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ICP Waters: Current issues

Joint ICP Waters & ICP IM Task Force meeting, Warszawa, Poland, May 2018

Gunnar Skotte, ICP Waters Chairperson

Happy cooperation

Reports

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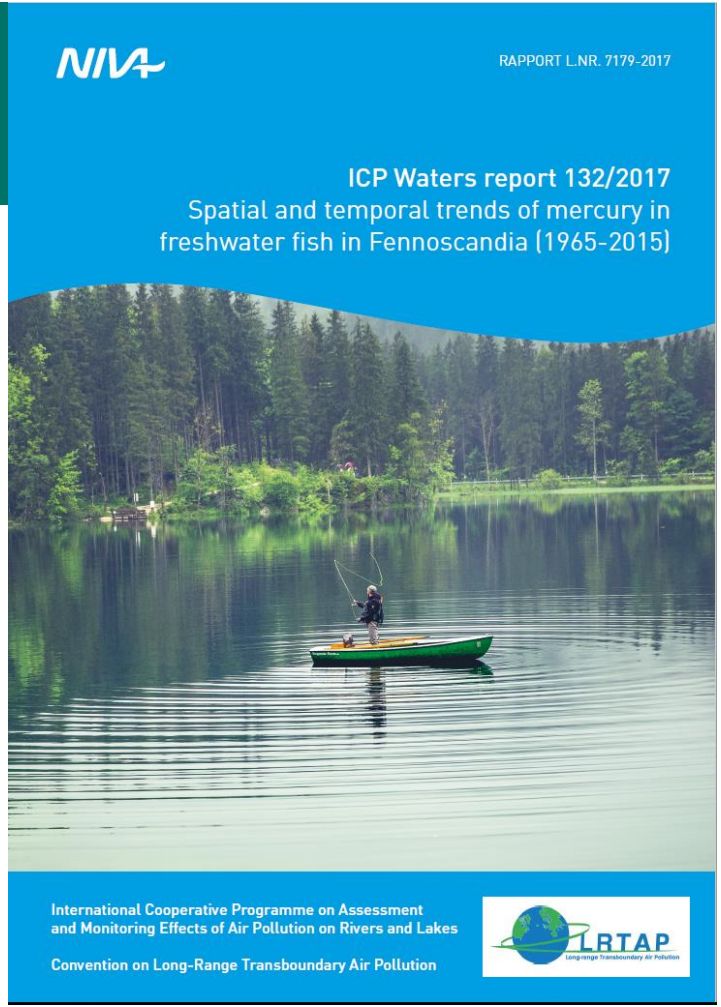
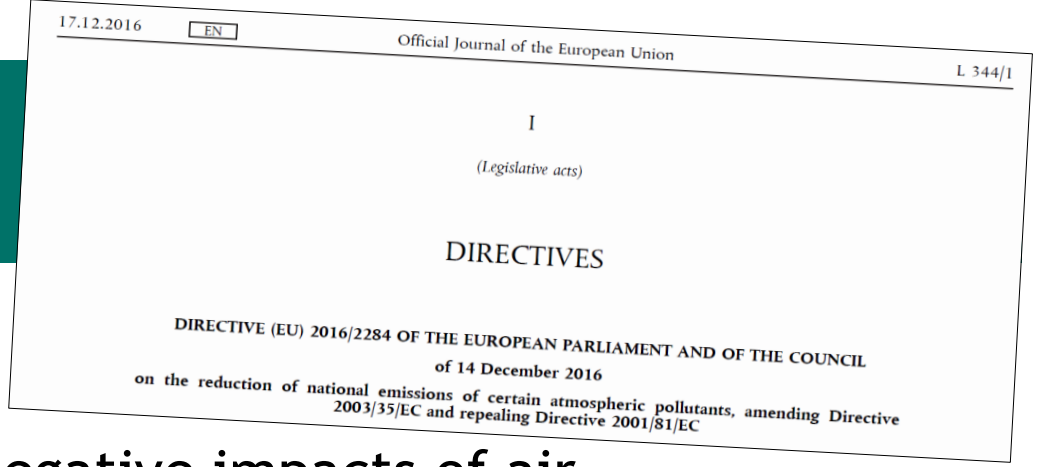
Mercury report – follow up

- Presented at international conference - Mercury 2017 (US)
- Input to chapter of “Mercury concentrations in biota” for the “Global Mercury Assessment – 2018” (UN Environment/AMAP)
- Working on scientific paper based on report
- Follow-up based on nationally funded project
  - catchment inputs vs atmospheric inputs to lakes
- New ICP IM assessment on heavy metals – possible to contribute with data on Hg in surface waters?



