European Environment Agency

Bathing water results 2011 – Poland

1. Reporting and assessment

This report gives a general overview of bathing water quality in Poland during the 2011 bathing season. In 2011 Poland reported under the Directive 2006/7/EC.

Before the necessary data set for assessment of bathing water quality under the Directive 2006/7/EC is compiled (data for three or four consecutive years) the rules for transition period assessment are applied. This means that the classification of bathing waters is defined on the basis of concentrations of intestinal enterococci and *Escherichia coli* that are reported under the Directive 2006/7/EC. The limit values for the classification are taken from the Directive 76/160/EEC. For the conversion of reported parameters under the Directive 2006/7/EC, Article 13.3 of the Directive 2006/7/EC foresees that the parameter *Escherichia coli*, reported under the Directive 2006/7/EC, is assumed to be equivalent to the parameter faecal coliforms of the Directive 76/160/EEC. The parameter intestinal enterococci reported under the Directive 2006/7/EC is assumed to be equivalent to the parameter faecal streptococci.

The results are classified in the following categories:

- **Class CI:** Compliant with the mandatory value of the Directive 76/160/EEC for *Escherichia coli* and not compliant with the guide values of the Directive 76/160/EEC for *Escherichia coli* or intestinal enterococci;
- **Class CG:** Compliant with the mandatory value of the Directive 76/160/EEC for *Escherichia coli* and the more stringent guide values for the *Escherichia coli* and intestinal enterococci;
- **Class NC:** Not compliant with the mandatory value of the Directive 76/160/EEC for *Escherichia coli*;
- **Class B:** Banned or closed;
- **Class NF:** Insufficiently sampled;
- **Class NS:** Not sampled.

The frequency of sampling is set out in Annex IV of the Directive 2006/7/EC. Including a sample to be taken shortly before the start of the bathing season, the minimum number of samples taken per bathing season is four. However, only three samples are sufficient when the bathing season does not exceed eight weeks or the region is subject to special geographical constraints. Sampling dates are to be distributed throughout the bathing season.

Strictly speaking, there should be one pre-season sample and the interval between sampling should not exceed one month. Since a late start of monitoring and/or low frequency do not necessarily indicate unsatisfactory bathing water quality, it has been accepted that the first sample in the 2011 season could be taken shortly after the start of the season (but within 10 days after the start), and the maximum interval between two samples taken into account is 41 days. These criteria are described as less strict. In this report a compliance class under the strict rules and less strict criteria are presented.

2. Length of bathing season and number of bathing waters

The bathing season started between 15 June and 1 July 2011 and ended between 30 August and 20 September 2011 for coastal bathing waters. Inland bathing waters opened between 1 June and 30 July 2011 and closed between 25 August and 26 September 2011.

A total of 220 bathing waters were monitored in Poland during the 2011 bathing season, of which 89 were coastal bathing waters and 131 were inland bathing waters (21 on rivers; 110 on lakes). A total of 17 coastal and 164 inland bathing waters were reported as de-listed (permanently closed) compared to the previous year. A total of 18 coastal and 58 inland bathing waters were added to the list.

With 220 reported bathing waters Poland accounts for about 1.0 % of the reported bathing waters of the European Union.

3. Bathing water quality

The results of the bathing water quality in Poland for the period 2005-2010 as reported in the past reporting years and for the bathing season of 2011 are presented in Figure 1. The previous reports are available on the European Commission's bathing water quality website (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/index_en.html; Water/ Bathing Water/ 2005-2011 reports) and the European Environment Agency's bathing water website (http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water; reports for the 2008, 2009 and 2010 bathing seasons).

The graphs show, for coastal and inland bathing waters separately:

- The percentage of bathing waters that comply with the guide values (class CG, blue line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that comply with the mandatory values (class CI, green line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that do not comply with the mandatory values (class NC, red line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that are banned or closed (class B, grey line).

Table 1 shows the same information in absolute numbers and in percentages for coastal, inland and all bathing waters from 2008 on. The numbers and percentages of insufficiently sampled or not sampled bathing waters are also presented.

A map given in Appendix 1 shows the location and quality of the bathing waters.

Coastal bathing waters

In Poland, 100.0 % of the coastal bathing waters met the mandatory water quality in 2011. This is an increase of 25.0 % compared to the previous year. The rate of compliance with the guide values increased from 15.9 % to 80.9 %. No bathing waters (0.0 %) had to be closed during the bathing season, the same as in 2010.

