

Quantities of wastes other than dredged material dumped

Although several types of wastes are still dumped in the OSPAR area, more than 99% of the overall amount licensed since 1998 is dredged material.

Disposal of vessels which was phased out in 2004, decreased as indicated in Figure 4.1. These data show that implementation of the ban has been successful.

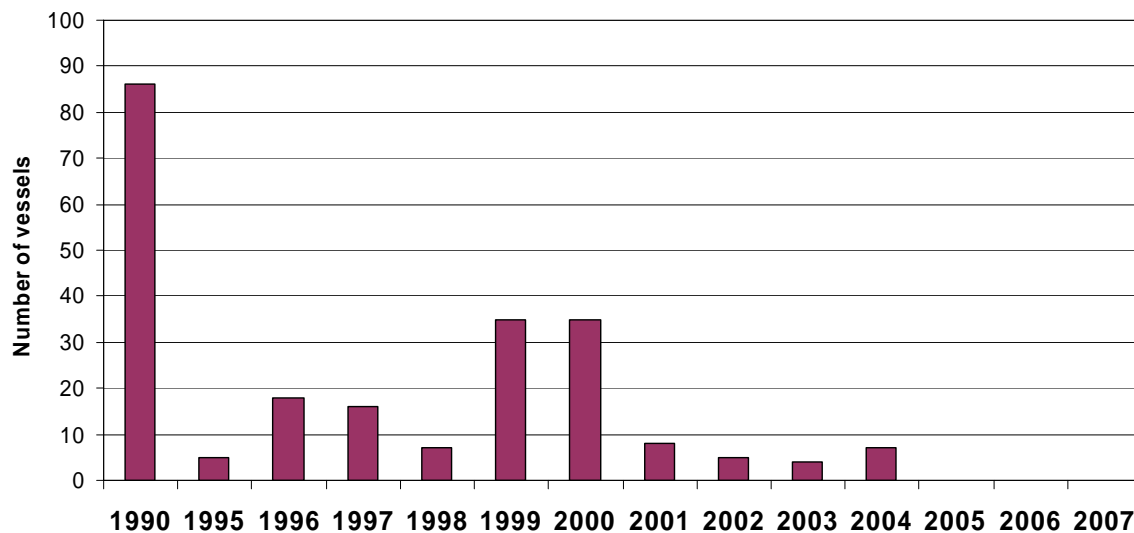


Figure 4.1: Total number of vessels disposed of from 1990 to 2007 within the OSPAR area

Source: Annual OSPAR Reports on Dumping of Wastes at Sea

The disposal of industrial wastes and sewage sludge at sea ceased in 1995 and 1998, respectively, and are not considered here. Disposal of inert material including for example rock and mining wastes decreased significantly from several million tonnes per annum in the early nineties to less than 200 000 tonnes by 1995. Since then, there have been years when significantly larger quantities have been dumped, but there is no discernable trend between 1996 and 2007 (see Figure 4.2). The quantities of inert bulky material (for example steel wire and concrete) disposed of at sea are comparatively small. Quantities varied from less than 100 tonnes in most years to more than 1000 tonnes in 1991 and 1997 to zero from 2001 onwards.

