

Why Sustainable Fishing is Important (and How You Can Do Your Part)



Key Takeaways:

- Overfishing can cause serious ecological damage'
- Sustainable fishing reduces pollution, harmful chemicals, and needless waste
- Practice catch and release techniques to do your part
- Use gentle catch and release techniques

- Eliminate your use of plastic bottles and straws
- Observe local fishing laws and seasons

Sustainable fishing is key to prevent ecological damage to our oceans

If you're reading this, then it likely means you're interested in [deep sea fishing](#). You probably like boats or are at least curious about being on the open water. Deep sea fishing is an exhilarating experience, one that can give you memories to last a lifetime.

To continue to enjoy nature in all its glory, we humans have to change our ways. In decades past, fishing was always done with the intent of getting the biggest haul possible.

Our oceans are in trouble

Eventually, we began to realize that overfishing had serious consequences. It's more than running out of a certain species of fish if we keep fishing to our hearts' content. Overfishing causes a 'butterfly effect' that can upset entire ecosystems. Overfishing can cause [serious health consequences](#) for the remaining species, too.

Over 85% of fish stock in our oceans is in trouble. We have increased pollution, overfishing, and contributed to other environmental issues. Some experts claim we will run out of seafood by the year 2049.

Look at the bluefin tuna. It's a tasty food source, valued all over the world. Scientists estimate the current population levels of these fish are [only between 21% - 29%](#) of 1970 levels! That's unless we change our ways.

How sustainable fishing helps

Are we suggesting that we stop fishing altogether? Of course not! But there's a way to continue fishing in ways that allow the stock to replenish itself. Below are a few ways sustainable fishing helps preserve ocean life:

- **Pollution Reduction** – Sustainable fishing reduces waste production and uses fewer chemicals in fishing. This chemical reduction helps preserve our ozone layer.
- **Boosts Food Security** - Sustainable fishing accounts for about two-thirds of catches for food consumption.
- **Balances Ecosystems** – Sustainable fishing helps ensure the circle of life doesn't get disrupted, which affects all living things. Including humans.

People who do not see the value of sustainable fishing are short-sighted. We at Grand Slam Fishing are doing our part to change that. We continue to evolve and change our ways to reflect the needs of nature.

How Grand Slam Fishing promotes sustainable fishing

Respecting our oceans is actually pretty easy. Follow the law, observe which fish are in season, and pay attention to our own impact on the ocean. We can move forward in a way that benefits everyone.

Below are a few ways we are contributing to the sustainability of our oceans.

- **We've joined the fight against long liners** – Longlining is a fishing technique used primarily in the commercial fishing industry. The technique involves using long lines with several baited hooks attached at intervals. It's designed to increase the haul. One problem (besides the overfishing!) is bycatch. Bycatch is when other species of fish get caught in hauls intended for a specific species. We don't allow long lining and never will.
- **We don't use plastic straws or recyclable bottles** – Hundreds of species of marine life can ingest plastic and die. We don't allow any recyclable plastic bottles on our charters.
- **Grand Slam Fishing uses JUST Water** – [JUST Water](#) is a company founded by Jaden Smith (son of movie megastar Will Smith). The company creates bottles from [82% biodegradable materials](#). The ecological impact of these plant-based bottles is far less than traditional plastic bottles.
- **We practice catch and release for all billfish** - It's a federal law to use [proper techniques for releasing billfish](#). The most important consideration? Keep the fish in the water while removing the hook or cutting the line. Billfish have a special coating that protects them from diseases. This thin coating can easily be rubbed off in the act of hauling them into a boat.
- **We don't allow shark fishing** – While it is technically legal to fish for sharks in the United States and Turks & Caicos, we at Grand Slam Fishing do not allow it on our fishing charters. Sharks are apex predators and an important part of the eco system.
- **Our clothing comes from sustainable and eco-friendly sources** – We are proud to say we live the personal life we preach for our business!

We do everything we can to help preserve our oceans. When you [book a fishing charter](#), there are simple things you can do to help too.

How you can practice sustainable fishing during your deep sea fishing charter

By adopting a few sustainable fishing practices, you can help sustain our oceans. And you won't negatively impact your fishing charter. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- **Catch and release:** This is the practice with the biggest impact. Enjoy the thrill of catching that big fish. Then let it go. You get a great memory, and the fish lives another day to help repopulate the species.
- **Be gentle:** If you're catching and releasing, there's an art to doing it properly. Yanking the fish out of the water is stressful on the fish. Slamming your catch onto the deck is harmful, too. Releasing a damaged fish that dies minutes or hours after release doesn't do any good.
- **Observe local laws and seasons:** Different areas allow fishing for certain species of fish at very specific times. Observe those laws when fishing on your own. When on a fishing charter, don't argue with your captain. Don't try to coerce him into going to an area to fish for a certain species that is either prohibited or not in season.
- **Use your entire catch:** You may want to keep some of your fish for an even greater memory. That's understandable. Many anglers eat their catches. If you choose to keep your fish, don't just use the edible parts. Bones can be ground up and added to sawdust and other natural materials. When combined, these materials can be used as a fertilizer! Remember the habits of Native Americans. They [used every part of the buffalo](#). They did this to ensure a lack of waste. They also did it to honor the animal, too. We can learn a lot from them!

Where we go from here

Deep sea fishing isn't going anywhere. By adopting some simple new habits, it doesn't have to, either. We at Grand Slam Fishing believe in the longevity of our industry. The key to that longevity is sustainability.

Join us for a fishing charter. You'll love the experience. And you'll feel good knowing you've chosen a company that cares about the future welfare of our planet. [Contact us](#) today for questions or booking information.

For publishing:

Page Title: Why Sustainable Fishing is Important

Meta Description: Sustainable fishing is the key to responsible deep sea fishing. This article will reveal ways you can practice sustainable fishing during your fishing charter.

Permalink: why-sustainable-fishing-is-important

Keywords: fishing charters, sustainable fishing, deep sea fishing

Image Alt Text: Two deep sea fishing boats practicing sustainable fishing