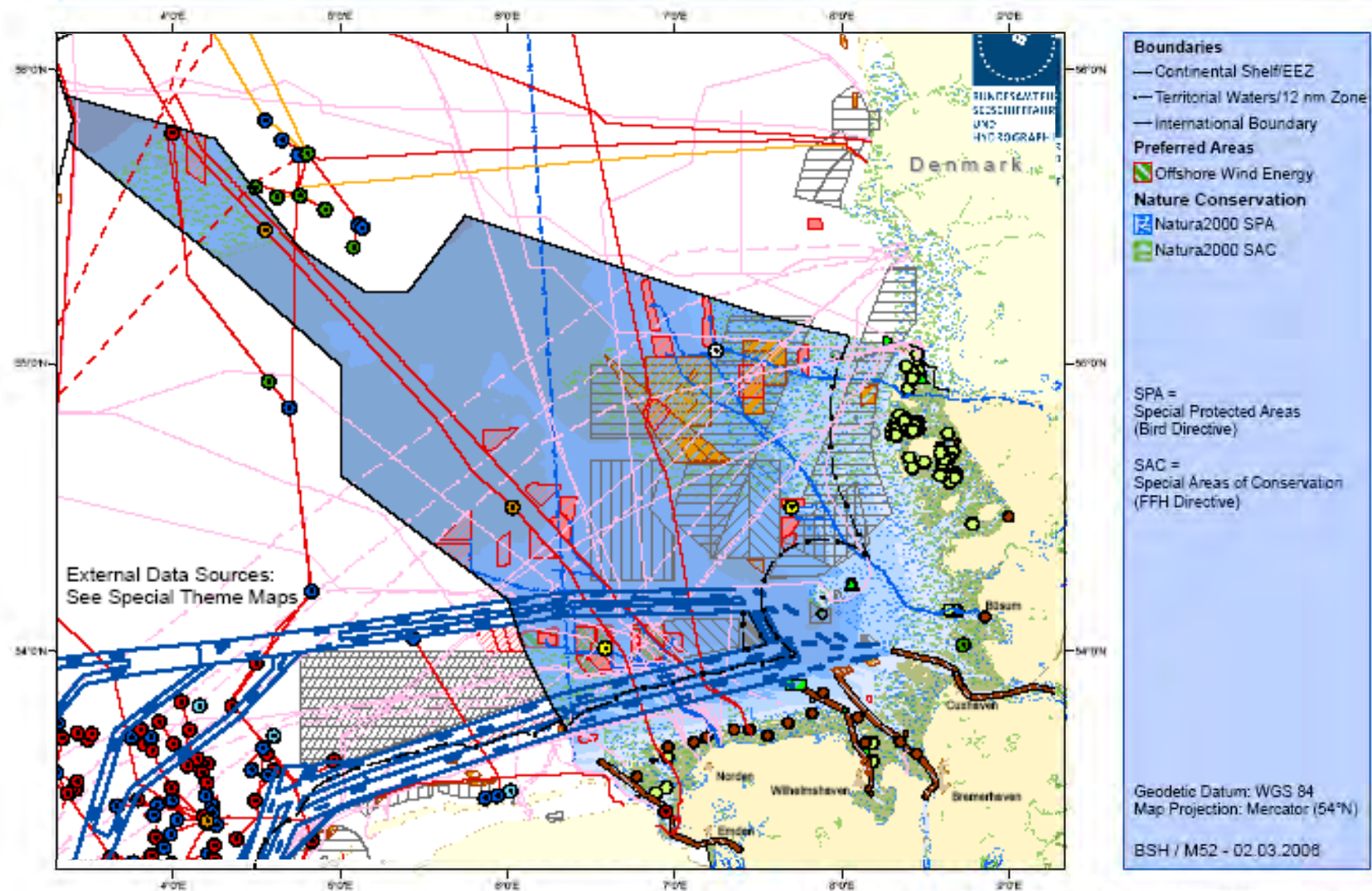
<http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine%20uses/Industry/CONTIS%20maps/index.jsp>

## North Sea: Preferred Areas and Nature Conservation





## North Sea: Preferred Areas and Nature Conservation



<http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine%20uses/Industry/CONTIS%20maps/index.jsp>

# 1<sup>st</sup> Offshore Wind Farm Horns Rev





# Alpha Ventus Wind Farm in Germany



Construction of the *Alpha Ventus* wind farm in the EEZ 60 km off the coast of Germany.



# Alpha Ventus Wind Farm in Germany



*Tripod and Tripile grounding constructions.*





## Multi-use ideas to maximize the benefit of an offshore area:

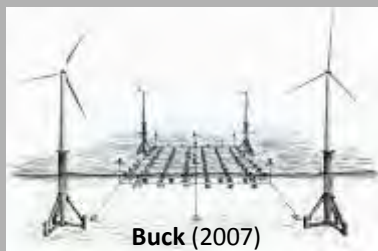
### 1. Ecology

- Creating MPA's (nursery, sustainable fisheries...)
- Set-up artificial reefs

### 2. Tourism

### 3. Additional energy resources

### 4. Offshore Aquaculture



## Why ...

### **...Offshore Aquaculture?**

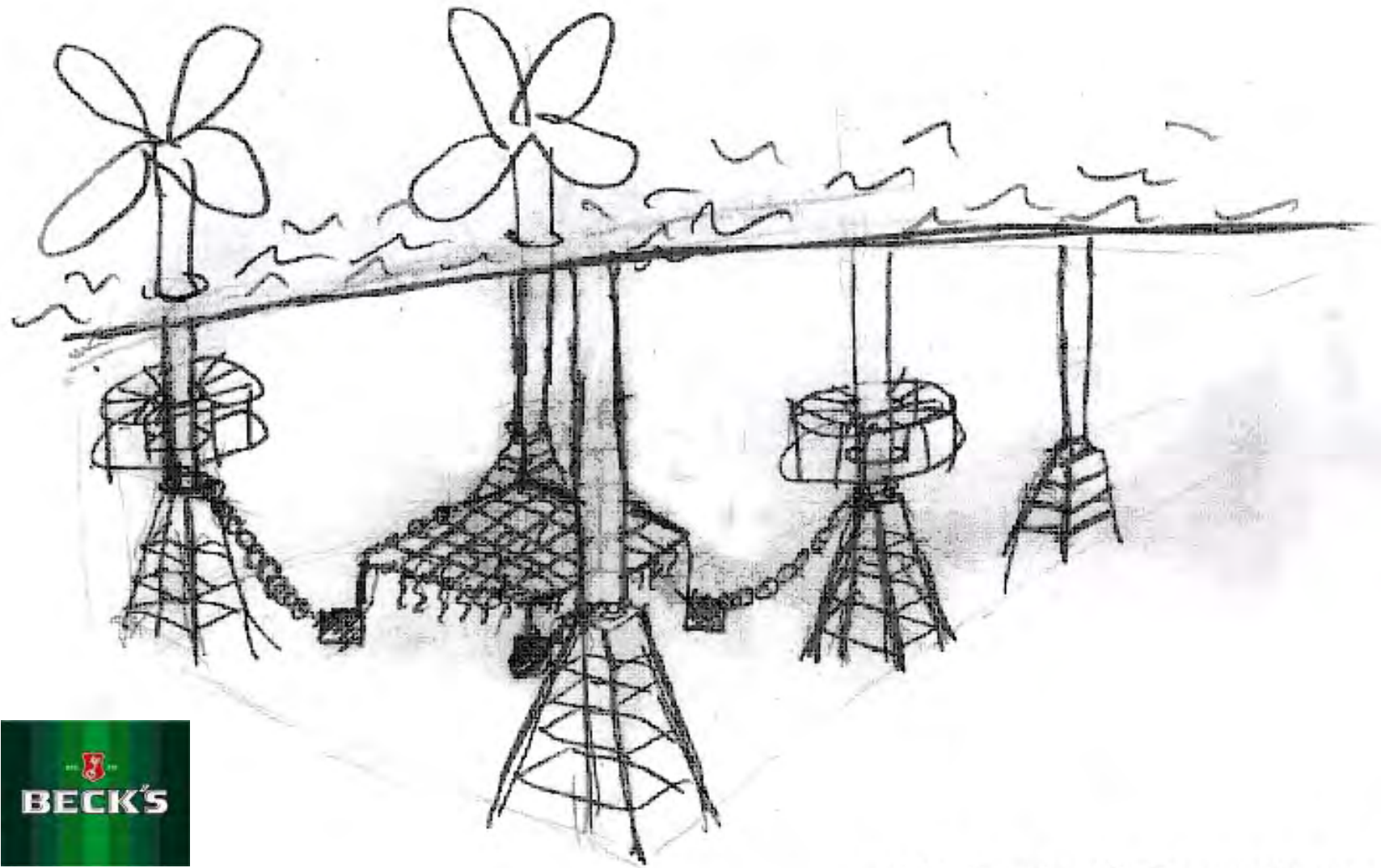
- 1.increasing limitation of favourable coastal and nearshore sites
- 2.demise of ocean fisheries **vs.** rising demand on marine aquaculture products
- 3.little spatial regulations & better water quality

### **...Aquaculture in Offshore Wind Farms?**

- 1.lack of legislation in EEZ → window of opportunity for concerted innovative multiple-use schemes
- 2.quest for spatial efficiency
- 3.maximizing return from a unit of sea
- 4.solid turbine foundations may provide support for mariculture devices



