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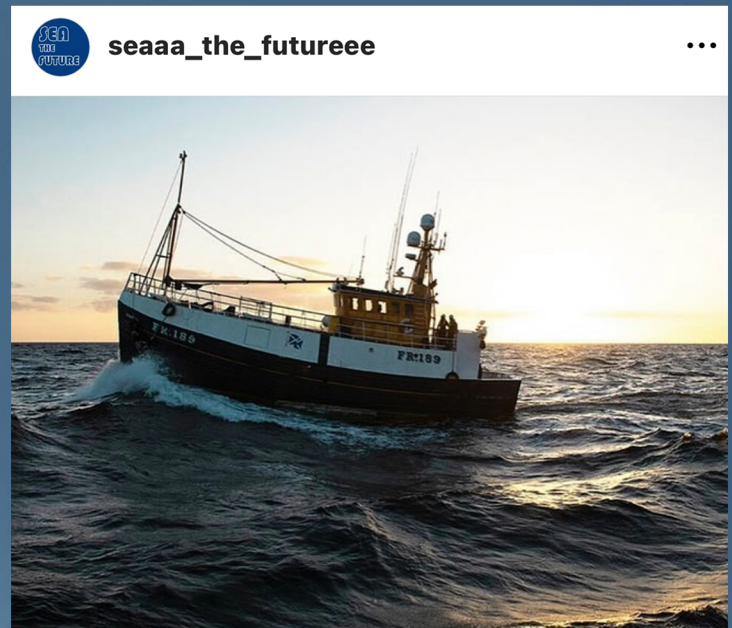
seaaa_the_futureee Lyme Bay is located in the south-west of England and was once the UK's 'coral garden', boasting a diverse range of marine life such as ross coral, Pentapora foliacea, pink sea fans, Eunicella verrucosa and many more. Trawling has caused extreme damage to the coral reefs of Lyme Bay in the past, and in 2008, Lyme Bay was designated a Nature Reserve and banned dredging and bottom trawling for eighty square miles. 🌊 🐠

#seathefeature Did you know? Lyme Bay and our future Lyme Bay has seen a significant increase in abundance since the ban came into force, 430% increases in taxon richness and 370% increases in total abundance. Marine conservation initiatives related to Lyme Bay continue: in 2014, the Voluntary Code of Conduct was agreed for recreational fishers; in 2019, the Reserve's sustainable seafood brand, Reserve Seafood, was established to provide a quality catch sourced through sustainable fishing practices in compliance with the Reserve's management regulations... Further into the future, we may see the beautiful 'coral garden' restored to its former colours, and see sustainable fishing practices not just confined to Lyme Bay, but into the wider fishing industry... 🌊 🐠

#seathefeature Did you know? How does the conservation of seabed organisms affect us? The ban on trawling will not only help to restore the seabed, but will also have a socio-economic impact on people: businesses such as recreational diving are an important part of the local economy, which relies heavily on coral reef ecosystems. 🌊 🐠

#seathefeature Did you know? Does the fishing ban affect the fishery? Ten years after the Lyme Bay trawling ban was implemented, the average weight landed per boat per month has decreased by 110kg, but its value has increased significantly by £1,452 - due to the recovery of the reef ecology which has led to an increase in the production of high-value species such as lobster. 💰 🦞

Lyme Bay from England



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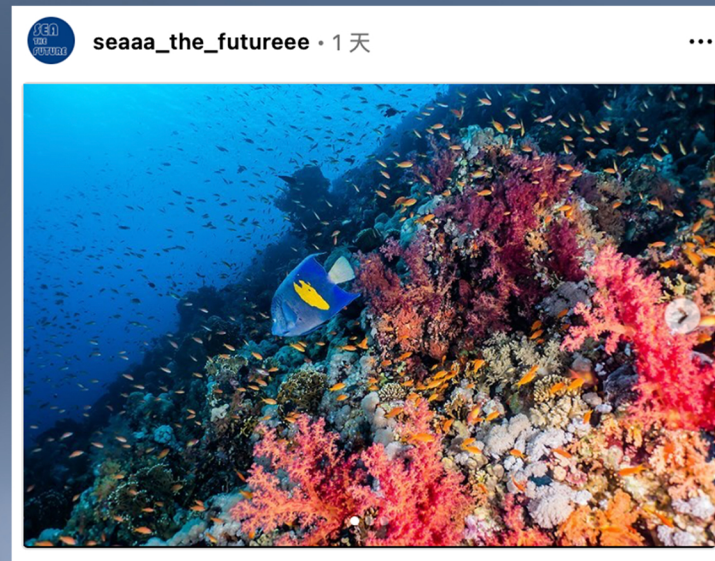
seaaa_the_futureee Since 2010, the Scottish Fisheries Sustainability Accreditation Group (SFSAG) has been fishing sustainably according to the MSC Fisheries Standard. To protect seabed habitats, fishermen using trawl nets closed fishing areas upon discovering vulnerable habitats like sea pen coral colonies. 🌊 🐠

