





# Together FOR OUR Ocean





International Coastal Cleanup 2017 Report



# 국제연안정화



In partnership with volunteer organizations and individuals around the globe, Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup engages people to remove trash from the world's

beaches and waterways, identify the sources of debris and change the behaviors that cause marine debris in the first place. 际海滩清洁日

Limpieza Internacional (

Международная акция по очистке побережья



Limpeza Gosteira Internacional

nternationales

التنظيف الدولى للسواحل

ΠΑΓΚΟΣΜΙΟΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΟΣ अंतरराष्ट्रीय तटीय सफाई

国際海岸クリーンアップ

Usafishaji wa Kimataifa wa Pwani



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**PEOPLE:** 504,583



POUNDS: 18,399,900 KILOGRAMS: 8,346,055



MILES: 14,997

KILOMETERS: 24,136



TOTAL ITEMS: 13,840,398

On behalf of all of us at Ocean Conservancy, I would like to thank the more than half a million volunteers who made the 2016 International Coastal Cleanup a success. We simply couldn't do it without YOU. From 112 countries around the world, volunteers, site captains, state and county coordinators worked tirelessly to collect over 18 million pounds of trash.

Thanks to you, we covered enough miles of coastline to walk around the moon twice. We've collected enough balloons to lift a 2,200 lb. walrus and enough fishing line to reach the bottom of the Mariana Trench – the ocean's deepest point – nine times over.

It is people like you that continue to inspire my optimism for the future of our ocean. For more than 30 years, volunteers across the world have come together to become a global force for good. Together, we can achieve a positive future for our ocean.

My sincerest thanks,

Janis Jones Chief Executive Officer Ocean Conservancy

# Perspectives from the Field

#### ■ If A Goat Will Eat It

Diana McCaulay, Jamaica

When I was a child, my family had a rule for littering: You can throw it on the ground or out of a car window if a goat can eat it. It was a reasonable rule for that time. Most of what we threw away during a road trip was biodegradable - banana peel, roast corn, paper. But within a single generation mine – the type of waste produced in Jamaica changed dramatically. Starting in the 1990s, single-use packaging exploded. Soft drink containers, especially, made a transition from glass to plastic. Foam plastic became much more common. Shoppers used plastic bags. Lifestyles changed, too, as people started eating more takeout food. Although the waste stream was completely different, people all over the Caribbean still behaved as though a goat could eat what they were throwing away. And this new waste made its way from open lots and roadsides to the Caribbean Sea. Within a very short time, plastics could be seen on even the remotest of beaches.

We love our beaches in the Caribbean. We go there to relax, have fun with friends, take a sea bath. Our tourism industry largely depends on attractive beaches, but our poor practices inland are turning many beaches

into dumps. My own International Coastal Cleanup experience began when I took a houseguest to a beach I had loved as a child and found it covered with garbage. It was a life-changing moment which led to a career as an environmental activist, but there remains much work to be done in the Caribbean to keep garbage off beaches and out of the sea.



#### ■ Two Seas, Many Hands for a Clean Sweden

Anton Hedlund, Sweden

We all love beaches, right? They have so much to offer – relaxing time with beautiful views, sports, swimming and more. To not have clean beaches, we believe, is a threat to our freedom. Sweden is a small country in terms of population, with approximately 10 million inhabitants. However, by surface, it is the fifth largest country in Europe and has 43,400 kilometers of coastline, along the Baltic Sea and the North Sea. The Baltic Sea has encountered problems in recent decades with eutrophication, overfishing and environmental toxins. On the west coast of Sweden, the North Sea is subject to intensive fishing.

These issues result in a lot of litter, such as fish boxes, ropes and oil cans, floating onto the shore. Combine that with the litter left by beach visitors, and the ocean trash conditions can become quite overwhelming. In these situations you can either look the other way or actually do something about it.

We chose the latter.

We may be a small country, but we can make a difference. We can be a role model. With help from the Swedish enterprise and municipalities, we have managed to organize cleanups all over the country. One of the greatest parts of our project is having thousands of local youth from sport clubs who want to be involved and who will do anything to collect litter – hike, wade through mud, climb and even repel from bridges. Youth participation is obviously great for the environment, but it also helps contribute to their own future by taking small visions and dreams and collectively making a better tomorrow.

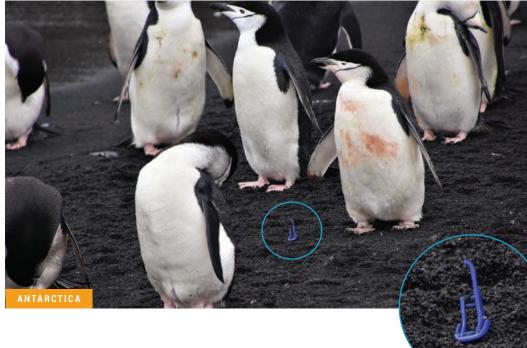
## ■ Penguins and Plastics in Antarctica

Anne Christianson, USA

#### Antarctica is the last great wilderness on

Earth – a place where humans have barely gained a foothold, but where colonies of hundreds of thousands of penguins thrive, whales charge through swarms of krill and seals haul out on floating sheets of ice, completely unfazed by infrequent passing ships. Through extraordinary adaptations, Antarctic wildlife has evolved to not only live but flourish in the most extreme conditions on Earth.

Throughout most of the twentieth century, the only people on Antarctica were researchers and a handful of military personnel. Now, tens of thousands of tourists from around the globe sail to the southern continent every



Antarctic summer (Dec – Feb), with little legal oversight from the multi-lateral organizations that protect and manage it. The lifeblood of Antarctica is the ocean. Each species in the Southern Ocean evolved to survive in a unique ecosystem niche, and if humans disrupt these relationship balances, the entire system is in danger of collapse.

Although the Antarctic waters are still relatively devoid of debris, I found fishing nets

and plastic bottles
and spotted chinstrap
penguins playing with a
piece of blue plastic in my limited time there.
Even in the most remote corners of the planet,
our human presence is increasingly felt and
is altering this pristine landscape. Our work is
critical to ensure that majestic and vulnerable
landscapes, like the Antarctic wilderness, are
protected for generations to come.

