

## SUMMARY

Marine and marine-terrestrial areas of high natural value are a multifunctional space, which is used with the intention of achieving various goals, therefore their protection strategy should take into account the wider socio-economic context. The analysis of conflicts on this background is difficult, because it should include both an individual and a social dimension; economic, cultural, scientific and /or strictly natural aspects. This dissertation fits into research on the public participation in the management of the marine protected areas and the conflicts emerging in these processes.

The reasons for the undertaking of this work are as follows:

- The need to systematize and assess the knowledge on public participation in nature conservation planning based on archival materials and conducted surveys.
- The need to analyse the social conflicts in selected areas, its typology development and prediction of its progression.
- A more comprehensive understanding of the nature of the conflicts in the marine protected areas.

The development of the current methods on this conflict's research.

The research problems concerning environmental conflicts cover a wide range of issues, the analysis of which in this paper was naturally limited by the author's research workshop.

It may be subject of social, psychological as well as economic studies. In this work, conflicts in the marine protected areas were considered in terms of relations between conditions (location, formal, environmental) and stakeholders, which allows for it to be embedded in the geographic field.

The subject of this work is the social aspect in the planning of nature conservation (on the example of selected Natura 2000 areas: Puck Bay PLB220005, Puck Bay and Hel Peninsula PLH220032, Slupsk Bank PLC990001 and the Coastal Landscape Park).

Two empirical aims have been set: The enrichment of knowledge through the characterization, analysis and assessment of public participation processes in nature conservation; Identification, characterization and development of a social conflict typology concerning selected protected marine areas of high natural value.

Additionally, one methodological aim has been established: Providing an answer to the question: Which research methods and techniques can be used to study conflicts concerning marine areas? The information gathered may be applied through the implementation of the results of two practical goals: The development of effective principles of public participation in the protection of marine areas and The indication of possible ways to minimize conflicts.

The case study method was applied. It was assumed that the goal of this work isn't to acquire information on all communities potentially affected by the consulted documents but to reach a conclusion concerning the stakeholders involved in selected participation processes.

The method of observation was used, the material from the consultation meetings was analysed and, for two case studies (Slupsk Bank PLC990001 and the Coastal Landscape Park), a questionnaire

survey was carried out among the participants of the consultation meetings. The purpose of the survey was to find out the respondents' opinions about the public consultation as well as their attitude towards the selected marine protected areas. Some questions were related to the conflicts.

An important issue in the conflict's analysis was the review and classification of the public consultation participants' statement. The typology of the conflicts was developed according to the following scheme: Subject-Core-Area-Object-Origin-Category.

Participation in the public consultations on conservation plans as well as the course of the meetings was varied. The following stakeholder groups were identified: The Government administration, including maritime administration; The Local authorities; The Scientific and research institutions, universities; Fisheries and fish processing groups; Entrepreneurs, commercial companies; Individuals; Security and national defence; Non-governmental organizations (NGO's).

Based on the surveys conducted within this work it can be concluded that the public participation process is a proper, although not the only method of involving people in the protection of marine areas. Its efficiency depends on many factors, but in the right circumstances, it can be a good instrument used to develop responsibility and create impact on the environmental space, including both natural and wildlife resources.

The meetings related to Natura 2000 sites located in the Puck Bay area ran on a heavy track. Strong relationships, both positive and negative, were observed between the participants of the meetings. Negative relationships were reflected in conflicts between different interest groups.

Within this study, four fields of conflict were identified: those concerning the boundaries of the protected areas, the conflict of authority, conflicts concerning the principles of the management of the protected area and finally, the development of new forms of protection.

It has been established that the source of the majority of the conflicts was the particular interest of individual stakeholders. Moreover, the conflicts of structural matters, information, relationship and values were specified.

The attitude, belief and behaviour of the public consultation's participants played a considerable role in the investigated conflicts. A long-standing crisis in their relationship contributed to the conflict's escalation. Some of the conflicts took the form of discussion or even struggle.

It should be expected that the nature of conflicts concerning marine protected areas will evolve alongside their socio-economic development and following the implementation of new forms/conditions of spatial management within them. Which in and of itself is an interesting issue for further research.

The compilation of the methods applied in this study has made it possible to answer the questions posed in its aims. The results of this work can be used for the development of new strategies and solutions for public participation processes within marine protected areas and the social conflicts associated with them.