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Annex 2.1.4.5 Danish comments on the high/good boundary, reference selection and the national method (DSFI)

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Intercalibration - comments to the high/good boundary

According to the WFD Intercalibration technical report, data on macroinvertebrates from Danish streams indicate a slightly too high value for the high/good boundary (fall outside the HG band). Denmark is asked either to change the MS EQR boundary to fall within the harmonisation band or to justify why there should be no change in the Danish high/good boundary.

We believe that the reason for Denmark falling outside the HG band is an artefact. Inspection of the Danish dataset shows that a relatively high proportion of the sites with DSFI index value of 7 are close to "reference" (best available sites). We therefore believe that ICMi values corresponding to DSFI=7 in general are higher in the material used for the intercalibration than typically found in Danish streams with DSFI=7.

Alternately, a change in the Danish boundary between high and good status from DSFI 6/7 to DSFI 5/6 would change the Danish MS EQR to fall below the HG harmonisation band.

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