NEC Directive



17.12.2016 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 344/1

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(Legislative acts)

DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE (EU) 2016/2284 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 14 December 2016
on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants, amending Directive 2003/35/EC and repealing Directive 2001/81/EC

- Revised NEC directive:
  obligation to monitor negative impacts of air pollution on ecosystems
- Participation in NECD expert group
- Guidance document for ecosystem monitoring completed last December
- Deadline for MS to identify their monitoring networks:
  1 July 2018

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NEC Directive – what's in it for us?

- Effects monitoring becomes legally binding
- May secure funding of monitoring activities
- New: Technical sub-group on ecosystem monitoring and reporting, with participation from ICP Waters and ICP IM

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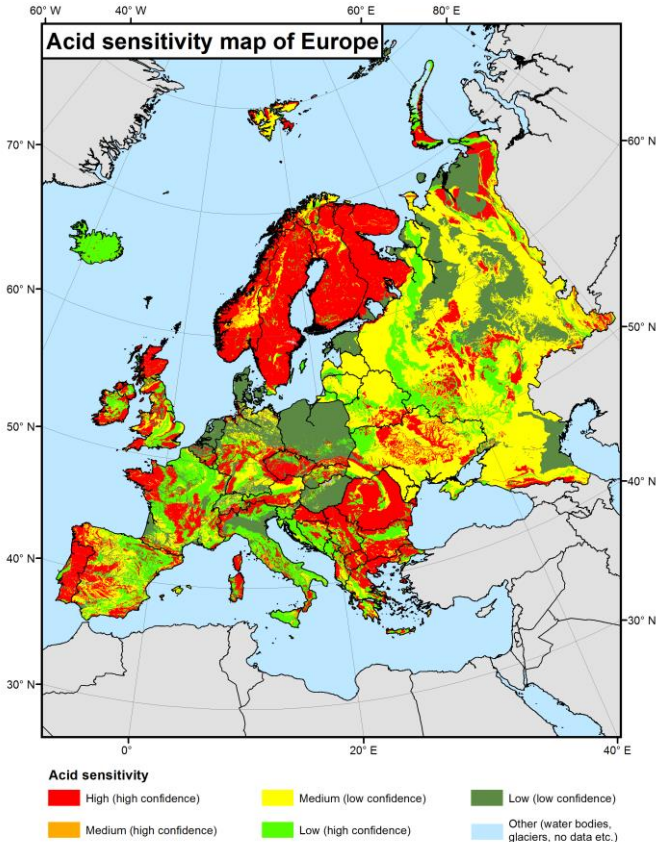
Regional acidification assessment

- Main author: Kari Austnes (NIVA)
- Objective: to *assess the current extent of surface water acidification* in Europe and North America.
- Outline:
  - Acid sensitivity and regions with potentially acidified surface waters
  - Acidification status overview (national data, WFD)
  - National chapters
  - Discussion
    - Where is surface water acidification still an issue?
    - Do we have the information we need?
    - NEC Directive, WFD
    - Outlook – further need for emission reductions, confounding factors



Regional acidification assessment

- Many valuable contributions from NFCs!
- Overview of current acidification status useful supplement to critical loads exceedance maps
- Could identify gaps in monitoring network
- Useful in the work with NECD monitoring network

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Reactive nitrogen assessment

- Proposal for updated long-term strategy: policy field with regard to integrated nitrogen management is prioritized
- Need for a better understanding of how N deposition impacts the aquatic environment:
  - Climate impacts on N-deposition – catchment retention – reactive N concentrations – ecosystem responses
- Possible ecosystem responses to increased nitrogen
  - Freshwater productivity and diversity
  - Coastal eutrophication

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ICP Waters report 2020

Proposal:

- Trend report (6 years since last trend report)
- Special chapter about how land use change can impact recovery - possible cooperation with ICP IM?
- To be discussed – other ideas are welcome!

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Items for discussion and consideration

- NEC Directive
  - Experiences with design of monitoring networks?
  - Implications for ICPs?
- Regional assessment (Report 2018)
  - Feedback on draft report
  - Potential relevance for NECD monitoring network
- Reactive nitrogen (Report 2019)
- Report 2020: - Trends? - other ideas?

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Thank you for your attention!
Photo: Anne Sofie Gjestrum