

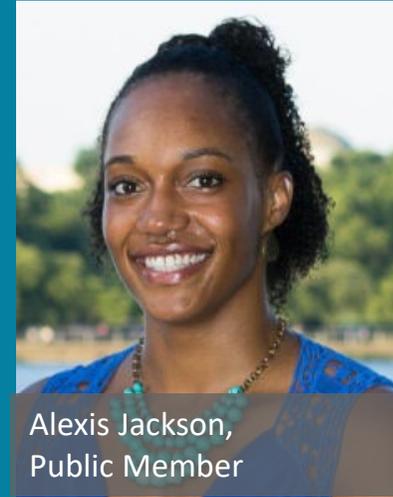


SB 54 Advisory Board Meeting

California Natural Resources Agency / Ocean Protection Council
Overview

January 23, 2026

California Ocean Protection Council



OPC Mission & Priorities

Protect California's coast and ocean by advancing innovative, science-based policy and management, making strategic investments, and catalyzing action through partnerships and collaboration.

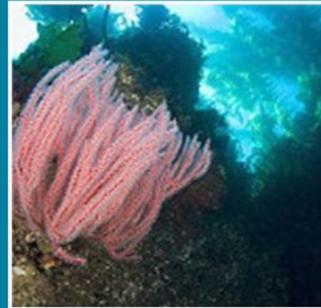
Climate Change



Communities



Biodiversity



Sustainable Blue Economy



Marine Debris & Plastic Pollution

Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council On Reducing and Preventing Marine Debris

February 8, 2007

WHEREAS, since the 1970's, marine debris has been widely recognized as a threat to the marine environment; and

WHEREAS, despite global treaties to prevent dumping at sea and minimize land-based sources, and increasing efforts worldwide to protect water quality, the quantity of marine debris in the world's oceans is increasing; and

WHEREAS, the problem of plastic marine debris is increasing in California and the North Pacific Gyre, where densities of micro-plastics have tripled during the last decade; and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2006, the West Coast Governor's Agreement (Washington, Oregon and California) on Ocean Health was created to address challenges to the declining health of the shared coastal ocean; and

WHEREAS, 60 to 80 percent of all marine debris and 90 percent of floating debris is plastic; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that 80 percent of marine debris comes from land-based sources; and

WHEREAS, plastic lasts hundreds of years or longer in the environment without biodegrading; and

WHEREAS, by ingestion, entrapment and entanglement, plastic harms hundreds of wildlife species, some of which are threatened or endangered species under California or federal law; and

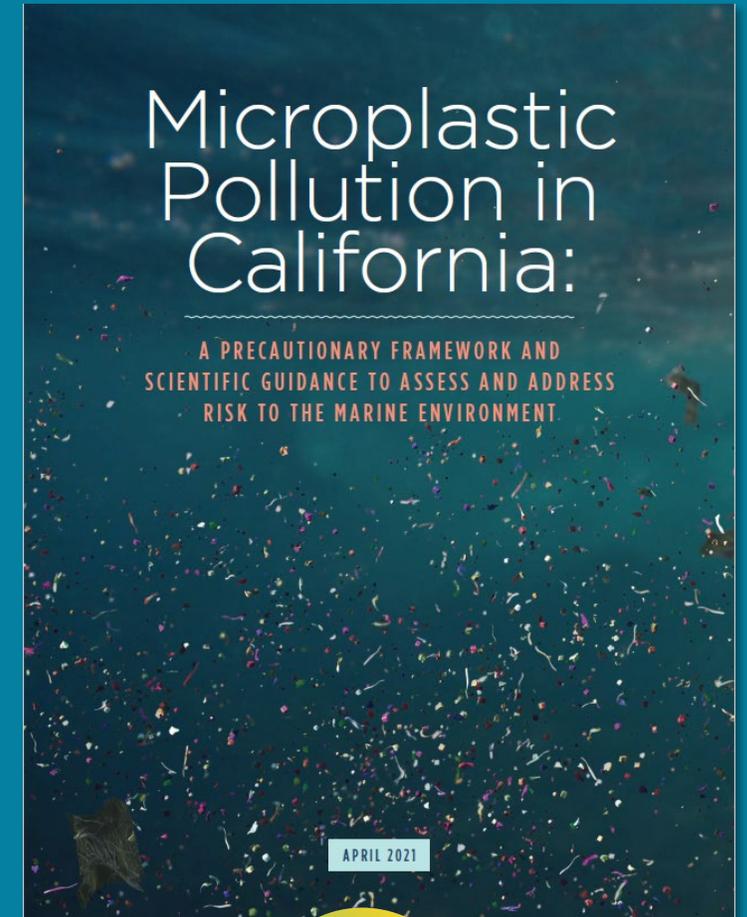
WHEREAS, plastic attracts other organisms that can float to distant habitats and become harmful invasive species; and

WHEREAS, plastic and other debris litters our beaches, and represents a threat to California's \$46 billion ocean-dependent, tourism-oriented economy and in certain circumstances may pose a public health threat; and

WHEREAS, California state and local agencies spend millions of dollars per year in litter collection; and