## **TOWERS OF TRASH**





# Building an Ocean of Support in Mexico

eople! People are what give Alejandra López de Román hope for the future. Alejandra was first inspired to organize cleanups by a former dive instructor. When



water conditions were not suitable for diving one day, the divers began to clean up along the rocks and jetty. Alejandra was deeply impacted by the amount of trash they collected that stormy afternoon nearly 15 years ago. Inspired to do more, Alejandra became Mexico's International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Coordinator in 2004. This past year was an incredibly exciting and momentous year for the ICC in Mexico. Participation topped 20,000 volunteers, and Alejandra describes that milestone as "definitely one of the best feelings!" She is also quick to attribute much of Mexico's success to fellow Coordinators. "I am grateful to have such wonderful state and local coordinators, who have made it possible to increase our impact

year after year. In Mexico, that means every year there are more advocates for the ocean and all living things in and around it."

# Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica: How the ICC Led to a National Campaign

The Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) started doing beach cleanups in 1994; around the same time significantly more disposable packaging began to be used in Jamaica. There was a lot of learning and some memorable challenges in the early days. Most notably, at the very first cleanup, the truck driver who was hired to take the garbage to a waste disposal site merely dumped the garbage a few miles away in some mangroves.

#### **Environment & Culture: A Strong Link in Kiribati**

After years of dreaming about bringing the ICC to Kiribati, Erietera Aram and the Kiribati Islands Conservation Society made the dream a reality in 2015. Driven by patriotism and the desire to restore the natural beauty of Kiribati beaches, Erietera became a leading example of how individual actions can change a nation. The Kiribati Islands Conservation Society is the first ever NGO of its kind in Kiribati. The

organization consists of young concerned Kiribati citizens focused on protecting and preserving its culture and environment. And while the path has not been without challenges, Erietera has learned he has the incredible ability to motivate and encourage those around him. Erietera adds, "It is amazing to finally learn something new about yourself and use it to the best to help your fellow brothers and sisters. It feels good to do good!"



"That was a tough day," says JET's founder and CEO Diana McCaulay. "We removed some of the garbage, but more was left behind in the mangroves. I wondered if our first beach cleanup had made things worse."

Despite this daunting beginning, JET continued conducting beach cleanups, convinced that they were an effective way to educate participants about the impact to the sea by littering on land. JET became Jamaica's ICC Coordinator in 2008 and set about building a movement. "We knew we had to make it an event that appealed to young people," says Carlette Falloon, JET's then Program Director. "We started having music. Celebrities. Ministers of Government. Photographers. We got it all in the press – TV, radio, print and more recently, on social media." The numbers grew steadily, but the JET team noticed that even as volunteers cleaned the beach, they were still inclined to litter in rest areas.

"We realized we needed to change deepseated attitudes to solid waste," says JET's Deputy CEO, Suzanne Stanley. "So in 2014, we developed the Clean Coasts Project, including a national public education campaign called Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica, which was funded by our long time ICC donor, the Tourism Enhancement Fund."

The Clean Coasts Project does underwater cleanups, has built a Debris Containment Boom across the mouth of a gully in Montego Bay, conducts research and holds educational events. Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica has been rolled out island-wide and has received high praise.

Last year, ICC day in Jamaica attracted 9,276 volunteers who cleaned more than 90 miles of coastline. "The numbers are encouraging, but we are working towards nothing less than acceptance of personal responsibility for what we use and throw away," says Suzanne.

# Celebrating Independence with Clean Beaches

Fifty cleanups for fifty years! The Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) Barbados successfully completed this goal in 2016. This past year marked the 50th Anniversary celebration of Barbados' independence, so CYEN Barbados, who has led the ICC for over a decade, wanted to celebrate in a big way. Organizers worked tirelessly to plan and promote the cleanups taking place throughout September and October. Furthering their mission of empowering young people to engage in programs and actions that improve community and environmental health, CYEN has established a cohort of incredible vouth members who are keenly aware of environmental issues such as ocean trash and who lead by example in their own communities and neighborhoods.

Ocean Conservancy's Trash Free Seas team visited Barbados in early October to

Good Mate Boat Cleanups

PEOPLE: 5,707

POUNDS: 208,532

(94,589 KG)

MILES: 726

(1,168 KM)

TOTAL ITEMS COLLECTED: 127,852

participate in a whirlwind weekend as part of the Anniversary celebration. The team was inspired by the dedication of CYEN staff and was also thrilled to meet a number of their youth members who demonstrate what is truly possible when young people come together behind the common goal of change.





# volunteers making a splash Diving Deeper

# Youth Drives Change and Clean Coasts in Colombia

or Rommy Schreiber of EcoPazifico
Foundation, based in Cali, Colombia, ocean trash has been a personal nuisance since childhood. The debris situation in her town and surrounding area can be daunting but, she insists, it cannot be ignored. Beyond securing the health and livelihood for many Colombians, Colombia's Pacific coastline is an ecologically important gathering place for humpback whales migrating north from Chilean waters to birth their calves each year.

Leading cleanup efforts for EcoPazifico, Rommy finds inspiration from youth who are "full of energy and hungry to learn." The Foundation's efforts are receiving recognition as community leaders have expressed appreciation for its steadfast efforts in a location and climate that often sees environmental groups come and go. The 2016 ICC was an especially exciting time for the EcoPazifico team. It successfully synchronized a permaculture action week with the ICC topping off the events. Next it will work with local businesses and focus on implementing new technology to enable the



reuse and repurposing of the plastic that is collected during cleanups.

#### **Daring Dives: The Kuwait Dive Team**

Though the Middle East is more commonly linked with war than the environment, the Kuwait Dive Team is proud to highlight the region's beautiful seas and rich marine



# **UNDERWATER CLEANUPS**





To find out more or to get involved under the surface, check out our partner **Project AWARE** at www.projectaware.org/diveagainstdebris.

biodiversity. Coral ecosystems thrive in the Middle East's waters such as the Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, and Arabian Gulf. Unfortunately, as is true worldwide, the region's waters are threatened by pollution and debris.

Working with schoolchildren and volunteers, the Kuwait Dive Team has directly removed more than 2,700 tons of marine debris in the last decade, yet that's only a small fraction of what remains. Under the water are other dangers; the most common of which is ghost nets. As a major hub for commercial fishing, the Gulf is littered with deserted gear. The Kuwait Dive Team has lifted 200 tons of ghost nets and 650 submerged boats from local waters, and they are always on the lookout for more.

Furthermore, the scars of armed conflict are keenly felt by marine ecosystems in the region. The Kuwait Dive Team still finds the occasional unexploded ordnance, and oil spills continue to harm the reefs. Despite how much work is yet to be done, the Team remains hopeful and is constantly reminded of how beautiful and fascinating the ocean truly is.