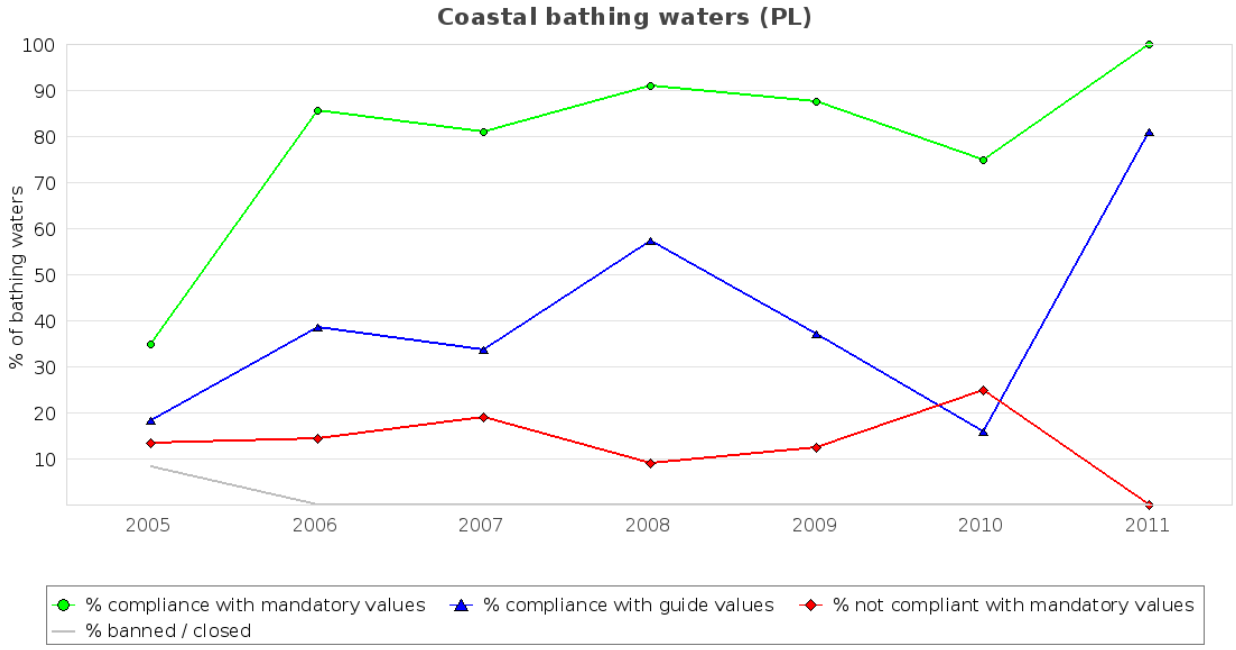
For comparison since the start of the reporting please see Figure 1.

