Policy plan Ghost Fishing foundation (Version 2019)

Introduction

The Ghost Fishing foundation (GF) is founded as a result of activities regarding the cleaning up of “ghost nets” 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 organizations.

Administrative policies

- Forming cooperation with (inter)national initiatives regarding clearing of derelict fishing gear
- Forming cooperation with global conservation initiatives in 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 organizations in the diving industry
- Consulting with local governments and organizations to prevent further escalation of the problems regarding ghost nets

Achieved goals 2018

- 6x regular clean-up actions in the North Sea in collaboration with Healthy Seas Foundation (SHS)
- Cleaning project Ireland
- Cleaning project Lipari 2018 in collaboration with SHS
- Cleaning project Santorini, Greece in collaboration with SHS
- Setup of the Ghost Fishing Lebanon chapter
- Setup of the Ghost Fishing Korea chapter
**Activities and plans 2019**

- 8x regular clean-up actions in the North Sea in collaboration with SHS
- Cleaning project Baltic Sea
- Cleaning project Stratoni, Greece in collaboration with SHS
- Cleaning project Lipari 2019, Italy in collaboration with SHS
- Cleaning project Krnica, Croatia in collaboration with SHS
- Further expansion of Ghost Fishing chapters

**Fundraising**

GF has a donate option on the website using PayPal, credit card of direct transfer. Occasionally GF sells apparel (T-shirts) to raise funds. The foundation hopes to receive donations in due time from organizations 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 spending is sponsoring of cleanup activities by participating organizations 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.

“Ghost nets” – Derelict fishing gear causing a hazard to marine life.

“Participating organizations” – Organizations with a similar goal to GF working locally that have entered in a partnership with GF.