

End-of-life fishing gear and recycling



Discard Action Group

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End-of-life fishing gear (EOLFG)

A sea turtle is shown on the ocean floor, its head and front flippers visible. It is heavily entangled in a dense, tangled mass of green and brown fishing gear, likely a net or trap, which is draped over its back and head. The turtle's head is in the foreground, showing its characteristic patterned scutes. The background is a dark, deep blue ocean with some rocky structures visible in the distance. The overall scene is somber and highlights the impact of marine debris on wildlife.

**Abandoned, lost or otherwise
discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)**

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Pollution

Dumped fishing gear is biggest plastic polluter in ocean, finds report

Greenpeace calls for global action over nets, lines and traps that are deadly for marine life

Sandra Laville
Wed 6 Nov 2019 00:01 GMT

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▲ Fishing nets can continue killing for decades, entangling or suffocating marine life, Greenpeace says. Photograph: Sea Shepherd

Lost and abandoned fishing gear which is deadly to marine life makes up the majority of large plastic pollution in the oceans, according to a report by **Greenpeace**.

More than 640,000 tonnes of nets, lines, pots and traps used in commercial fishing are dumped and discarded in the sea every year, the same weight as 55,000 double-decker buses.

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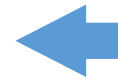
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End-of-Life fishing gear



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(Legislative acts)

DIRECTIVES

**DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/904 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 5 June 2019
on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment**

Singe-Use Plastics Directive*

- Adopted 5th June 2019
- Only considers gears containing plastic
- Extended Producer Responsibility scheme (collection + transport + treatment + awareness raising)
- Fishers / artisanal producers not 'producers'
- Harmonised standards for circular gear design
- National collection targets (view to EU-wide target)

** Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment*

UK position

The UK commitment to implementing the Single-Use Plastics Directive is now dependent on the new government

As a result, Defra thinking leading up to purdah is provided for context only



The way forward – lessons

- Indicative findings - Seafish ports and net manufacturers survey
- DG-Mare workshop (2nd July 2019)

Concluding remarks



THANK YOU
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