

Ministry of Health, the Environment, Energy and Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

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## Environmental Protection and Research Unit conducts 'Operation Spear watch'

The Environmental Protection and Research Unit within the Department of the Environment and Climate Change (DECC) has over the past three weeks being carrying out operations targeting illegal spearfishing activities in British Gibraltar Territorial Waters (BGTW).

The initiative has resulted in 2 separate cases so far involving 4 spear fishermen of Spanish nationality. The individuals are now being processed for reporting by the DECC after having being found contravening the Marine Protection Regulations.

Environmental Protection Officers from the DECC will be continuing with the operation over the coming weeks as part of the wider strategy to curb illegal fisheries in BGTW.