



HEALTHY CATCHMENTS
HEALTHY OCEANS

TAnglerBin

RECYCLE FISHING LINE TO SAVE WILDLIFE

OceanWatch Australia is launching its newest project - the TAngler Bin Project.

TAngler Bins are recycling bins for old recreational fishing line. The bins will be installed at key fishing sites throughout coastal NSW.



Recreational fishing line is made of monofilament nylon. When littered or lost in the environment, fishing line can;

- cause injury to wildlife
- spoils the enjoyment of other fishers
- is a hazard to boats and other watercraft
- is a danger to swimmers, divers and surfers
- is very unsightly - causing pollution and damage to the fishing environment.

With an estimated 17% of the NSW population fishing, the problem extends along the entire coast.

By encouraging fishers to dispose of their old fishing line in the TAngler Bins, the project aims to reduce the littering of fishing line in key fishing spots - improving the environment enjoyed by keen anglers. Working in partnership with coastal Councils, the project collects and recycles the line from the bins. Bin locations have been carefully identified in consultation with the NSW Department of Primary Industries and participating local Councils.

By taking an active role in helping anglers understand the problems their littered fishing line can have on their fishing environment, OceanWatch Australia has become part of the solution, by leading this project.

Ocean Watch Australia is building partnerships with recreational fishing clubs and associations, bait and tackle shops, animal rescue groups, the Department of Primary Industries and Local Councils on public awareness of responsible fishing techniques and establishing a network of TAngler Bins throughout coastal NSW.

The problem of littered line is widespread, affecting all recreational fishing areas. As a result, many seabirds, turtles and other wildlife become entangled in littered line.

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The project aims to improve community awareness of the impact of recreational fishing on wildlife, encourage changes in the attitude and behaviour of recreational fishers so that line is not littered, but deposited in the TAngler Bin for recycling. The fishing line will be collected from the TAngler Bins, sent to OceanWatch Australia and recycled.



The project has been successfully trialed in conjunction with Noosa Shire Council, and is based upon the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Monofilament Recovery & Recycling Program.

For further information:

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Photo credit: John Matthews

OceanWatch Australia is a national environmental, not-for-profit company that works to achieve sustainability in the Australian seafood industry through protecting and enhancing fish habitats, improving water quality and advancing the sustainability of fisheries through action based partnerships with the Australian seafood industry, government, natural resource managers, private enterprise and the community.

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust

