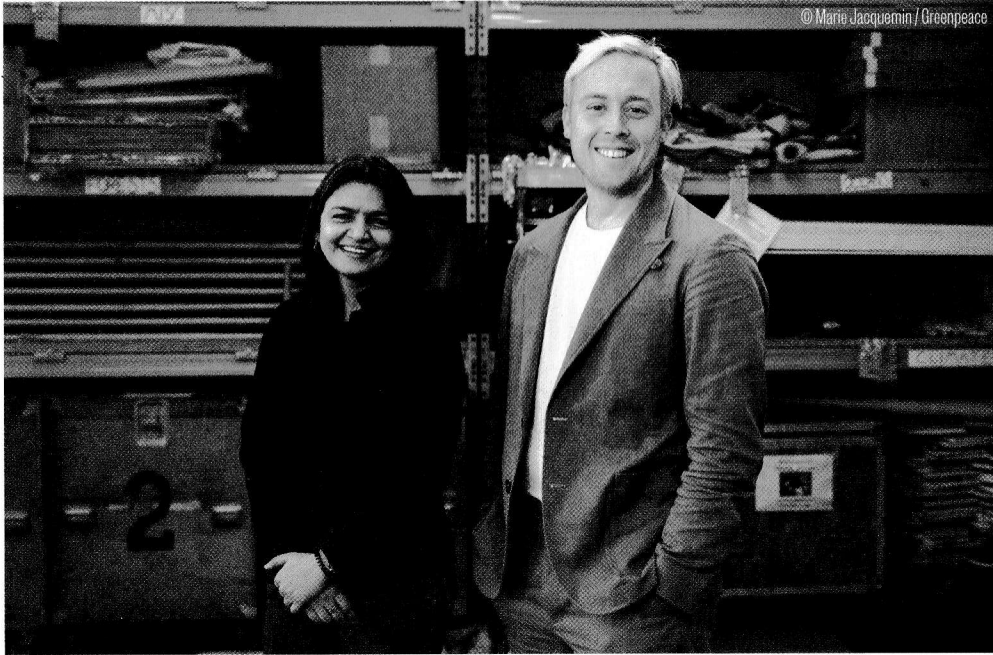


GREENPEACE
Connect



Summer 2024
greenpeace.org.uk

Vision



As we were working on this latest edition of Connect, Rishi Sunak announced a general election, and by the time this magazine reaches you, the votes will have been cast and counted. So we're writing not knowing what the result will be. But we know climate and nature are more central to people's voting choices than ever before.

It was the same story in May's local elections. Up and down the country, people elected mayors and councillors who had committed to boost public transport, cut emissions

and create green growth. And as Greenpeace supporters like you spoke to voters nationwide before the general election (see page 26 for more on that), it was clear that issues like these were at the heart of people's thinking once again.

It means that we now have a huge opportunity to shift our future in a greener, fairer and safer direction. The critical issues for our planet haven't altered. But the desire for change is now clearer and more widespread than ever. The next generation of MPs can't

ignore that. And meanwhile your support for Greenpeace is continuing to deliver real progress while the pressure for more action grows.

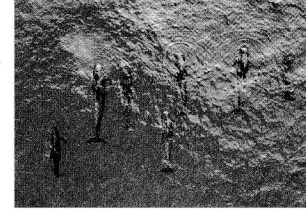
With the final rounds of Global Plastics Treaty talks on the horizon, in this Connect you can read how you're calling on politicians and on plastic polluters like Dove to change. These talks give us a once-in-a-generation opportunity, and you're making sure it's not missed. Find out how on page 10, and see page 6 for this year's Big Plastic Count results.

In this issue



The Big Plastic Count pages 6 - 9
224,381 people added up their plastic waste for a week – and the results are in.

© Quetzal Maucci / Greenpeace



Safeguarding the Sargasso
pages 14 - 21

Our Arctic Sunrise crew have been collecting evidence to show why the Sargasso Sea must be protected.

© Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace

On the cover:

The Sargasso Sea's golden floating rainforest of Sargassum seaweed – seen here with our ship Arctic Sunrise in the background – teems with wildlife. Baby sea turtles grow strong here while eels are born in their millions. Turn to page 14 to find out how, with your support, we're showing why this unique place needs urgent protection.

© Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace



Time to Ditch Dove pages 10 - 13
With crucial Global Plastics Treaty talks approaching, it's time to boycott Dove products.

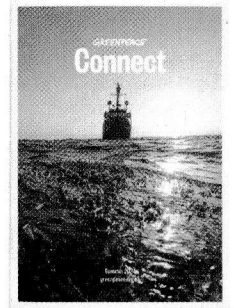
© Riska Munawarah / Greenpeace



Silence us? No chance
pages 22 - 25

How your incredible support is helping us stand up to Shell and the fossil fuel industry.

© Matthew Kemp / Greenpeace



Thanks to your incredible support, we're also refusing to be silenced by Shell and Big Oil (see page 22 for the latest on Shell's intimidation lawsuit against us). You might have seen the new BBC documentary about our activists who were imprisoned ten years ago for fighting against Big Oil. Our fight with Shell is the continuation of this story. And you're also helping scientists on our ship Arctic Sunrise (see page 14) to collect evidence in the Sargasso Sea to build pressure on MPs to urgently ratify the Global Oceans Treaty. It's a year when opportunity really is everywhere, and with more people than ever calling for our climate and nature to finally be prioritised, we have to keep pushing to create the future we all deserve.

Thank you so much for your support,

Areeba Hamid

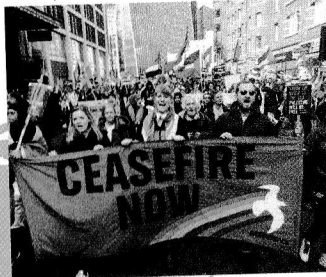
Areeba Hamid and Will McCallum
Joint Executive Directors, Greenpeace

Managing editors:
Gurvinder Uppal, Neilza Polidore
Copy editor: **Matt Kurton**
Designer: **Keith Dodds**
Picture editor: **Angela Glienicke**

Canonbury Villas, London N1 2PN
t: 020 4525 3241 (Mon-Fri, 9.00am-5.30pm)
e: supporteruk@greenpeace.org w: greenpeace.org.uk
Printed on fully recycled paper by an environmentally certified printing company. **Connect magazine is only made possible by your continued and generous support.**

Making waves worldwide

© Greenpeace



UK

Banning British bombs in Gaza

Earlier this year, Greenpeace campaigners joined with activists from across the environmental movement and beyond to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. We also called on the UK government to immediately suspend the sale of weapons that could be used by the Israeli Army in Gaza and the West Bank. Greenpeace might be best known for our environmental campaigns, but peace has always been in our name and we've always been willing to speak out at times of conflict – as we have done during conflicts from Iraq to Ukraine. We campaign for a green and peaceful world, because you can't have one without the other.

© Tuane Fernandes / Greenpeace



Brazil

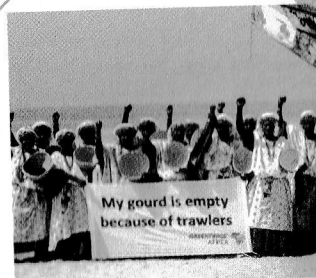
Floods prompt emergency action

As devastating floods displaced more than 580,000 people in Brazil's Rio Grande do Sul region, Greenpeace Brazil launched an emergency appeal and collaborated with the Red Cross to distribute food and supplies to affected communities. "Repeatedly, we have denounced politicians and decision-makers who work to dismantle environmental protections," said Carolina Pasquali, Executive Director of Greenpeace Brazil. "To face such climate emergencies, we need concrete public policies that aim to adapt cities and create a solid culture of prevention. Greenpeace Brazil will not rest until we win this battle."

