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Life of a Lesuire Boat

Building – Usage – Retrofitting – End of Life

Phasing out two-stroke engines, retrofitting and LCA

Blue Mission Banos, Sopot

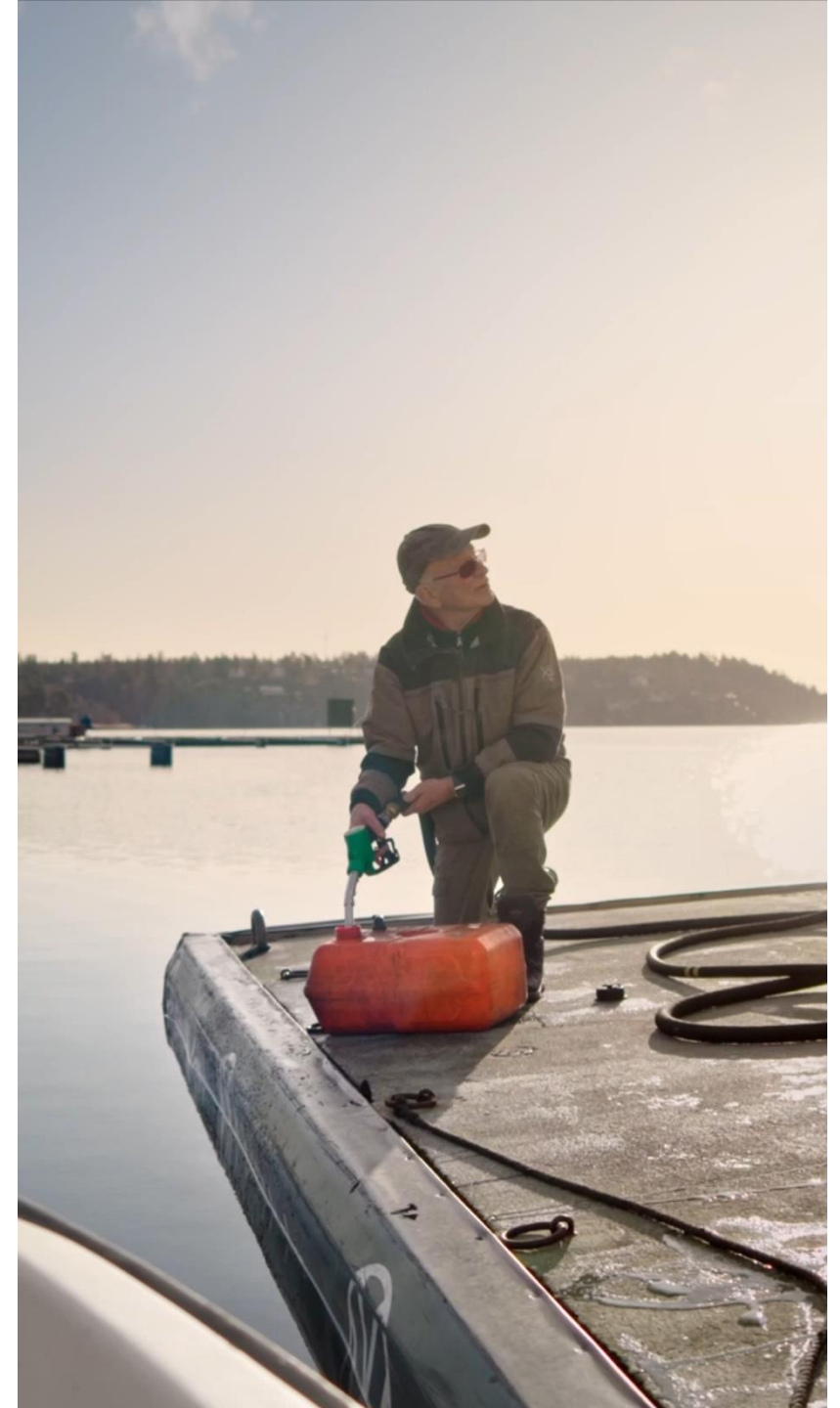


Josephine Rubia 2025-04-29

**Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management**

Phasing out carburetted two-stroke engines in leisure boats

- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive - Programme of Measures
 - **Measure 41:** Active phase-out of two-stroke engines with carburettors on leisure boats
 - Info campaign **Stop Fueling the Sea**
- The Swedish Transport Agency is conducting a legal investigation into the possibility of banning carburetted two-stroke engines. Possible conclusions:
 - A national ban on the use of carburetted two-stroke engines
 - Allowing two-stroke engines but only with alkylate petrol
 - Local restrictions in sensitive water areas like drinking water sources



Retrofitting and Life Cycle Assessment of leisure boat engines

- **Swedish case:** retrofitting an electric inboard motor in a sailboat from 1976
 - From a Volvo Penta diesel engine → to an electric inboard motor
 - App. cost 2025 for this kind of conversion ~ 5 000 €