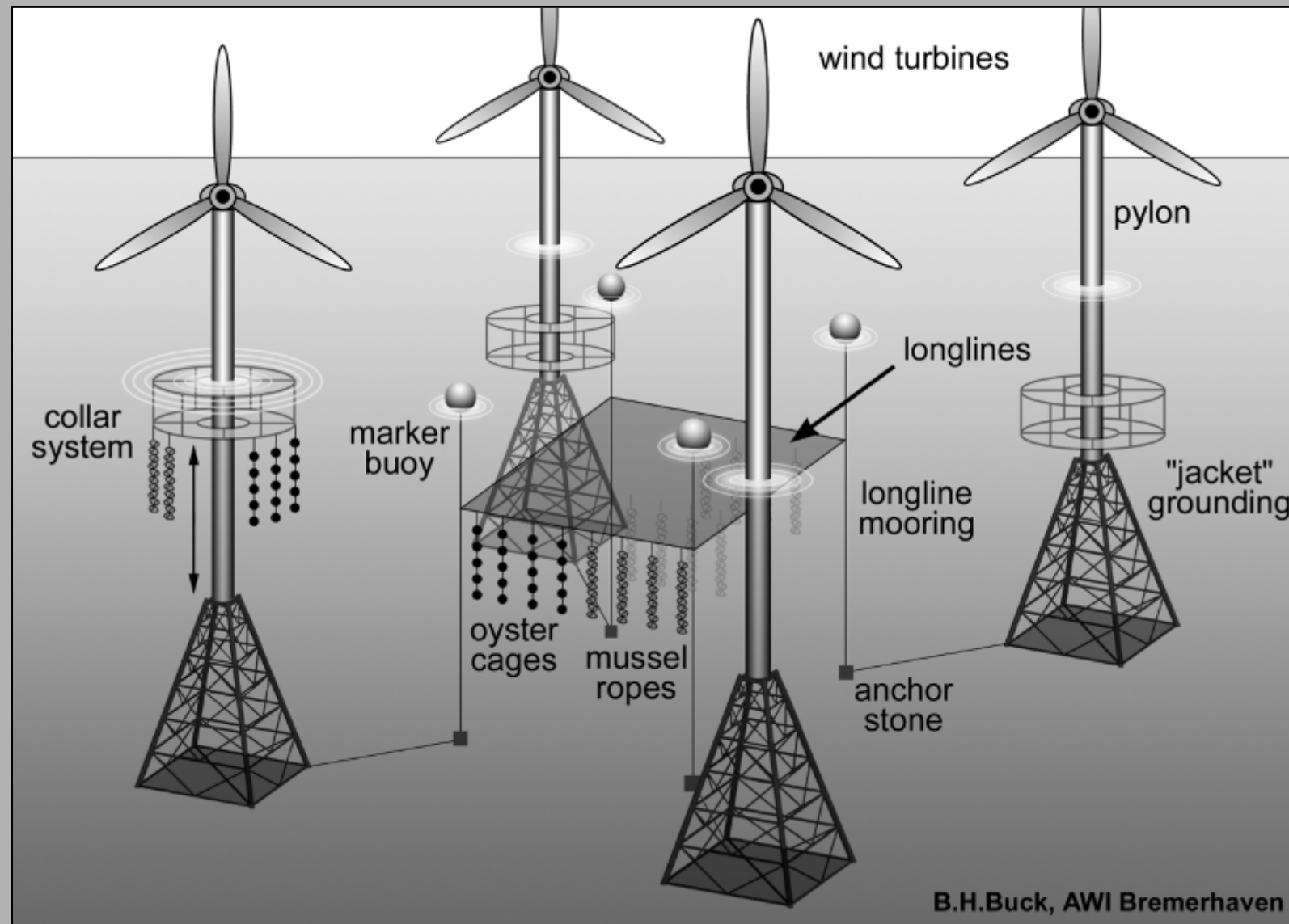
# First Vision 2001



Beck's beer coaster

B.H. Buck, AWI Bremerhaven

# Multi-Use Concept





# What is an Exposed Location?



Image: B. H. Buck (AWI)



# Candidates

Species Selection

Resistance

Health Status and Fitness

# Potential Uses of Laminarian Species





## Check basic criteria for kelp & mussel cultivation:

(site-selection process)

(1) Check water chemistry

(2) Check oceanographic and topographic data

- depth
- O<sub>2</sub>, temperature , salinity and attenuation
- hydrodynamic conditions

(3) Check surrounding biota

=> Start with further investigations following the list

# Site-Selection-Criteria



## Parameters for site-selection-criteria

### 1. candidate

- larval concentration
- settlement/seeding success
- growth rates

### 2. health and fitness

- infestation of macro- and microparasites, bacteria
- toxicity
- lysosome stability, EM
- RNA/DNA ratio

### 3. water chemistry

- nutrients (nitrite, nitrate, ammonia, phosphate, etc.)
- chlorophyll
- C/N-ratio

### 4. oceanographic parameters

- current velocities & waves/swell
- depth
- temperature & salinity
- attenuation & fluorescence
- O<sub>2</sub>

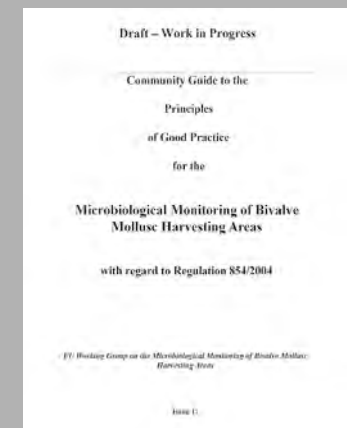
### 5. techniques

- submerged and floating devices
- mooring system and connectedness
- substrate development
- harvest techniques

### 6. ICZM

### 7. infrastructure

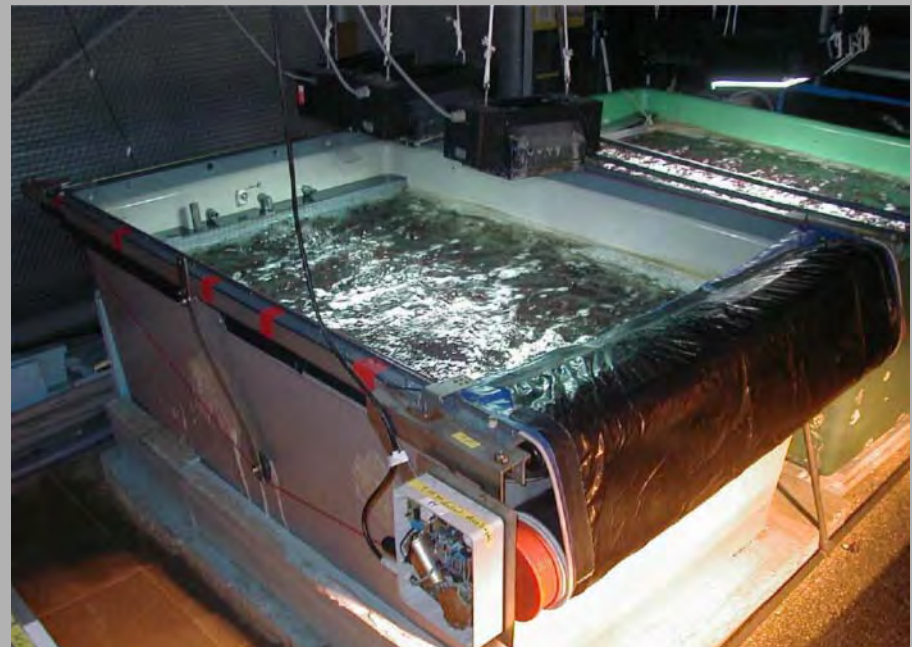
### 8. commercial feasibility



# *Laminaria* Cultivation

## Biological Investigations:

- After seeding: young sporophytes should be transferred to sea at an early stage.

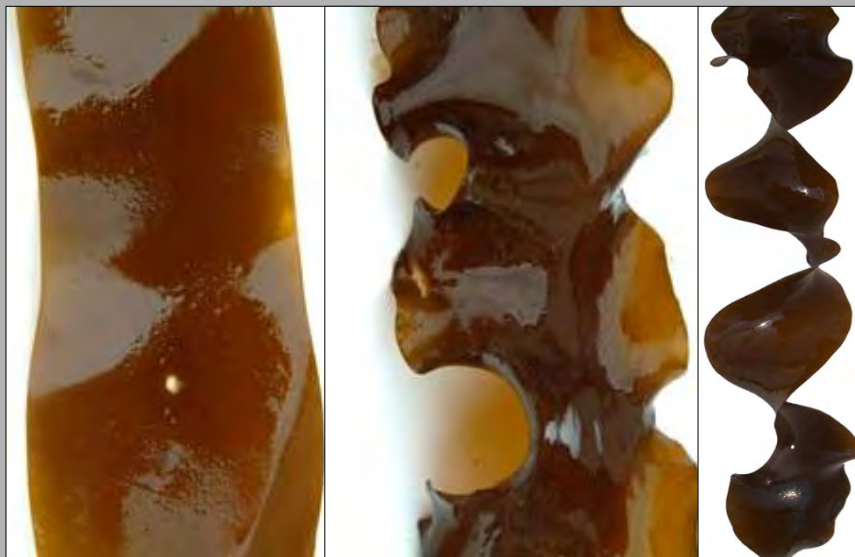




## Biological Investigations:

=> Blades adapt and develop a streamlined morphology

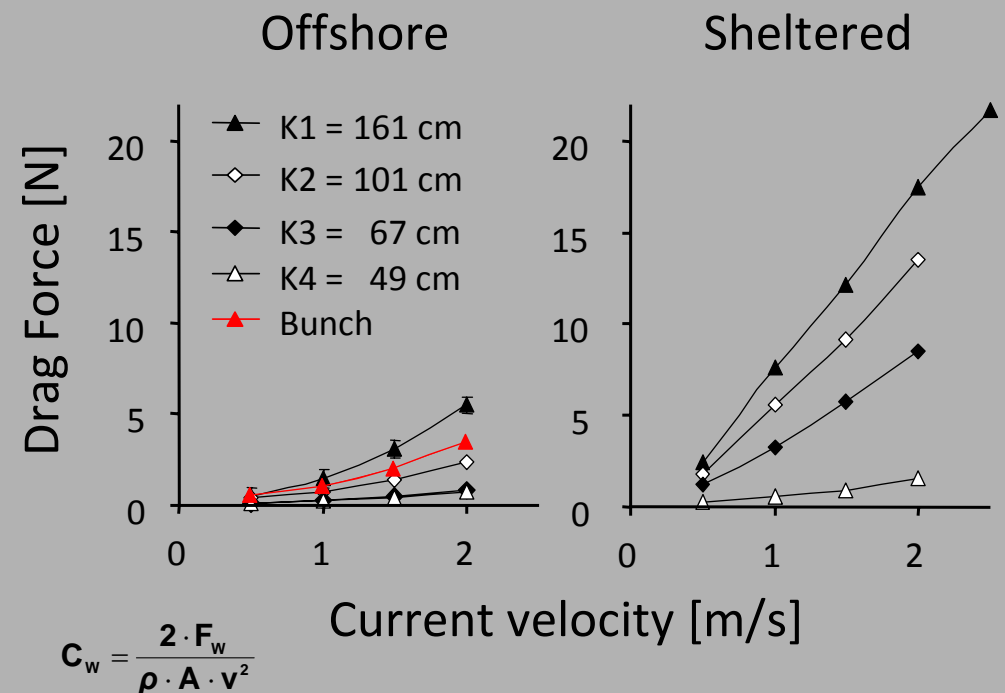
=> Juveniles resist storm conditions (kauloids & phylloids )



offshore

sheltered

rotation



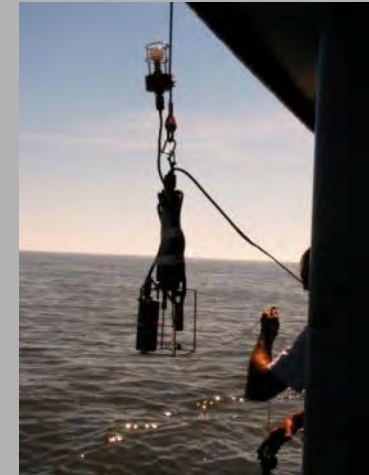
Buck & Buchholz (2005), *Aquaculture*

# Health and Growth Performance



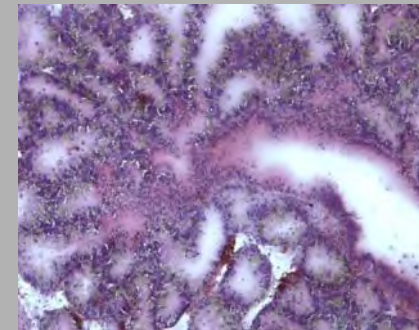
## Extensive investigation of site characteristics