Senegal

Fishing vessels identified

After more than four years of campaigning from fishing communities and Greenpeace, the new Senegalese government published a full list of the vessels authorised to fish in the country's waters. Greenpeace research has shown that a lack of transparency in Senegal has led to waters being dangerously over-exploited. "We stand ready to support the Senegalese government in its efforts to increase transparency and sustainability," said Dr Aliou Ba from Greenpeace Africa. "We now strongly urge the authorities to join the global Fisheries Transparency Initiative and to strengthen its position as a regional leader."



© Clément Tardif / Greenpeace

- Campaign Success
- Progress Made
- Red Alert

Follow the latest Greenpeace news:

@GreenpeaceUK

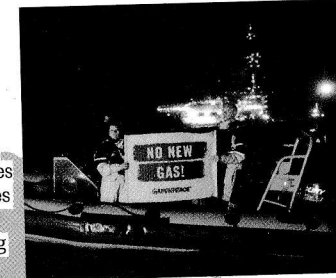
facebook.com/greenpeaceuk

greenpeace.org.uk

Netherlands

Giant gas field to close

After years of campaigning from Greenpeace Netherlands and our allies in the country, the Dutch Senate has announced that the Groningen gas field – the largest in Europe – will permanently close. Decades of extraction at Groningen have triggered earthquakes and caused massive damage to properties and people's health, with around 170,000 people suffering damage to their homes. The announcement is a big victory for our climate, for our nature and for communities. Fossil fuel gas belongs in the past, and we'll keep taking action worldwide to make sure that's exactly where it stays.

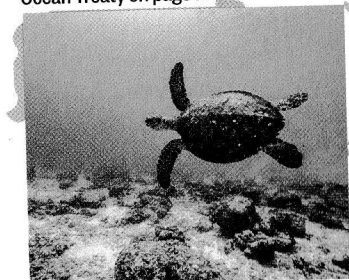


© Lucas Wahl / Greenpeace

Germany

Court ruling protects oceans

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg has given a landmark advisory opinion confirming greenhouse gas emissions are a form of marine pollution under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. This sets a clear legal precedent for addressing climate change in order to protect the marine environment. As Greenpeace campaigner Laura Meller explained: "This should serve as a call to action for states to bring climate-warming emissions to zero, ratify the Global Ocean Treaty and protect marine biodiversity in the face of the climate crisis." See how our ships are collecting evidence and pressuring governments to sign a Global Ocean Treaty on page 14.



© Tommy Trenchard / Greenpeace

© Selvin Marete / Greenpeace



Nigeria

Single-use plastics banned

There was reason to celebrate in Nigeria earlier this year, as Lagos State – home to around 15 million people – banned single-use plastics and styrofoam. Both materials have been widely used by street vendors and market traders for years, leaving streets and drains choked with plastic, harming wildlife and increasing the risk of flooding. "Now we call upon the government to incentivise producers to adopt affordable, sustainable alternatives," said Hellen Kahaso Dena from Greenpeace Africa, explaining that enforcing the ban and undoing existing damage are long-term projects.

Together, we make change happen

Below and bottom left: After tens of thousands of you brought the UK plastics crisis into sharp focus, primary school pupils joined us at Westminster to call on politicians, including former-PM Theresa May, to back a strong Global Plastics Treaty. © Quetzal Maucci / Greenpeace

You counted your plastics - and politicians and journalists took notice

The Big Plastic Count returned in March – and when we say big, we mean it. Hundreds of thousands of Greenpeace supporters like you made sure this year’s event got massive media coverage and got plenty of MPs to back our calls for a strong, legally-binding Global Plastics Treaty.

In total, an incredible 224,381 citizen scientists from 77,783 households counted plastic packaging waste for a week, including 29,000 school pupils. That means one in every 300 people in the UK took part!

With numbers like that, it’s no surprise journalists were queuing up to tell The Big Plastic Count story – everywhere from Good Morning Britain to Sky News and the Daily Express. It was just the latest example of how you get the biggest threats to our planet noticed. Together, we showed why the government, big brands and supermarkets finally need to take real action to cut plastic production at its source. And it all happened as UN Global Plastic Treaty negotiations were happening in Canada, which a lot of news outlets went on to cover alongside The Big Plastic Count.



Below centre: Pupils from Kenmore Junior school joined us for our Youth Empowerment Day. Teacher Rebecca Razaque said: "It's life changing for the children. They feel so empowered to make a positive change now." © Angela Christofilou / Greenpeace

Bottom right: The Big Plastic Count results made headlines right across UK media. With you, we'll keep pushing to end the deluge of plastic waste and change this story forever. © Greenpeace

Follow the latest Greenpeace news:
@GreenpeaceUK
facebook.com/greenpeaceuk
greenpeace.org.uk

"The fact is that the UK needs to do more. We may be a small island, but we as children have a large voice."
Arvina, school pupil, speaking at Parliament



Young people leading the way

Plenty of MPs still seem in no hurry to end the tidal wave of plastic packaging flooding our homes, but children across the UK feel very differently. So the day after we published The Big Plastic Count results, we took 35 pupils from 12 primary schools to Westminster so they could demand urgent action in person. Together, they spoke to 50 MPs – including former Prime Minister Theresa May and former Environment Secretaries Michael Gove and George Eustice.

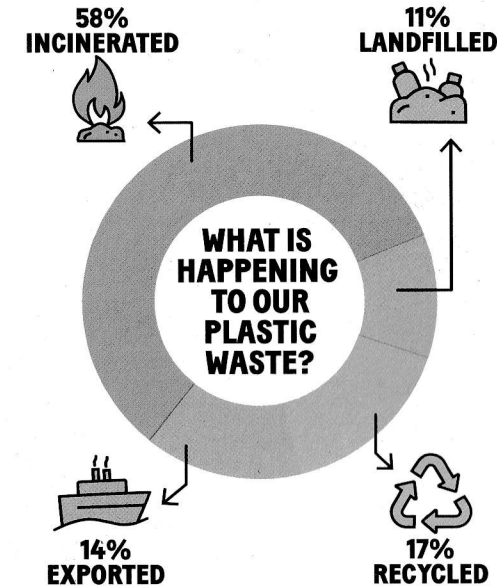
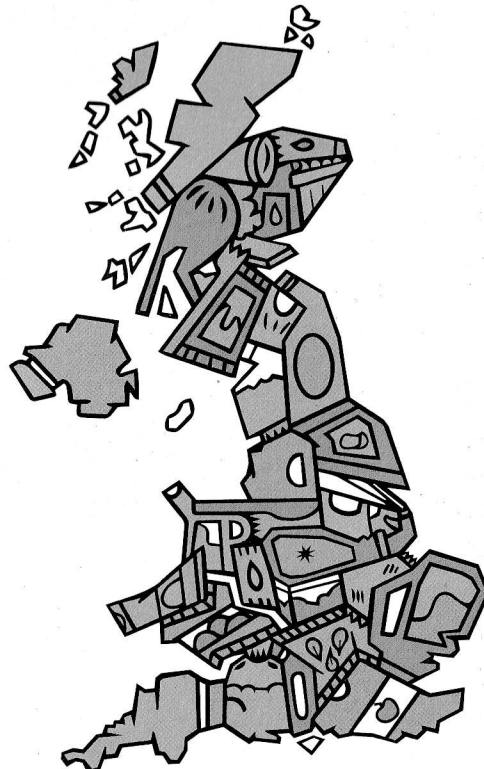
After the event, we asked Greenpeace supporters to call on your MPs to back a strong Global Plastics Treaty, and over 11,000 of you did just that. So far, nearly 30 MPs have pledged to support the treaty – and having a new government in place now provides a big opportunity to get the treaty over the line. We need to target the biggest plastic producing companies too – and you can find out how you're helping us do that on page 10.

What The Big Plastic Count told us

As you can see from the stats on this page, the UK's bins are still full to the brim with plastic packaging. In fact, we still produce more plastic waste per person than nearly every other country – only the US creates more.

