

FISHING PORT OF GIJÓN

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE OF VISIT: 22/05/2025

PORT MANAGEMENT

Port Authority: Gijón
Administrator: Ports of the State

PORT DESCRIPTION

Commercial, nautical-sport, tourism, fishing, and shipyard activities, fish market.

Fishing practice: for WIF, three trawlers from the Mares Circulares project (with lengths ranging from 28 to 36 meters) are collaborating

Landings: Atlantic mackerel, European anchovy, and Atlantic bonito

MANAGEMENT OF USED FISHING GEAR

EQUIPMENT / FACILITIES

- Open areas for the storage of big bags containing WIF.
- Shipboard crane and forklifts for unloading and transport within the port.

MANAGEMENT / REUSE

- The removal of nets, other than gill nets, is handled by the Chicolino company.
- No management is carried out for EOLFG.
- No network recovery facilities available.
- Recycling has been attempted, but is not viable due to low volumes, long distances to recovery facilities, and the excessively high cleaning requirements of the nets.
- No material reuse to date.

FOTOS

CONSTRAINTS (EOLFG and WIF)

- The mixing of waste, resulting from the coexistence of fishermen, fish buyers, and processing companies in fishing areas, complicates effective waste management.
- Recycling of the nets is unfeasible due to the considerable distances to processing facilities and the excessively stringent cleaning requirements.
- Quantification, characterisation and valorisation of specific items/fractions when removal is linked to projects.
- Inadequate use of containers by other port users.

FISHING FOR LITTER (WIF)

CURRENT PRACTICES

- WIF are collected in big bags (1m³) on board the vessels.
- Upon arrival at the port, unloading is performed by the fishermen using the vessel's cranes. Small vessels carry it out manually.
- With the help of a forklift, the fishermen transport the big bags containing WIF waste and deposit them in makeshift open areas near the fish market.
- Waste sorting is not carried out at the port; it is the responsibility of the authorized manager to separate the different materials, mainly distinguishing between mixed plastics - which include trawl nets, bags, and plastic sheets - and PET.
- The company *Reciclados Plásticos A Cañiza* is responsible for removing the waste to its facilities, where tonnage control is conducted.
- Amount of WIF: 4.64t (2019), 10.9t (2020), 7.7t (2021), 5.78t (2022) and 4.76t (2023)
- Total WIF over 5 years: approximately 33 tons.

BEST PRACTICES & OBJECTIVES (EOLFG and WIF)

- Fishing for Litter is only carried out under the *Mares Circulares* project in collaboration with *Vertidos Cero*.
- Established history of proactive engagement in projects and initiatives associated with the project.
- *Vertidos Cero* develops awareness-raising actions and provides onboard collection systems.
- Proper information transmission to fishermen regarding the importance of FfL actions by project members.

Objectives:

- Facilitate data collection and enhance the traceability of waste delivery points.
- Interest in having a GIS to facilitate the monitoring, localization, and planning of the collection and valorization of fishing nets, in order to improve the efficiency and sustainability of the process.
- Establish a management system for fishing gear and promote extended producer responsibility to address the shortage of recyclers in the area.