# More than Just Collecting Rubbish in Australia

Tangaroa Blue's mission from day one has been about prevention. Heidi Taylor, Tangaroa Blue's cofounder, describes, "It was pretty clear straight away that if our only strategy in dealing with ocean pollution was to pick it up, we would be doing it forever." Rather, the organization focused on understanding what was in the ocean, where it came from and what needed to change to prevent marine debris from occurring in the first place. Starting as a small community group focused on marine debris in the southwest corner of Western Australia in 2004, Tangaroa Blue now organizes cleanups, data collection and outreach activities all over Australia.

"When I first started Tangaroa Blue, there were people that thought I was referring to driftwood when I was talking about marine debris," Heidi notes. Not anymore. The



Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database, managed by Tangaroa Blue, just surpassed 7 million pieces of debris data logged. Their map highlights over 2,100 sites across Australia, representing more than 75,000 volunteers who have helped to clean up and collect data on what they are removing. Heidi concludes, "Our volunteers are not rubbish collectors; they are citizen scientists whose efforts are informing policy, education and enforcement."

#### Pollution in Paradise: An Island Nation Takes Action

After nearly 10 years living in paradise, Courtney Jenkins had seen enough. Even idyllic islands are not spared by the impacts of trash. "I witnessed the deterioration and the pollution of these areas, and there seemed to be little action," Jenkins describes of what drew her to become part of the ICC. Working with Belle Verte, Ltd. and collaborating with schools such as Clavis International Primary School and Le Bocage International School, Jenkins set off on a mission to change hearts and minds across



Mauritius. Despite some skepticism about the value of beach cleanups and environmental conservation, the reaction from the community has been overwhelmingly positive, with participation in the ICC growing each year. Jenkins concludes, "Witnessing the shock on the students' faces when they see all the things that they accumulated, it really brings the issue to life. If this feeling can permeate other sectors, we will start to 'win' the battle."

# Global Spotlight: Stories from Africa

s urbanization and population growth increase at a rapid rate in developing countries in Africa, the management of solid waste has become a major public health and environmental concern and challenge. The lack of waste management strategies, planning and facilities is resulting in uncontrolled solid waste pollution of both terrestrial and marine environments. With 26.000 kilometers of coastline and its great lakes and rivers, the continent has an important role to play in reducing the amount of solid waste materials finding its way to the sea.

Historically, marine litter received limited attention in Africa. It wasn't until 2013 that a summit, supported by UNEP, was held in

South Africa to establish a network bringing together marine debris researchers, natural resource managers, policy makers, industry representatives and the non-governmental community from across Africa to try to raise awareness and take action to reduce marine litter.

While some policies and laws are in place at national and local levels, most countries are currently deemed to have inadequate levels of the basic institutional capacity for waste management. Thus, the development and operation of basic solid waste management facilities throughout urban areas are critical. It is also key for governments and municipal authorities to encourage community-based

recycling small business enterprises. Experts believe turning plastic waste into a commodity of value which can be easily accessed by local communities is one way to significantly reduce marine litter in Africa and protect the vast and beautiful African coastline.

#### **Waves of Impact**

Yassine Belhouari is an avid surfer and photographer. Like many who enjoy the water and spend time on the coast, he is well aware of the ocean trash problem. He spends much of his time in Safi, Morocco, a popular surfing locale and coastal community. Recognizing the problem and lack of public awareness, Yassine began inviting friends and fellow surfers to join him in removing debris from the beach. Now he leads a major cleanup each year on Lalla Fatna Beach, just north of Safi City. Through his photography and volunteer work with Surfrider Foundation, Yassine was inspired to start a digital magazine called Safi Surfing Magazine. Through the publication he's able to share amazing images of the beautiful Moroccan coastline while also exposing a large audience to local environmental issues such as ocean trash. Ultimately, Yassine hopes that the same community that enjoys the beach and water every day can become advocates who encourage others to do their part,

#### **Innovation and Collaboration** in Port Elizabeth

In July 2017, the African Marine Waste Network will host the African Marine Waste Conference in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. The Conference will provide a global interdisciplinary platform for stakeholders to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends and concerns, as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the field of debris and marine waste.



reduce littering behavior and improve waste management in Safi and beyond.

# Turning "Trash Into Cash" on Kenya's Beaches

In Watamu Marine National Park, communitybased entrepreneurship is turning the tide on the marine trash impacting its beaches. Watamu Marine Association (WMA) operates marine conservation projects, communitybased ecotourism and community-based waste management enterprises. WMA started its beach cleaning and waste management activities in 2009 by forming award-winning dynamic partnerships between the local tourism industry and the community sector. It has set up a plastic, glass and flip-flop recycling center and created a waste recycling value chain for Watamu community members. Twenty-four local people earn an income as beach cleaners and recyclers, supported by many Watamu hotels and residents.

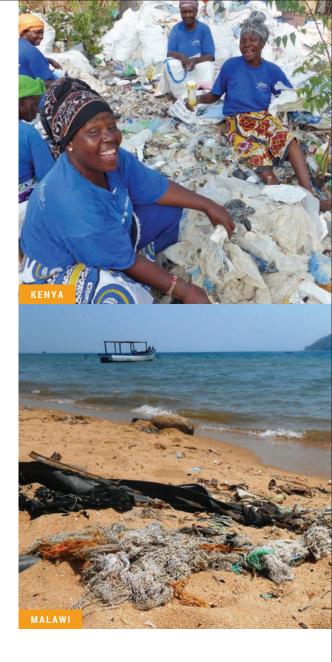
The latest construction at the Recycling Centre has walls made from 5,000 waste glass and plastic bottles, and the Centre known as "EcoWorld Watamu" is becoming a growing public and tourist attraction. WMA demonstrates local solutions to the global problem of marine trash and shows that local communities can benefit from best waste management practices by turning "Trash into Cash" and generating incomes for impoverished communities.

Building on the entrepreneurial spirit, Ocean Sole has transformed discarded flip-flops found littered on beaches and in waterways of Kenya into unique products handmade by a team of skilled artisans in Kenya. Ocean Sole exports these magnificent creations to over 25 countries around the world. Each product carries a message about the importance of our oceans and the need to reduce plastic waste, while also bringing smiles to people all over the world through one-of-a-kind artistic masterpieces. Visit www.watamu.biz and www.ocean-sole.com for more information.

#### A Pioneering Force in South Africa

The ICC has been an unwavering platform to raise awareness on marine pollution, inadequate waste management, the need for recycling and non-littering in South Africa for the past 20 years. Since they founded the ICC in South Africa, Plastics|SA and KZN Wildlife have been managing, organizing, sponsoring and implementing the event annually. The ICC is a non-political action with an unbiased evaluation of the manmade material found in the environment.

