

# FISHING PORT OF HOWTH

## GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE OF VISIT : 10/09/2024

### PORT MANAGEMENT

**Port Authority :** Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)

**Management:** DAFM

### PORT DESCRIPTION

Fishing, seafood processing and sales.

Marine leisure cruises, sailing club, tourism.

**Fishing practice:** There are currently 5 pelagic trawlers, 36 demersal trawlers and 12 crabbers.

**Landings:** Prawn, Crab and white fish

## MANAGEMENT OF USED FISHING GEAR

### EQUIPMENT

A teleporter is used by harbour staff to remove waste from the pier to a new PRF.

### MANAGEMENT

- The harbour master is responsible for the management of waste.
- Fishing Vessels are given a supply of coloured plastic bags for waste by the harbour master as required. The ship generated wastes are stored on the pier, at the nominated sites. These containers may be accessed around the clock.
- Waste is collected by harbour staff and then segregated into skips in PRF area.(see fig.1) for various waste flows, IWC, metal, recycling, oils, general, WEEE. centre.
- **EOL:** At the time of visit there is a recycling programme with a company called Green Marine in Castletownbere. Unsure what nets are recycled.
- There is no EOL pre-treatment equipment or processes in the harbour.
- EOL Separation – some components such as metal/ buoys are taken out.
- Cost recovery system: As per the Rates & Charges (S.I. No 214 of 2012), there is a monthly charge on all vessels.

### REUSE

- They receive very little waste fishing gear, mostly legacy gear stored on pier (not in waste area)
- They have sent 2 skips since 2023 to Green Marine, Cork for recycling.
- FfL has historically gone into landfill
- Metal and buoys are separated from the FfL waste.

### CONSTRAINTS

- This is a well funded and staffed port in comparison to others visited.
- As a result, there are very few constraints, outside external constraints such as a suitable value chain for gear and assistance implementing FfL.



fig.1



fig.2

### BEST PRACTICES

- Harbour Staff have full control over waste management.
- Large enclosed Waste Compound currently being built to segregate more waste.
- Bin system on port managed regularly by staff.
- Smartphone - Whatsapp group to communicate with fishermen

## PASSIVE FISHING FOR LITTER

### CURRENT PRACTICES

It is a named Fishing for Litter port, however, they are not currently operating the programme.

### PORT ISSUES

There is a lot of expensive retired nets sitting in an area on the port. These nets are not in use due to regulations.  
(see fig.2)

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