

Addressing marine litter from fisheries and aquaculture in the North-East Atlantic

OSPAR assessments show that fishing and aquaculture are important sources of marine litter in the North-East Atlantic. Through its Regional Action Plan, OSPAR is committed to reducing these sources of litter and their impacts by taking measures and other appropriate action across the interconnected aspects of the fisheries lifecycle, from gear design to recycling and waste management.

Fisheries in the North-East Atlantic are regulated through a combination of different arrangements. These include national policies and regulations, the EU Common Fisheries Policy, bilateral and multilateral agreements between countries with shared stocks, and measures adopted by the three regional fisheries management organisations: NEAFC, ICCAT, and NASCO. OSPAR fully recognises the competence of these authorities to regulate fisheries and informs them when it considers action is needed to protect and conserve the North-East Atlantic in relation to fisheries.



Specific items such as dolly rope and net cuttings



Port reception facilities



Expanded and extruded polystyrene fish boxes



Recreational fishing



Aquaculture



Abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear



Circular design



Awareness and education



These are cross cutting concepts that relate to all of the fisheries related actions under the Regional Action Plan.

Find out more

www.ospar.org/work-areas/eiha/marine-litter/regional-action-plan