Waves from two distinct oceans wash. onto the shores of South Africa, and this annual event enables citizens to actively do something to improve the health of their marine resources. The ICC has been an incubator for the government project "Working for the Coast" to combat the issue of debris on the shoreline. The project works to improve waste management in areas where waste is being lost into the environment and to increase the frequency of citizen cleanups. Although South Africa has a robust extended producer responsibility system, it will be imperative to ensure recycling and proper waste management meet South Africa's continued population and economic growth. Calendar events come and go, but the sustainability of the ICC serves as a strong indicator for the private sector and policymakers on what citizens desire - a clean, safe ocean and environment.

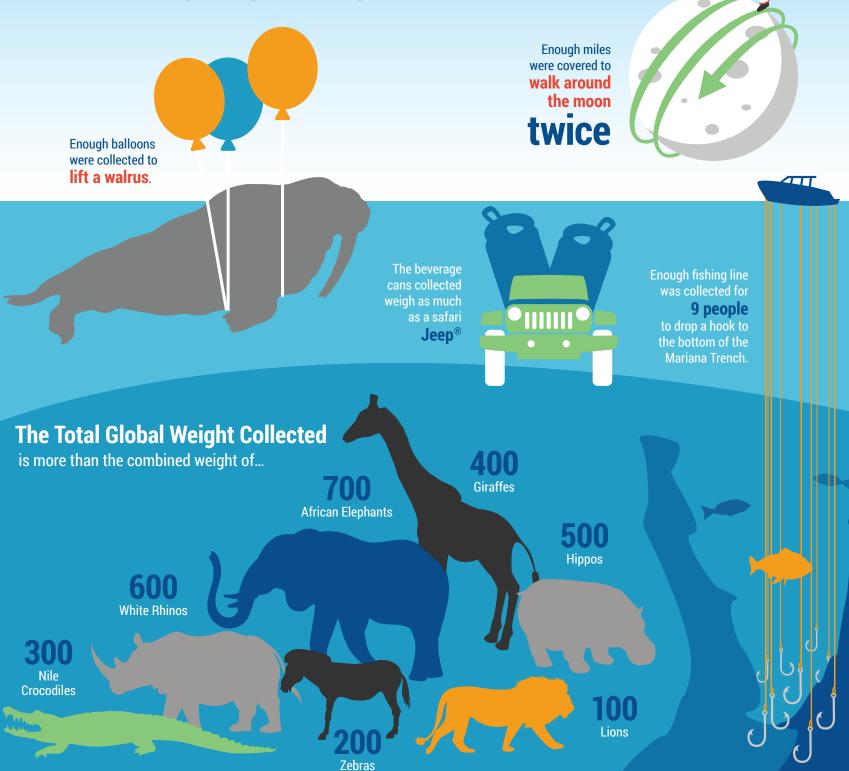








# **DATA SPOTLIGHT**





# TINY TRASH, BIG IMPACTS

Tiny Trash are items measuring less than 2.5 cm.

1,212,602 **Plastic Pieces** 

1.066.644

Foam Pieces

496,640

Glass Pieces

# **WEIRD FINDS**







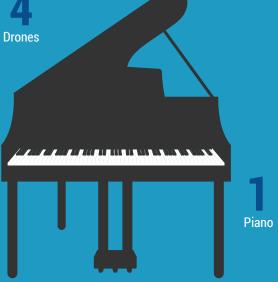








**Typewriters** 



# **TOP 10 ITEMS COLLECTED**



1. CIGARETTE BUTTS

1,863,838



2. PLASTIC BEVERAGE

1,578,834



3. PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS

822,227



**FOOD WRAPPERS** 

762,353



5. PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS

520,900



6. PLASTIC LIDS

419,380



STRAWS, STIRRERS

409,087



8. GLASS BEVERAGE

390,468



9. OTHER PLASTIC BAGS

368,655



365,584

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COUNTRY/LOCATION	PEOPLE	POUNDS	KILOGRAMS	MILES	KILOMETERS	TOTAL ITEMS COLLECTED
ALBANIA	1	2	1	0.5	0.8	15
ANTARCTICA	2	2	1	0.5	0.8	7
ARGENTINA	192	767	348	2.5	4.1	1,964
AUSTRALIA	7,627	234,218	106,240	756.5	1,217.5	9,375
AZERBAIJAN	10	161	73	2.5	4.0	260
BARBADOS	807	6,708	3,043	27.5	44.2	55,683
BELGIUM	1	11	5	0.5	0.8	162
BELIZE Bermuda	937 429	11,289 8,151	5,121 3,697	29.9 28.2	48.0 45.4	91,884 28,355
BONAIRE	125	1,764	800	1.4	2.3	1,032
BRAZIL	1,977	3,082	1,398	34.5	55.5	31,255
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	76	845	383	0.9	1.5	4,889
BRUNEI	811	8,770	3,978	15.0	24.1	22,012
BURMA	2	2	1	0.5	0.8	24
CAMBODIA	134	681	309	1.8	3.0	9,895
CANADA	24,475	128,331	58,210	970.8	1,563.5	518,686
CAYMAN ISLANDS	87	1,362	618	0.9	1.5	6,455
CHILE	10,176	188,521	85,512	127.1	204.6	251,910
CHINA	5,525	90,256	40,940	37.8	60.8	20,856
COLOMBIA	223	2,792	1,267	6.1	9.8	322,841
COSTA RICA	470	7,881	3,575	5.3	8.5	42,797
CROATIA	4	180	82	0.5	0.8	273
CUBA	35 18	683 63	310	1.0	2.0 2.5	1,201 126
CURAÇAO Cyprus	11	4	29	0.5	0.8	1,833
DENMARK	63	284	129	10.5	16.9	3,561
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	8,162	118,564	53,780	72.7	117.0	463,968
ECUADOR	22,954	155,888	70,710	323.7	521.1	591,258
FRANCE	1	2	1	0.5	0.8	2
GERMANY	877	1,568	711	18.3	29.5	62,068
GHANA	1,757	165,238	74,951	19.1	30.7	1,076,136
GREECE	61	4,660	2,114	8.2	13.2	1,460
GRENADA	126	2,100	953	0.5	0.8	434
GUAM	5,651	23,420	10,623	33.9	54.5	154,047
GUATEMALA	440	21,066	9,555	9.1	14.6	81,452
GUERNSEY	151	369	167	2.8	4.6	2,817
GUYANA	122	2,919	1,324	2.5 0.5	4.0	15,615
HONDURAS Hong Kong	76,311	12,249,007	5,556,056	1,757.2	0.8 2,828.1	206,963
INDIA	10,294	100,938	45,785	265.5	427.4	499,681
INDONESIA	2,764	5,652	2,563	43.2	69.5	85,206
IRELAND	1,473	31,482	14,280	3.9	6.3	1,098
ISLE OF MAN	14	40	18	0.5	0.8	4,009
ISRAEL	39	75	34	0.5	0.8	86
ITALY	79	291	132	2.3	3.8	1,715
JAMAICA	9,276	109,434	49,638	93.9	151.0	707,259
JAPAN	6,987	42,276	19,176	38.5	62.1	139,881
KENYA	3,285	8,776	3,981	21.9	35.2	133,174
KIRIBATI	200	2,315	1,050	0.5	0.8	1
KUWAIT	90	216,000	97,976	3.1	5.0	5
MACAU Malawi	11 203	159 4,475	72 2,030	0.5	0.8 3.0	2,607
MALAYSIA	198	761	345	7.8	12.5	6,788
MALDIVES	187	1,496	679	4.9	7.9	12
MALTA	39	825	374	7.5	12.0	297
MARSHALL ISLANDS	43	794	360	0.5	0.8	8,728
MAURITIUS	156	1,631	740	2.6	4.3	8,703
		,	-	-	,	-,