Right now, the UK government is choosing to incinerate 58% of our household plastic waste – that's a serious increase on the 46% we found in The Big Plastic Count in 2022. But burning plastic can release more CO₂ per tonne than burning coal, wrecking our climate and harming our health. And because people

UK HOUSEHOLDS ARE THROWING AWAY AN ESTIMATED 1.7 BILLION PIECES OF PLASTIC A WEEK – THAT'S 90 BILLION PIECES PER YEAR



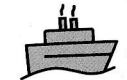
WE NEED A STRONG GLOBAL PLASTICS TREATY THAT CUTS PLASTIC PRODUCTION BY AT LEAST 75% BY 2040



58%
INCINERATED



11%
LANDFILLED



14%
EXPORTED



17%
RECYCLED

of colour and people in poverty are most likely to live near places where incinerators are built, they face a disproportionate impact.

So incineration definitely isn't the solution. And there's no way recycling alone will fix this crisis either. The only answer is to stop producing so much plastic. You did an amazing job of getting the UK's plastic waste into the headlines and high up the political agenda. Now it's time for the government, big brands and supermarkets to stop cutting corners, and start cutting plastic.

Act
now

To find out how we can keep the momentum building ahead of crucial Global Plastics Treaty talks in November, turn the page. And sign our Global Plastics Treaty petition at act.gp/plastics-petition



Dove won't ditch plastic. So it's time to ditch Dove.

Ahead of the crucial final round of UN Global Plastics Treaty talks in November, we're escalating our major campaign against Dove's owner Unilever - and calling on you to Ditch Dove.

In Indonesia, marine scientist and activist Laras Nauna holds up a discarded Dove bottle found during a beach clean on Lampuuk Beach. Sachets and other single-use plastics from brands like Dove are a huge problem in the country, clogging drains and waterways and creating toxic pollution when they are burned. © Riska Munawarah / Greenpeace

Later this year, the world's governments will come together in South Korea for the final round of Global Plastics Treaty talks. It's a landmark opportunity to turn the tide of plastic pollution.

But instead of being a force for good at the talks, Unilever - and its brand, Dove - are focused on another date. In September, it'll be 20 years since Dove first launched its iconic 'Real Beauty' marketing campaign. That's the campaign that makes out Dove cares about women and girls, and about our planet.

Dove is getting ready to celebrate. But behind its glossy exterior lies a very dirty truth. Dove is flooding the planet with harmful plastic, including billions and billions of the worst offenders - plastic sachets. These tiny single-use packets are near impossible to collect or recycle.

So while Dove claims to empower women and girls, it doesn't seem to care about young women in places like Indonesia who breathe in toxic fumes when plastic waste is burned in their neighbourhoods. It's ignoring young girls in India who face devastating floods when heavy rains come and plastic sachets clog drains and waterways. And it's creating massive plastic pollution that chokes ocean wildlife and breaks down into microplastics that end up in our air and water.

So this year we're calling on all Greenpeace supporters and the public to show how much we care - by boycotting all Dove products.

How Unilever is going backwards

Since we first raised the alarm about Dove's plastic hypocrisy last year, 140,000 of you have told the company to stop sachet sales and phase out single-use plastic within ten years.

Your voices were heard, because the CEO of Unilever, Hein Schumacher, asked for a meeting with Greenpeace. Without you, that wouldn't have happened. But while he had plenty of warm words to say about Unilever's commitment to

Why I Interrupted Dove's AGM



It's the hypocrisy that really angers me. The hypocrisy of Dove saying it celebrates all women then dumping these endless plastic sachets in Asia and around the world. It really sticks in my craw.

So when the chance came to interrupt and speak at Dove's

AGM, I decided to say yes. I was a teacher, so I am used to getting up in front of people. I had felt anxious before, though, and security was very tight, so we weren't able to do everything

we had hoped to do. But we had practised and practised, and

when the right moment came to speak, I just went for it. I told the board I was there to represent the 140,000 people who had signed Greenpeace's open letter to ditch single-use plastic.

I'm glad I did it. This corporate greed is so frustrating. I wanted to make my frustration known, and this was the place to do it.

Cathy, fearless Greenpeace volunteer

@ Kristian Busu / Greenpeace



At Unilever's recent AGM, we made sure shareholders knew exactly how much damage Dove's plastic products are causing. Cathy interrupted Unilever's AGM with an impassioned speech (see column, left) and campaigners rebranded the AGM venue's bathrooms to show the Real Harm Dove is inflicting on communities in the Global South. Cathy and other activists then took our message to Unilever HQ and delivered our open letter to 140,000 people. **Top right:** @ Kristian Busu / Greenpeace **Right:** @ Anna Wells / Greenpeace



Act now

If tens of thousands of Greenpeace supporters like you leave Dove products on the shelf this year, Unilever will listen. This can be our breakthrough moment. Through this campaign, we can make the company stop causing Real Harm and start using its global influence to push the ambitious treaty the world needs. We don't call for boycotts lightly, but these talks are an historic opportunity – and we have to do everything in our power to make it count.

Bring on the boycott

protect our planet, just days later the company actually started backtracking on plastic promises that were already nowhere near fit for purpose. For example, the company had previously pledged to halve its use of new plastics by 2025. It's now changed this to a reduction of less than a third by 2026. And we're seriously worried that when Unilever stands on the world stage at the final round of UN Global Plastic Treaty negotiations, it's going to stand in the way of progress – and stand alongside the fossil fuel lobbyists that are trying to make the treaty much less ambitious. So it's time to escalate our campaign, and that means targeting Unilever's reputation and profits – by Ditching Dove.

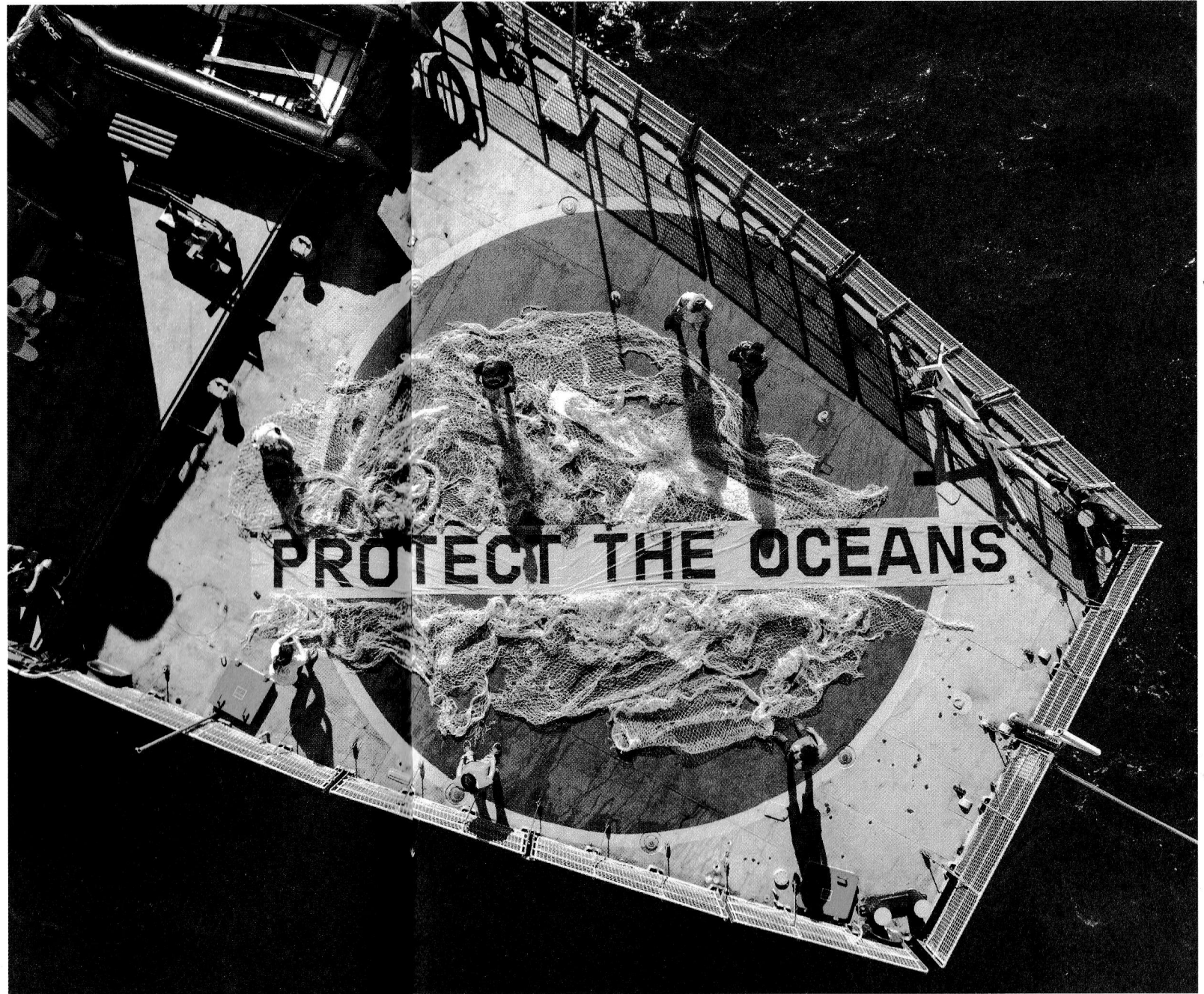
Join 45,000 Greenpeace supporters and pledge to Ditch all Dove products this year at **act.gp/ditch-dove**

