

# Policy Ghost Fishing foundation

## Introduction

The Ghost Fishing foundation (GF) is founded as a result of activities regarding the cleaning up of ghostnets carried out by the founding members. To be able to increase the public awareness the idea to create a foundation was born, this made it possible to increase the impact on a global scale.

## Mission

The Ghost Fishing foundation (GF) aims to be a source of information and a means of communication for all projects regarding ghostnets wherever these are carried out. GF shall if possible provide advice, assistance or in certain cases even financial support to project.

## Activities

GF's core activities as mention on the registration at the chamber of commerce:

Creating worldwide public awareness regarding the problems caused when lost fishing gear aka 'ghost fishing'; removal of marine debris including but not limited to derelict fishing gear; advising divers on the subject of safety through instructions or training; providing lectures and education; researching and mapping of local circumstances; recycling salvaged material; cooperating with local organisations.

## Administrative policies

- Forming cooperations with (inter)national initiatives regarding clearing of derelict fishing gear
- Forming cooperations with global conservation initiatives int similar and other fields
- Creating media exposure regarding the problems associated with ghost fishing
- Helping to find solutions regarding the problems associated with ghost fishing
- Raising funds to reach the foundations goals
- Starting activities to mitigate the problems associated with ghost fishing
- Training participants of cleanup activities
- Collaboration with relevant organisations in the diving industry
- Consulting with local governments and organisations to prevent further escalation of the problems regarding ghostnets

## Activities and plans

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|-----------|--|
| Nov 2012  | - Starting the website and social media presence to generate awareness |
| Feb 2013  | - Presence at the national Dutch dive show to promote GF               |
| Feb 2013  | - First international presentation in Helsinki                         |
| June 2013 | - Cleanup project in Croatia with Krnica Dive                          |
| 2013      | - Cleanup project in Italy with Portofino Divers                       |
| 2013      | - Various cleanup actiond on the Dutch North Sea                       |
| June 2014 | - Cleanup project in Croatia with Krnica Dive                          |



May 2016 - Two weeks cleanup action with Greenpeace Germany on the German North Sea

### **Achieved goals:**

Affiliation with Global Underwater Explorers (USA)  
Affiliation with Scuba Academie (NL)  
Affiliation with Hollywood Divers (USA)

### **Fundraising:**

GF has a donate option on the website using PayPal, credit card or direct transfer. Occasionally GF sells apparel (t-shirts) to raise funds. The foundation hopes to receive donations in due time from organisations that support initiatives like GF.

### **Management and use of funds and assets:**

The funds that are donated to GF shall be transferred to our TRIODOS account in the name of Ghost Fishing. This account is only accessible to selected GF board members. The board will designate funds by a majority of votes. Possible spendings are sponsoring of cleanup activities by participating organisations or supplying equipment or materials to make clean-ups possible. Reimbursing expenses made to carry out cleanup or educational activities. Supplying funds for (multi)media materials in the form of photos (digital or print) or videos to raise awareness.

### **Glossary**

Ghost Fishing – Is what happens when derelict fishing gear keeps fishing unattended.

Ghostnets – Derelict fishing gear causing a hazard to marine life.

Participating organisations – Organisations with a similar goal to GF working locally that have entered in a partnership with GF.