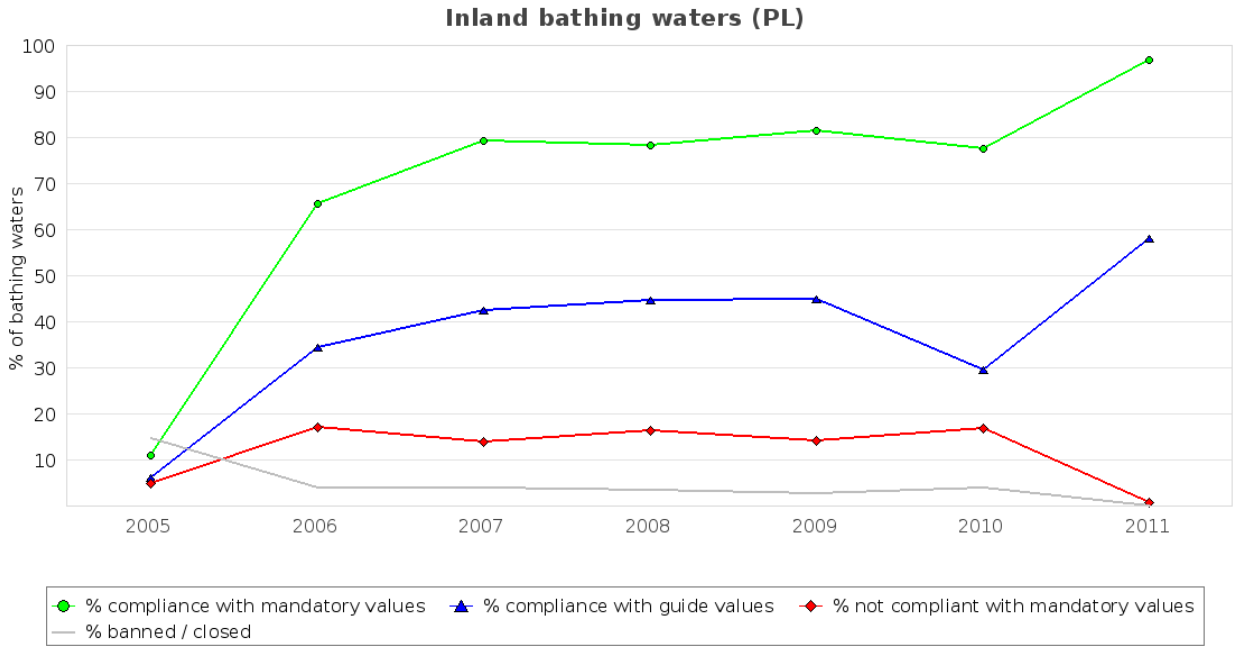
Inland bathing waters

Some 96.9 % of the inland bathing waters met the mandatory water quality in 2011. This is an increase of 19.4 % compared to the previous year. The rate of compliance with the guide values increased from 29.5 % to 58.0 %. One bathing water (0.8 %) was non-compliant with the mandatory value for *Escherichia coli* compared to 38 in 2010, which is a decrease of 15.9 %. No bathing waters (0.0 %) were classified as closed compared to nine (4.0 %) in 2010. Three bathing waters (2.3 %) were insufficiently sampled compared to four (1.8 %) in 2010.

For comparison since the start of the reporting please see Figure 1.

Figure 1: Results of bathing water quality in Poland from 2005 to 2011





Note: Data until 2008 is available in the previous reports at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/index_en.html; Water/Bathing Water/ 2005-2011 reports.

Table 1: Results of bathing water quality in Poland from 2008 to 2011

PL												
		Total number of bathing waters	Compliance with guide and mandatory values*		Compliance with mandatory values		Not compliant		Banned/closed		Insufficiently sampled or not sampled	
			number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Coastal bathing waters	2008	89	51	57.3	81	91.0	8	9.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2009	89	33	37.1	78	87.6	11	12.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2010	88	14	15.9	66	75.0	22	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2011	89	72	80.9	89	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2011(s)	89	72	80.9	89	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Inland bathing waters	2008	231	103	44.6	181	78.4	38	16.5	8	3.5	4	1.7
	2009	232	104	44.8	189	81.5	33	14.2	6	2.6	4	1.7
	2010	227	67	29.5	176	77.5	38	16.7	9	4.0	4	1.8
	2011	131	76	58.0	127	96.9	1	0.8	0	0.0	3	2.3
	2011(s)	131	75	57.3	126	96.2	1	0.8	0	0.0	4	3.1
All bathing waters	2008	320	154	48.1	262	81.9	46	14.4	8	2.5	4	1.3
	2009	321	137	42.7	267	83.2	44	13.7	6	1.9	4	1.2
	2010	315	81	25.7	242	76.8	60	19.0	9	2.9	4	1.3
	2011	220	148	67.3	216	98.2	1	0.5	0	0.0	3	1.4
	2011(s)	220	147	66.8	215	97.7	1	0.5	0	0.0	4	1.8

*Bathing waters which were compliant with the guide values were also compliant with the mandatory values for five parameters under the Directive 76/160/EEC (2008-2010) or the mandatory value for *Escherichia coli* (2011).

(s)Strict rules applied (see Chapter 1 of this report).

4. Important information as provided by the Polish authorities

A total of 181 bathing waters were permanently closed in Poland due to the following reason: bathing waters do not fulfil standards because of full implementation of Directive 2006/7/EC in 2011 into national law and lack of finances. Additional reasons for changes to a list of bathing waters are provided in two separate documents (http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/pl/eu/nbwd/envtv1zvw/Poland_Anex.pdf, http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/pl/eu/nbwd/envtfx1tq/Annex_to_change_Poland2011.doc; restricted access to public).

