

Fishing for Litter South West

2014 - 2017

End of 2015 Report

This year sees the end of matching funding projects for FFL from the EU through the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Fisheries Local Action Group and the North Devon FLAG. They have matched other investments by project funders and enabled significant progress. Some funding for the period to April 2017 is in place to enable the project to continue but new matching funders are being actively sought.

Fishing for Litter Project Operation

The project has been in operation since 2007 in the South West and has worked to achieve targets as set out in the Business Plans and Proposals made for the 2014 – 2017 period.

At the end of 2015 it is maintaining its successful provision of marine litter collection facilities in 11 harbours across south west England.

Coordination of the project has been managed by Seafood Cornwall Training Limited who have ensured that Liaison Officer has been available throughout Cornwall and the South Devon. The AONB in North Devon has run a project funded by their Fisheries Local Action Group to expand to Ilfracombe and Clovelly fishing ports plus beach watch / beach clean community and education activities.

Highlights of 2014 – 2015

Fishing For Litter Bin Survey August 2015 carried out by Zoological Society of London as part of the scoping to establish suitability of marine litter for recycling.

Types and materials: Items in bins (Photos 1 - 6)





Fishing for Litter – development of promotional information and events

Website www.fishingforlitter.org.uk

Examples of some of the Promotional materials produced

Pull Up Banners



A4 leaflet



Folder



Wheelhouse sticker



Exhibited at Ocean Plastics Awareness Day, Newquay, Cornwall 2015



Fishing for Litter Project Summary of Target and Benefits

1. Network of Fishing for Litter Harbours

Around the south west coast eleven harbours have been maintained to actively operate the Fishing for Litter procedure for the collection of marine litter brought in by the fishermen of the port. Their impact and operation has been continued throughout the period of this project. (Newlyn, St Ives, Hayle, Newquay, Padstow, Looe, Mevagissey, Brixham, Plymouth and in 2015 Salcombe)

Two new harbours have been engaged and the skippers and harbour authorities are ready to bring marine litter ashore. The bins locations have been arranged. (Cadgwith, Port Isaac)

2. Participation by vessels

The old list of vessels has fallen due to changes of owners, skippers, crew and fishing targets. Liaison officers have recruited 55 therefore new total is 177 participating vessels in south west ports.

3. Tonnage of litter collected

Total tonnages are recorded for each invoiced bin and skip service or emptying or exchange. The total for this project from July 2014 to November 2015 is 67 tonnes.

4. Litter monitoring

Litter surveys have been carried out by the project staff in May and September each year. This means that the contents of bins and skips were examined three times during the project period. Following OSPAR procedures the contents are recorded by type, number of items. A record is made of materials, types, and the potential source. In 2015 ZSL undertook a full survey of materials as part of the scoping for recycling trials.

5. OSPAR return

The Fishing for Litter Project completes a return to OSPAR which is collated centrally by the Fishing for Litter UK project and Defra. The data is submitted annually.

6. PR and Education

The project has consistently spread the word with skippers and crews on the marine legislation on waste, on the marine environment, and on bringing in litter. Harbours have posters in place announcing their participation in FFL. Social media has expanded @fishing4litter has 320 followers and Fishing For Litter face book has >600 likers. We have worked closely with the educational training programmes run at Seafood Cornwall Training called Net to Plate to ensure that marine litter and the sources of marine litter are included in their training material and more than 34 primary schools have visited fishing harbours or had visits from skippers.

7. Recycling

Liaison officers are encouraging collection of Nylon net which has a commercial value as scrap for recycling. Liaison officers are also working with recycling scientists and waste projects to find a use for PP and PE trawl net and a trial is proposed for 2016.

Fishing for Litter Future Operations

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