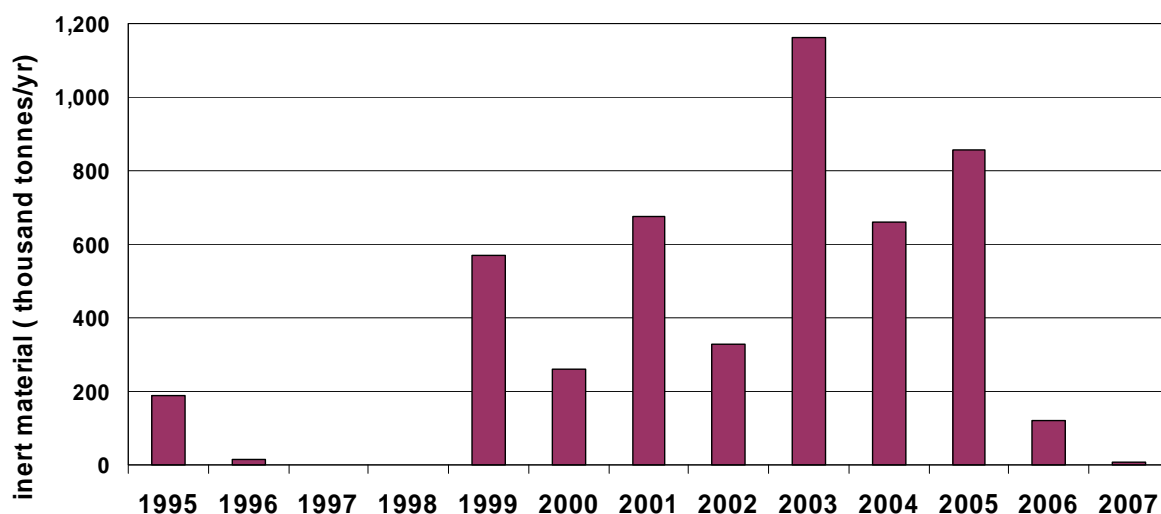


Figure 4.2: Inert material disposed of from 1995 to 2007 within the OSPAR area

Source: Annual OSPAR Reports on Dumping of Wastes at Sea

Disposal of fish waste amounted to less than 1000 tonnes per year except in 1992 and 1993, and decreased from about 400 – 500 tonnes of fish waste disposed of at sea in the mid 1990s. Relatively little fish waste was dumped within the OSPAR area in the years 2003 – 2007 (Figure 4.3). Norway reported 160 tonnes and 100 tonnes in 2006 and 2007 respectively. The United Kingdom disposed of 1203 and 1469 tonnes of fish waste into the intertidal zone over the same period, but this is not classified as dumping under the terms of the Convention.

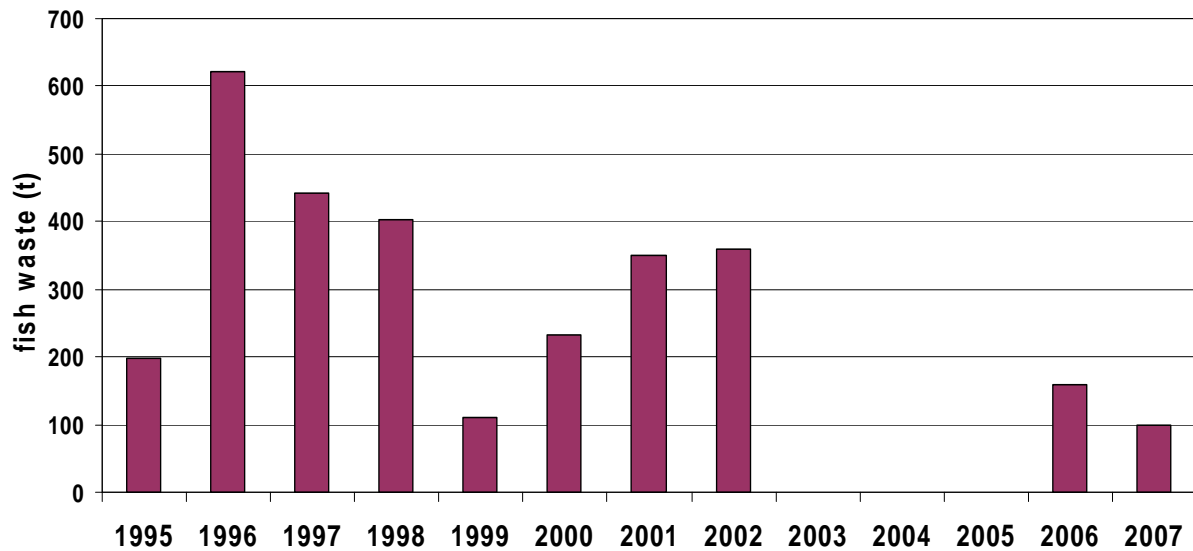


Figure 4.3: Fish waste disposed of from 1995 to 2007 within the OSPAR area

Source: Annual OSPAR Reports on Dumping of Wastes at Sea

➔ [Go to full QSR assessment report on the environmental impact of dumping of wastes at sea \(publication number 433/2009\)](#)