



NORGES
DYKKEFORBUND
Marine Waste



About us

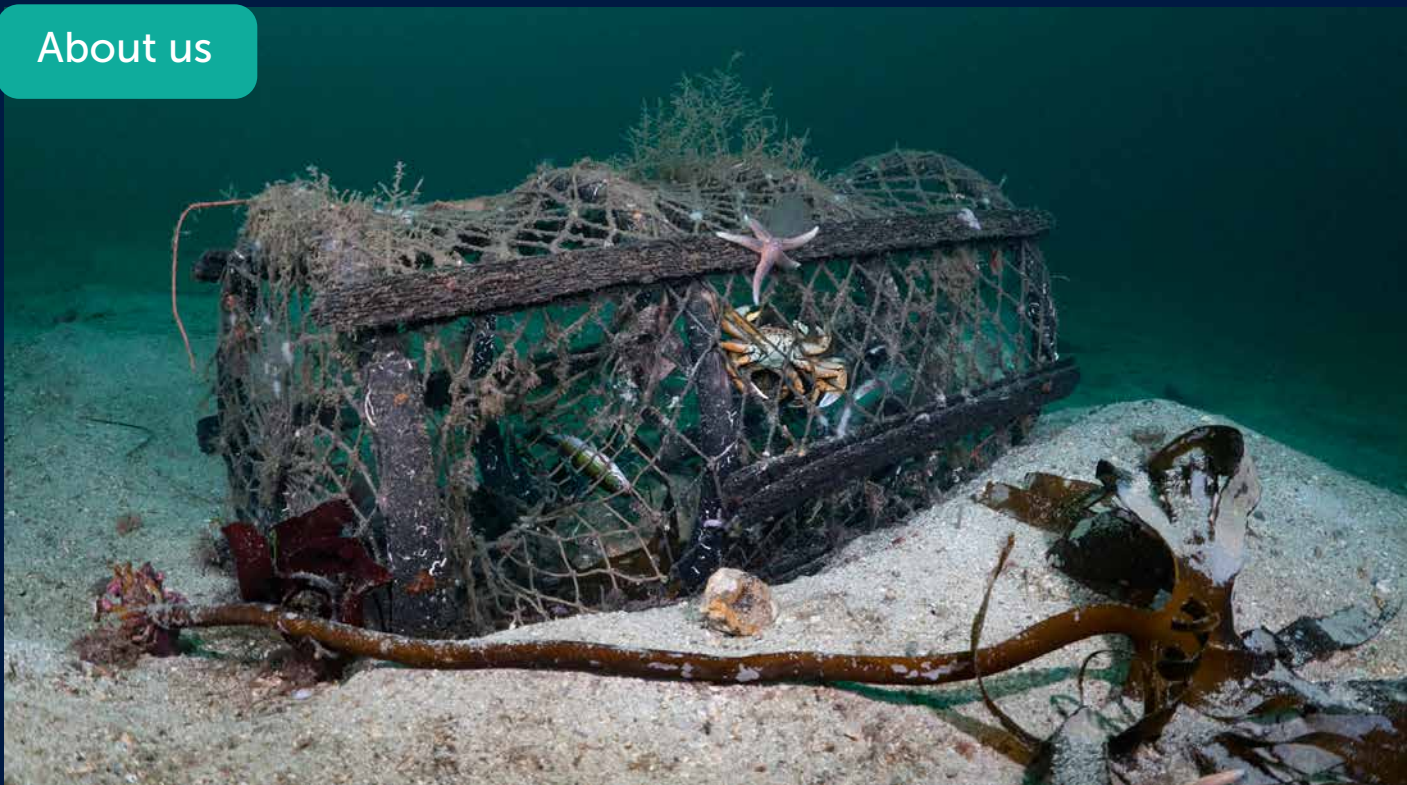


Photo: Erling Tønnessen

Norwegian Diving Federation

– For a living ocean

Every year, several tonnes of waste end up on the seabed along our coast, threatening marine life. Through the extensive project *Marine Waste*, the Norwegian Diving Federation aims to shed light on this hidden environmental challenge. Together with volunteer divers, we remove ghost fishing gear and other waste that harms the marine ecosystem. But we need more people to get involved – both in clean-up efforts and in tackling the sources of pollution. We cannot clean our way out of the problem alone – we also need to address it at its root, change attitudes, and build a culture of sustainability.

Why is this work so important?

The ocean is one of our most vital resources – it provides us with food, regulates the climate, and is home to a rich biodiversity. Yet the ocean is under threat from increasing amounts of plastic and other waste, which destroy ecosystems, harm wildlife, and pollute the coast. Ghost fishing, where lost fishing gear continues to catch and kill marine life, is a particularly serious issue. This initiative is not just about removing waste, but about giving marine life a chance to thrive again. It's about taking responsibility for the nature we depend on – for today's and for future generations.



Photo: Erling Tønnessen



Photo: Bjørn Kåre Bødal

Results

What we have achieved - together

Through years of volunteer efforts, people across the country have shown what true dedication can achieve. Hundreds of clean-up operations have resulted in several tonnes of waste and thousands of ghost fishing gear being removed from the coast – and the trend is rising (*see figure 1).

These figures demonstrate what is possible when we stand together.

The spirit of volunteerism in Norway is something truly unique, and it's something we must strive to preserve. When individuals engage in the fight for the environment, it creates ripple effects – fostering a sense of community, purpose, and hope for the future. Including children plays a crucial role in environmental work, as their attitudes help shape a more environmentally conscious future.



*Figure 1

In 2024, divers organised a total of 500 clean-up operations and removed 220 tonnes of marine waste in Norway.

We engaged 4,679 volunteers in clean-up efforts and recorded 5,500 ghost fishing gear items found.



How to contribute

Visit [Rydd norge.no](https://ryddenorge.no)



Download the
Fritidsfiske app



Join the Fight Against Marine Pollution

Do you want to help create a cleaner coast? The Norwegian Diving Federation invites everyone – regardless of experience or background – to take part in the fight against marine pollution. Whether you're an experienced diver, an avid hiker, or simply want to do your bit, there are many ways to get involved:

- Join a clean-up operation with your local dive club.
- Fish more sustainably and help us reduce ghost fishing. Learn and share the *crab pot code of conduct* to prevent fishing gear from being lost at sea. Download the Fritidsfiske app, report lost gear, and encourage others to do the same
- Bring a rubbish bag on your walk and pick up what you find
- Take part from home by sharing information about the issue and helping to change attitudes!

No matter how you choose to contribute, you're helping to make a difference. Together, we can create a cleaner future!

Want to learn more or find out how you can get involved? Contact our project manager at:
dykking@nif.idrett.no.



Photo: Håvard Smeland



Photo: Bjørn Kåre Bødal



Photo: Christopher McDade



Photo: Erling Tønnesen



Photo: Erling Tønnesen



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