Last year's UN Global Ocean Treaty agreement was a landmark win for people power. But the treaty only comes into force once 60 governments sign it into law, so the new UK government needs to make that a priority. To show why, we've been making the case for the stunning Sargasso Sea to become one of the world's first ocean sanctuaries.

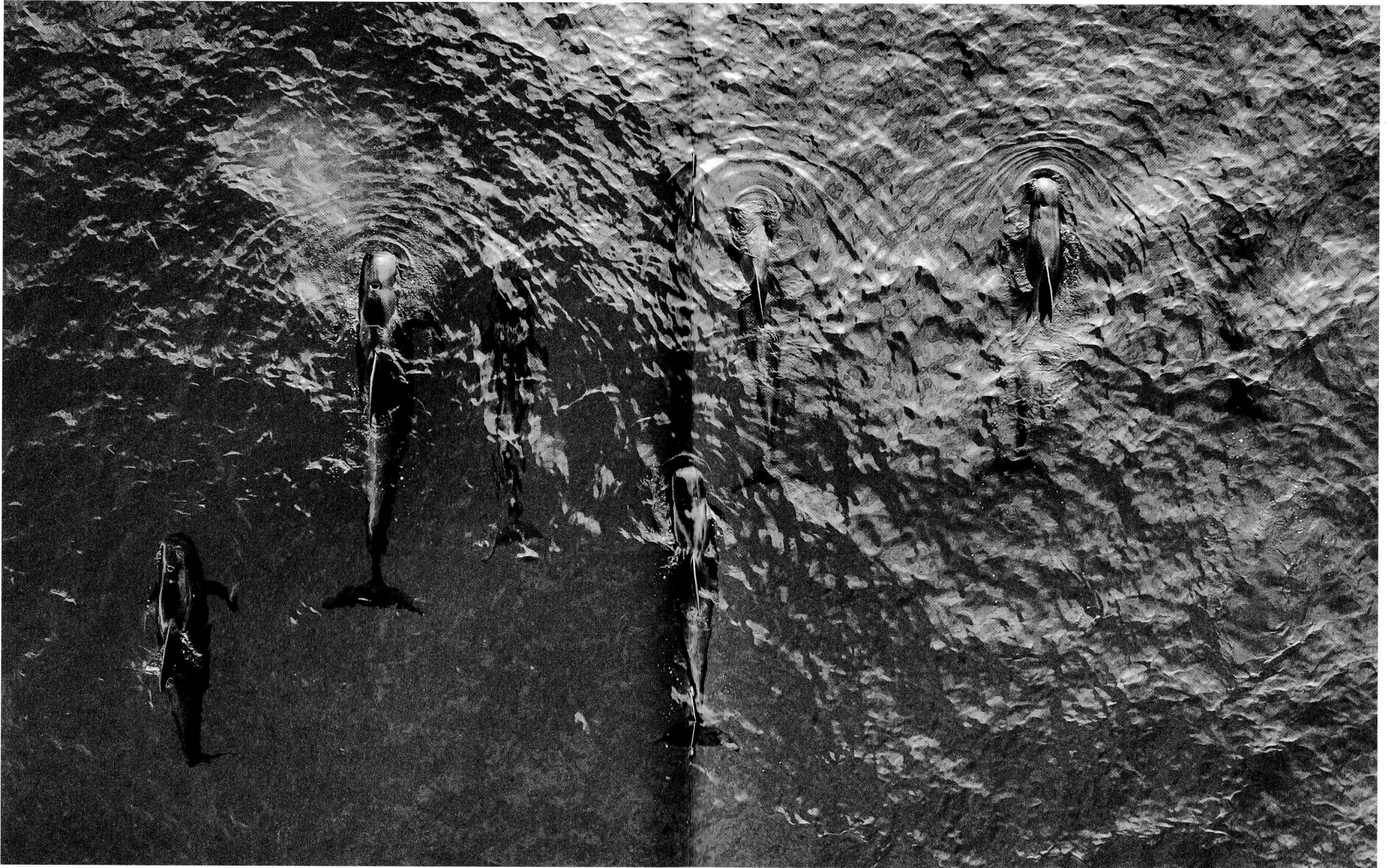
Showing why the Sargasso should be protected

Would you know where to find the Sargasso Sea on a map? This little-known natural wonder, right at the heart of the Atlantic Ocean, is the only sea in the world without a land boundary. It takes its name from the golden rainforest of sargassum seaweed that floats within its boundaries. And it supports an abundance of iconic species, from loggerhead turtles to humpback whales.

But the Sargasso is also unprotected – and suffering the consequences. Pollution, industrial fishing and climate change are all threatening to wreck the balance of this delicate ecosystem, with longline fishing a particular problem. That's when giant metal cables up to 100km long are dragged through the water with thousands of baited hooks attached. Turtles, seabirds and sharks are all among the creatures caught unintentionally.



The Sargasso Sea should be a place where marine life can thrive, but sea creatures face a constant threat of entanglement from discarded industrial fishing gear. Our Arctic Sunrise crew retrieved an 80m-long fishing net found floating in the high seas. With your support, we'll keep pushing for urgent protection in the area. © Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace



