

Fishing for Litter

The Dutch fleet vs. marine litter



Cargo ship MSC ZOE lost 291 containers in the North sea, in close proximity to the Dutch and German Wadden Sea



Local fishermen
couldn't just sit
around...

They right away wanted
to help and requested
permission to 'fish for
litter' and assist in the
major cleanup
operation.



The coastguard assisted the fishermen by air, using their plane.

In close cooperation, the lighthouses directed the fishing vessels towards hotspots where debris accumulated.





Photo by Peke Wouda, ST-20

The catch varied from pillows, soap dispensers and toys...



Photo by Sarah Verroen, VisNed

...to car parts and refrigerators...

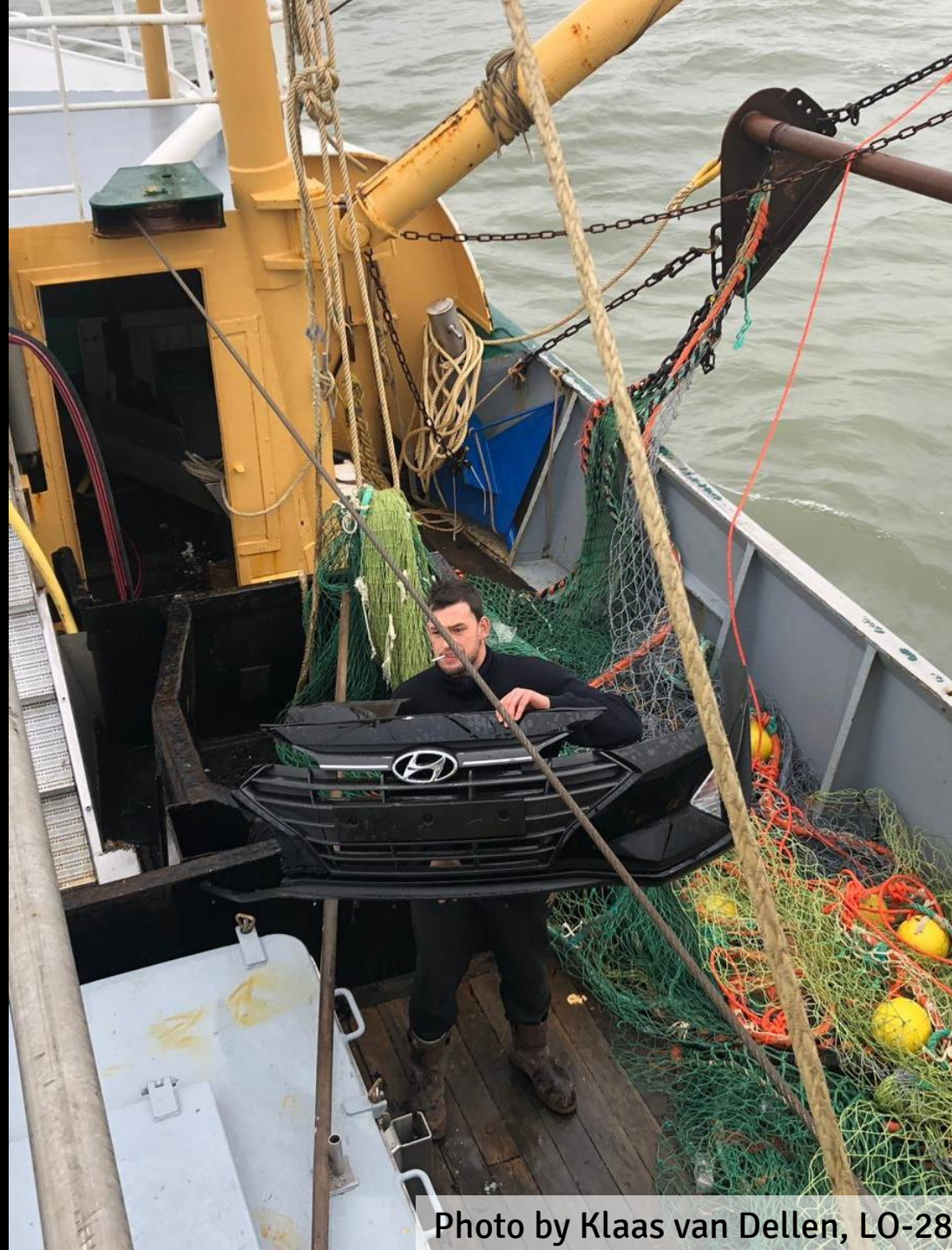


Photo by Klaas van Dellen, LO-28

Catches varied but consisted only of floating material...
worrisome, because we don't know what (still) lies beneath



Photo by Simon Koornstra, HA-4



Photo by Wieberen Elverdink



Photo by Adriaan Boer, WR-88

The Dutch shrimping fleet 'caught' approximately 18.000kg of floating material from the MSC ZOE disaster in only the first weekend of January 2019

The MSC ZOE disaster is in an unprecedented categorie regarding the amount of containers lost at once.

But even without MSC ZOE

Dutch fishermen alone already remove 200.000kg of litter annually from the North Sea by participating in Fishing For Litter in an international effort to clean up our seas.

We won't stop Fishing for Litter, but please be aware of the (our) environment.

Sincerely, Your Fishermen



Photo by Jan de Boer, UK-197 | Presentation by Sarah Verroen and Barbara Holierhoek