	Combustion Engine	%	Electric Motor	%
Climate emissions	High during use phase	98	Low during use phase	8
Energy use	High over lifecycle	99	Lower during use; high in battery manufacturing	17
Resource use	Moderate (fossil fuels)	80	High (finite mineral resources for batteries)	180

Source: Leisure boats in a circular economy, 2023 (in Swedish)



Photo from blog: [Grinde-19.se](https://grinde-19.se)

Thank you! Let's discuss

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Challenges and Struggles Related to Leisure Boat Tourism

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Theme: Governance


**BLUE
MISSION
BANOS**

Pomorskie – A Sailing Destination

- 316 km of Baltic coastline and deep maritime traditions
- Diverse experiences: inland calm vs. coastal energy
- Key routes: Żuławy Loop, Gdańsk Bay, Hel Peninsula
- Historic ports: Gdańsk, Gdynia, Sopot
- Modern marinas, scenic bays, cultural heritage
- Balancing tourism growth with environmental care

Baltic Sea Region – Leisure Boating Perspective

- 1,000+ leisure marinas across the Baltic
- ~250,000 recreational boats in the region
- Short summer season; high frequency of coastal trips
- Popular areas: Stockholm Archipelago, Åland Islands, Gulf of Gdańsk, Danish Straits
- The region is still less visible than the Mediterranean
- Potential for a unified Baltic sailing brand

Key Challenges in Leisure Boating Tourism

- **Short Season & Climate:** Brief summers limit boating season; marinas are underused off-season
- **Economic Strains:** Low marina revenues (short season, modest fees) require public support
- **Global Visibility Gap:** The Baltic remains less known than the Mediterranean for sailors
- **Environmental Sensitivity:** Baltic Sea's fragile ecosystem demands sustainable boating practices

Cross-Border Initiatives (Interreg Projects)

- South Coast Baltic (2017–2020): Joint branding, marina upgrades, +34% growth in boating tourism
- Permanent network & Destination Management Organization established
- Baltic Sustainable Boating 2030: Pan-Baltic platform connecting 900+ marinas
- Sustainability Roadmap: Green marinas, cleaner boats, eco-aware boating
- Unified Baltic sailing identity promoted at global fairs
- Interreg investments: Eco-certifications, staff training, inclusive marina infrastructure

Innovation, Sustainability & Year-Round Tourism

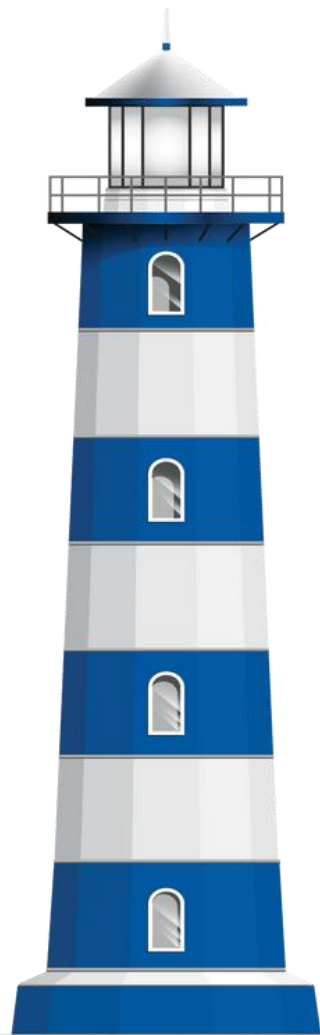
- Environmental Actions: Marinas implementing eco-friendly tech (waste disposal, clean energy); green marina certifications piloted (South Coast Baltic project)
- Maritime Heritage Projects: Boatman IBSP creating hubs in Gdańsk, Puck, etc., reviving wooden boat-building and historic ships
- Extending the Season: Heritage boat workshops, museums, and coastal cultural events to attract visitors beyond summer (Marinex & Boatman IBSP projects)
- Community & Education: Engaging local communities, volunteers and youth in maritime culture to support tourism and stewardship

Policy and Regional Strategy Responses

- Regional Strategy 2030: Emphasises sustainable tourism & climate action
- Environmental Priorities: Tackling water pollution, promoting a green “blue economy”
- Heritage & Community: Leveraging maritime traditions to enrich tourism (e.g. museums, festivals)
- Local Coordination: Pomorskie Tourist Board & Association of Sea Cities and Municipalities unite stakeholders for marina development

Regional Cooperation & Governance

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – Policy Areas Tourism & Spatial Planning
- Maritime Spatial Planning aligns sea use across borders
- CBSS supports political-level collaboration
- Regional coordination by VASAB and HELCOM
- National strategies are increasingly aligned with Baltic-wide goals
- Interreg projects drive practical cross-border implementation



Thank you!

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