



Nir Barnea - NOAA Federal <nir_barnea@noaa.gov>

OR MDAP Update #2, Fall 2017

1 message

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To: Nir Barnea <Nir.Barnea@noaa.gov>

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Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan Update #2, Fall 2017

Dear OR MDAP partner,

The [Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan](#), completed in April 2017, is over half a year old, and has made nice progress. This second bi-annual update summarizes recent activities, and provides additional information on other marine debris topics.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this update. Please make sure to track your work on marine debris, especially as it relates to the Action Plan, and submit for the next update, in spring 2018. As always, I welcome your feedback to improve these updates.

Nir Barnea nir_barnea@noaa.gov

State Lands Vessel Removals and the Submerged Lands Enhancement Fund
Christopher Castelli chris.castelli@state.or.us

Oregon Department of State land (DSL) manages the state-owned bed and banks of navigable and tidally-influenced waters. In that capacity, DSL has partnered with the Oregon State Marine Board and other agencies to remove transient and sunken vessels as well as marine debris. DSL has \$35,000 to match the Marine Board's program. DSL has partnered on the removal of four vessels in 2017.

In addition, DSL is leading the Goble Site cleanup effort on the Columbia River. Asbestos, fuels and other hazardous materials have been removed from the site. The vessels are being towed for removal and disposal. The site should be cleaned up by the end of 2017.

The Submerged Lands Enhancement Fund was established as a mechanism to provide moneys to cleanup, enhance, improve or protect state-owned waterways. This fund has \$100,000 for the 2017-2019 biennium. Information on how to utilize the fund can be found in [OAR 141-082](#).



Goble Site, Columbia River, Columbia County. (Photo: PBS Engineering and Environmental)

Rapid Response Cleanup Removes 1,000 lbs of Rope from Netarts Spit Briana Goodwin bgoodwin@surfrider.org

Marine debris removal can be tough work, but knowing that you removed half a ton of rope from the beach is very satisfying!

In July 2016, Surfrider volunteers mobilized to help Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Beach Ranger Ryan Parker remove a large accumulation of fishing line from the Netarts Spit in Tillamook County. Ryan had been working on this marine debris accumulation for three years, and there was still a large portion left! Due to the site limitation only three to four people were able to work at a time.

The rapid response team had to dig out the rope, clean it from sand, cut it into chunks, and lift it into the truck bed. With four people putting in five hours of work, we were able to remove 1,000 lbs of rope!

For more information and photos, check out [the full post](#).



Surfrider Foundation and OR Parks and Recreation Department removed 1,000 lbs of rope from Netarts Spit. (Photo: Surfrider Foundation)

Estuary Partnership Surveys 178 Shoreline Miles for Marine Debris
Chris Hathaway chathaway@estuarypartnership.org

On a cool, cloudy, mid-September morning with Columbia River water levels low, two Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership staff boarded jet skis in Cathlamet, WA. Their purpose? To find, geo-tag, and photograph marine debris along 178 river miles of shoreline (in Oregon and Washington) in the 37 river miles between Cathlamet and Kalama, WA. About ten hours later, a bit winded and sunburned, they motored into Kalama, better understanding the quantity, location, and type of small to medium size (tires, barrels and drum, large blocks of foam, small abandoned boats, etc.) marine debris in that river reach, having logged 107 points of such items. This was our second year of marine debris survey work. In 2016, the Estuary Partnership staff logged 162 points between Portland and Kalama. To view the map with all marine debris points, click the link below: <http://lcep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=380ff4a23fcd46f4b868d6245645e362> EPA's Trash Free Waters Program funded this year's work.



Large piles of metal straps in Westport Slough, Oregon. (Photo: Steve Thurin)

Marine Debris Survey Trainings along the Oregon Coast
Fawn Custer fawn@oregonshores.org

Oregon Shores/CoastWatch is continuing to train and support volunteers interested in the continued efforts to document marine debris along the Oregon Coast. The surveys have also been an integral part of the documentation by researchers studying debris related to the 2011 Japan tsunami. Oregon Shores have 11 sites along the Oregon Coast designated as NOAA marine debris sites. Another CoastWatch group is in the process of requesting Washburne State Park as another location.



