



End Bottom Trawling

The waste of life is atrocious

www.projectseahorse.org

info@projectseahorse.org

[@projectseahorse](https://twitter.com/projectseahorse)



Bottom trawling
is to the ocean
what forest clearcutting
is to land:
DISASTROUS

Bottom trawlers destroy the ocean

- Drop wide-mouth nets with heavy weights that gouge and scrape
- Mow down seagrasses, corals, sponges and other habitats
- Catch everything in their path willy nilly
- Kill thousands of species from seahorses to sharks

Landed catch is
often sold, unsorted,
for mere pennies,
as feed for farmed fish or
other animals

Hundreds of
thousands of
trawlers drag the
ocean¹

Bottom trawlers harm people

- Remove tonnes of juvenile fish that should grow into valuable human food
- Are unprofitable so our governments use our money to keep them fishing
- Many rely on crews of slaves or other forced labour
- Destroy opportunities for artisanal & small scale fishers





All over the world, bottom trawlers are clear cutting our ocean floor and dragging up most marine life along the way

- Trawling generates 25% of global marine catches,² and as much as 50% in the East and South China Seas³
- More than 80% of the seabed is trawled in some regions,⁴ most of it repeatedly
- Half of the total catch by smaller sized Thai trawlers was juveniles of food fish⁵
- 30-40% of trawled catch landed in one Indian port was diverted to fish food, including species traditionally destined for human consumption⁶
- Without fuel subsidies, more than 90% of China's fishing vessels would lose money⁷

Trawling continues in half of Europe's protected areas⁸

Seahorse index of trawl pressure:
Trawl nets may only catch 1-2 seahorses each day, but fish so intensively that tens of millions of seahorses are landed each year⁹

Bottom trawling is annihilation fishing

WE KNOW THE SOLUTIONS

- Demand an end to:
 - bottom trawling – the waste of life is atrocious
 - harmful subsidies – we are paying to keep unprofitable fisheries afloat
 - illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries
- Push for more protected areas that work effectively
- Choose our seafood wisely – avoid trawled seafood & farmed shrimp



References: ¹Funge-Smith et al 2012, ^{2,4}Amoroso et al 2018, ³Sumaila & Cheung 2015, ⁵Noranarttragoon 2014, ⁶Changing Markets 2019, ⁷Guo 2015 as cited in Zhang et al 2020, ⁸Dureuil et al 2018, ⁹Foster 2020. See <https://projectseahorse.org/resource/end-bottom-trawling/> for a full list of references.