The Polish authorities have also reported significant management measures (Table 2). In Table 2 short-term pollution duration is also given.

Table 2: Information on management measures for the 2011 season as reported by the Polish authorities

Unique Identification Code of Bathing Water	Bathing Water Name	River Basin District	Water Body Name	Bathing Water Category	Comments, Management Measures*
PL4211004332000051	Myśliborskie	Oder	Myśliborskie	Lake	Short term pollution: 2011-08-16 - 2011-08-19; temporarily closed because of EC from 18.08.2011 to 22.08.2011
PL4121602430000064	Kąpielisko przy ORS Przemysław Czarnecki	Oder	Rogoźno	Lake	temporary closed because of EC from 19.07.2011 to 26.07.2011
PL4121602530000065	Kąpielisko prowizoryczne Nienawiszcz	Oder	Dopływ z Nienawiszcza	Lake	temporary closed because of EC from 19.07.2011 to 26.07.2011
PL6230601128000004	Kąpielisko miejskie	Vistula	Niegocin	Lake	temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 26.07.2011 to 27.07.2011
PL1246301114000025	Borki	Vistula	Mleczna bez Pacynki	Lake	temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 26.07.2011 to 16.08.2011
PL3220902518000004	Wędrowiec	Vistula	Brusienka	River	temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 20.07.2011 to 25.07.2011

Unique Identification Code of Bathing Water	Bathing Water Name	River Basin District	Water Body Name	Bathing Water Category	Comments, Management Measures*
PL4156401130000026	Strzeszyn	Oder	Bogdanka	Lake	temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 18.07.2011 to 03.08.2011
PL5200705516000003	Jezioro Nyskie	Oder	Nysa Kłodzka od oddzielenia się Młynówki Pomi	Lake	temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 03.09.2011 to 04.09.2011
PL4221501132000065	Plaża miejska	Oder	Trzesiecko	Lake	temporarily closed because of IE from 04.07.2011 to 05.07.2011
PL1246301114000038	Borki od strony ul. Bulwarowej	Vistula	Dopływ spod Strzyżyny	Lake	New BW; temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 26.07.2011 to 16.08.2011
PL5110812402000028	Zalew Radków	Oder	Posna	Lake	New BW; temporary closed because of EC&IE from 22.07.2011 to 22.08.2011
PL6310307222000076	Kąpielisko nad jeziorem Szczytno przy Osrodku Rekreacyjno-Wypoczynkowym "Rzewnica"	Vistula	Szczytno	Lake	New BW; temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 03.08.2011 to 31.08.2011
PL6211504228000027	Kąpielisko w Pelniku nad jeziorem Isąg	Vistula	Isąg (Żelazne)	Lake	New BW; temporary closed because of cyanobacterial from 30.06.2011 to 07.07.2011
PL4221501132000083	Plaża Wojskowa	Oder	Trzesiecko	Lake	New BW; temporarily closed because of EC from 29.07.2011 to 04.08.2011
PL4121602430000063	Kąpielisko miejskie Rogoźno	Oder	Rogoźno	Lake	change BWName; temporary closed because of EC from 19.07.2011 to 18.07.2011

*For all bathing waters: Establishing a bathing water profile and a monitoring calendar; all bathing waters monitored, assessed and cause of pollution identified. Information to the public offered, and actions to prevent bathers´s exposure to pollution implemented. Information relating to water quality displayed on www.http://www.pis.gov.pl/?dep=967 website and at the bathing location. The information on pollution is available to the public at the bathing water and in the local and national web site.

5. More information on bathing water quality in Europe

Of the more than 21 000 bathing areas monitored throughout the European Union in 2011, two thirds were in coastal waters and the rest in rivers and lakes. The largest numbers of coastal bathing waters can be found in Italy, Greece, France and Spain, while Germany and France have the highest numbers of inland bathing waters.

