

Plastic Pollution Solutions

Looking for solutions for reducing the amount of plastic debris in our oceans

Victoria Bowns
Christine Jenkins
Nancy Njigha
Vanessa Stratton
Julian Telfer-Wan



The Problem

The term **plastic marine debris** refers to plastic waste, fishing gear, consumer products and other plastic goods that are lost or discarded into the ocean. The debris pollutes the ocean, kills marine life and threatens the health of human beings.



Objectives

1. To gain insight into what the **community** thinks about marine debris and plastic consumption
2. Collect data to recommend **policies and legislation** to move through governmental process
3. Continue to **raise awareness** about the ongoing issue of plastics within the ocean

Methodology

Qualitative and quantitative data was collected using two methods

1. A **public survey** gaining information about usage and policy around plastic consumption
2. **Stakeholders** such as commercial fishery, ocean cleanup groups and other ocean focused industries/organizations were **interviewed** covering how plastic marine debris affects their area, potential solutions and recommendations

How do Organizations Help?



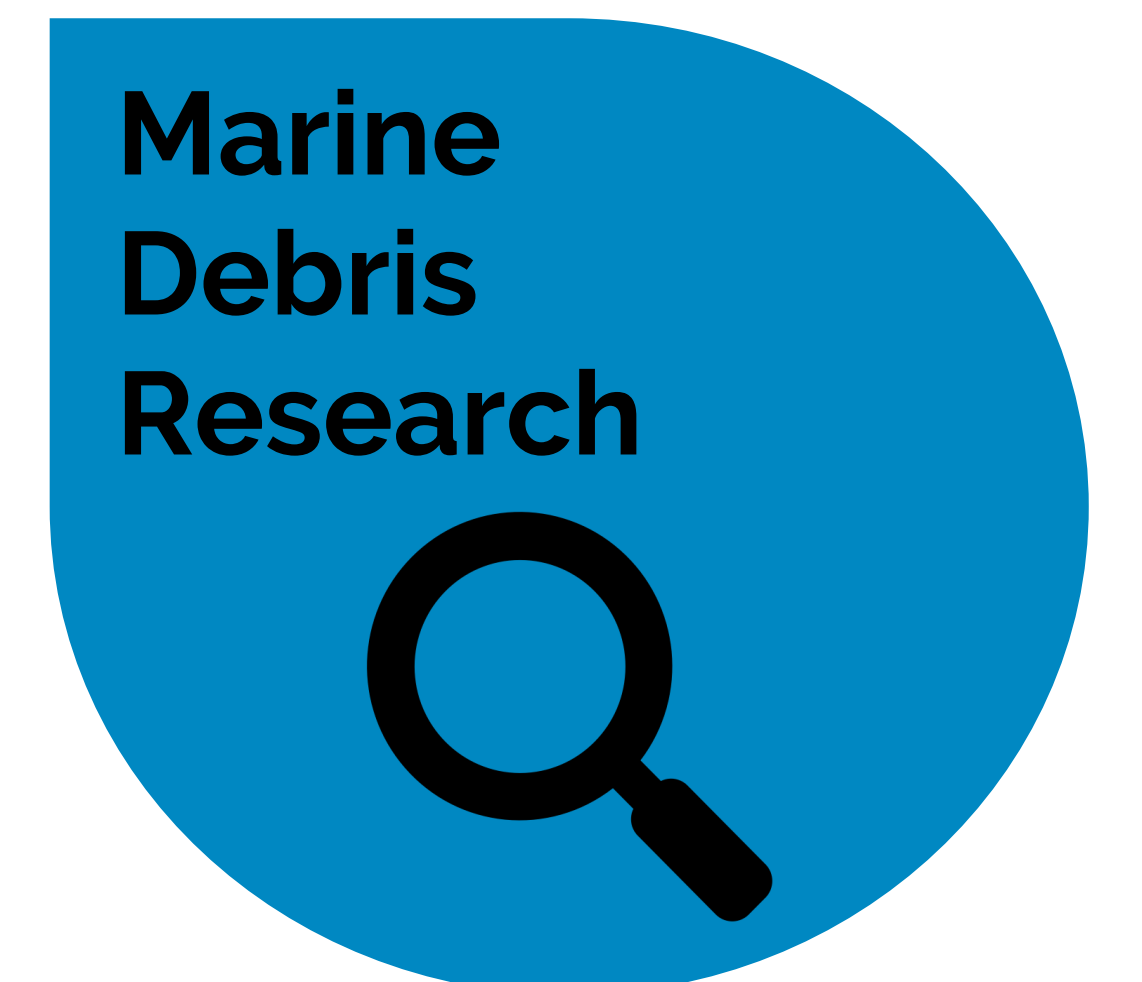
Ocean Clean-Ups



Public Awareness



Develop Reduction Policies



Marine Debris Research

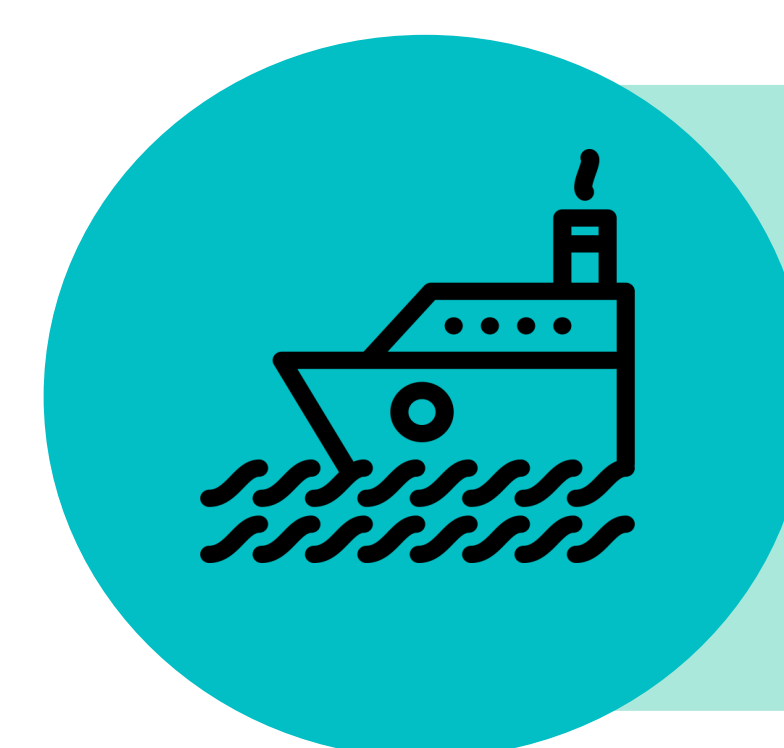
What do the People Think?

51% Of the public **always** recycle their plastics

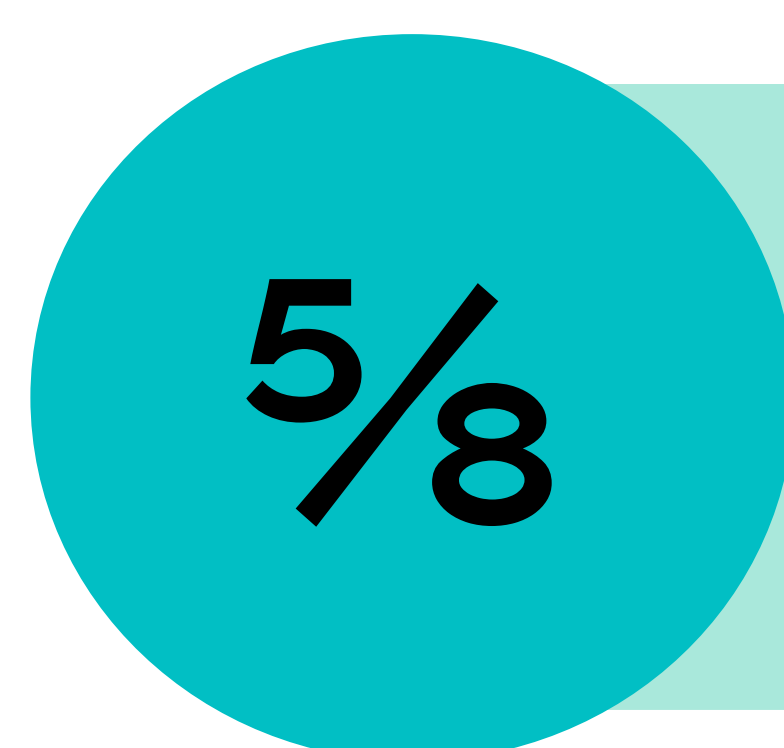
88% Limit their use of **single-use plastics**

92% Of encounters with marine debris result in **finding plastic**

What do Organizations Think?



The marine industry tends to **blame the public** while ocean clean-up organizations **blame the industry**



Stakeholders think municipal governments will be the **most effective** in implementing potential legislation

Recommendations

Provide more **funding** to non-profit marine and plastic debris solution based groups

Regulation of plastic packaging amongst consumer based production companies

Fund **education** programs regarding **public awareness** of plastic pollution