

GREENPEACE MONSTER BOAT CRITERIA

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'Monster boats' are vessels characterised by large size, massive capacity to catch fish, severe impact on the marine environment, weak compliance record and other concerning characteristics. They represent the type of vessels that contribute most to stock depletion and environmental damage and least to the social, economic and cultural fabric and sustainable development of coastal communities in Europe or elsewhere.

Each vessel meets at least one of the following three basic vessel or gear criteria:

- **Catch or holding capacity:** gross tonnage over 4000GT OR big nets with a catch capacity of 170 tonnes/day or more OR carrying capacity of more than 2000 tonnes OR a fishholding capacity/ insulated space of 3700 m³ or greater OR engine power above 5000kW
- **Destructiveness of the gear:** Vessel using gear with significant impact on habitat or the weight of discarded/ landed bycatch not ending up in the commercial product chain is 20% or greater of the total catch.
- **Part of unsustainable fleet expansion:** Vessel owned by a company that is aggressively expanding its fleet with new build vessels while no sufficient capacity management plan is in place for the target fisheries/ it is confirmed that there is overcapacity in the target fisheries.

Additional criteria taken into account:

1. the operational characteristics of the vessel:

- Driving global overfishing: Vessels fishing on depleted stocks in a region's water other than where its beneficial owner is based
- Negatively impacting local fishermen in and outside Europe: Vessels that threaten/ destroy coastal communities' livelihoods by increasing stock depletion, destroying artisanal fishermen's gears, threatening food security, taking up a large amount of quota.

2. the marine environment the vessel operates in:

- Fishing on collapsed stocks fished down to less than 10% of the original biomass
- Fishing on depleted stocks and stocks that are being overfished (fished down to less than 40% of the original biomass or below Bmsy)
- Fishing on or by-catching of threatened, endangered, critically endangered, protected species¹ (including marine species other than fish)
- Fishing in existing or designated marine protected areas/marine reserves

¹ Listed on IUCN red list or the OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species

- Fishing in areas of highly vulnerable marine ecosystems, OR a fishery targeting vulnerable species with unknown stock status.²
- Fishing in the last frontiers/ virgin/pristine fishing grounds (Arctic, Antarctic)
- Fishing in an area lacking governance: vessel is confirmed or likely to fish in high seas areas lacking a regional fisheries management body (RFMO) competent to manage the fishing activity AND/OR lacking environmental governance (high seas not covered by an organisation responsible for protection of the marine environment)
- Removing the basis of the marine food web: vessel operating in industrial reduction fisheries fishing on forage fish for fishmeal/ -oil production.

3. the involvement of the vessel or the owner company in IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing) or dodgy activities:

- Vessel has a history of IUU (under current ownership) or at sea transshipment or is owned by a company with a serious track record of IUU or at sea transshipment
- Vessel changes flag and/ or name in order to avoid relevant conservation and management measures and restrictions, thus undermining these measures and/ or to get access to fishing resources
- Vessel is flagged to a flag of convenience³

4. Other characteristics:

- Receipt of large EU subsidies: The vessel has received more than €1 million of direct and/ or indirect subsidies in its lifetime
- Disregard for human rights: extremely bad crew employment conditions (labour abuse), human trafficking, slavery on board
- Fishing using illegitimate licenses
- Low creation of employment: vessels with minimum number of jobs created per tonne of fish caught
- Lack of transparency: The vessel is not regularly transmitting AIS data

² Species described on www.fishbase.org as having 'very low resilience' and/or 'high vulnerability' (or above) and there is insufficient data to assess the biomass and fishing rate to ensure stock health.

³ <http://www.itfglobal.org/en/transport-sectors/seafarers/in-focus/flags-of-convenience-campaign/>