

Cleaner Seas / Safer Fishing



Dear Fishing Vessel Owner / Skipper,

I am pleased to report that facilities are now in place to enable fishing vessels operating out of Plymouth, Brixham and Newlyn the opportunity to take part in the pioneering Fishing for Litter scheme.

Fishing for Litter South West is a simple project which engages local fishermen in improving the marine environment, by directly removing marine litter from the seabed and disposing of it responsibly on land. Each vessel takes a 0.5t or 1t rubbish bag to sea and collects all the marine litter caught during its fishing activities. As well as being harmful to the marine environment, litter can pose a serious risk to life and livelihood by causing entanglement or breakdown of vessels at sea.

The South West project is based upon the success of Fishing for Litter Scotland which has been in operation for 4 years and has involved 15 of Scotland's major ports and over 100 vessels, which between them have already removed over 200 tonnes of litter from the seas around Scotland.

In the South West, the aim over the next 2 years is to involve 60 vessels, 4 harbours and collect 200 tonnes of litter from the seas around the region.

The Fishing for Litter South West Project started in October 2008 and is currently funded until 2011. Funding has been provided by a total of 8 local and national organisations and recently gained endorsement by Hilary Benn the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

We invite you to join the scheme and have enclosed the following forms:

- **Vessel Registration Form**
- **Fishing Vessel Guidelines**
- **FAQ Sheet**

If you have any queries or would like to fill out the vessel registration form over the telephone please contact me on 01736 364324.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Crosbie
Project Coordinator

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The Duchy
of Cornwall



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