



Funding

The Project will run for three years and is funded by:



Contact details

If you are a skipper working in Scotland's harbours and want to get involved please contact us:

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Fishing For Litter



Fishing For Litter Scotland





What is Fishing For Litter?

Fishing for litter is a simple idea. Participating vessels are given hard wearing bags to collect marine litter that is caught in their nets as part of normal fishing activities. Full bags are deposited on the quayside where the bag is moved by harbour staff to a dedicated skip for disposal.

Fishing for Litter Scotland, administered by the local authorities environmental organisation KIMO UK, is an environmental project designed to reduce the amount of marine litter in our seas by physically removing it and to engage the fishing industry to ensure waste management practices are robust.

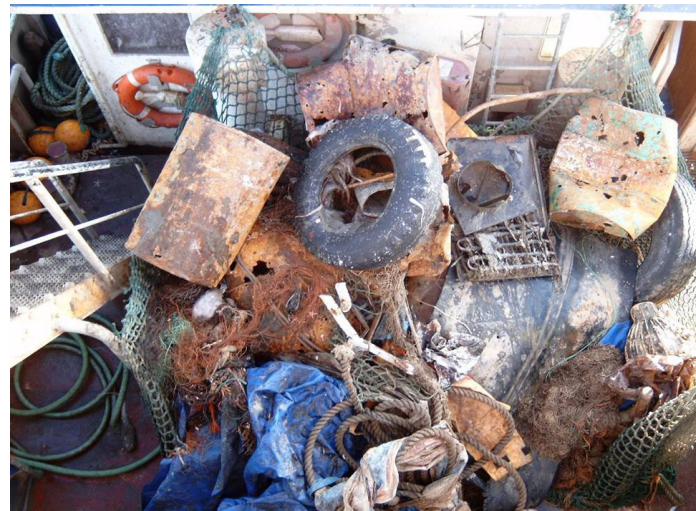
Why become involved in Fishing For Litter?

Because marine litter costs money. The KIMO report entitled *The Impacts of Marine Litter* (Mouat, Lopez Lozano and Bateson, 2010) found that rubbish costs the Scottish fishing fleet approximately £11.5 million each year. Dumped catch due to contamination, repairs to gear and lost fishing time was found to cost each vessel between £15,000 and £17,000 each year.

In addition to the direct cost to the fishing industry, huge amounts of marine litter wash up on our coastline every year, affecting all sectors and marine users. Litter is not only an eyesore; thousands of marine animals die from entanglement in, and ingestion of marine litter every year. There is also the significant cost to local authorities to clean up our beaches and coastal areas, ultimately costing the taxpayer.

Aims of the Project

Fishing for Litter Scotland will establish a network of 17 harbours around Scotland. The goal is to make it straightforward for the boats involved to collect bags or drop off waste at their convenience. The scheme aims to encourage 300 boats to take part with the aim of collecting 275 tonnes of marine litter from the waters around Scotland over three years. The project will also analyse some of the waste that comes ashore to try and identify the type and source of the litter.



Project Co-ordination

The project is being co-ordinated by KIMO UK from their base in Aberdeenshire. KIMO UK is part of an European association of coastal local authorities whose goal is to eliminate pollution from the marine environment.



Fishing For Litter

