



Advice for fishing ports & harbour masters

Responsibly managing resources and waste to prevent pollution incidents, minimise waste and protect our natural world.



Environment Agency

We are the Environment Agency. We protect and improve the environment.

We help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion.

We improve the quality of our water, land and air by tackling pollution. We work with businesses to help them comply with environmental regulations. A healthy and diverse environment enhances people's lives and contributes to economic growth.

We can't do this alone. We work as part of the Defra group (Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), with the rest of government, local councils, businesses, civil society groups and local community to create a better place for people and wildlife.

Preventing Plastic Pollution project

This resource is funded by the Interreg Preventing Plastic Pollution Project, a partnership of 18 organisations working across England and France.

For more information visit the website preventingplasticpollution.com

Introduction

Every day the fishing industry uses a variety of products that have potential to cause environmental harm (fishing nets, pots, oils and anti-foul products, for example).

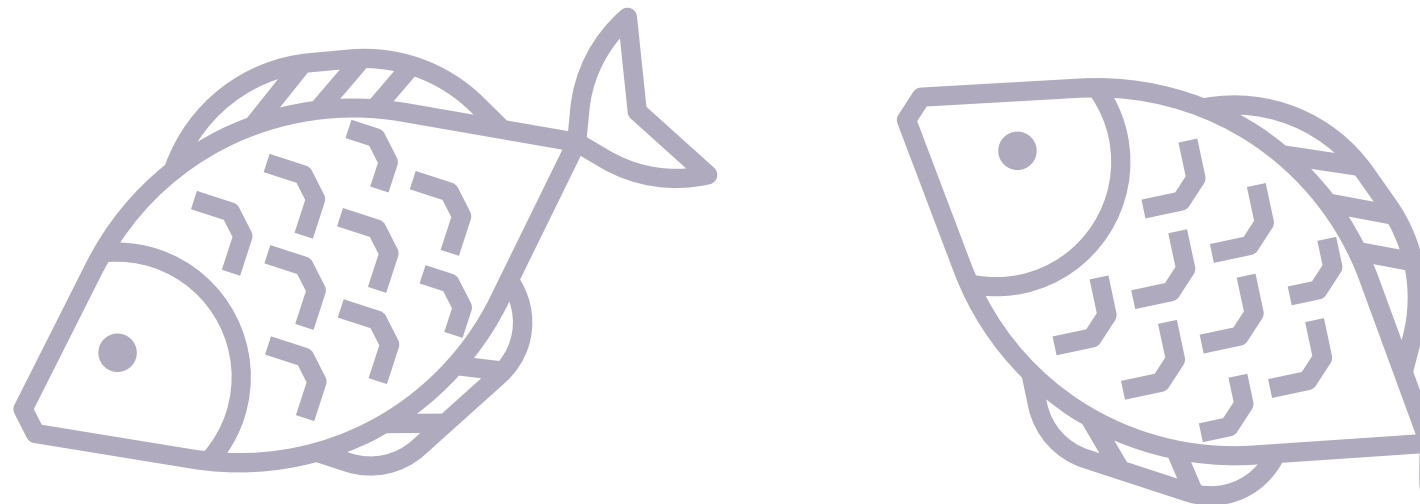
What happens when these materials reach the end of their life? And how do waste management practices affect our planet, including fish stocks?

This advice sets out how port managers can responsibly manage resources and waste from fishing vessels at boatyards, harbours and marinas to prevent pollution incidents, minimise waste, and protect our natural world.

The advice, which is in line with government legislation,* focuses on two waste streams that can be difficult to manage – plastics and hazardous waste.

**Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities Regulations 2003), as amended.*

**Further information for port operators in relation to comply with the Port Waste Facilities Regulations can be found in MGN563 Amendment 1.*



Poor management of waste from fishing vessels damages our natural environment

Fishing gear

Fishing vessels use different types of fishing gear. Without proper shoreside disposal of end-of-life gear, abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded gear can impact on fish stocks and navigation.

This includes:

Fewer fish: Can cause up to 30% reduction in fish catches¹.

Fouled propellers: In 2008 there were 286 rescues of vessels with fouled propellers in UK waters, costing over £2.2 million.

Harm to British wildlife: 344 species have been caught in plastic pollution. This is a concern for grey seals and protected species².