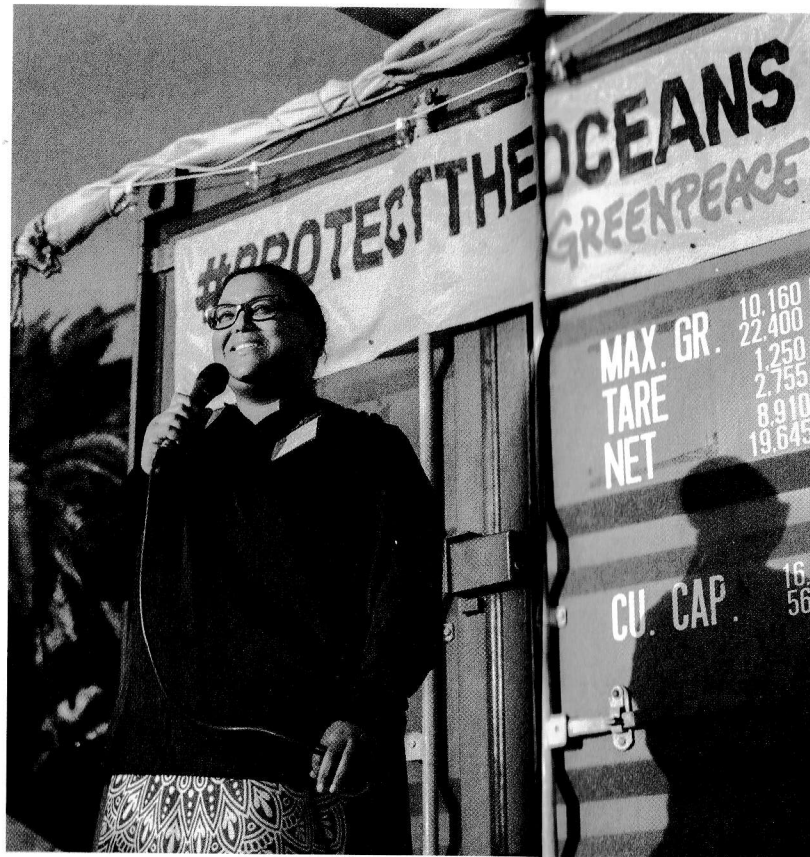
Our crew spotted these short-finned pilot whales alongside our ship Arctic Sunrise as we travelled through the Sargasso Sea. Governments worldwide need to act now to sign the UN Global Ocean Treaty into law, create a network of global ocean sanctuaries – with the Sargasso as a priority – and protect at least 30% of the world's oceans by 2030. © Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace

"This diversity on board was not just about representation. It was a testament to the power of collective action in the face of global environmental challenges. Each person brought their unique cultural insights and expertise, united under a shared, powerful goal – preserving the ocean."

Noelle Young, youth delegate and sustainability solutionist from Bermuda, who joined our global team onboard.

The remote Sargasso is exactly the kind of place that should be among the first ocean sanctuaries created under the UN's Global Ocean Treaty. But though this historic treaty was agreed in early 2023, 60 governments now need to sign it into domestic law by June 2025 for it to come into force – and only a handful have done it so far. So, thanks to your support, our ship Arctic Sunrise has been in the Sargasso, gathering much-needed scientific evidence, making headlines and building new relationships to pressure governments worldwide to act.

We've been using underwater microphones and pioneering environmental DNA sampling to analyse the movements of whales and dolphins and measure biodiversity in this part of the ocean. We've joined forces with local conservationists to study seabird populations. We've seen how plastic pollution is affecting the sargassum mats. We've joined a local community group on a beach clean. And politicians and representatives from across Bermudian society joined us for a special event to show their support for an ocean sanctuary in the Sargasso. Together with you, we'll keep building political pressure to make the Global Ocean Treaty a reality – and we'll keep gathering evidence to show how much it's needed.



Above: Noelle joined us at an unforgettable event where we welcomed local groups and leaders on board. Noelle described the voyage as: "A vivid reminder of what we are fighting for – the preservation of our ocean and the unique ecosystems within it."

© Deirdre Leowinata / Greenpeace

Right: Local seabird conservationist Erich Hetzel came onboard to document seabirds as we travelled from the Bahamas to Bermuda, so we could better understand their populations and migration patterns.

© Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace



Right: With guidance from the Greenpeace research lab team (see page 28), the crew collected water samples for eDNA analysis, building our understanding of the many species that pass through the region.

© Deirdre Leowinata / Greenpeace



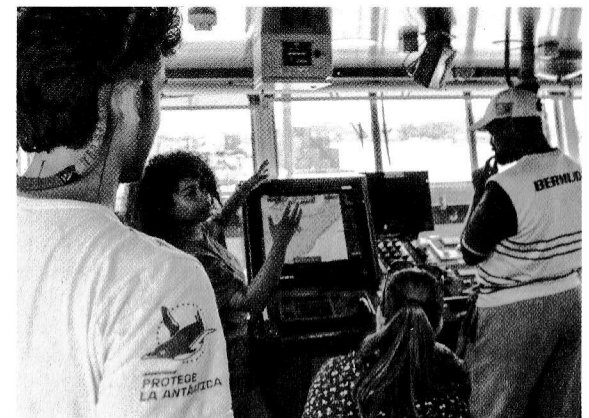
Right: We found 300 pieces of plastic in a golden sargassum seaweed mat in just 30 minutes, and a similar amount on a beach clean in Bermuda. Plastic waste and discarded fishing gear are everywhere – and show why ocean protection is long overdue.

© Deirdre Leowinata / Greenpeace



Right: At our open boat event, school groups, local activists and community members explored the Arctic Sunrise, shared their experiences and heard how our ships bear witness to ocean destruction that would otherwise go unseen.

© Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace

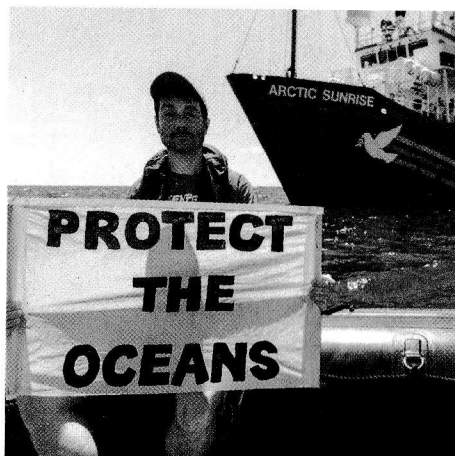


Where next?

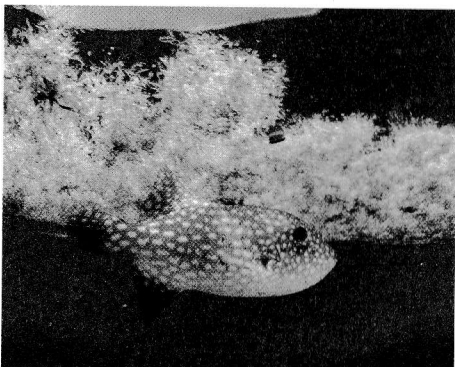
To show why we need ocean sanctuaries now, later this year we're travelling to:

The underwater mountains near Hawaii, where we'll expose how industrial fishing vessels are having a devastating impact on marine life like whales and turtles.

The South Tasman Sea, where we'll show how vast coral reefs need urgent protection from bottom trawlers. Look out for updates in Connect.

