



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE SPEARFISHING

Best practices

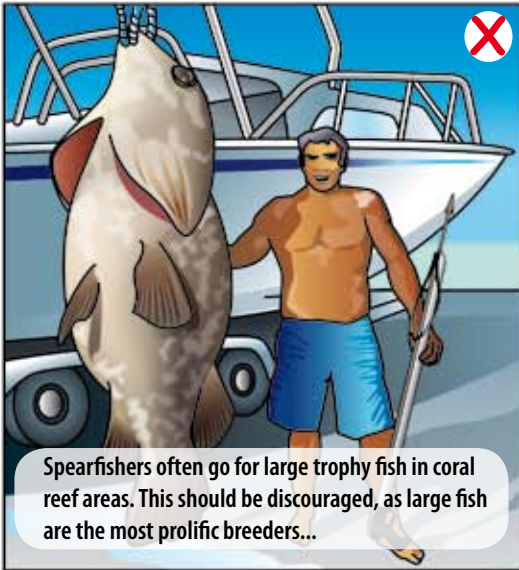
Spearfishing can be very destructive. Fish wisely and avoid practices that are not sustainable. Limit your impact: watch, learn, respect!





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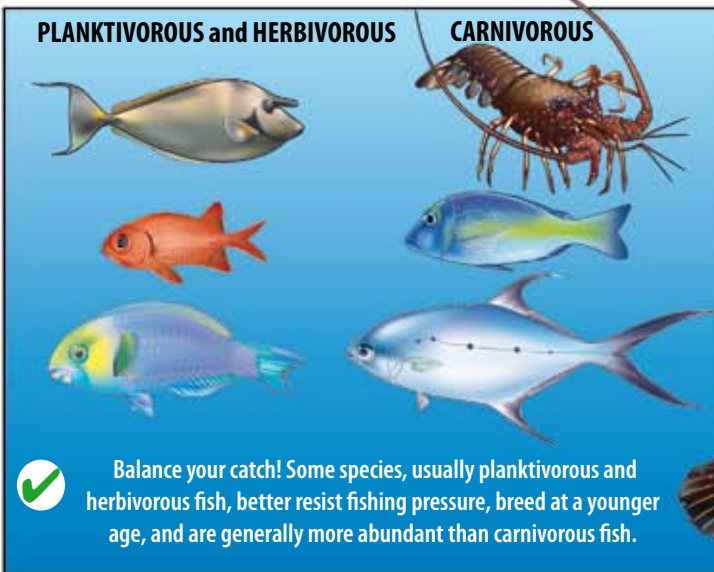
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Spearfishers often go for large trophy fish in coral reef areas. This should be discouraged, as large fish are the most prolific breeders...



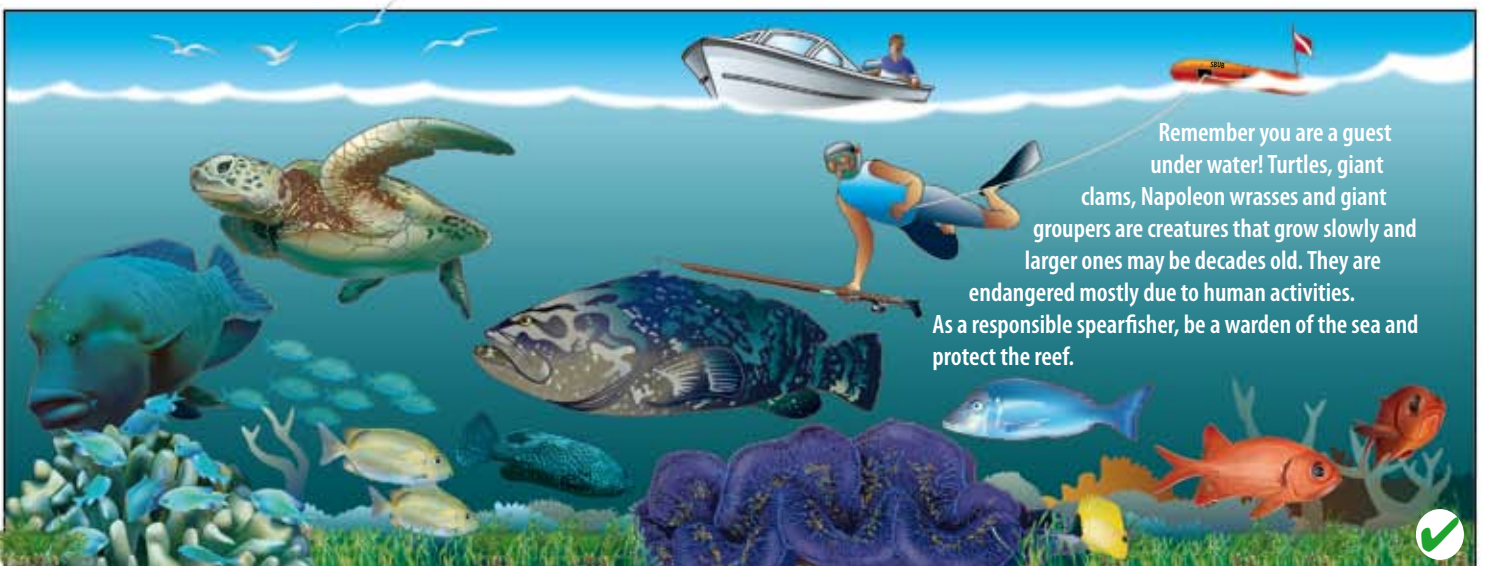
... and they are part of our heritage and should be protected. Aim at medium, 'plate-size' fish instead. They are worth more and are less likely to cause ciguatera fish poisoning.



Balance your catch! Some species, usually planktivorous and herbivorous fish, better resist fishing pressure, breed at a younger age, and are generally more abundant than carnivorous fish.



Protect the environment. Watch where you drop your anchor to avoid breaking coral. Do not disturb nesting animals. Do not throw rubbish into the sea.



Remember you are a guest under water! Turtles, giant clams, Napoleon wrasses and giant groupers are creatures that grow slowly and larger ones may be decades old. They are endangered mostly due to human activities. As a responsible spearfisher, be a warden of the sea and protect the reef.