### TOP 10 ITEMS COLLECTED GLOBALLY

. 1	2	3	4	La 5	6	7	8	9	10
	PLASTIC		FOOD	PLASTIC		χ	GLASS		FOAM
CIGARETTE	BEVERAGE	PLASTIC	WRAPPERS	GROCERY		STRAWS,	BEVERAGE	OTHER	TAKE-AWAY
BUTTS	BOTTLES	BOTTLE CAPS	(CANDY, ETC.)	BAGS	PLASTIC LIDS	STIRRERS	BOTTLES	PLASTIC BAGS	CONTAINERS
_	3	_	1	2	_	_	_	_	4
-	1	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-
48	709	79	20	47	98	4	236	213	10
712	164	285	1,239	114	50	284	337	94	3
90	16	30	30	6	5	-	5	_	5
3,491	4,276	5,550	3,699	963	636	1,979	1,312	1,787	675
48	1	3	12	4	1	3	2	-	-
2,555	7,529	4,827	3,502	4,074	1,419	4,131	2,198	3,284	1,225
3,069	1,368	1,203	1,064	350	304	349	2,627	325	159
3	9	38	7	-	1 502	66	128	3	- 570
1,973	368 953	1,621	1,770	659 108	1,503	1,343	1,254 507	527 188	570 82
2,633	4,126	2,011	1,748	724	391	696	516	754	286
2,033	4,120	2,011	1,748	1	391	2	J10 _	734	280
25	1,177	331	345	170	29	863	288	791	16
152,811	17,895	22,856	38,401	9,080	8,076	13,718	5,821	10,897	3,059
162	793	1,260	154	182	219	13,718	357	256	158
42,852	12,125	10,284	12,091	6,842	6,533	2,970	8,617	5,689	2,564
2,567	782	543	585	303	231	214	240	517	216
147	4,094	6,422	1,479	283	1,015	196	1,290	228	1,348
3	11,144	15,171	576	2	_	5,944	2	_	_
13	17	51	7	27	7	8	8	_	-
211	8	75	50	60	15	30	60	29	25
_	7	1	8	2	_	_	19	15	_
1,700	_	20	_	_	_	11	_	_	-
1,557	33	89	324	30	51	44	23	90	12
13,847	46,055	41,457	25,562	13,521	8,645	20,289	2,181	103	377
39,974	40,717	41,109	32,218	25,191	27,395	14,338	25,211	29,760	15,781
_	2	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-
42,218	127	696	4,431	269	214	971	358	736	7
31,426	76,761	27,161	24,753	136,412	132,643	13,412	11,243	41,424	207,351
31	285	37	16	69	_	5	217	2	-
10	88	7	68	18	-	8	72	_	-
18,817	15,930	8,539	8,007	3,906	3,047	2,268	7,285	4,206	1,888
35	42,022	1,333	2,170	4,028	337	197	20,545	3,224	140
185	66	161	322	16	11	30	76	72	2
85	4,344	1,790	332	198	315	801	1,188	407	335
4.072	10.004	11.074	12.024	2.007	2.560	7 46 4	- 2 F77	- 6 222	2 524
4,973 16,664	12,994 33,674	11,074 25,208	13,034 21,595	3,987 59,874	3,560 19,051	7,464 11,240	2,577 27,802	6,333 36,442	3,534 14,679
33,189	6,041	3,790	6,954	1,003	2,435	5,585	1,597	36,442	2,313
79	115	3,790	89	64	13	5,565	40	59	2,313
7	95	209	56	36	-	22	7	19	_
-	7	1	_	17	_	_	5	-	_
881	61	69	35	38	_	57	43	51	-
6,241	225,070	76,868	23,357	17,411	10,548	9,522	27,607	32,399	18,876
15,296	12,464	5,344	9,154	4,410	2,808	1,932	3,620	6,739	4,035
11,702	13,536	8,225	6,794	9,583	1,180	10,882	985	3,790	607
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_	535	56	56	_	5	20	57	20	100
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
582	565	274	606	648	226	247	98	458	111
-	_	_	3	-	-	_	_	_	-
21	43	16	4	24	_	2	41	10	-
-	5,289	_	_	360	53	_	_	_	-
1,432	739	392	669	118	51	64	101	435	124