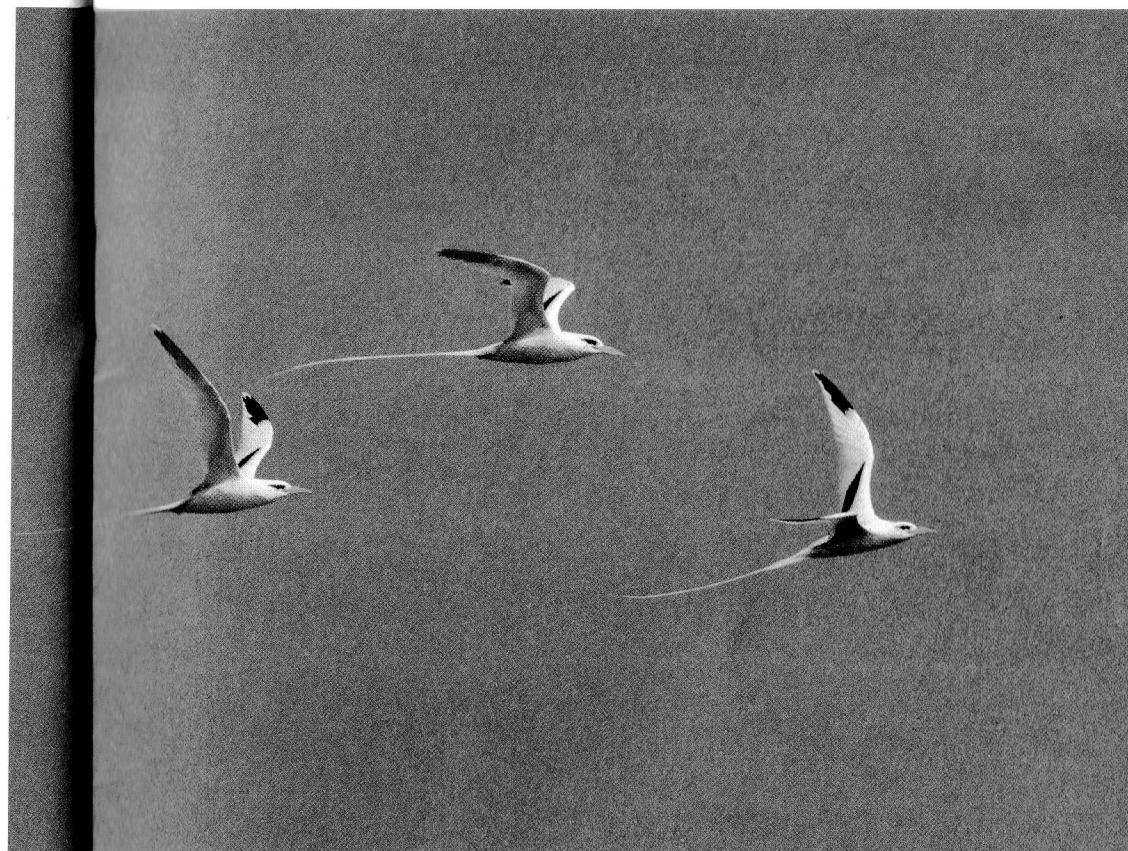


Left: Bastille frontman Dan Smith joined the team on board to spread the message about ocean protection and perform the song Blue Sky & the Painter. © Tavish Campbell / Greenpeace



Below left: This trigger fish was one of many stunning creatures we documented on this voyage. Our ships can only collect evidence and keep pushing for protection because of supporters like you. © Deirdre Leowinata / Greenpeace

Right: These white-tailed tropic birds were among the species we spotted as we studied seabirds during our voyage. We've shared what we found to inform global studies of migration patterns. © Deirdre Leowinata / Greenpeace



Q&A

Fiona Nicholls
The Greenpeace oceans campaigner spoke to us from the Arctic Sunrise



© David Mirzoeff / Greenpeace

What's the most inspiring thing you've seen on this journey?

We've seen humpback whales, pilot whales and various juvenile fish nestled amongst the sargassum seaweed that gives the Sargasso Sea its name. All of this is awe-inspiring and a reminder of what needs protecting, but I think the most inspiring thing I've witnessed is the commitment to ocean protection from the individuals and organisations of Bermuda.

How have people responded to Greenpeace's voyage?

Coastal communities are so often at the forefront of ocean conservation. Bermudians were no different – from people on the street walking up to the gangplank to introduce themselves and ask how they can help when we docked in Bermuda, to the school groups who joined us and the politicians who participated in our ocean sanctuary workshop. Bermuda showed up for the Sargasso Sea.

What are some of the biggest threats or concerns you've seen?

Industrial fishing is a huge concern for the Sargasso. We saw so much plastic waste and 'ghost gear' – discarded rope and fishing gear – and pulled what we could from the water. It could have snared sea turtles, seabirds and all kinds of other marine animals. We know dragging longlines is a big issue too, because they inadvertently hook mammals, seabirds and sharks.

Why do you think ship tours like this matter?

Our ships breathe life into our work, enabling us to bear witness, take action and bring allies together. Not many people have heard of the Sargasso Sea – it's bordered only by oceans with Bermuda there in the middle – but by undertaking this voyage we can show its beauty and why it needs to be protected.

What needs to happen now?

The next UK government has a golden opportunity to protect this golden floating rainforest. To prove itself to be a true ocean leader, the UK must be among the first to sign the Global Ocean Treaty into law and begin working with other states to champion the Sargasso as one of the first of an essential network of global ocean sanctuaries. We've shown why this matters. Now ministers need to act.

Donate now and help us:

Expose remote threats to our oceans

Power cutting-edge scientific research

Take peaceful direct action at sea

Please give whatever you can at

greenpeace.org.uk/donate-oceans

Shell might have thought it could keep us quiet. But, with your determination, it hasn't got a hope.

Silence us? No chance.

We want to start this article by saying thank you. Back in November, we sent an urgent appeal to every Greenpeace supporter. Shell had just announced it was suing Greenpeace after we staged a peaceful protest on one of its rigs, which was heading to the North Sea to open new oil wells.

Your response has been mind-blowing. 23,000 Greenpeace supporters have now donated to our Stop Shell Appeal. That's what strength in numbers looks like. Thanks to you, so far we've raised nearly £1,000,000. That incredible amount means our small legal team can face up to Shell's army of lawyers, and it could help us to keep taking direct action and campaigning worldwide to stop Big Oil's reckless plans. We know we've got what it takes to stop companies like BP and Shell. We've done it in the past – like when we stopped Shell drilling in the Arctic and broke up its partnership with Lego. Our work today is a continuation of those victories, and now you've made it clear you won't be sued into silence. We want to let you know how grateful we are that you're with us.



After 13 days occupying a Shell-owned oil platform last year, our activists climbed the platform's 125m flare boom to display one simple message: 'Stop drilling, start paying'. Shell responded to the peaceful action by launching an intimidation lawsuit – but you won't be silenced. © Matthew Kemp / Greenpeace

Building the campaign to Stop Shell

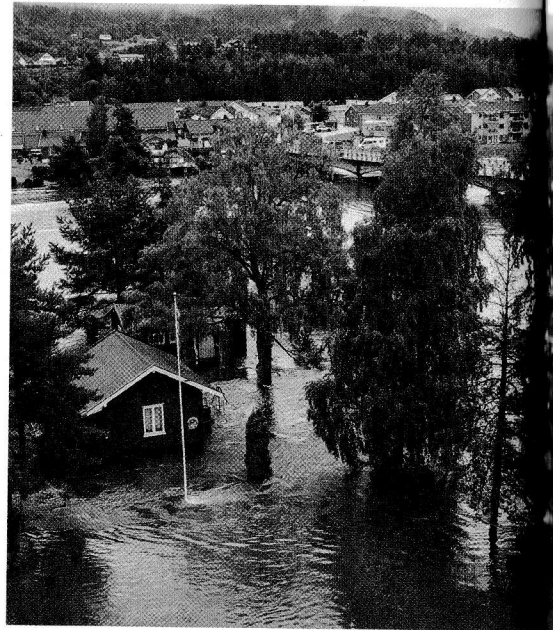
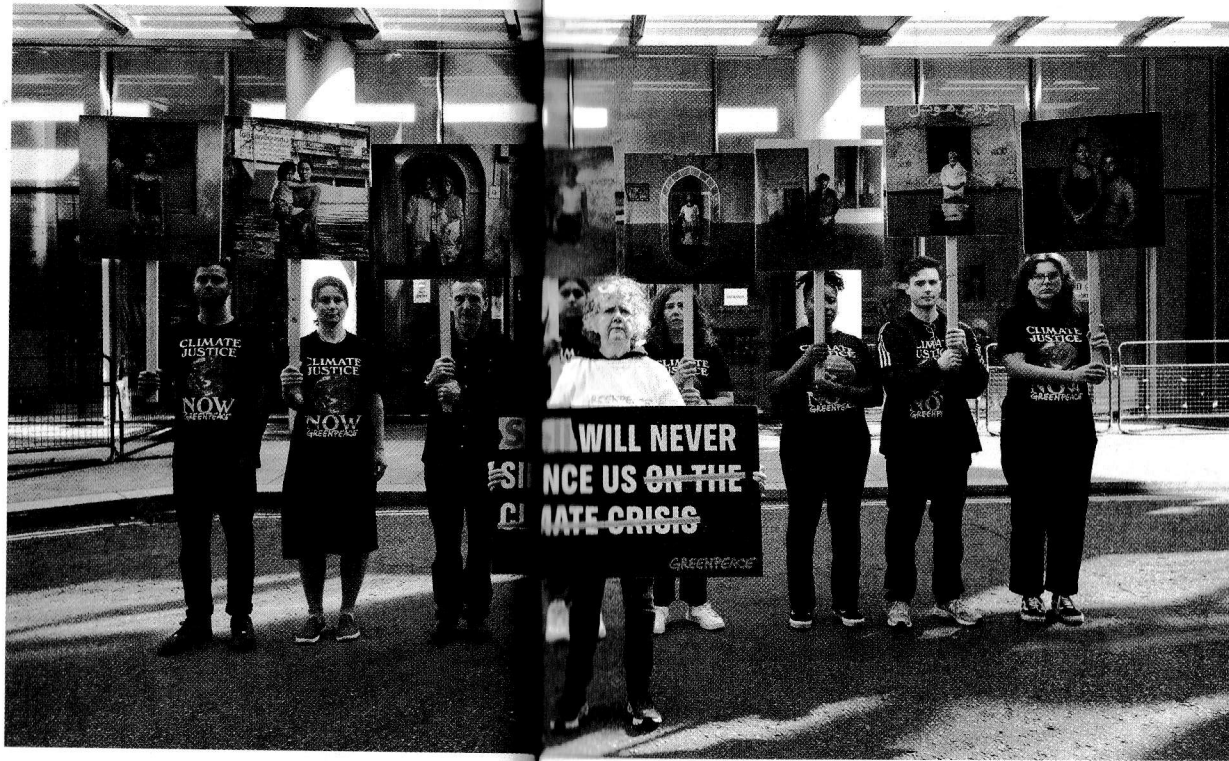
Legal cases can be long and slow, but your support is enabling us to work nonstop to challenge this intimidation lawsuit. For example, when Shell tried to knock out key evidence from our defence, our lawyers went to court to challenge this. Our defence lays out evidence that fossil fuel companies like Shell are driving the climate crisis and that they've known about the damage they're doing since the 1980s. It shows how Shell is spending billions on new oil and gas while scaling back its meagre investments in renewables.