- Environmental conditions
- Concentration of pollutants
- Distribution of pollutants



## Health assessment

- Lysosomal membrane stability



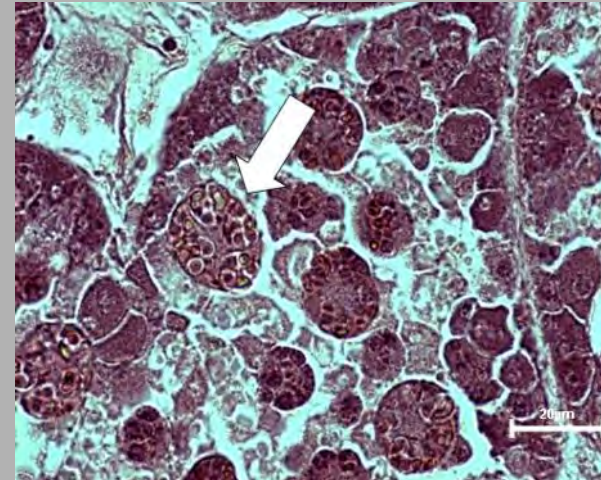
## Settlement/growth rates



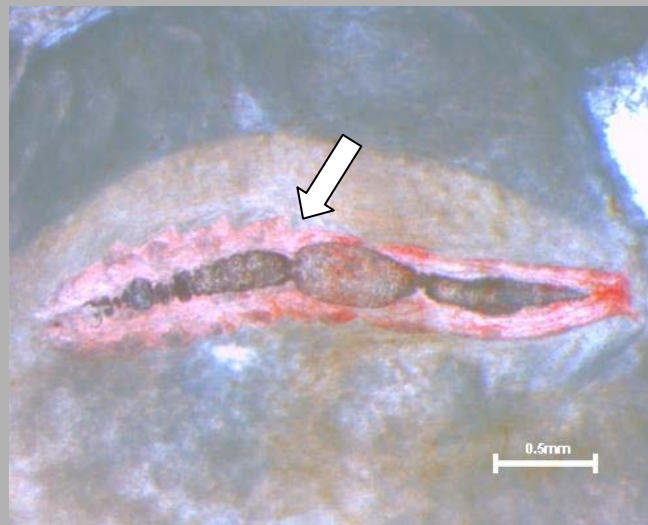
# Consumption Suitability



Metacercaria of the trematode *Renicola roscovita*



*Marteilia* sp. from the digestive gland



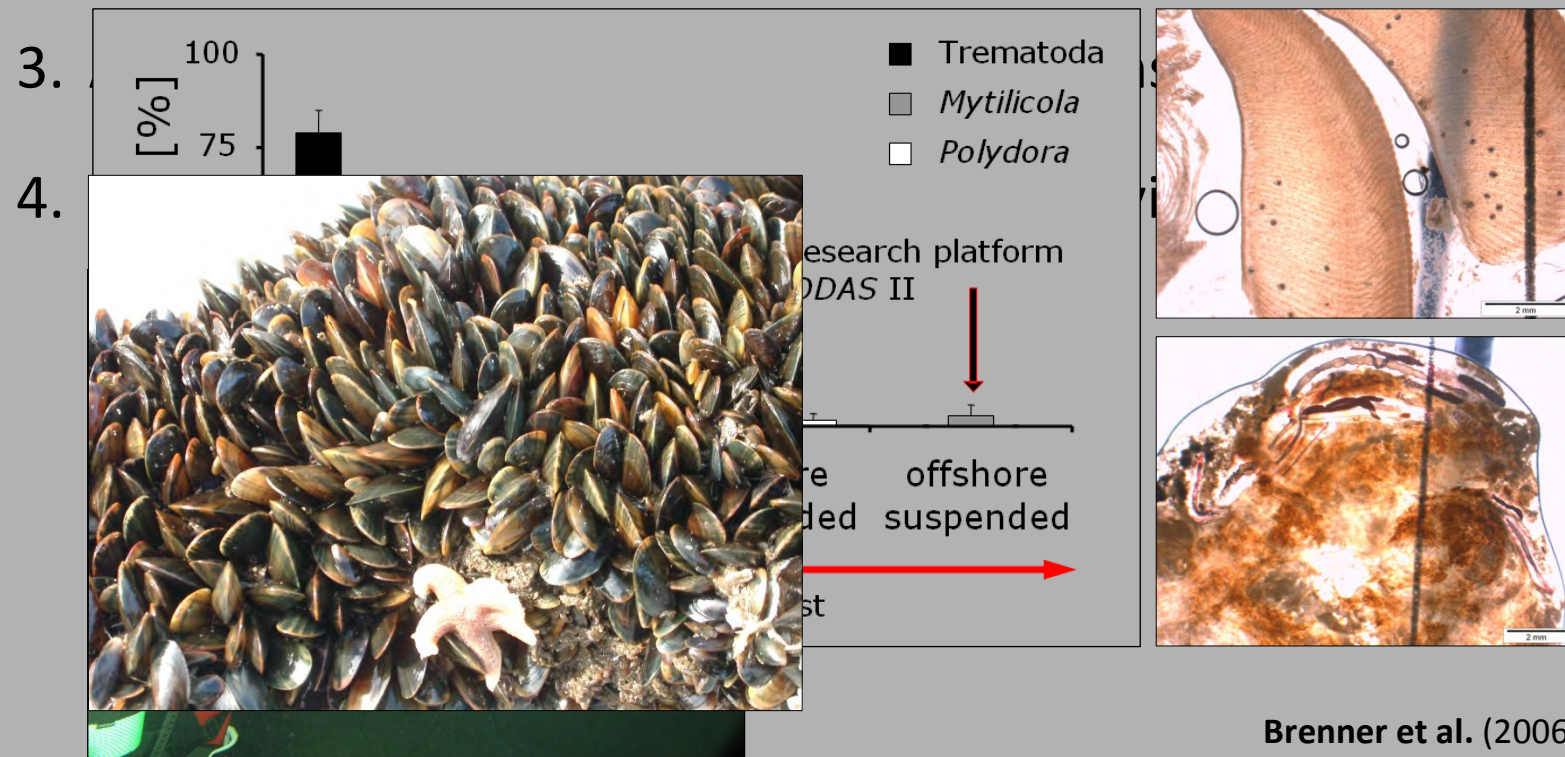
Adult copepod *Mytilicola intestinalis*

- Harmless to consumers
- High loads restrain growth (macro-) or condition (micro parasites) of mussels
- Trematods are known to hamper attachment
- Copepods are also an aesthetical problem



## Biological Aspects (*Mytilus edulis*):

1. Mussels grow faster than inshore cultivated mussels.
2. Mussels have a better fitness and health status (CI).



Brenner et al. (2006), *Glo. Aqua. Adv.*  
Buck et al. (2005), *Environ. Biol. Fish.*



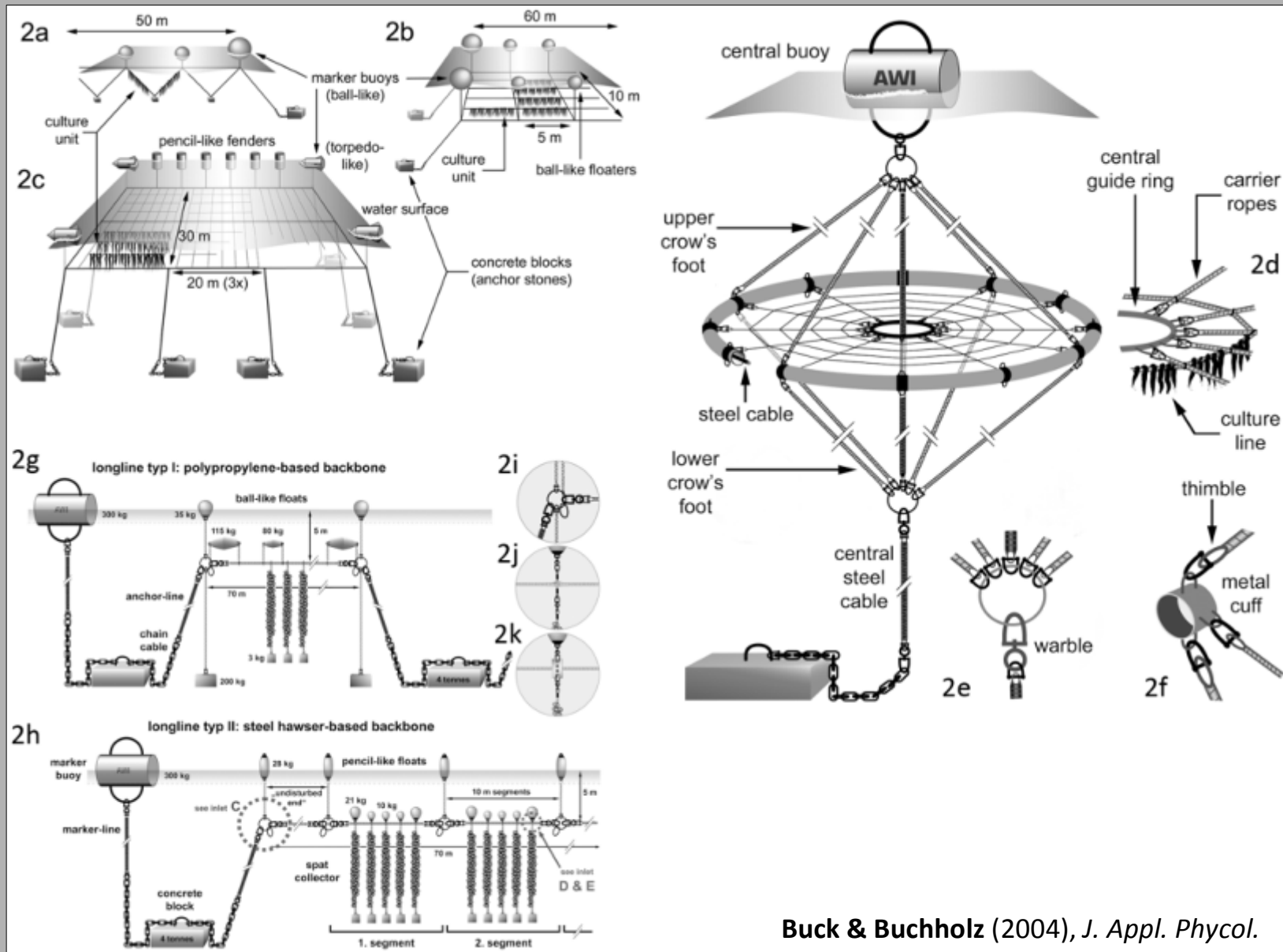
# Techniques & System Design

Longline systems

Ring cultivation

Connection to turbines

# Techniques & System Design

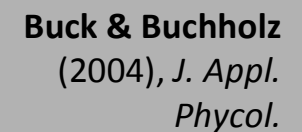


Buck & Buchholz (2004), *J. Appl. Phycol.*



## Technical Investigations and System Design:

- => Ring-Systems can withstand harsh conditions
- => Type of fenders prevent loss and support buoyancy
- => Can be harvested easily