					2	<b>***</b>
					<b>y</b>	
COUNTRY/LOCATION						
COUNTILITECOATION	PEOPLE	POUNDS	KILOGRAMS	MILES	KILOMETERS	TOTAL ITEMS COLLECTED
MEXICO	20,588	131,396	59,600	127.3	205.0	898,234
MONTSERRAT	20	255	116	1.3	2.0	1,266
MOROCCO	46	110	50	0.5	0.8	353
MOZAMBIQUE	60	4,348	1,972	9.5	15.3	10,761
NAMIBIA	50	220	100	1.6	2.5	592
NETHERLANDS	2,333	42,909	19,463	136.8	220.1	10,055
NEW ZEALAND	37	292	132	5.7	9.2	1,130
NICARAGUA	1,078	33,321	15,114	14.7	23.7	85,214
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	1,035	5,481	2,486	79.4	127.8	38,772
NORWAY	42	297	135	49.4	79.6	327
PAKISTAN	6	51	23	0.5	0.8	78
PALAU	15	102	46	1.0	2.0	574
PANAMA	313	15,304	6,942	1.7	2.7	5,839
PARAGUAY	93	772	350	2.8	4.5	5,436
PERU	10,370	464,801	210,830	25.2	40.6	292,400
PHILIPPINES*	1,130	8,342	3,784	15.3	24.7	14,383
POLAND	23	569	258	1.1	1.8	2,555
PORTUGAL	107	489	222	1.2	1.9	5,661
PUERTO RICO	17,943	127,573	57,866	253.6	408.1	597,940
QATAR	15	156	71	0.5	0.8	354
ROMANIA	50	300	136	1.0	1.6	4,685
RUSSIA	104	175	79	1.7	2.7	650
SABA	82	88	40	1.8	2.8	899
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	262	1,066	484	4.0	6.4	6,718
SAINT LUCIA	2	2	1	0.5	0.8	27
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	137	4,400	1,996	2.5	4.0	9,739
SAMOA	43	4,801	2,178	1.1	1.8	5,971
SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE	1	2	1	0.5	0.8	1
SAUDI ARABIA	5	33	15	0.5	0.8	84
SEYCHELLES	6	4	2	1.0	1.6	8
SINGAPORE	3,179	28,159	12,773	11.6	18.6	149,892
SINT EUSTATIUS	8	100	46	0.5	0.8	1,351
SINT MAARTEN	314	2,610	1,184	2.0	3.2	4,509
SLOVENIA	122	293	133	4.3	6.9	12,003
SOUTH AFRICA	3,262	16,126	7,315	75.1	121.0	110,235
SOUTH KOREA	1,536	3,753	1,702	15.2	24.5	44,961
SPAIN	859	6,395	2,901	7.1	7.1	2,699
SRI LANKA	6,735 5	39,645	17,983	47.2	76.1	241,924
SURINAME Sweden	-	22.525	-	0.5	0.8	128
TAIWAN	1,263 12,026	32,535 56,882	14,758 25,801	18.1 24.8	28.7 40.0	843 146,696
TANZANIA	299	4,751	25,801	0.8	1.3	55,486
THAILAND	3,641	27,567	12,504	64.8	104.2	57,811
THE BAHAMAS	790	4,583	2,079	35.6	57.3	15,969
TIMOR-LESTE	2	4,363	2,079	0.5	0.8	5
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	465	4,029	1,827	7.9	12.7	20,776
TURKEY	1,079	7,258	3,292	5.6	9.0	31,965
U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS	819	6,945	3,150	19.9	32.0	48,369
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	934	5,441	2,468	4.4	7.1	10,496
UNITED KINGDOM	5,993	19,358	8,781	68.6	111.4	186,850
UNITED STATES	183,321	3,124,644	1,417,315	8,672.3	13,955.9	4,282,989
URUGUAY	1,981	11,155	5,060	28.6	46.0	29,892
VANUATU	187	1,674	759	12.9	20.7	12,128
VENEZUELA	7,150	115,981	52,608	107.0	172.1	387,738
VIETNAM	1,181	6,465	2,932	4.8	7.7	32,135
*LOCATION NOT RECORDED	5,264	56,850	25,786	199.8	324.8	269,019
GRAND TOTAL	504,583	18,399,900	8,346,055	14,997	24,136	13,840,398

### TOP 10 ITEMS COLLECTED GLOBALLY

	2	3	4	Lo 5	6	7	8	9	10
	PLASTIC		FOOD	PLASTIC		Χ	GLASS		FOAM
CIGARETTE	BEVERAGE	PLASTIC	WRAPPERS	GROCERY		STRAWS,	BEVERAGE	OTHER	TAKE-AWAY
BUTTS	BOTTLES	BOTTLE CAPS	(CANDY, ETC.)	BAGS	PLASTIC LIDS	STIRRERS	BOTTLES	PLASTIC BAGS	CONTAINERS
77,073	535,206	26,587	16,766	11,857	19,477	11,776	14,064	9,189	5,725
-	96	1	179	129	-	3	16	2	-
114	-	12	6	-	-	3	-	87	7
122	509	1,811	185	72	635	45	343	148	36
-	122	41	140	30	16	4	22	8	2
	2	10,004	-	14	_	2	1	4	-
70	101	26	78	53	23	40	110	- 0.700	5
2,710	10,541	5,842	4,087	10,500	3,093	2,595	626	9,793	1,124
10,911	2,235 18	1,843	2,656	950 10	432	790	711	918	486
_	3	3	20	10	_	_	_	25	_
8	121	21	13	11	5	33	6		19
114	1,098	293	91	566	533	24	567	69	47
359	729	66	624	298	208	135	665	421	39
5,753	8,798	11,211	8,531	4,499	1,083	1,414	7,140	7,255	1,467
2,460	1,495	428	2,149	752	41	180	1,075	1,091	89
172	229	93	255	147	32	20	284	93	19
1,200	498	87	100	161	59	64	382	161	45
87,555	39,118	37,124	18,861	10,732	33,135	46,700	26,707	11,868	4,952
7	56	4	2	54	11	45	3	18	_
2,000	250	500	1,000	100	_	250	50	_	_
164	16	_	70	7	_	44	81	7	6
186	29	59	5	43	53	16	54	19	1
27	2,520	866	46	35	298	125	124	183	192
-	2	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
107	2,491	304	194	408	96	95	724	406	337
87	285	45	465	309	108	14	100	529	58
-	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
-	25	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-
-	2	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	-
15,647	26,078	4,781	7,662	4,241	1,335	8,755	1,274	6,360	1,375
2	167	297	262	8	107	26	7	7	24
72	1,180	82	56	331	29	106	963	297	5
6,991	182	227	562	120	_	78	36	275	_
9,192	5,526	7,812	8,285	1,877	1,091	3,305	2,594	3,269	1,169
16,723	1,726	1,351	3,392	2,535	492	776	905	2,666	323
732	22,000	182	15	5	11	10	15	10 150	6 467
6,337	23,090 25	11,014	18,676	23,217	5,834	13,144	9,982	10,159	6,467
368	25	11	26	11	4	20	31	7	3
7,744	26,980	18,751	5,000	12,806	4	16,557	8,637	154	51
180	936	8,029	19,080	5,040	196	1,440	1,744	8,618	_
359	7,198	1,703	2,940	1,566	427	6,083	5,024	704	593
295	1,202	989	490	254	262	656	1,023	366	366
-	1	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	-
484	4,459	1,922	885	323	317	390	2,000	717	553
17,084	3,866	1,247	1,608	257	-	_	490	35	100
2,890	3,617	3,806	3,017	941	1,102	2,540	3,732	1,238	375
2,998	467	747	390	300	361	404	311	199	159
18,564	6,375	14,918	19,907	3,332	660	3,165	2,646	2,182	650
1,030,640	205,687	276,483	314,649	85,079	76,172	125,973	105,929	71,566	42,269
1,356	2,497	2,642	2,269	1,428	2,159	596	404	1,946	602
86	907	444	1,306	577	359	171	302	1,247	406
32,684	29,733	24,526	17,736	14,398	28,879	13,428	20,907	14,093	5,566
1,436	705	553	808	3,297	549	702	333	1,582	1,372
45,300	14,383	15,699	29,294	11,954	6,512	13,927	8,494	2,820	7,822
1,863,838	1,578,834	822,227	762,353	520,900	419,380	409,087	390,468	368,655	365,584