To reduce cod bycatch, the fishery collaborated with the Scottish Fishermen's Federation Technical Group to test a trawl modification that has reduced cod bycatch by 60% through the use of square mesh escape panels, now made available to all boats with mesh under 120mm. Additionally, they have enacted real-time and seasonal closures to protect spawning cod. 🌊 🐠

New technologies like the BATmap app, which records bycatch species, numbers, and locations, and the Smartrawl system, which identifies and releases non-target fish, have reduced fishing's environmental impact. The chair of the SFSAG said that the 'reporting element of fishing and the sharing of information has delivered security to the stocks like never before.' 🌊 🐠

#seathefuture #seaprotection #scotland

SFSAG from Scotland



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seaaa_the_futureee Egypt's Red Sea, considered one of the world's top diving destinations due to its rich underwater communities and colourful corals, attracts millions of tourists every year. 🌊 🇪🇬 However, the high rate of tourism has exacerbated plastic pollution in the oceans, threatening the marine life in the area: plastic rubbish can be swallowed by fish, turtles or seabirds; and plastic can cause white band disease, a fatal disease for corals. In 2019, Egypt's Red Sea and South Sinai governorates implemented a ban on the use of some single-use plastics. 🌊 🐠

#seathefuture Did you know? The Red Sea and our future Plastic bans are not an easy task in Egypt, where tourism is valued, especially for an underdeveloped economy where plastic is much cheaper to produce than other alternatives. However, many hotels, businesses and consumers have already given up single-use plastics since the ban was implemented. Perhaps in the not-too-distant future, the Red Sea can truly lead the way in zero-plastic tourism, and plastic waste can disappear completely from this beautiful ocean. 🌊 🐠

Plastic bans from Egypt

To continue, let's unseal this little time capsule from a hundred years ago.

In this time capsule, we will set off to retrace our steps 100 years ago, cross the boundaries of time and geography, listen to the voices of the past, and feel the heartfelt voices of those who have worked for ocean conservation. Their courage, wisdom and dedication made what we have today possible.



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seaaa_the_futureee Hoki, a highly sustainable white fish, has been migrating to the cold waters off New Zealand's west coast for winter spawning. New Zealand has been the first country to establish a Quota Management System (QMS), which has been capping Hoki's yearly catch at a maximum of 10% of its adult population. 🌊 🐠

The discovery of a smaller-than-expected West Coast Hoki in 2018 has led the industry to voluntarily cut catches by 35,000 tonnes. The industry has been collecting biological data to lessen the impact on young and spawning Hoki, alongside genetic studies to comprehend the Hoki stock structure. 🌊 🐠

The New Zealand Hoki sector has been utilising a 'nose-to-tail' approach, ensuring no part of the fish goes to waste. Caught fish have been processed and flash-frozen on board, with leftovers turned into fishmeal, fish oil, and even high-end skincare products. Hoki has been known for its tender white meat and nutritional benefits, and it has become a global favourite, served in 52 countries and featured in McDonald's Filet-o-Fish.

New Zealand's Hoki Fish industry has become MSC Fisheries Standard certified, highlighting its commitment to sustainability and offering assurance of its eco-friendly practices. This approach has been safeguarding marine ecosystems and supporting the national economy, ensuring a sustainable fish supply for future generations. 🌊 🐠

#seathefuture #seaprotection #newzealand

Hoki Fish industry from New Zealand