**Patent No DE 10 2004 010 652.5**  
(Buck & Buchholz, AWI)  
**Patent. No PCT/DE2005/000234**  
(Buck & Buchholz, AWI)

## Technical Investigations and System Design:

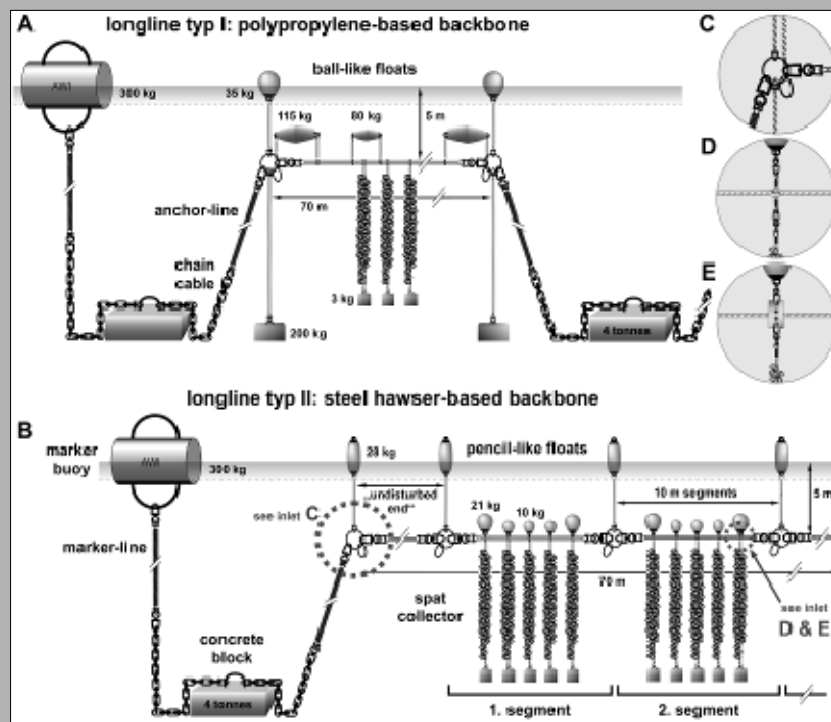


**Buck & Buchholz**  
(2004), *J. Appl.*  
*Phycol.*

# Results

## Technical Aspects (*Mytilus edulis*):

1. Systems have to be submerged up to 5 m below the surface.
2. Segmental modes will ease handling.

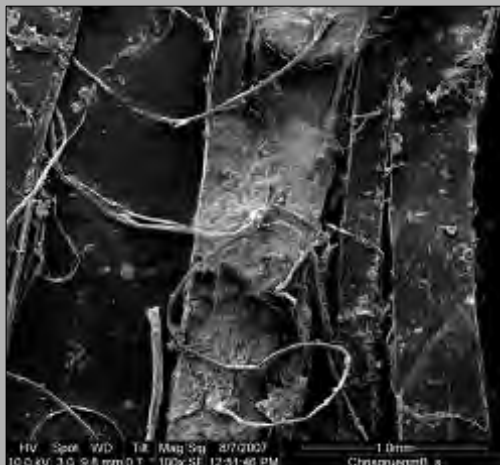




## Results

### Technical Aspects (*Mytilus edulis*):

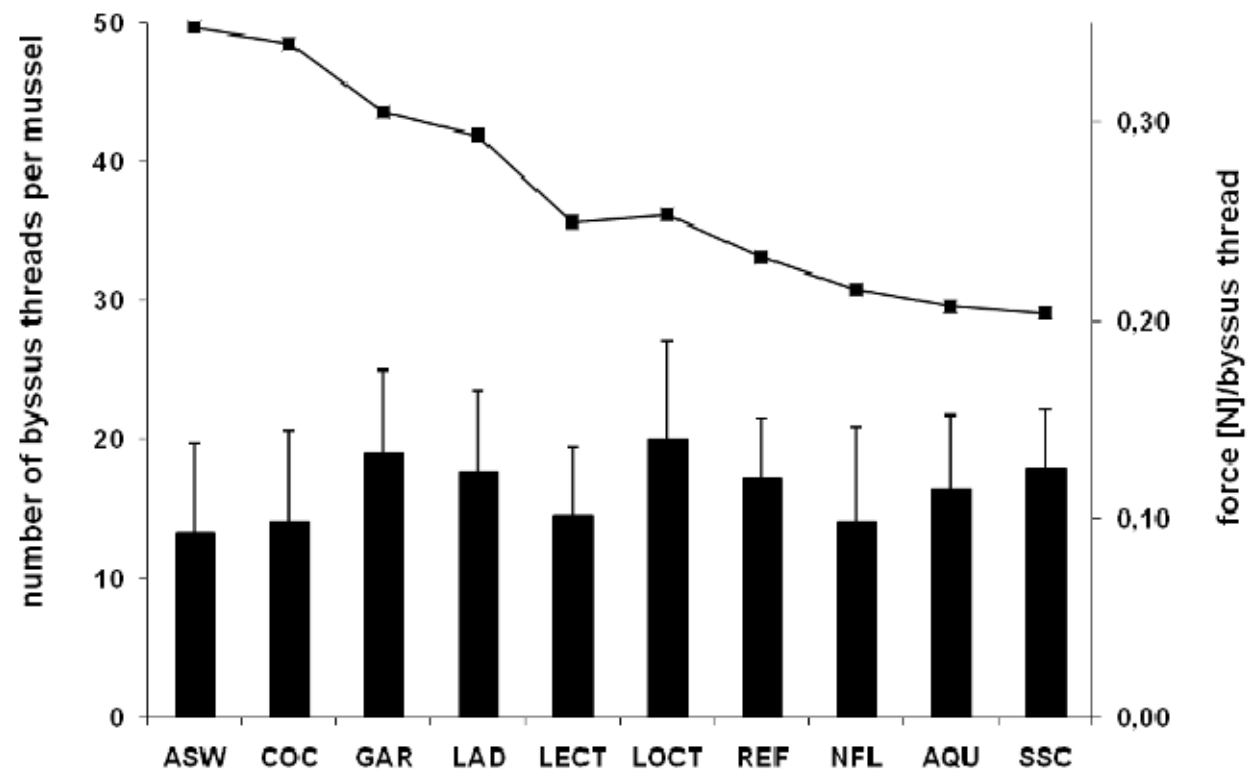
1. Systems have to be submerged up to 5 m below the surface.
2. Segmental modes will ease handling.
3. Type of fenders prevent mussel from loss / support buoyancy.
4. Type of surface and system design allow good settlement.



Pechura (2007), Thesis

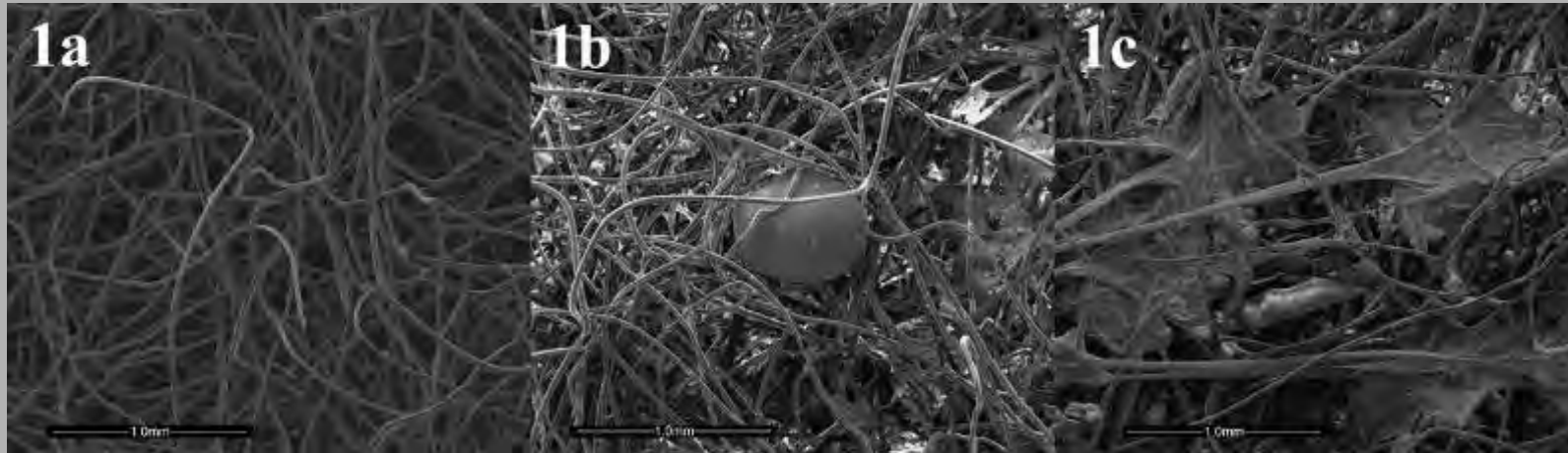
Brenner & Buck (2009), submitted

# Technical Requirements for Artificial Substrates



# Technical Requirements for Artificial Substrates

## Fleece substrate/ AQU



new substrate

after 2 weeks of exposure

after dislodgement

## Filamentous substrate/ GAR



new substrate

after 2 weeks of exposure

after dislodgement



# Technical Requirements for Artificial Substrates



NFL fleece



- Fleece like substrates are attractive to larvae
- No suitable foothold for growing mussels
- Loose most mussels during grow out



ASW filamentous



- Filamentous substrates less attractive to larvae
- Good foothold for grow out
- Mussel conglomerates interweave with appendices

- Suitable offshore substrates must combine different characteristics
- Fleece like part around the core rope
- Numerous and long appendices for interweaving
- Proportions of fleece and parts with appendices vary according to cultivation aim

# System Design for Grounding Constructions

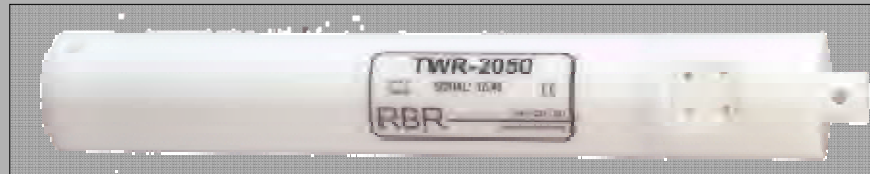
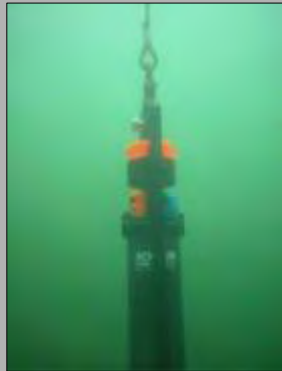


Consideration of mechanical loads on  
grounding constructions of windmills  
by aquaculture devices

