

## No more fishing gears need to litter our seas – instead lost objects can return to their owners

*Successful tests have been done during this year's lobster fishing of the innovative product SeaMe that is being developed in a project with CMAR, Fiskareföreningen Norden and Sotenäs municipality.*

The innovation of the product and system SeaMe ensure that fishing gear will not be lost but can be part of a circular cycle. During this year's lobster fishing, the product has been tested by Fiskareföreningen Norden and the result has been successful. The next step in the product development is now for SeaMe to enter the market. The product allows lost fishing gear to return to their owners. A sensation for the users, the sea and society!

*What is SeaMe?* When fishing gears get lost, they are often difficult to find and recover. Lost gears litter the oceans and can continue fishing for many years. CMAR has developed a product that locate, and salvage lost fishing gears, and CMAR is now collaborating with Fiskareföreningen Norden and Sotenäs municipality to test and adapt the solution to different types of fishing gears. When a gear is not taken up as planned, SeaMe acts as a backup where a marking buoy comes to the surface after a predetermined time and marks the lost equipment. The solution enables easy salvage of most objects regardless of size and weight. Existing fishing gear can now be part of a circular cycle and return to their rightful owners. The product and system is being developed in a collaboration with *Sotenäs Marine Recycling Centre* and the *Test bed for ocean waste*. The project is partly financed by the Swedish Board of Agriculture through the Maritime and Fisheries Programme for 2014-2020.

*Project period:* 1 Jan 2021 - 31 Jan 2023

*Project manager:* Sotenäs Municipality

*Partners:* CMAR AB, Fiskareföreningen Norden

*Programme:* Maritime & Fisheries Programme 2014-2020, Swedish Board of Agriculture