This evidence is crucial because it sets out our basis for protesting. Shell tried to force us to remove references to its role in causing the climate crisis from our defence. But, thanks to our lawyers, the judge has allowed us to keep it in the court file as 'voluntary particulars'. With your support, we'll keep fighting our case and showing that Shell's climate-wrecking actions are ruining our planet. Thanks to you, we won't be silenced by Shell or the fossil fuel industry.

Why the case is a PR disaster for Shell

As well as building our defence, we recently published an open letter to Shell's CEO Wael Sawan, expressing our alarm at the lawsuit. It's been signed by almost 200,000 supporters, including Greta Thunberg, so plenty of Shell shareholders now know about it too. And our video showing online influencer Oli Hurst giving Shell's CEO a tiny violin was viewed over one million times in 24 hours. The case is creating only negative publicity for the oil giant.

And while we should never have had to fight this case, thanks to you we won't back down. With you by our side, we'll keep standing up to Shell and to Big Oil more widely – because it's time for this toxic industry to stop drilling and start paying for the climate destruction it causes.



Above: As Shell tried to stop us using evidence of its climate-wrecking actions as part of our defence, we protested outside the English Admiralty Court. Activists raised awareness with portraits taken by Gideon Mendel, showing people whose lives have been thrown into chaos worldwide by the climate crisis.

© David Mirzoeff / Greenpeace

Left and right: In 2023, the devastating impact of the climate crisis was seen worldwide – from floods in Norway to wildfires in Sumatra. Already this year, we've seen heatwaves across Asia and flooding in Brazil. The Big Oil industry has to stop drilling and start paying for the destruction it causes.

© Jason White / Greenpeace

© Muhammad Tohir / Greenpeace



Act now

Sign our open letter and show you won't be silenced by Shell at

act.gp/stop-shell

Turn to page 30 to read about the Greenpeace activists imprisoned for standing up to Big Oil. Together, we're continuing their fight.

Back pages: Your support gets results

The power of Project Climate Vote

We'd like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who helped build a nationwide movement of climate voters ahead of this month's general election.

There's no doubt about it – you really don't mess around. For months before the general election was announced, thousands of Greenpeace supporters like you knocked on doors, made phone calls, took to social media and started

conversations everywhere from cafés to school gates to recruit climate voters across the UK. Then, as soon as the election date was announced, you upped the pace even more.

You empowered people across the UK with the information they needed, showing how climate change is connected to everything from energy bills to pollution to food prices. You showed candidates from every party just how

much the climate and nature crises matter to voters right across the UK. And you made sure the Greenpeace manifesto – summed up in the 6 Ws of Climate Leadership below – was heard very loud and very clear.

This issue of Connect went to print before polling day and was delivered after all the votes had been counted. But, whatever the result, you seized this critical opportunity to make our planet a priority. Thank you so much for your support. Now we all need to keep pushing to turn the 6 Ws of Climate Leadership into a greener, safer future for us all.

The 6 Ws of Climate Leadership: a climate and nature checklist for the new government



Warm homes

Fix the UK's draughty homes.
Help poorer households to pay costly energy bills.



Wind power

Power the UK with affordable home-grown renewable energy.



Wheels

Roll-out cheaper and better buses and trains for healthier air.



Wildlife

Stop sewage and chemicals polluting our rivers and seas.
Prevent overfishing and industrial farming.
Rewild our countryside.



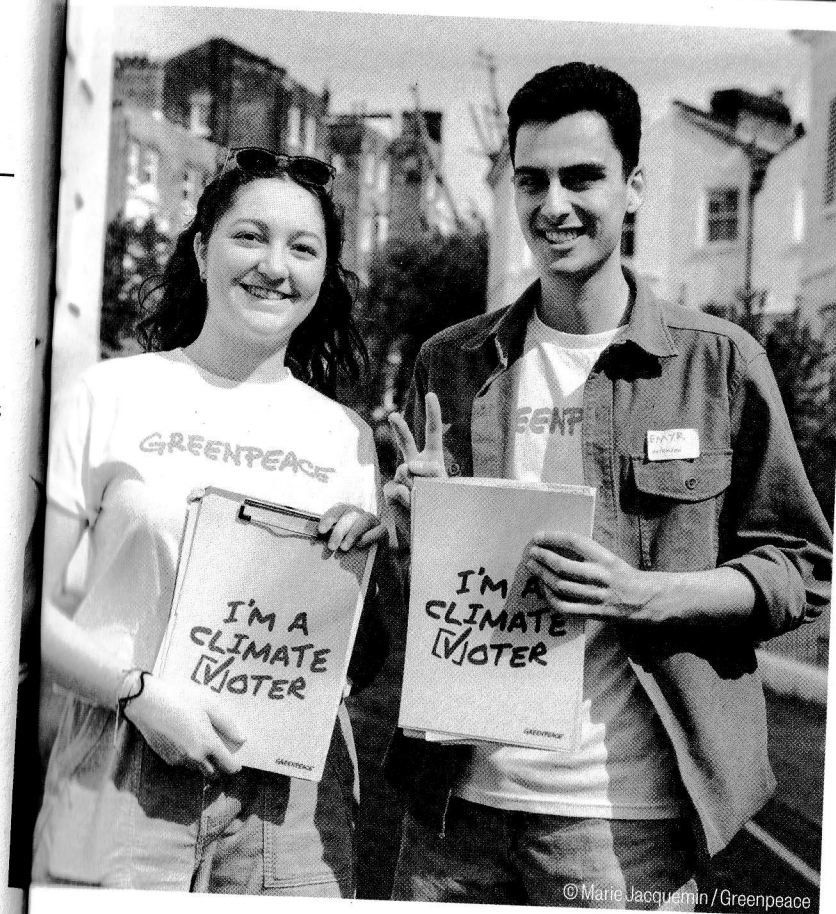
Workers

Make the economy work for everyone.
Clean up the banks.
Support workers into jobs in the industries of the future.