The Coronado Shores Marine Debris Team (Photo: CoastWatch)

COASST Citizen Science Efforts

Hillary Burgess hkb10@uw.edu

Over the last year, COASST trained 31 marine debris monitoring participants during workshops in Newport, Seaside, Tillamook, Astoria, and Canon Beach. The volunteers are now surveying beaches in their communities monthly. COASST also launched a new newsletter format "What's Washed In" that features "mystery" marine debris, other items of interest, and updates about the program. This newsletter is intended for our participant audience, but others are welcome to reach out to coasst@uw.edu to be added to the mailing list.



COASST trainees survey Agate Beach for marine debris. (Photo: H. Burgess)

SOLVE Beach & Riverside Cleanup & Adopt-a-Beach Pilot Update
Joy Hawkins, joy@solveoregon.org

During the annual SOLVE Beach & Riverside Cleanup in September, volunteers across the state celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill by removing litter on the coast and along upstream rivers and streams. Nearly 4,900 volunteers participated, removing an estimated 38 tons of debris, and recycling part of it. Of the 141 projects, 53 took place in coastal communities and along beaches. These projects would not have been possible without the hard work of many dedicated volunteer leaders and community partners.

SOLVE, in partnership with the NOAA Marine Debris Program, is continuing work on one of the Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan's future actions: "Implement a coast-wide Oregon Adopt-a-Beach Program". With funding from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, SOLVE has launched an Adopt-a-Beach pilot phase in Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Since the pilot began last spring, we have created a new Adopt-a-Beach training manual, brochure and [webpage](#). Recruitment and training for adopting groups is ongoing through December. Please contact us if you would like to be involved!



Upstream Cleanup-Multnomah Channel (Photo: SOLVE)

Washed Ashore's Progress on Marine Debris Education and Prevention Patrick Chandler

In 2017, Washed Ashore hosted 24,430 visitors in its exhibit in Bandon, OR, and worked with 1336 volunteers who helped turn plastic marine debris into material for art. Washed Ashore staff worked with 1045 students who came to the exhibit space in Bandon, OR and participated in an educational activity related to marine debris. Program staff also reached out to an additional 115 students outside the Washed Ashore exhibit. Washed Ashore gave 16 marine debris presentations to 1750 participants in various organization in Oregon and nation-wide, and used the Integrated Arts Marine Debris Curriculum <http://www.washedashore.org/iamdc> lessons in training at a number of locations nationwide.

In addition, Washed Ashore completed the following sculptures in 2017: Steve the Weedy Sea Dragon, Gretta the Great White, Giacometti River Otter, Hugo the Whale, Grace the Whale and Cleo the Clownfish. Stella the sea horse and two sea jellies were refurbished.



Volunteers process plastic marine debris into art material at the Washed Ashore exhibit in Bandon, OR. (Photo: Washed Ashore)

Research Priorities for Marine Debris in Oregon Reva Gillman gillmanr@oregonstate.edu

Following the May, 2017 workshop to discuss and prioritize research on marine debris in Oregon, I sent the priorities identified in the workshop to a broader audience of interested citizens, citizen scientists, and additional researchers to provide a broader perspective.

Over 100 responses came back, with people that self-identified into certain groups: researchers, managers, interested citizens, and citizen scientists. Their top three research topics are:

1. Marine debris impact on Oregon's ecosystems.
2. Microplastics impact on Oregon's ecosystems.
3. Investigate best approaches for working with industry to reduce plastic waste, especially packaging.

Interestingly, the top three priorities remained consistent throughout all groups (researchers, managers, interested citizens, and citizen scientists). The top 2 research topics from my surveying efforts correlate with the 2nd and 3rd top ranked topics from the workshop in May.

I also surveyed attendees at the State of the Coast Conference on October 28, 2017, asking them to vote for their top three marine debris research topics. For that event, the following were ranked as top three, with a tie for the third highest priority:

1. Investigate best approaches for working with industry to reduce plastic waste, especially packaging.
2. Microplastics impact on Oregon's ecosystems.
3. Marine debris impact on Oregon's ecosystems.
3. Life cycle assessment of popular plastic alternatives – what are their environmental impacts?