#### **U.S. CLEANUPS**

				· ·	5		
STATE/LOCATION	PEOPLE	POUNDS	KILOGRAMS	MILES	KILOMETERS	TOTAL ITEMS COLLECTED	
ALABAMA	3,785	32,647	14,808	311.4	501.2	117,405	
ALASKA	420	1,696	769	36.4	58.6	13,783	
ARIZONA	45	426	193	10.3	16.6	1,924	
ARKANSAS	59	1,800	816	36.0	57.9	7,953	
CALIFORNIA	59,141	708,024	321,154	2,024.4	3,257.7	767,990	
COLORADO	2,389	29,142	13,219	119.5	192.4	449	
CONNECTICUT	158	768	348	45.0	72.4	7,101	
DELAWARE	1,581	12,144	5,508	65.5	105.4	57,083	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	445	2,896	1,314	28.4	45.6	10,848	
FLORIDA	26,898	281,915	127,874	2,035.0	3,275.2	977,096	
GEORGIA	17,095	307,400	139,434	484.4	779.6	74,353	
HAWAII	2,010	20,949	9,502	78.7	126.6	108,765	
IDAHO	15	37	17	1.3	2.1	309	
ILLINOIS	1,765	3,204	1,453	22.7	36.5	78,164	
INDIANA	897	1,228	557	12.1	19.5	28,122	
IOWA	1	2	1	0.8	2.0	8	
KANSAS	22	250	113	2.3	3.6	2,808	
LOUISIANA	1,285	3,902	1,770	124.7	200.7	42,329	
MAINE	2,002	7,219	3,274	97.6	157.0	72,182	
MARYLAND	837	38,080	17,273	72.0	115.9	78,859	
MASSACHUSETTS	2,563	13,778	6,250	164.4	264.5	147,654	
MICHIGAN	2,306	7,162	3,249	106.7	171.6	112,050	
MINNESOTA	142	304	138	10.6	17.1	11,310	
MISSISSIPPI	2,169	28,079	12,736	202.0	325.1	129,570	
MISSOURI	106	1,924	873	14.0	22.5	8,447	
NEBRASKA	1,000	1,663	754	43.5	70.0	27,674	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	940	4,948	2,244	10.7	17.2	45,228	
NEW JERSEY	2,269	30,280	13,735	105.6	170.0	89,642	
NEW YORK	6,952	67,390	30,568	240.2	386.4	302,773	
NORTH CAROLINA	3,598	42,352	19,211	253.3	407.6	80,964	
оніо	1,140	26,694	12,108	44.1	70.8	69,244	
OKLAHOMA	23	1,006	456	1.5	2.4	2,678	
OREGON	4,217	69,261	31,416	238.1	383.3	17,074	
PENNSYLVANIA	13,781	849,123	385,156	540.3	869.5	88,125	
RHODE ISLAND	2,252	15,030	6,817	133.5	214.8	153,090	
SOUTH CAROLINA	3,499	47,636	21,608	235.7	379.3	119,619	
SOUTH DAKOTA	1	2	1	0.4	0.7	_	
TEXAS	4,435	69,382	31,471	169.5	272.7	147,254	
UTAH	51	75	34	1.5	2.4	401	
VERMONT	14	250	113	0.4	0.7	1,074	
VIRGINIA	7,098	324,629	147,249	359.0	577.8	163,013	
WASHINGTON	1,185	27,960	12,682	120.4	193.7	51,551	
WISCONSIN	1,386	2,658	1,206	35.0	56.3	38,337	
*STATE NOT RECORDED	1,344	39,333	17,841	32.8	52.8	28,686	
GRAND TOTAL	183,321	3,124,644	1,417,315	8,672	13,956	4,282,989	