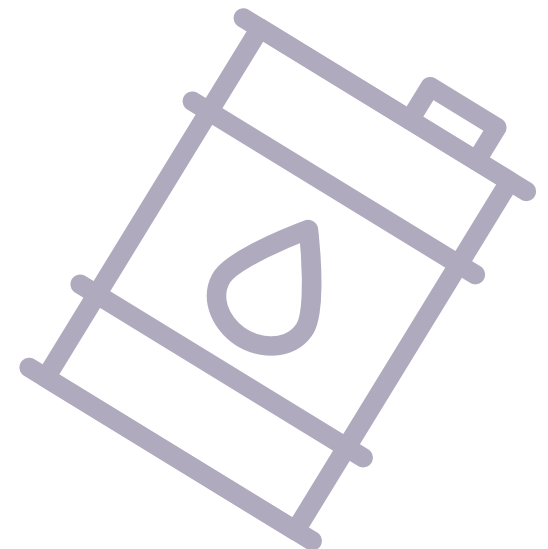
Restricts catch: Recent survey results showed 86% of vessels had experienced a restricted catch due to rubbish in the sea, 82% had their catch contaminated, and 95% had snagged their nets on debris on the seabed³.

Oil

Oil is a highly visible form of pollution. Without proper shoreside waste management, it harms plants and animals, damages water and land, and destroys natural habitats. It is the most frequently reported type of water pollution incident, causing over 16% of reported incidents annually.

Anti-foulant products

Anti-foulants are used by many port users, including fishing vessels, to prevent hull fouling and improve fuel efficiency. Many are designed to kill or discourage naturally occurring organisms. Without proper waste management, these products can cause damage to our water environment.



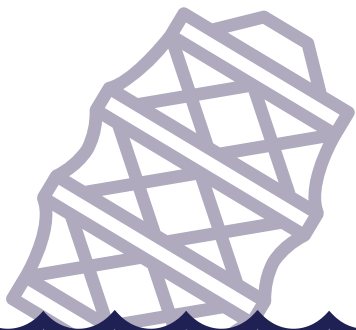
Good recycling and waste management facilities means you can control waste safely. Follow these simple steps:

Hard plastics and end of life nets

Hard plastics are a valuable resource that can be collected separately in quayside bins and repeatedly reused. This is an important step towards building a circular economy (where waste is eliminated, resources reused, and wildlife protected).

Existing schemes, such as the Ocean Recovery Project and Net Regeneration Project, have demonstrated a reduction in general waste collection fees and a recycling increase since introducing bins.

Contact schemes directly for additional information.

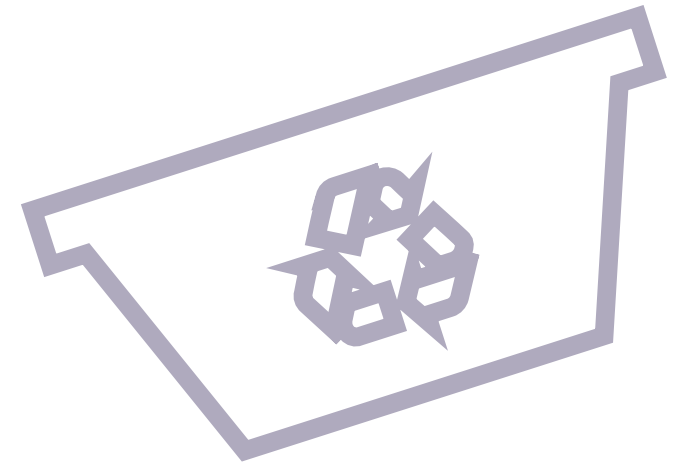


Waste reception facilities

UK regulations require ports to provide waste reception facilities and clear facility and clear signage.

Good positioning of recycling facilities, signage, and information for port users, are all ways to prevent pollution and contamination of recycling.

- Make sure skips and bins are easily accessible
- Include clear signage and colour coding for material types at recycling points
- Provide lids for all waste and recycling containers (prevents spillage from seagulls and poor weather)
- Communicate with staff and users about their safe use
- Monitor bins regularly to avoid overflowing/ material being placed next to bin
- Pictorial signs avoid the need for translation
- If the facilities are mobile the signage should make it clear how to locate and use them
- Provide separate collection points for used oil absorbents, fire extinguishers and flares for later disposal at an authorised waste management facility



Please give us feedback

Please provide feedback on the contents of this advice. Scan this QR code and it will take you through to a short online survey. Your feedback will be anonymous and will be used for evaluation purposes only.

