

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT



1. We, representatives of fishing industry, private sector, national and international institutions and civil society organisations from around the world, hereby declare our support for the Global Ghost Gear Initiative ("the GGGI"). The GGGI is a cross-sectoral alliance committed to driving solutions to the problem of lost and abandoned fishing gear worldwide.
2. While encouraging progress has been made in this area in some countries and sectors, worldwide collaboration is required to effect change at a scale that will match the size of the problem.
3. The GGGI aims to improve the health of marine ecosystems; protect marine animals from harm; and safeguard human health and livelihoods. It will do this by working globally and locally to build evidence; define best practices and inform policies; and catalyse and replicate solutions.
4. Officially launching in September 2015 and founded on the best available science and technology, the GGGI is the first initiative dedicated to tackling the problem of ghost fishing gear at a global scale. The GGGI's strength lies in the diversity of its members including fishing industry, the private sector, national and international institutions and civil society organisations. Every member has a critical role to play to mitigate ghost gear locally, regionally and globally.
5. As part of our collective impact we aim contribute to the framework of the [Global Partnership on Marine Litter](#), which builds on the Honolulu Strategy, and seeks to protect human health and the global environment by the reduction and management of marine litter.
6. The GGGI adopts governance principles where membership is made up of organisations that contribute to the GGGI strategy, that represent different perspectives across sectors, and who participate in constructive dialogue.
7. The GGGI chooses to operate with an informal governance structure for the next two years, with World Animal Protection providing Secretariat services. In subsequent years GGGI membership fees and additional voluntary donations from members will be required to support the Secretariat role¹.
8. We will work with World Animal Protection and other signatories to ensure the effective governance and management of the GGGI as a flexible, voluntary, cross-sectoral alliance for effectively tackling the problem of ghost gear locally and globally.
9. In signing this Statement of Support, we commit to help advance the GGGI's mission and aims.
10. This Statement of Support is valid until 31 December 2015. A membership fee structure will come into operation from 1 January 2016.

Name: SAL BATTAGLIA

Organisation: SEACORE SEAFOOD INC.

Date: JULY 14, 2015

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "SB", written over a horizontal line.

¹ A consultation on the membership fee structure will take place June-August 2015.