## TOP 10 ITEMS COLLECTED IN THE UNITED STATES

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Ro 9	QD A 10
CIGARETTE	FOOD WRAPPERS (CANDY, ETC.)	PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS	PLASTIC BEVERAGE BOTTLES	BEVERAGE CANS	STRAWS, STIRRERS	GLASS BEVERAGE BOTTLES	METAL Bottle Caps	PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS	OTHER PLASTIC PACKAGING
25,562	10,184	6,501	8,079	7,320	3,889	3,047	2,715	2,570	1,583
2,869	1,145	215	231	458	238	134	217	130	274
65	74	365	280	329	15	37	43	122	132
3,135	2,805	157	146	213	44	21	131	330	13
188,003	77,692	41,150	17,913	11,504	18,879	13,535	14,395	13,361	13,966
68	144	17	4	24	1	7	8	2	8
1,497	883	369	214	198	236	191	75	194	131
13,569	4,860	5,612	3,089	2,245	1,845	1,201	645	1,014	1,362
526	820	538	1,996	295	356	269	63	389	135
225,565	57,205	78,290	54,811	30,147	32,056	26,183	24,487	20,403	15,090
30,740	53	85	10,487	9,042	2,294	6,304	2	11	402
26,297	6,550	5,730	1,855	1,319	1,383	1,534	4,991	723	3,741
45	7	20	13	3	4	4	_	4	17
20,720	5,810	4,930	1,551	1,510	2,777	1,297	2,364	638	1,155
8,974	1,289	1,712	441	421	877	156	322	146	549
_	2	_	1	_	_	_	_	1	_
40	250	200	300	250	30	50	25	30	30
5,032	3,336	4,431	3,290	2,274	1,994	1,690	1,022	806	310
26,563	4,510	1,871	2,519	1,460	1,319	858	927	721	2,005
6,920	4,516	3,391	5,718	2,368	2,778	1,776	1,978	2,608	1,765
44,153	11,271	7,481	7,136	4,059	4,098	2,431	2,306	1,813	2,992
33,742	6,804	6,512	1,111	620	3,263	436	1,455	450	2,116
5,785	1,095	364	178	210	185	63	74	58	296
27,916	8,590	6,923	4,313	4,379	5,395	5,874	3,263	4,691	2,972
1,306	1,183	301	551	368	167	264	583	276	131
954	797	377	894	1,145	778	837	1,081	480	921
24,666	1,586	1,178	607	779	438	436	347	156	919
7,374	8,556	7,939	9,372	3,913	4,361	2,934	1,443	2,410	1,157
50,255	21,637	25,807	13,247	7,476	11,578	9,126	18,822	8,082	6,190
37,517	5,717	4,384	3,155	2,334	1,538	1,475	993	1,238	738
11,750	6,789	2,855	3,839	3,059	1,881	2,175	918	1,949	1,911
1,007	317	35	68	39	20	82	20	44	-
4,842	2,051	703	500	514	523	226	479	334	162
24,106	9,321	3,507	5,718	3,362	1,709	2,449	1,047	1,879	1,571
46,686	10,703	8,059	7,519	4,596	4,784	4,919	4,067	2,339	2,650
34,924	6,817	9,068	6,185	6,124	2,333	4,318	1,638	1,954	1,696
_	_	-	-	_	_	-	_	_	_
20,244	5,778	21,410	8,199	2,407	5,869	2,048	3,704	3,561	1,775
30	68	43	23	45	5	6	22	8	2
188	270	34	9	19	13	135	_	9	-
38,475	15,000	7,036	15,191	7,740	3,581	5,376	1,072	7,725	3,090
9,958	4,589	1,637	1,230	1,589	717	1,325	1,293	482	2,198
15,939	2,301	1,560	1,204	851	787	460	486	440	461
2,633	1,274	3,686	2,500	756	935	240	217	498	398
1,030,640	314,649	276,483	205,687	127,764	125,973	105,929	99,740	85,079	77,014



#### Science: Now Is the Time to Act

ecently, Ocean Conservancy convened an international working group of leading scientists. Their task? Dig into the scientific evidence and synthesize what researchers know about how much plastic is in the ocean, where it comes from and how it affects animals we know and love.

Their findings? First, roughly 15 to 51 trillion plastic pieces (93,000 to 236,000 tonnes) float in the oceans at any given time. Second, 8 million metric tons of plastic enters the oceans each year. Let's break this down. This means the equivalent of 22,000 747-jumbo jets in plastic enters the oceans annually and that floating plastic weighs as much as 30,000 elephants!

What is the impact to wildlife? Plastic can impact animals at every level of biological organization – altering genes, cells and tissues, causing death and/or altering the size of a population or the structure of a community. In 2015, there was little evidence of this impact, particularly at higher, ecologically-relevant levels. But today, the evidence is much more robust and researchers now know that small microplastics can impact the reproductive success and/or development of fish, oysters, barnacles and copepods. Moreover, microplastics can alter how invertebrate

species function and assemble.

This evidence regarding ecological impacts, combined with solid evidence about widespread distribution of plastic debris in the environment, wildlife, seafood and sea salt, suggests the time is now to stem the tide of plastic pollution before we have evidence of irreversible harm on our oceans.

# California Votes Yes (again) to Ban Plastic Bags

Single-use plastic bags are one of the most challenging marine debris issues we face, residing in the top 5 most frequently collected items in California for decades. Local cities and counties have passed bans on plastic bags and regulated their use in order to prevent plastic



bags from entering the environment. On ICC Day in 2014, after years of work by grassroots NGOs, California Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 270, banning single-use plastic carry-out bags from grocery stores across the state and placing a \$0.10 fee on recycled paper bags at checkout. Just like that, California became the first state in the nation to ban plastic bags, and as the 6th largest economy in the world, the ban sent a strong message that significant action is needed globally.

The fight wasn't over however, and the law was delayed by the American Progressive Bag Alliance, an industry lobbying group made up of plastic bag manufacturers (among other entities), which placed a veto referendum on the November 2016 ballot that halted AB 270's implementation.

Last November, Californians voted to uphold the plastic bag ban, winning 53% of the total vote – that's more than 7,000,000 votes in favor of banning plastic bags. The ban took effect immediately. Now California grocery stores are free of single-use plastic carry-out bags, and our environment is on the road to becoming a cleaner and healthier place for the incredible

THAILAND

wildlife and scenery that make California such a phenomenal place to live and visit.

#### **Racing Against Ocean Trash**

11th Hour Racing, a program of The Schmidt Family Foundation, establishes strategic partnerships within the sailing and marine communities to promote collaborative systemic change for the health of our ocean. Based in Newport, Rhode Island, 11th Hour Racing harnesses the power of sport to increase understanding of marine environments, find innovative solutions to issues that impact these resources and promote stewardship and sustainable use of the seas. Ocean Conservancy's partnership with 11th Hour Racing has enabled us to expand our efforts on sustainable boating within the competitive sailing community and inspire others to become committed stewards of our ocean.

One highlight from this partnership occurred on a perfect Saturday morning in March 2017. Ocean Conservancy and 11th Hour Racing teamed up with the 52 Super Series and local Miami cleanup partner VolunteerCleanup.org to host an ocean trash discussion and cleanup event in Miami, Florida. The event, held as part of the Miami Royal Cup Sailing Race, started at race headquarters where race teams, local environmental organizations and other ocean advocates were able to meet, mingle and discuss the ocean trash issue. Following a tour through the race village and a dock walk focusing on the sustainability efforts of the Cup, participants joined others to collect plastics and other debris littering the beach, lodged in the jetty and scattered along the rocks of the park's busy pedestrian walkway. In total, volunteers removed over 320 pounds of trash from South Pointe Park and beach.

Events like this are key to expanding awareness and understanding of ocean trash, and well-known cleanup locations like South Beach provide an eye-opening experience for volunteers as they realize that ocean trash is everywhere once you start looking.

# 2016

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With Clean Swell™, join a global community working to improve our ocean by adding vital data to the world's largest database on marine debris. This database is used by scientists, conservation groups, governments and industry leaders to study ocean trash and take action to ensure trash never reaches our beaches.





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