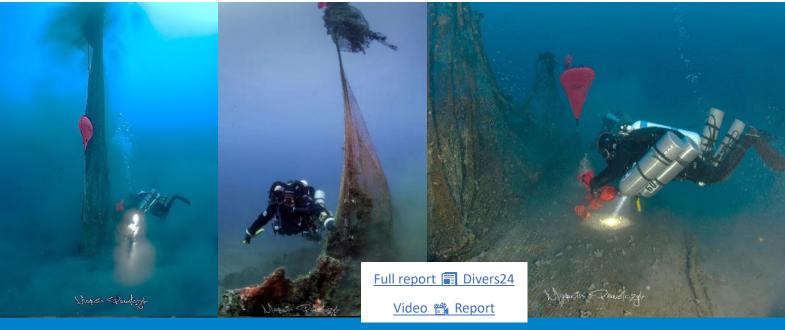
Clean the Gulf Project

GUE PROJECT BRIEF - 2024

The Gulf of Orosei is very well known for its' stunning cave systems and beautiful landscapes. This project was focused on the open water dives. Ghost fishing gear can be found everywhere – also in crystal clear waters of Sardinia. The goal of this project was to document the ghost fishing gear found in the area, clean it up and send for recycling.





Between October 7th and 11th, 2024, we conducted a series of cleanup dives at depths ranging from 30 to 60 meters. With the involvement of only five divers, we managed to achieve most of our objectives. We started with removing old gill nets and cages from a reef located about 300m north from the popular wreck Nasello. Afterwards we tackled a trawl net reported by the local fishermen. It got entangled on a small reef at a depth of 60 meters and was abandoned there about 30 years ago. Despite a slow decay over these years, the nylon and ropes were still strong enough to allow us retrieving the whole 400kg net in one piece.

Another outcome of this project is a <u>3D model</u> of the bow section of the KT12 shipwreck. We created this model after carefully removing fragments of ghost nets hanging on the anchor windlass. We were fortunate that, in parallel with our project, Daniel Ortega was running another edition of his scientific <u>Marine Genome Project</u>. Thanks to his team's knowledge and equipment, we were able to observe microplastics in the water samples collected from the ghost nets on the KT12 shipwreck.

All the operations were discussed with our local representative – Fabio Sagghedu and approved by the local authorities - <u>Harbour Office</u> in Cala Gonone. With support from the <u>Municipality of Dorgali</u>, all the waste we recovered was collected and disposed for further recycling.

PARTNERS

- Ghost Diving Poland
- Divers24
- Base1 Sardinia
- Comune di Dorgali
- Cala Gonone Harbour Office

LOCATION

Gulf of Orosei, Sardinia

CONTACT
Bartek Trzcinski
bat@gue.com

