

Coastal Protection Zone Legal Regulation in Latvia

Inga Belasova

17.10.2008

Jūrmala

MINISTRY OF THE
ENVIRONMENT



OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LATVIA

Protection Zone Law, 1997

The purpose of the Law shall be to determine:




- the types of protection zones and the functions (environmental and natural resources; exploitation; sanitary and security protection zones -19 types)*
- the basic principles for the establishment of protection zones*
- the procedures for the maintenance and control of the condition of protection zones*
- restrictions of economic activity in protection zones.*

The Baltic Sea and Gulf of Riga Coastal protection zone

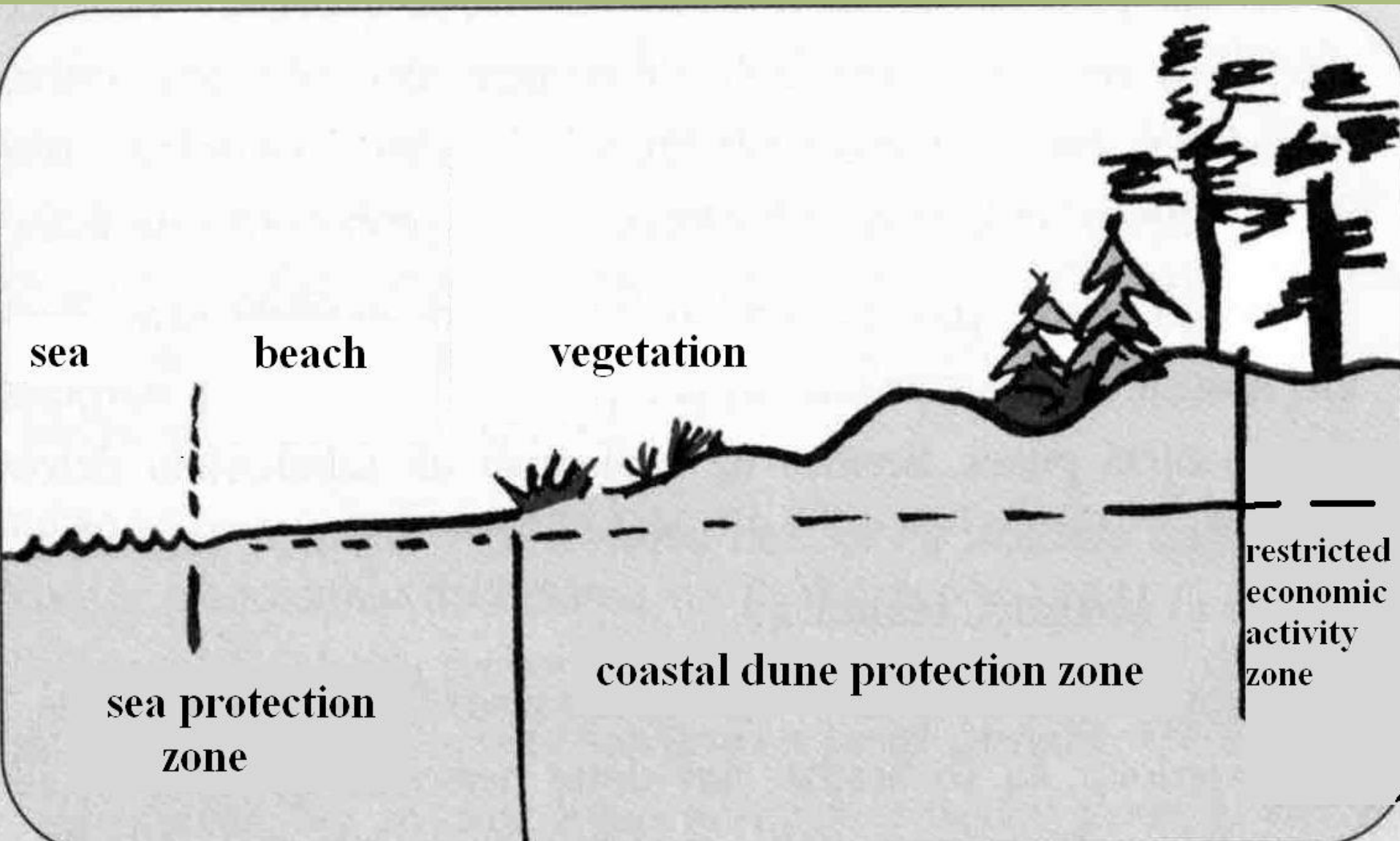
Coastal protection zone has been established in order:

- to decrease the effects of pollution in the Baltic Sea,*
- to preserve the protective functions of the forest,*
- to eliminate the development of erosion processes,*
- to protect the coastal landscapes,*
- to ensure preservation and protection of coastal natural resources, including resources necessary for leisure and tourism and other territories important for society*

The Baltic Sea and Gulf of Riga coastal protection zone


-  ***the protection zone of coastal dunes*** the width of which shall be dependent upon the width of dune zone, but not less than 300 metres in the direction of land, counting from the place where the natural land vegetation begins, except cities and villages where coastal dune protection zone shall be not less than 150 metres, including the specially protected biotopes therein
-  ***the sea protection zone***, which includes the beach and the part of sub-continental shelf up to the 10 metre isobath
-  ***restricted economic activity zone*** up to a width of 5 kilometres, which shall be determined taking into account natural circumstances.

Coastal protection zone



Main restrictions

Coastal protection zone:

-  *Borders of villages have to be coordinated with the Ministry of Environment and confirmed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government*

Restricted economic activity zone (5 km zone):

-  *Outside cities and villages new land property – not less than 3 hectares*
-  *Clearcuttings*




Main restrictions

Coastal dune protection zone and beach:

- 🌳 New building and enlarging of existing houses***
- 🌳 Exceptions: port development, auxiliary buildings at the existing dwelling houses, building in the cities***
- 🌳 EIA and spatial plan of local municipality***




Main restrictions

Coastal dune protection zone and beach:

-  *Privatization (alienation) of the land owned by the State or local selfgovernment*
-  *Moving with mechanical vehicles in beach, forest, agricultural land*
-  *Extraction of mineral resources*

Main restrictions

Coastal dune protection zone:

-  *Final felling*
-  *Transformation of forest land without order of the Cabinet of Ministers*
-  *Placing of tents, campings and fire outside arranged places*

Amendments of the Law




Ministry of Environment

Coastal dune protection zone

- Enlarging of existing buildings up to 30%***
- Measures for coastal defence***
- Arranging of the parking places***

EIA and spatial plan of local municipality

Other ideas of the changes in the Law

-  *To change restriction to alienate the land owned by the State or Local Municipalities*
-  *To incorporate restrictions of the Protection Zone Law in other legal acts*
-  *To change the principles for the establishment of coastal protection zone*



Thank You!

www.vidm.gov.lv

MINISTRY OF THE
ENVIRONMENT



OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LATVIA