Longline →



# Longline at Offshore Test Location

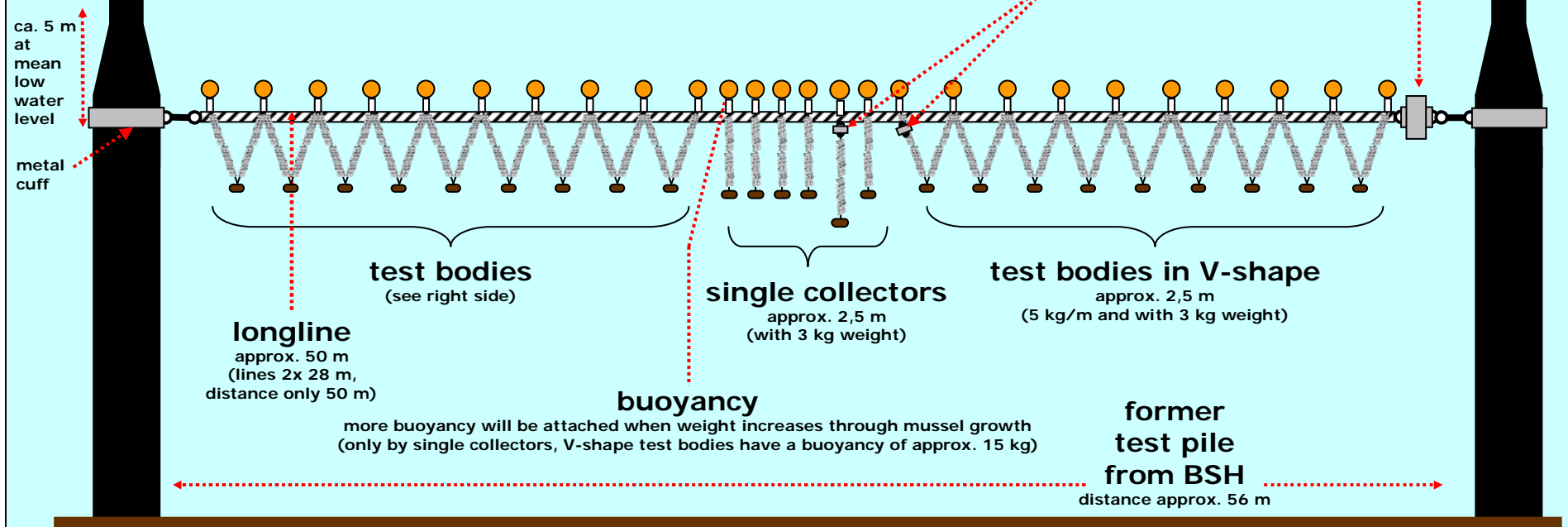


**force sensors**  
attached to longline and collectors

collector ropes

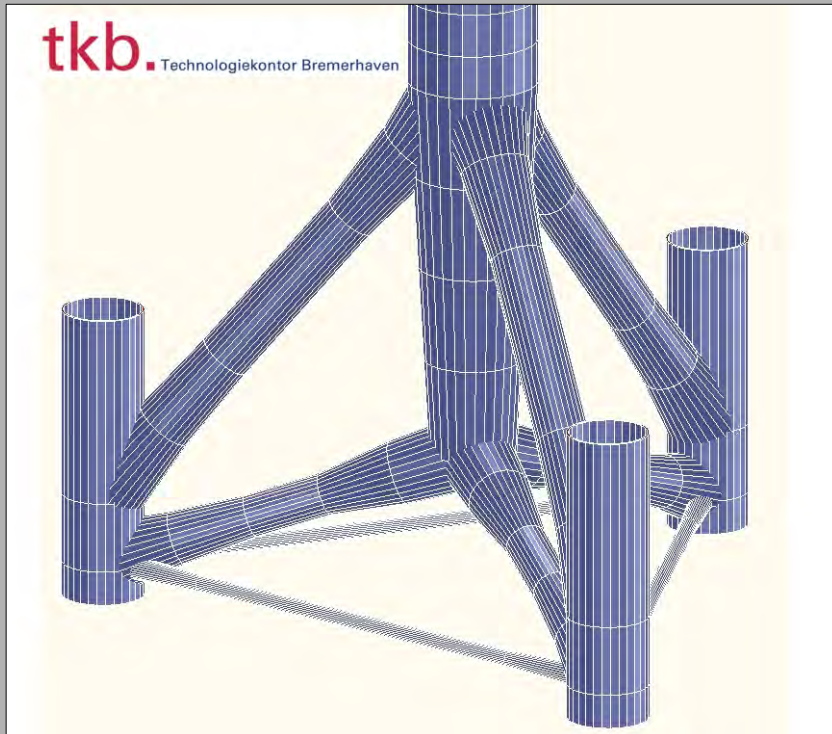
force sensor

test bodies

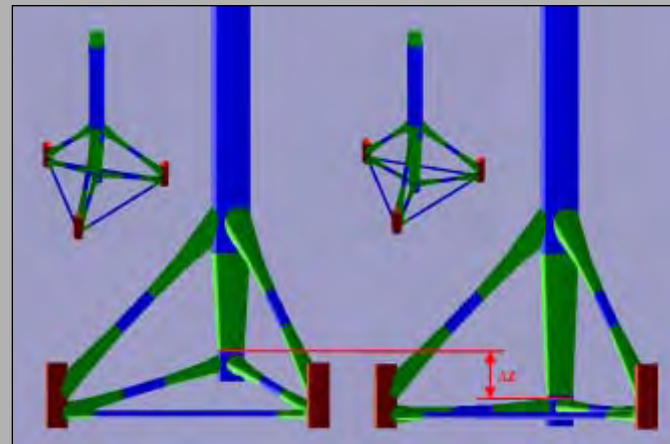
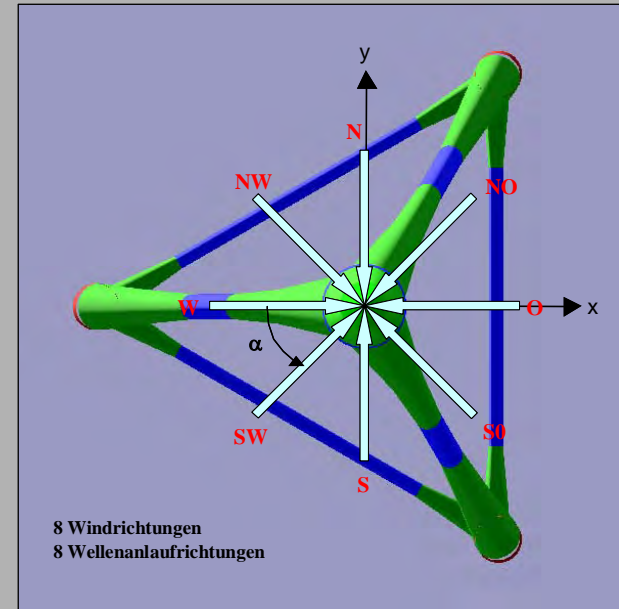
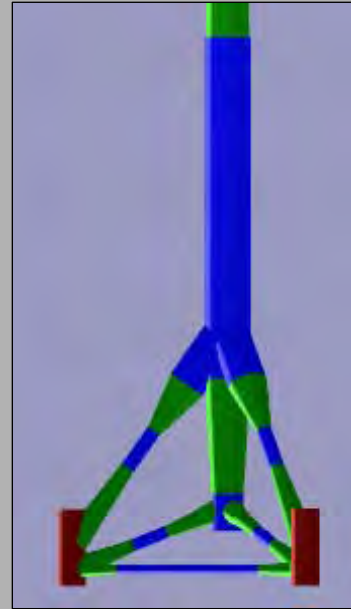




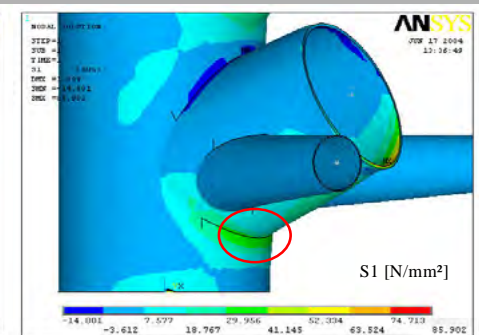
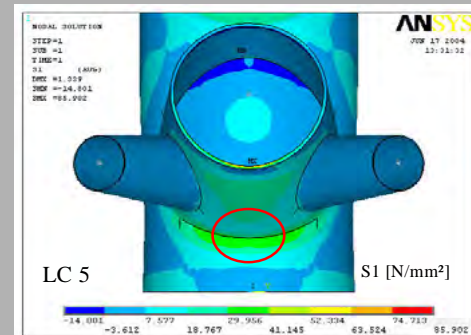
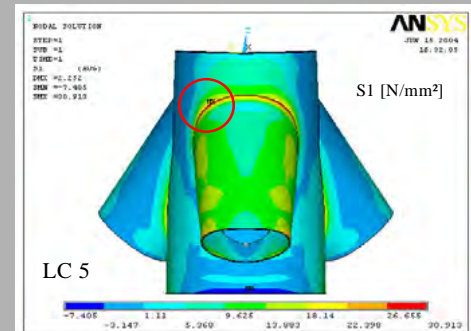
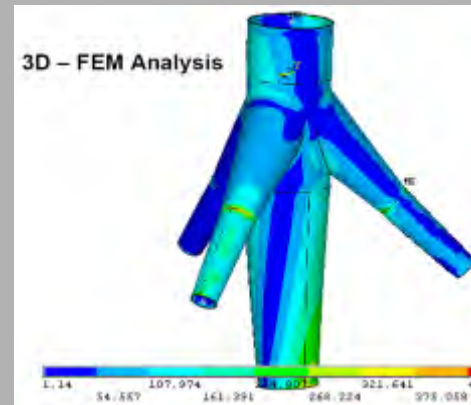
# Loads on Grounding Structures



Development of static models  
(for 3-5 MW turbine class)