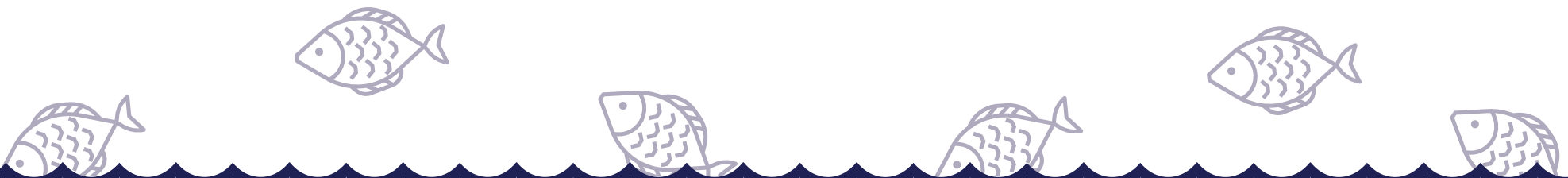


Useful links

- thegreenblue.org.uk/
- www.coatings.org.uk/antifouling.aspx
- www.gov.uk/guidance/how-we-respond-to-marinepollution-incidents#environmental-response-to-marinepollution-incidents
- www.gov.uk/government/publications/waste-dutyof-care-code-of-practice <https://www.gov.uk/how-to-classify-different-types-ofwaste>
- MGN563 Amendment 1- Port Waste Reception Facilities https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/899732/MGN_563_Amendment_1_R0720.pdf
- MGN398- Anti Foul Systems https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/918989/MGN_398.pdf
- MGN632 Amendment 1- Prevention of Pollution from Garbage https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/919758/MGN_632_-_Amendment_1.pdf

References

1. Rapid assessment of evidence collation on Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG). (2019). Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science Ref: SAR-369.
2. Kühn, S., Rebolledo, E.L.B. and van Franeker, J.A., 2015. Deleterious effects of litter on marine life. Springer, Cham, pp.75-116.
3. Mouat (2010). Economic impacts of marine litter.



Hazardous waste storage information for port and harbour managers

Hazardous waste causes the greatest risk of harm to health and the environment. This waste type requires additional tracking controls and consignment notes before it can be moved.

Listed below are ten of the most common hazardous waste types, and storage advice, for boatyards, marinas and harbours. Some of the below wastes are mirror entry waste streams and so should be assessed in accordance with technical guidance document WM3 prior to assigning the listed code.

By responsibly managing resources and waste, you can help prevent pollution incidents, minimise waste and protect our natural world.

For more information on hazardous waste identification, storage, and removal, visit:

- www.gov.uk/dispose-hazardous-waste
- www.gov.uk/how-to-classify-different-types-of-waste

Waste type	Storage	Description
Lead acid batteries Starter and leisure (house) batteries	Store in a secure container that prevents the ingress of water and has an acid resistant base	EWC code: 16-06-01* Lead batteries
Hazardous anti-foul paint tins and accessories Empty paint tins Brushes, roller trays and rollers	Store in a leak proof container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 15-01-10* Packaging contaminated by hazardous substances (empty paint tins) EWC Code: 17 09 03* Brushes, roller trays and rollers contaminated by hazardous substances (anti-foul paint)
Engine/gear oil Used engine and gear oil from diesel or petrol engines	Store in an appropriately banded (double skinned) tank	EWC code: 13-02-08* Engine, gear and lubricating oils
Oil filters Used oil filters from petrol or diesel engines	Store in a leak proof container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 16-01-07* Oil filters from petrol/diesel engines
Oil interceptor/grit chamber contents Oily water, sludge and grit	Ensure any oil/water separators or grit chambers are regularly checked to ensure they are functioning correctly	EWC code: 13-05-02* Sludges from oil/water separators EWC code: 13-05-06* Oil from oil/water separators EWC code: 13-05-07* Oily water from oil/water separators
Hazardous anti-foul paint scrapings/sanding dust From paint removal below waterline	Store in a secure container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 08-01-17 Waste paint or varnish containing hazardous substances from anti-foul paint removal
Waste electronic equipment CRT monitors, flat screen monitors	Store in a secure container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 20 01 35** Waste electrical equipment with hazardous components (CRT monitors/flat screens) * This is also POPs waste – see additional guidance in links above
Hazardous engine coolant From engines with closed loop cooling systems	Store in a leak proof container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 16-01-14* Antifreeze fluids containing hazardous substances
Fuel oil and diesel From engines and heating systems	Store in an appropriately banded (double skinned) tank	EWC code: 13-07-01* Fuel oil and diesel
Hazardous wiping cloths/absorbents From clearing oil parts or surfaces	Store in a leak proof container that prevents the ingress of water	EWC code: 15-02-02* Wiping cloths contaminated with hazardous substances (oil contamination)