For more information about this survey, please contact Reva Gillman gillmanr@oregonstate.edu

To view the final proceedings from the Oregon Marine Debris Research Prioritization Workshop, click this link: [Oregon Marine Debris Research Proceedings](#)

Other Marine Debris Topics of Interest

6IMDC

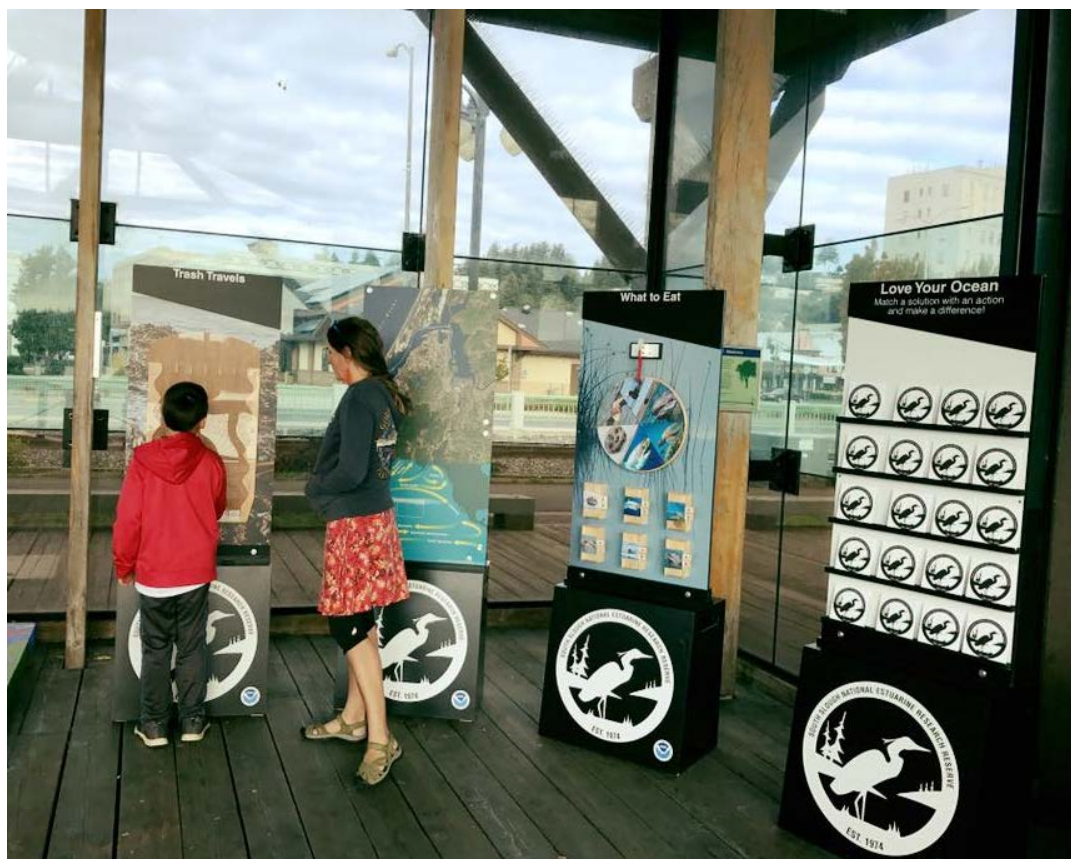
The preparations for the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference scheduled for March 12-16 in San Diego, CA are in full swing. For more information, click <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/>

Innovative Removal Projects

Marine debris removal may be challenging at times, and require innovation and ingenuity to succeed. Click here to find out more about eight innovative removal projects: <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/innovative-removal-projects>

South Slough NERR Marine Portable Debris Exhibit

The [South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) with support from the NOAA Marine Debris Program, recently completed a portable marine debris exhibit for use at the Reserve, and at outreach events elsewhere, such as at schools and community events.



The South Slough NERR portable marine debris exhibit (Photo: South Slough NERR)

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