

**Notification in accordance with the Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic
Environmental assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact
Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention)**

The terms of reference for the development of amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 232 of May 21 2019 “On the Maritime Spatial Plan for the Marine Inland Waters, Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Waters of the Republic of Latvia until 2030”¹ (hereinafter - the Latvian Maritime Spatial Plan) were approved on January 13, 2026 by the minister of the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter - the Ministry).

Therefore, the Spatial Planning and Land Management Department of the Ministry has begun work on the amendments to the Latvian Maritime Spatial Plan.

The amendments involve updating all four parts of the Latvian Maritime Spatial Plan - the Explanatory Note, the Strategic Part, the Marine Space Use Part and the Graphic Part.

The **Explanatory Note** will be updated in accordance with the latest sectoral studies and changes in the regulatory framework. Additionally, information will also be based on the conclusions from the Interim Assessment of the Latvian Maritime spatial plan and will be obtained from various databases and partner institutions. Tasks regarding this section will be closely related to the description of the current situation. Updates will be made for aspects such as the current state of maritime industries, trends and forecasts of the marine environment, nature values, biodiversity and ecosystem services. This section is planned to be completed by the end of 2026.

Updating of the **Strategic Part** will include the evaluation of strategic priorities, strategic objectives and spatial solutions, along with defining priorities for the use of marine space, in relation to the current national general and sectoral policy objectives and action plans and, if necessary, the specification of strategic objectives. This section is scheduled to be completed in the first half of 2027.

The updating of the **Marine Space Use Part** will include recommendations for the development of new types of marine use. More detailly, it will entail various tasks, including assessment of priorities for the use of marine space, creation of three scenarios for the use of marine space (developed based on various aspects). Furthermore, the criteria for determining priorities for the use of marine space will be reviewed and updated. The categories and types of permitted use of marine space will be clarified.

¹ Available in Latvian <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/306969>

Within the framework of the **Graphic Part**, the map of permitted marine use will be updated, as well as thematic maps and geospatial database (where necessary). Work on this and the previous part is estimated to be completed by mid-2027.

The preparation of the first edition of the amendments to the Latvian Maritime Spatial Plan is expected to be completed in the second half of 2027 and will be sent out for public consultation afterwards.

For additional information, please contact:

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