World

Protect our oceans and cut plastic.
Protect democracy and human rights.
Stop new drilling for oil and gas and tax Big Oil companies more to support people facing the worst climate impacts.



© Marie Jacquemin / Greenpeace

Your impact in numbers

Voters recruited
192,676

Volunteers trained
2,000+

Doors knocked
42,564

Conversations started in communities
15,785



Find the latest on pushing your MP to protect our planet at greenpeace.org.uk and by following [@greenpeaceUK](https://twitter.com/greenpeaceUK) on social media.

Back pages: The impact of your support

How you light up the lab

Did you know your donations help the team at Greenpeace's science unit to provide evidence and analysis that fire our campaigns forward?

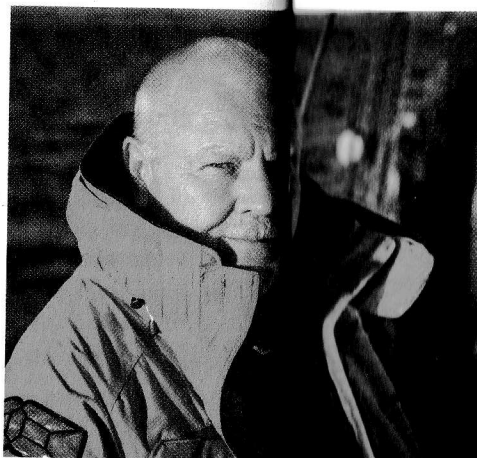
"We think of what we're doing as bearing witness through science," says Greenpeace senior scientist David Santillo, who's worked at our science unit's research laboratories since 1994. The labs are based at the University of Exeter, where our team of biologists, chemists and pollution specialists work together to investigate potential damage to our planet.

"It's environmental forensics," David says. "We use the same techniques that you would use in a police forensics lab, but apply them to environmental problems. Having our own science unit gives Greenpeace the ability not just to comment on science, but to conduct scientific studies, to generate new data that nobody else has, to look in areas where nobody else would look and to ask difficult questions."

What that looks like varies a lot. Greenpeace offices across the globe send samples to the lab for analysis, looking for signs of

polluting plastics and chemicals. "Many offices wouldn't have access to laboratories, or any laboratories they could use would be linked to governments," David says. "We provide independence."

He and his colleagues also work closely with our ship crews, and were recently involved in groundbreaking eDNA analysis of water samples collected on our ship Arctic Sunrise, to understand more about which marine creatures had passed nearby. They also deployed underwater microphones to locate and identify whales and dolphins in remote areas that could be affected by noise pollution from deep-sea mining. This led the International Whaling Commission to take up the issue. And in the last year the team also published papers and commented on issues from coal mining pollution to nuclear safety – as your support kept putting science at the heart of our fight for a greener, fairer future.



Your generous gifts mean scientists including Paul Johnston (pictured below left), David Santillo (below right) and Iryna Labunska (top) can uncover environmental threats using the latest scientific techniques. Clockwise from top: © Alex Stoneman / Greenpeace, © Vanessa Miles / Greenpeace, © Kajsa Sjölander / Greenpeace

Our science unit's highlights

We made sure the human cost of fossil fuels was seen at the COP28 climate conference, publishing new research projecting likely heat-related deaths and providing technical support to a BBC report on air pollution.

We collected evidence to show how noise pollution from planned oil and gas drilling and from deep-sea mining could affect whales and dolphins.

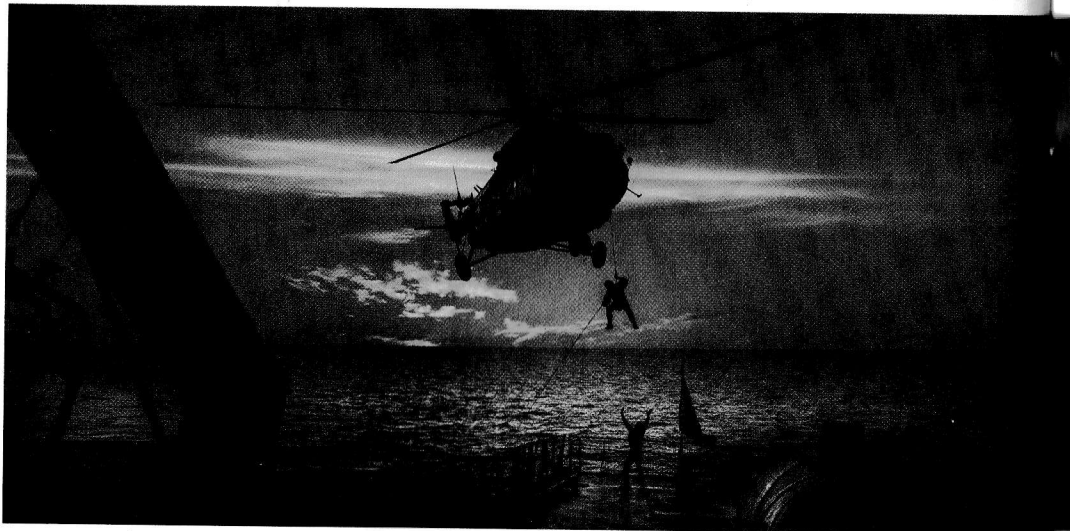
We delivered evidence of microplastics in Alpine lakes, keeping up the pressure for an ambitious Global Plastics Treaty.

We joined with other scientists to help expand the biggest Marine Protected Area in the North East Atlantic.

Find out more

To see more of the trailblazing science you make possible, visit
act.gp/science-lab

Back pages: Your support gets results



Why the Arctic 30 story is your story

Have you watched *On Thin Ice – Putin vs Greenpeace*, the new six-part documentary on the BBC? Don't worry if you missed it. It's still on iPlayer – and it's a brilliant example of how together we can achieve what might start off seeming impossible.

On Thin Ice tells the story of the 28 Greenpeace activists and two journalists who left Norway on our ship Arctic Sunrise in 2013. They were headed for the Russian Arctic Ocean to try and stop fossil fuel giant Gazprom drilling for offshore oil in the



Left: The Arctic 30 story began with Russian security services abseiling via helicopter onto the Arctic Sunrise and saw Greenpeace activists standing trial for piracy. News of the arrests

caused a worldwide outcry – and the global response showed just how much we can achieve together. Clockwise from far left: © Denis Sinyakov / Greenpeace, © Greenpeace, © Greenpeace

Below: Last year's 25 Mile Challengers raised £75,000 to keep our planet safe for the future. © Luca Marino / Greenpeace

region for the first time. But Putin's special forces stormed the ship within days, and the Arctic 30 suddenly found themselves staring down the barrel of a 15-year jail sentence.

We don't want to give too much away here. But the arrests led to one of Greenpeace's biggest ever campaigns – with a global effort involving multiple legal battles, dozens of protests, hundreds of thousands of Greenpeace supporters and even a letter written by Paul McCartney. Within a few months, our community had shown that nothing is stronger than people power.

And that's why – especially at a time when Shell is trying to silence us all – it's worth remembering that the Arctic 30 story really is your story. It embodies a truth that has defined Greenpeace for 53 years. When we act together, everything is possible.

On Thin Ice – Putin vs Greenpeace is on BBC iPlayer until May 2025

act.gp/arctic-30

Get fit, get into nature and protect what you love

This October, we're challenging you to walk, run, swim or wheel 25 miles in your local area to fundraise for a green, fair and peaceful world.

You can complete the 25 Mile Challenge your way, in a month, a week or a day. However you do it, you'll feel great, make the most of autumn and protect the natural world. And we'll even send you a free Protect What You Love t-shirt and activity poster (if you'd like one) when you raise your first £10. So what are you waiting for?

Take the Challenge

Sign up for the 25 Mile Challenge from 1 August at

greenpeace.org.uk

25 MILE CHALLENGE

GREENPEACE