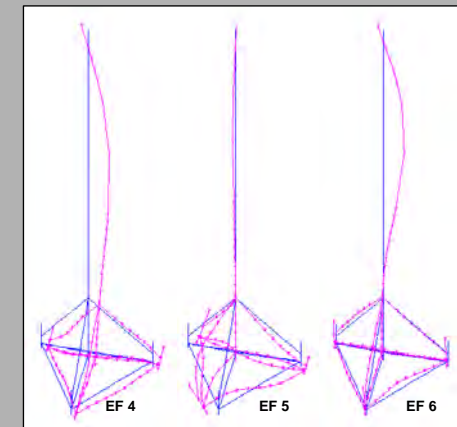
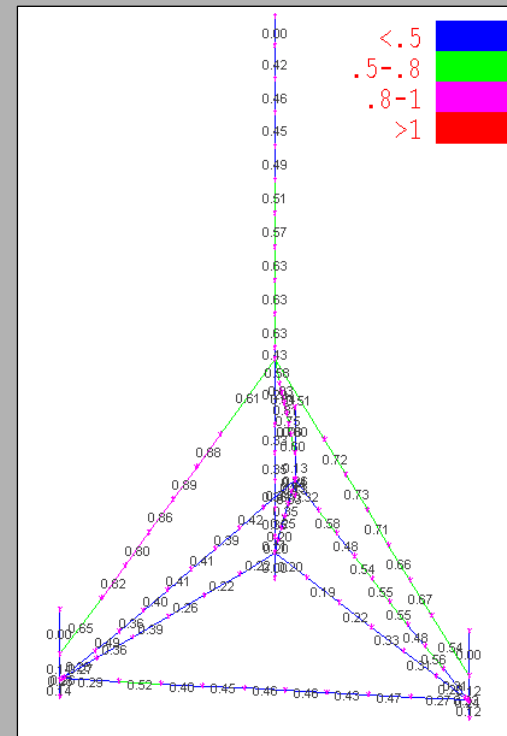
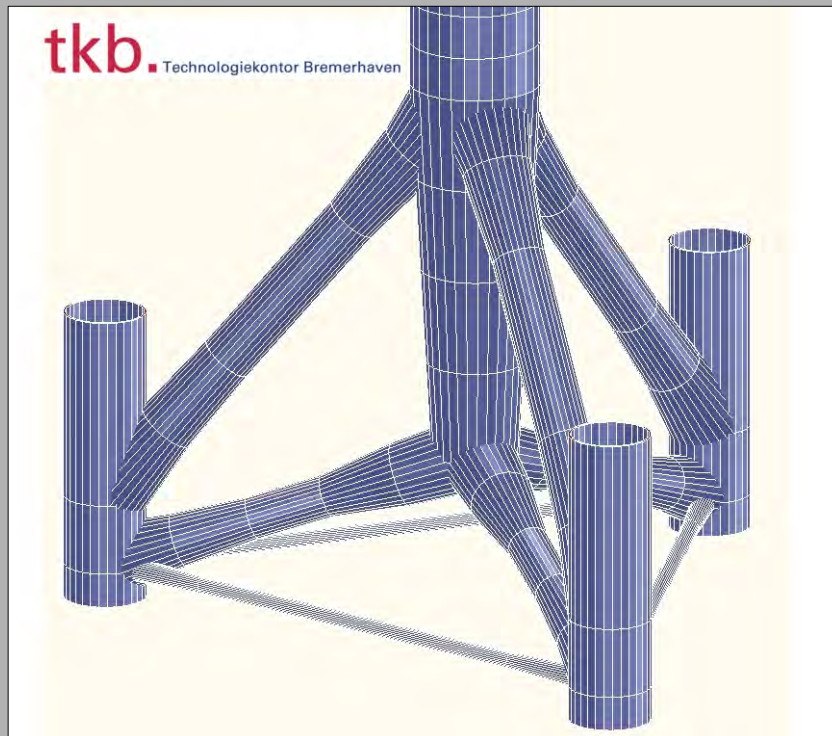


# Loads on Grounding Structures



Discussion of alternative connection points of foundation structure

# Loads on Grounding Structures



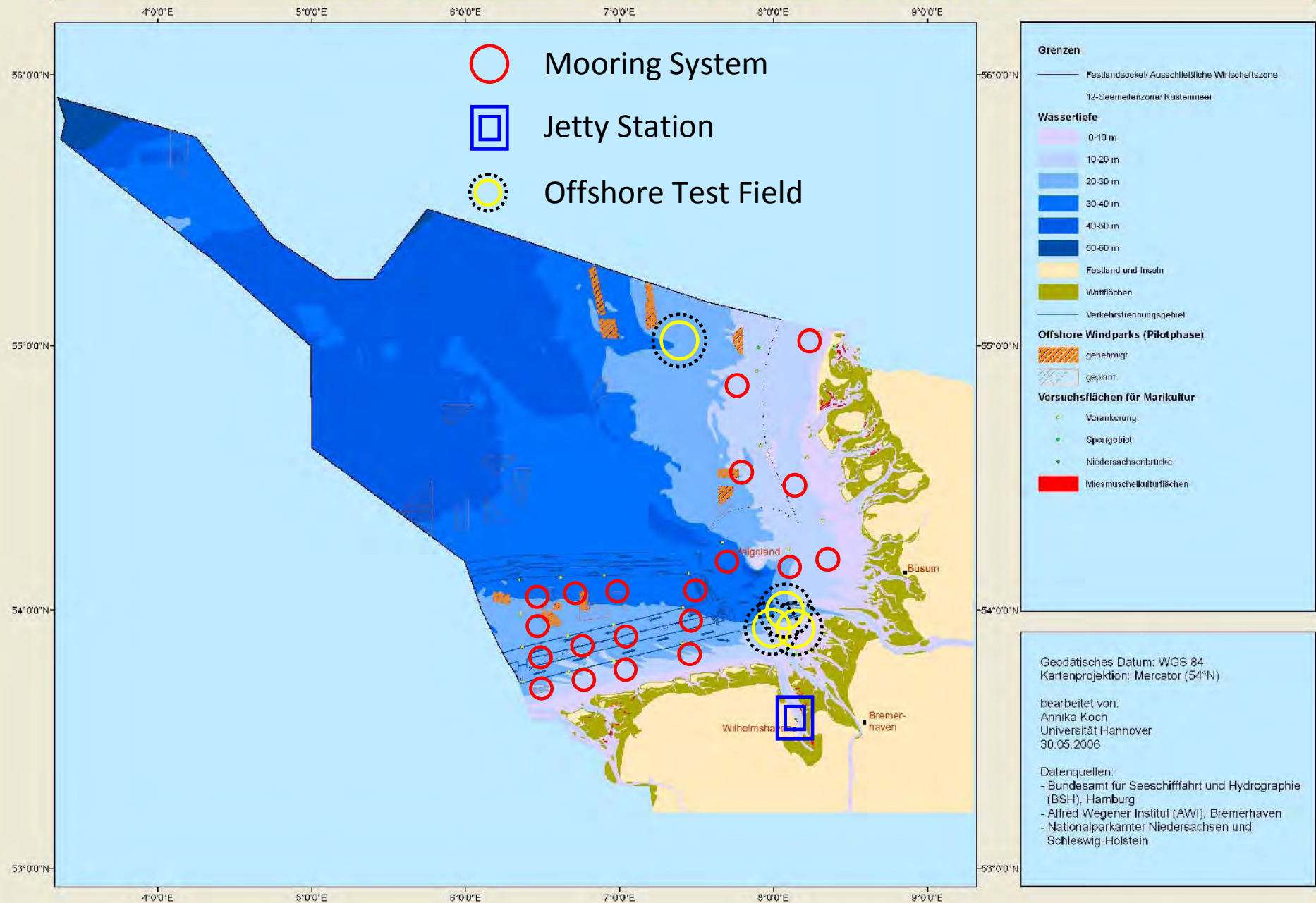
Generation of representative loads of wind energy installations