During recent years, including the 2011 bathing season, majority of Member States have adjusted their monitoring programmes to meet the requirements of the new bathing water directive (2006/7/EC). Luxembourg was the first country to report under this Directive in 2007. Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden started to report under the new directive in 2008. Malta and the Netherlands started to report in 2009. Austria, Belgium - Walloon Region, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Slovenia reported under the new directive for the first time in 2010, while Belgium - Flemish Region, Bulgaria, Ireland and Poland reported under this Directive for the first time in 2011. Historical data of two microbiological parameters, *Escherichia coli* and intestinal enterococci were sent by Sweden (2005-2007), Luxembourg (2006), Malta (2006-2008), Belgium - Walloon Region (2007-2009), Belgium - Flemish Region (2008-2010), Greece (2007-2009), Hungary (2007) and Portugal (2007-2009).

Three non-EU countries, Croatia, Montenegro and Switzerland have reported monitoring results under the new directive. Croatia and Switzerland started to report in 2009, while Montenegro reported for the first time in 2010. Switzerland sent data on *Escherichia coli* for all bathing waters but only for some data on intestinal enterococci.

For the 2011 season, bathing water quality has been assessed under the new bathing water directive in 16 European countries. This is 13 more than for 2010 bathing season. Only three countries - the Czech Republic, Romania and the United Kingdom - are still assessed under the old bathing water directive. Eleven countries are assessed under the transition period rules.

Overall in 2011, 92.1 % of bathing waters in the EU met the minimum water quality standards set by the bathing water directives. Bathing water quality increased at 0.6 % of sites in 2011 compared to 2010. The proportion of bathing waters with excellent quality (or complying with the more stringent guide values) increased by 3.5 percentage points compared to 2010, reaching 77.1 %. The share of non-compliant bathing waters was 1.8 %, which was a 0.1 percentage point increase from 2010. In 2011, 207 bathing waters were banned or closed (1 %), which was 57 more than in the 2010 bathing season.

More information on bathing water quality in the European Member States, including the EU summary report, the reports for 27 Member States, Croatia, Montenegro and Switzerland, can be found on the European Commission's bathing water quality website (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/index_en.html) and the European Environment Agency's bathing water website (http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water). The Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia (IWRS), a partner in the EEA European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ETC/ICM) has produced the reports for the bathing seasons from the 2008 bathing season on. Countries have collaborated in the assessment of bathing water quality and supplied additional information when needed.

Interactive information on bathing water quality

The bathing water section of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE), which is accessible at the EEA bathing water website, allows users to view the bathing water quality at more than 22 000 coastal beaches and inland sites across Europe. Users can check bathing water quality on an interactive map or can download data for a selected country or region and make comparisons with previous years.

The WISE map viewer (http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/interactive//bathing) is an online map viewer for visualising European spatial water data. It includes a lot of interactive layers, allowing water themes to be visualised at different scales. Broad resolutions display the aggregated data by Member State. At finer resolutions the locations of monitoring stations are displayed.

The WISE bathing water quality data viewer (http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/bathing-water-data-viewer) combines text and graphical visualisation, providing a quick check on locations and statistics on the quality of coastal and inland bathing waters. It also documents how bathing waters have changed throughout Europe in recent years and provides a full summary of Europe's bathing water quality. Users can search information at three spatial levels - country, region and province - and observe specific bathing water locations on Google Earth, Google maps or Bing maps.

The Eye on Earth - Water Watch application (http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/explore-interactive-maps/eye-on-earth) allows users to zoom in on a section of the coast, riverbank or lake, both in street map or, where available, bird's eye viewing formats. A 'traffic-light' indicator (red, amber, green) of bathing water quality, based on the official bathing water data, is put alongside the ratings of people who have visited the bathing site, including any comments added by users. For historical data Water Watch uses a simplified index of bathing water quality data. The Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland (one municipality), Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovakia, Slovenia, England and Wales were also sending near real time information on bathing water quality to the Eye on Earth application. The bathing water quality for Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Scotland and Northern Ireland was also presented on the Eye on Earth - Water Watch.

National and local information on bathing water quality

In order to make information to the public more effective, all EU countries have national or local web portals with detailed information for each bathing water. Websites generally include a map search function and public access to the monitoring results both in real time and for previous seasons.

