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Poland Living Lab

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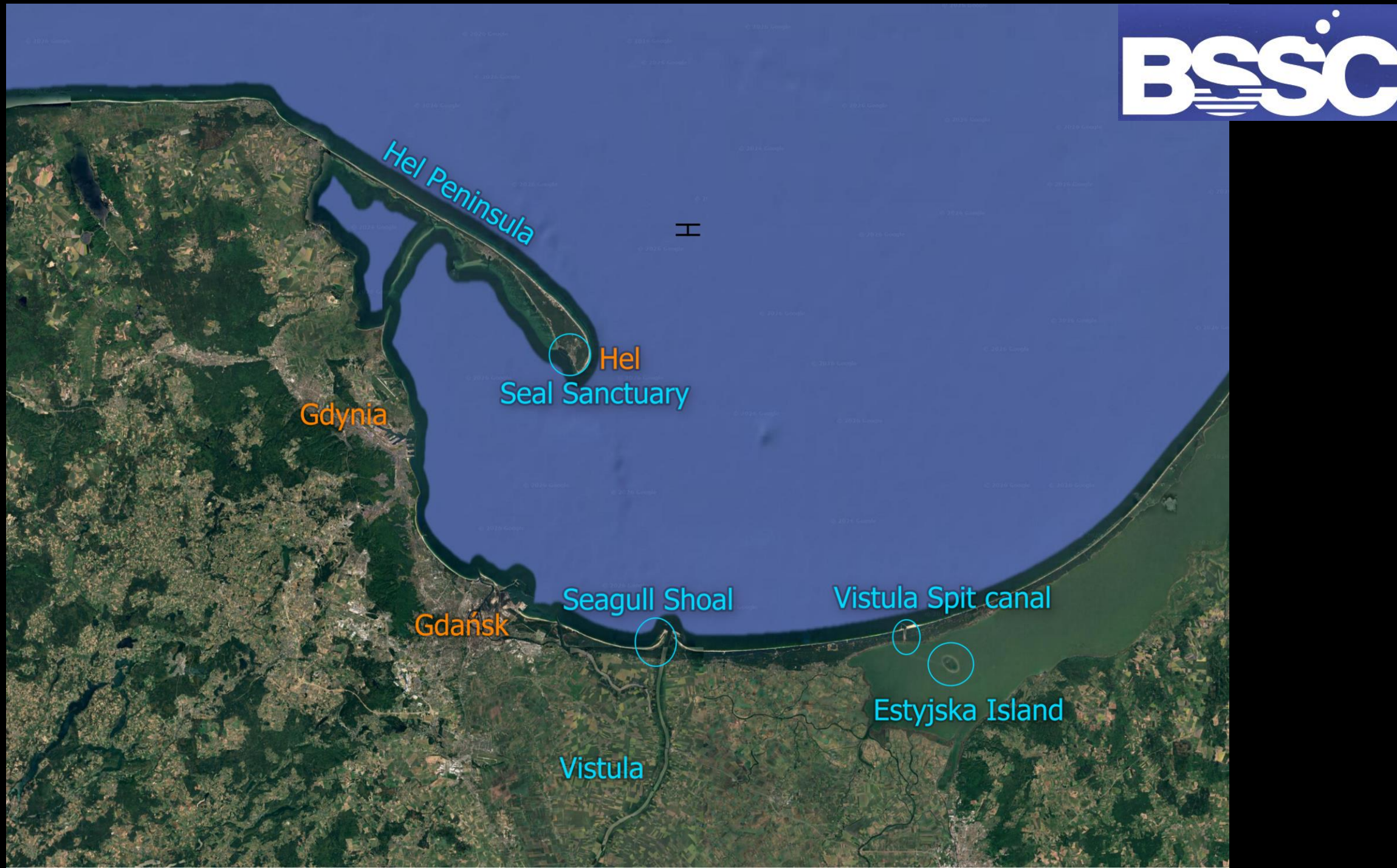
POMERANIAN BLUE TOURISM ECOSYSTEM - BEST PRACTICES SHOWCASE

KAMIL RADAJAK, MIKOŁAJ WOJCIECHOWSKI

bluedots

POMERANIA – THE LAND OF WATER

- Unique brackish water ecosystem (low salinity: ~7‰)
- Over 300 km of diverse Baltic Sea coastline (pomeranian voivodeship)
- Nearly 1/3 of the region is under environmental protection (600,000 hectares)
- Home to 2 National Parks and 134 Nature Reserves


Hel Peninsula
Hel
Seal Sanctuary
Gdynia
Gdańsk
Seagull Shoal
Vistula Spit canal
Estyjska Island
Vistula

ESTYJSKA ISLAND

- Man-made 190 hectare sanctuary creates a net biodiversity gain for the Vistula Lagoon
- Total isolation protects nesting waterbirds from land predators and human interference
- Strictly wild habitat directly compensates for regional biodiversity and habitat loss
- Non-invasive birdwatching from distance offers a high-value regenerative tourism product

SEAL SANCTUARY

- Specialized hospital treats seals injured by maritime and industrial activities
- Active restoration grew the grey seal population from 5,000 to 40,000
- GPS migration data guides the sustainable placement of offshore investments
- Education shifts tourist behavior from exploitation toward active protection

SEAGULL SHOAL

Unique sandbar landscape at the Vistula mouth creates a highly dynamic coastal habitat

Poland's only nesting site for the Sandwich Tern hosting 100,000 birds during migration

Premier haul-out area for grey seals with regular sightings of several hundred individuals

Seasonal stopover for over 100,000 migratory birds