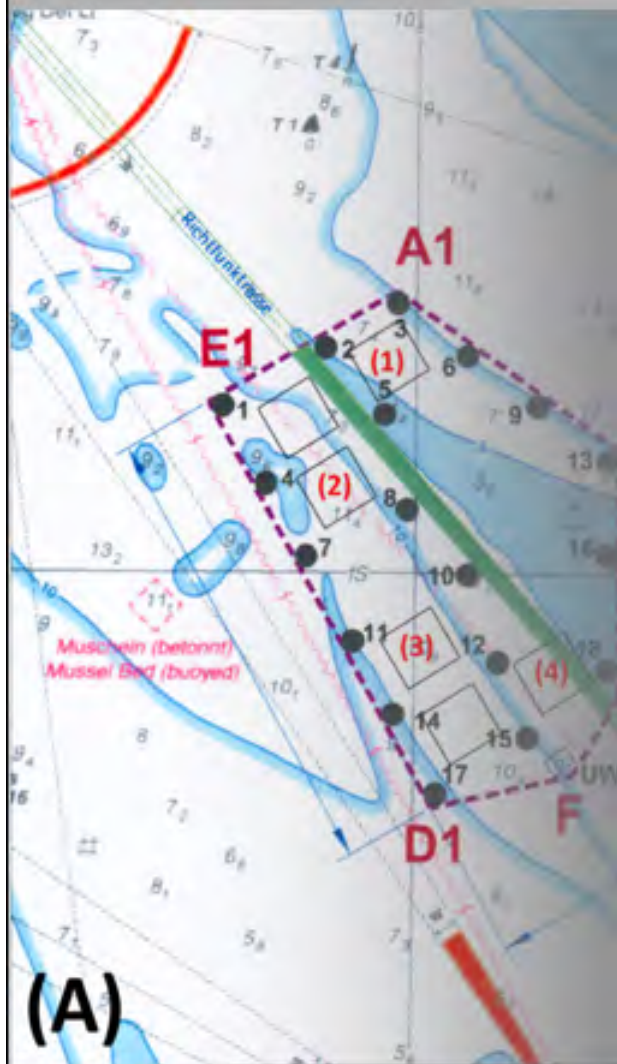


# Research & Seasickness



# Marine Aquakulturflächen in der deutschen AWZ





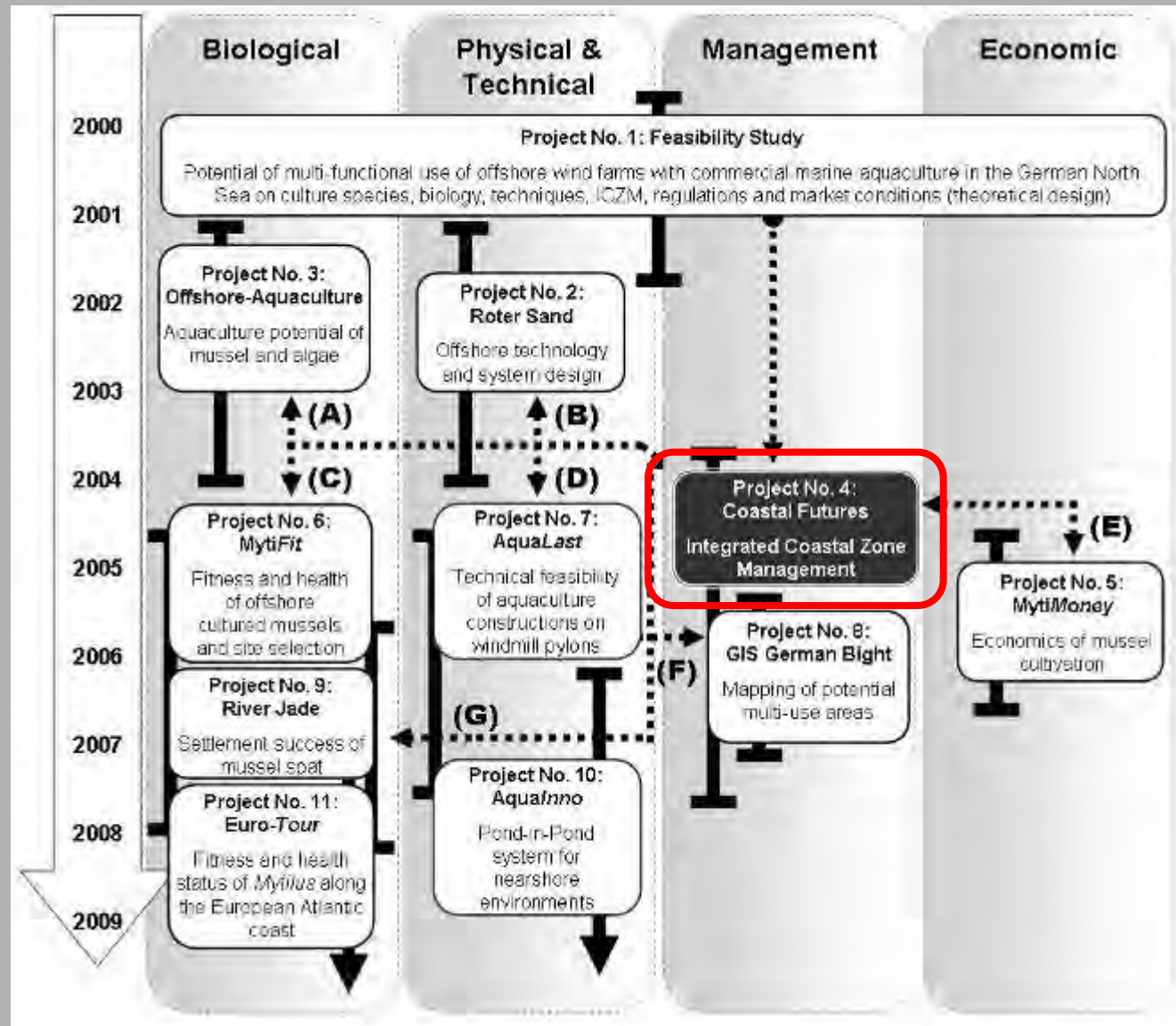
# Management

Offshore Co-Management

Multiple-Use Scenario



# Offshore AQ-Projects in the German Bight



# Involved Parties



## Involved Stakeholders

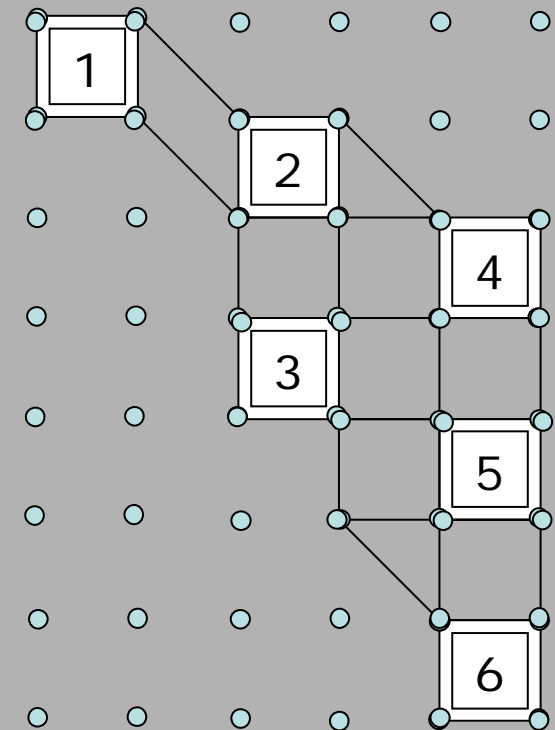
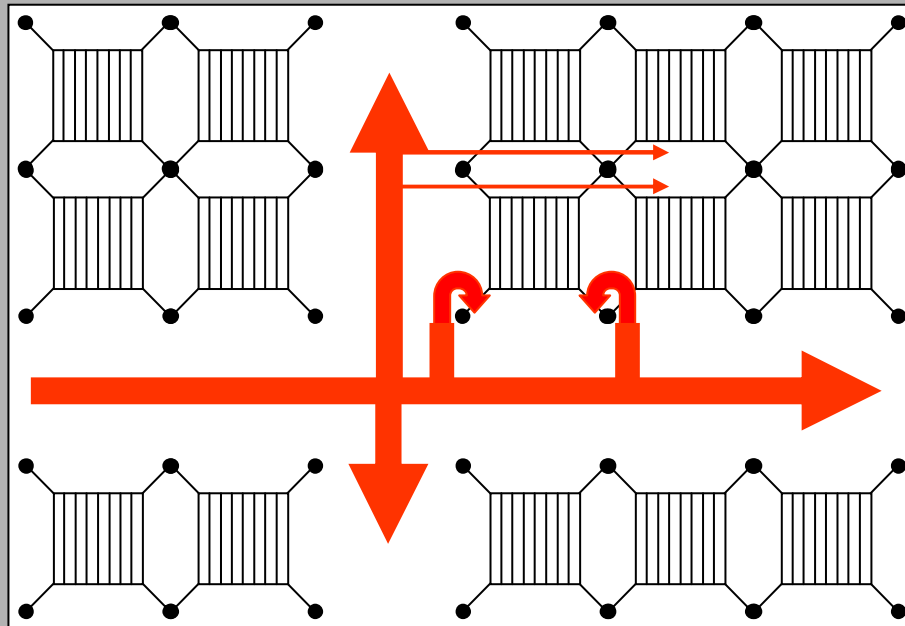
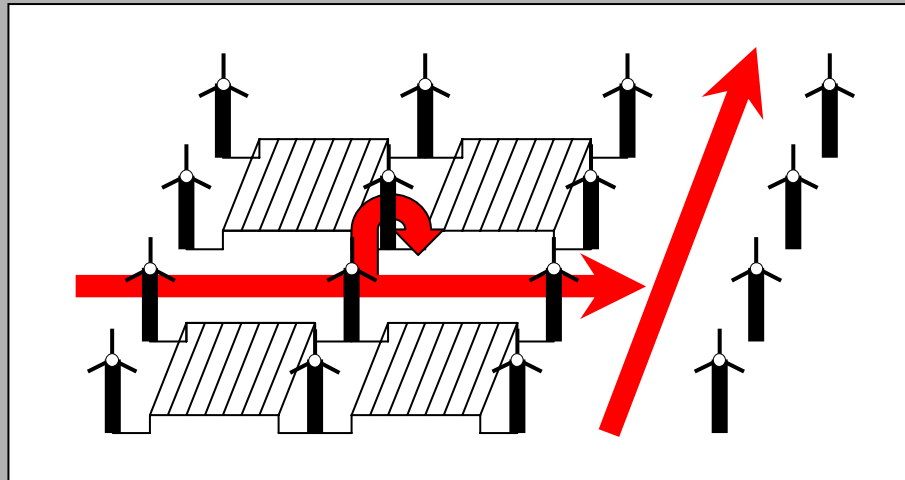
- Authorities:
  - 6 Water and Shipping Agencies
  - 2 Federal Water Ways Directorates
  - Federal Fisheries Agency
  - Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency
  - Food Quality Testing Laboratories
- 12 Mariculturists
- approx. 30 Fishermen
- 4 Offshore Wind Farm Planers & Operators (local player, int. player)
- 9 Research Institutes
- 10 Companies (Engineers, Economists, Food Production...)
- Senate of the City State of Bremen

Fishery, oil companies, marine missions, shipping, wind farms, authorities, nature conservation, tourism, sand extraction, etc.





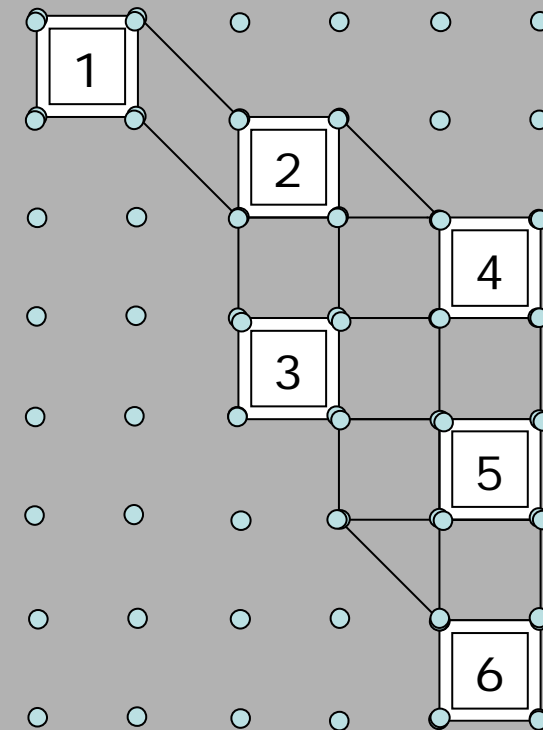
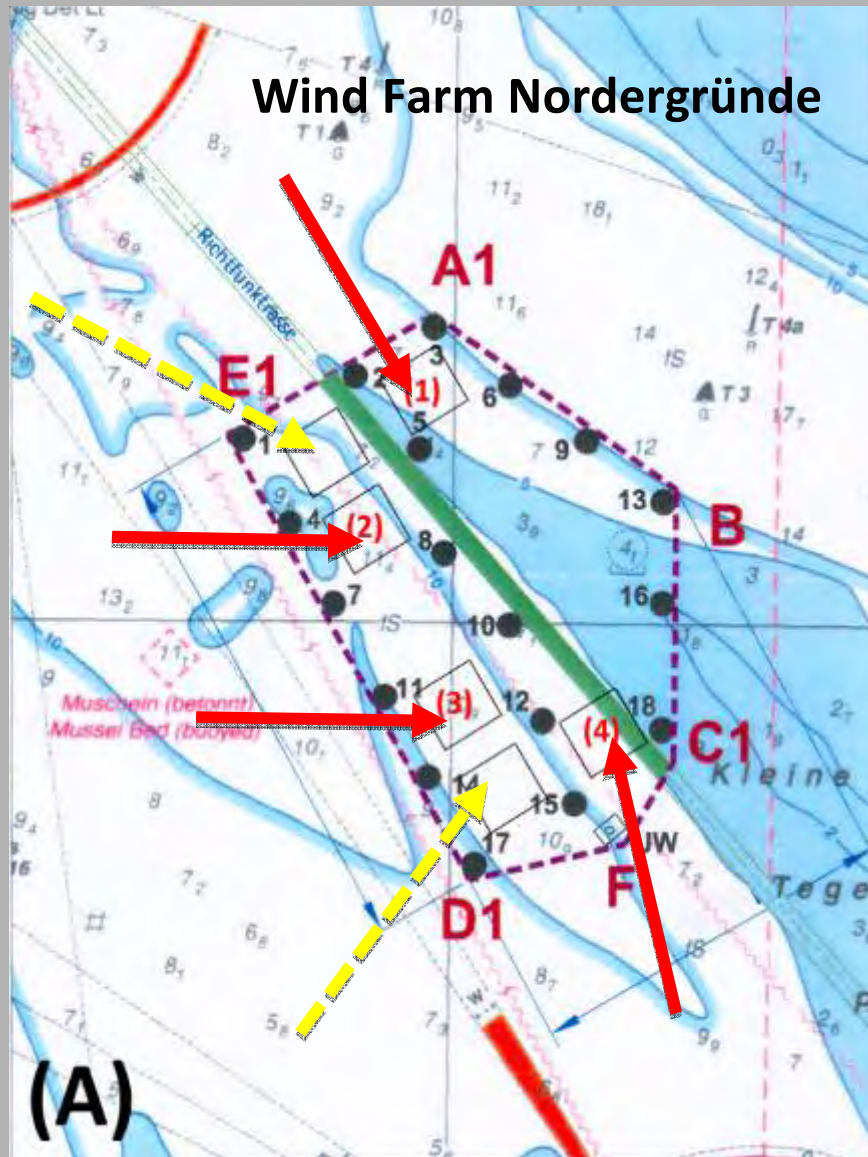
# Waterway Management



