

# NABU launches Fishing for Litter initiative in Germany.

## Title

On the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011 the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) started Fishing for Litter projects in Heiligenhafen and Burgstaaken (Fehmarn), two fishery harbours in north-west Schleswig-Holstein. About 15 vessels are joining this Baltic Sea pilot scheme; several others have signalled to follow.

According to the associated KIMO initiative, NABU provides fishing vessels with big bags to deposit marine litter in. In both harbours large containers are placed for disposal. The collected litter will be analysed to get information on the composition, constitution and on the litter contamination of the Baltic Sea. The initiative involves key stakeholders to raise awareness of the significance of the problem.

It is does not only have a dramatic and well documented ecological impact; marine litter is increasingly becoming an economic and aesthetic issue. The Fishing for Litter initiative is embedded in the NABU project 'Seas without Plastic' which includes coastal cleanup activities, beach litter monitoring, public relations and educational events.

More Info on <http://www.nabu.de/themen/meere/plastik/fishingforlitter/>



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