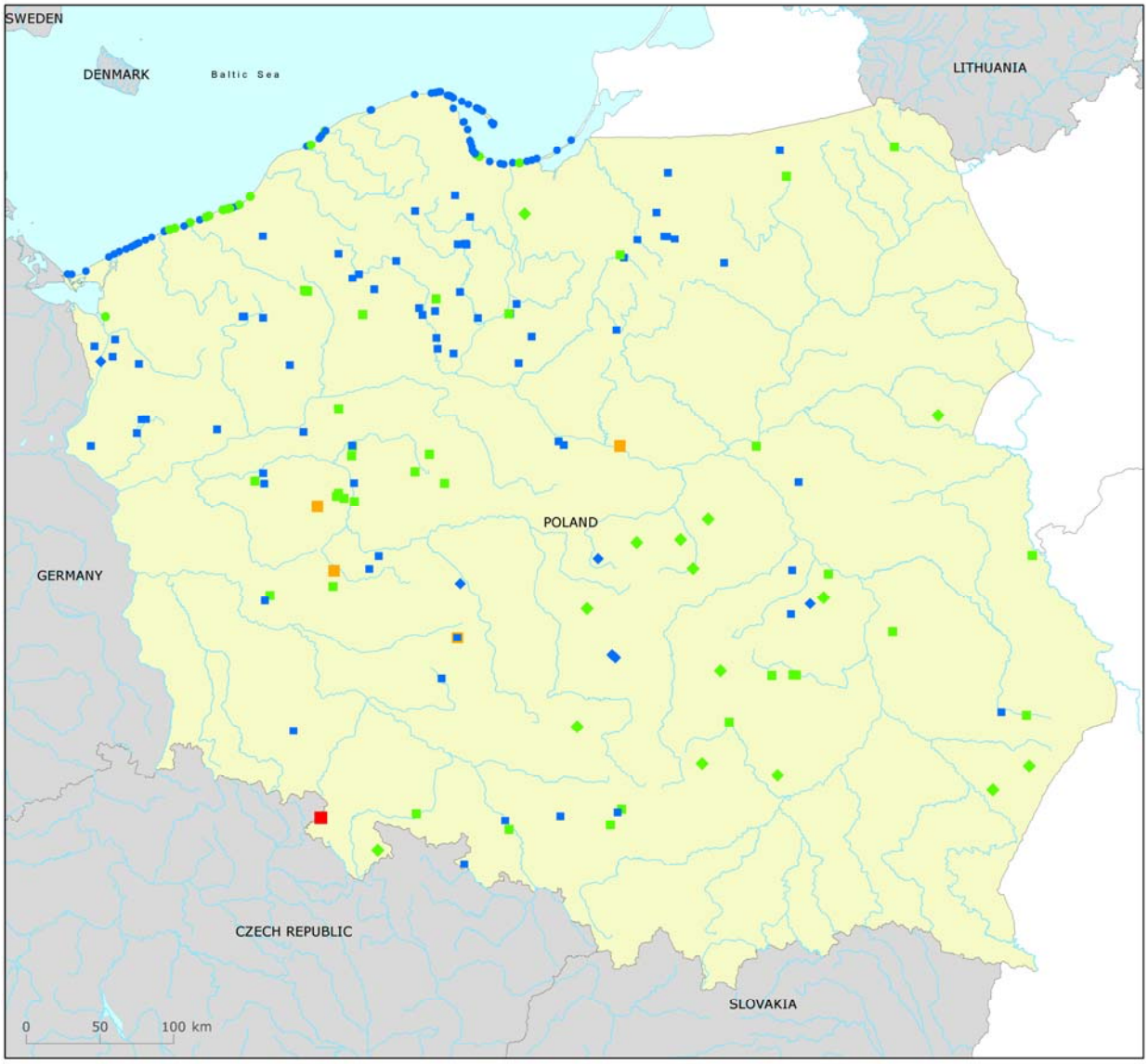
Information on EU bathing water legislation

EU Member States will have to comply with the stricter and more ambitious requirements laid out in Directive 2006/7/EC by 2015 at the latest. The new legislation requires more effective monitoring and management of bathing waters, greater public participation and improved information dissemination. By March 2011 Member States have to have established bathing water profiles. More on the new legislation

can be found on the European Commission's websites and on http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:064:0037:0051:EN:PDF.

Appendix 1

Map 1: Bathing waters reported during the 2011 bathing season in Poland



Note: More data on bathing water quality on: http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/mapviewers/bathing
Source: National boundaries: GISCO; Large rivers and lakes: EEA, WFD Article 3; Bathing waters data and coordinates: Polish authorities