bird's-eye view of an  
offshore wind farm



# Waterway Management



bird's-eye view of an offshore wind farm

# Co-Management as a Solution



Vision



all-in-one device, suitable for every purpose

# Co-Management as a Solution



Future



**one boat:** service, harvest and maintenance



# Involved Changes

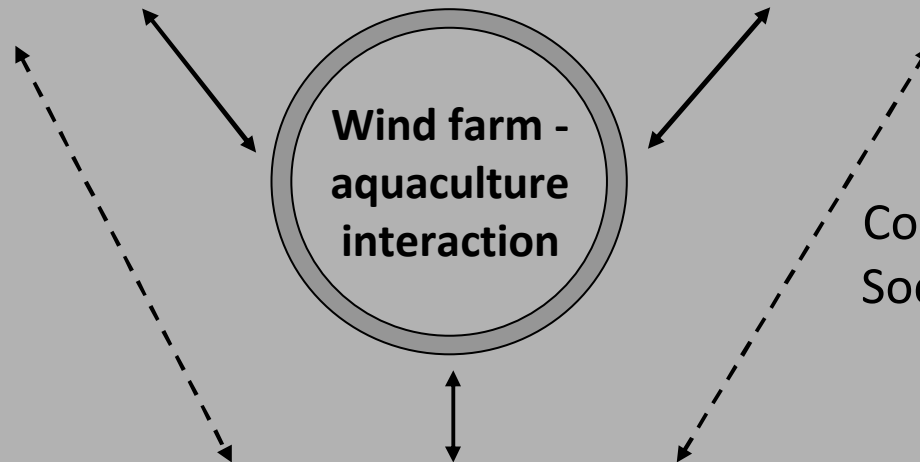
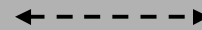


## Technology/Biology

- e.g. Interrelations of existing or new technologies

## Infrastructure

- e.g. 'Free-Cable' Areas
- Geared Platforms



Wind farm -  
aquaculture  
interaction

Co-Evolution of  
Socio-Technical  
Regimes

## Organization & Social

- Collective ocean use scheme
- Interrelations of knowledge, skills, routines, regulatory demands...

# Management Constraints



## Co-Management Scheme for Interrelated Operation & Maintenance Activities

	POTENTIALITIES	CONSTRAINTS
	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
INTERNAL resources and capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a collective cost-saving transportation scheme</li> <li>Sharing of high-priced facilities</li> <li>Rationalizing operating processes</li> <li>Making use of available experience and knowledge → shortening of adaptive learning process for any offshore operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little to no interest in joint planning process</li> <li>Little willingness to engage into new fields of activity</li> <li>Ambiguous assignment of rights and duties</li> <li>Lack of motivating force</li> </ul>
	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
EXTERNAL conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Available working days coincide</li> <li>Transportation and lifting devices are indispensable</li> <li>Availability of a wide range of expertise (hard and soft skills)</li> <li>Lack of legislation in EEZ favors implementation of innovative concepts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unfavorable accessibility of wind farm location inhibits joint O&amp;M</li> <li>Lack of legal and authority framework supporting co-management arrangements</li> <li>No access rights within wind farm area for second party</li> <li>Unsolvable problems of liability</li> </ul>

SWOT-matrix

Michler-Cieluch et al.  
(2009) Ocesan &  
Coastal Mgmt.

## Recommendations



- Indispensable
  - ✓ Assessment of Stakeholder Perception
  - ✓ Integration of “Local” Knowledge
- Offshore Co-management
  - ✓ Overcoming domains of uncertainty
  - ✓ Contributing to negotiate agreements
- Government’s Role
  - ✓ Political support
  - ✓ Institutional umbrella





# Outlook

Offshore fish culture

Projects in other EU countries

Perspectives

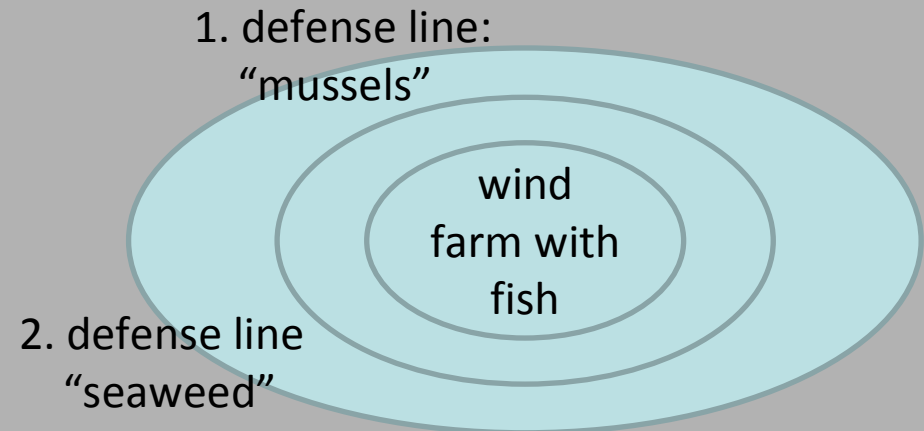
# Expansion along the European Coast



## Opportunities

1. employ opportunities
2. maintain ecosystem functions
3. sustainable resource use
4. Eco-innovations

(ETAP - Environmental Technologies Action Plan )



## Visions

1. Use (in a sustainable manner) the immense areas off the coastal sea
2. Constructions of both users (wind farm & AQ) should not develop independently.
3. Decentralisation, "backyard farming"



**tkb.** Technologiekanal Bremerhaven

**WeserWind GmbH**  
Offshore Construction Georgsmarienhütte

**TERRA mare**  
FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM



Hochschule Bremerhaven



Stiftung Alfred-Wegener-Institut  
für Polar- und Meeresforschung  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

**Imare**  
Institut für marine Ressourcen

**CG**  
Unternehmensberatung

Fraunhofer IFAM  
Institut für Fertigungstechnik  
Materialforschung

Fraunhofer  
Institut für Betriebssicherheit und  
Systemzuverlässigkeit

**Bio Consult SH**

**BSH**  
BUNDESAMT FÜR  
SEESCHIFFFAHRT  
UND  
HYDROGRAPHIE



**WSA Tönning**

**Laves**  
Niedersächsisches Landesamt  
für Verbraucherschutz  
und Lebensmittelsicherheit

**ISEB**



Senator für  
Bau, Umwelt  
und Verkehr



**IU<sup>B</sup>**  
International  
University  
Bremen

Bremerhavener Gesellschaft  
für Investitionsförderung  
und Stadtentwicklung mbH

**bis**

Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

**HSVA**



**ENGEL NETZE**  
Fischereiausrüstung - Fishing Equipment

Niedersächsisches  
Landesamt für  
Ökologie

**Dittmeyer's**  
Frucht-Plantagen

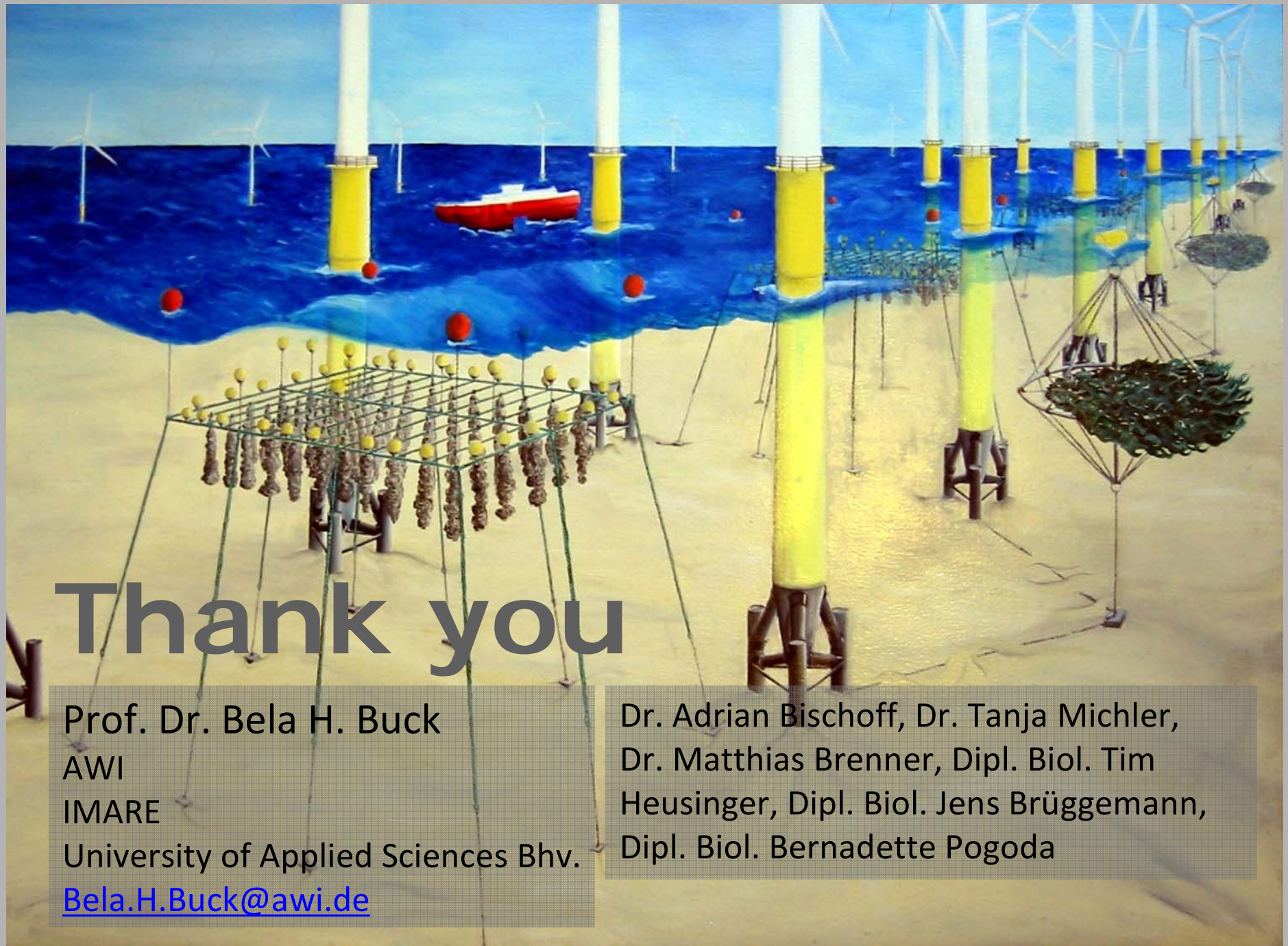
**newmediamen**  
**wunschmedia**



**EnergieKontor**

**MARISCOPE**  
Meerestechnik





# Thank you

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