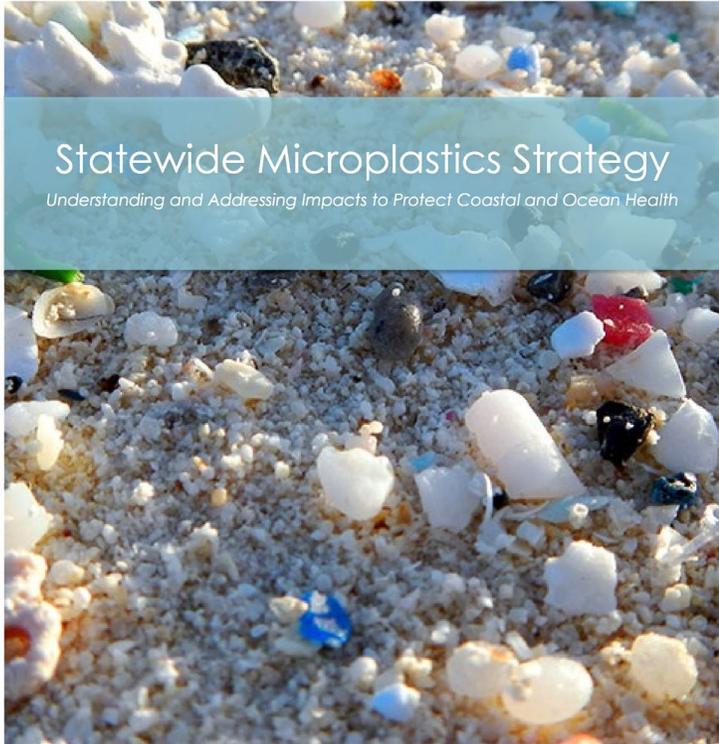
WHEREAS, plastics can contain potentially harmful constituents such as phthalates, bisphenol A, styrene, vinyl chloride and flame retardants. Research is being conducted to determine whether water leaches these constituents out of plastic products, presenting a threat to the health of humans and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, small plastic items, such as bottle caps, food wrappers and polystyrene pieces, are some of the most abundant items polluting our beaches. In 2005, 61,117 bottle caps were collected during California's Coastal Cleanup Day; and





Statewide Microplastics Strategy



February 2022



Pollution Prevention

Intervention

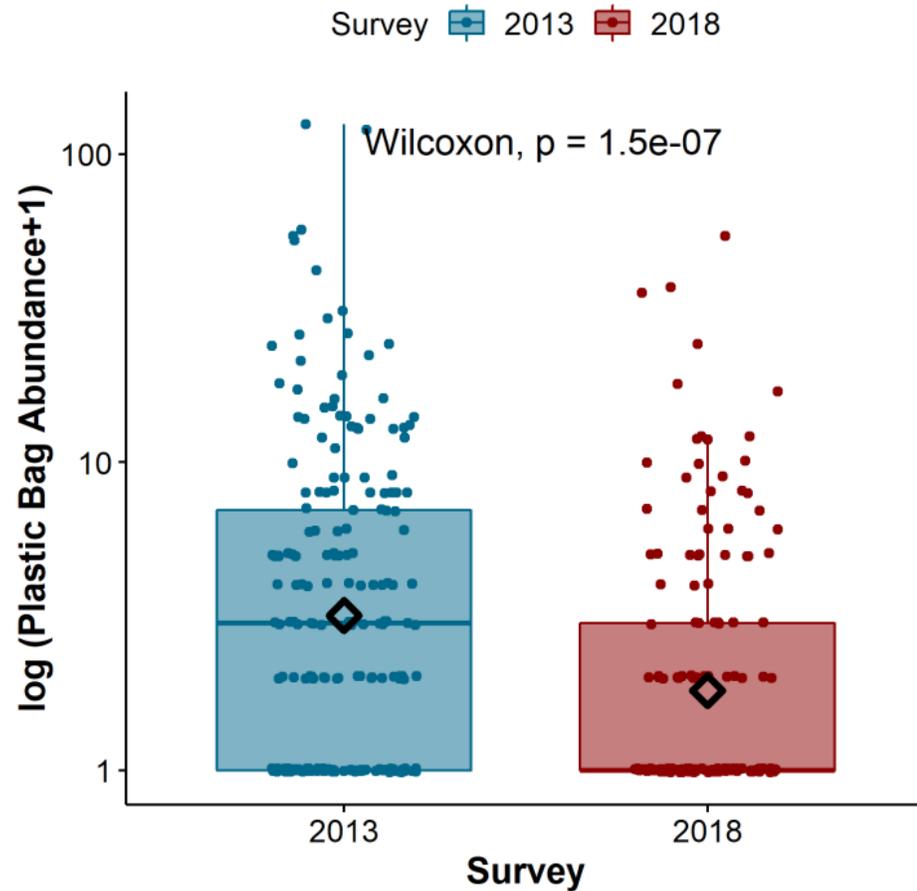
Outreach & Education





Recommended Actions: Pollution Prevention

Reduction of plastic bags observed in Southern California Bight 2013-2018



Science to Inform Future Action: Research Priorities



1. Monitoring

2. Risk Thresholds & Assessment

3. Sources & Pathways Prioritization

4. New Solutions



Progress



Bioretention rain garden (Green Infrastructure)
Source: Los Angeles Department of Water & Power



Say No to Plastic Waste: Technical Assistance
Source: Los Angeles County, CleanLA





Thank you!

Kaitlyn Kalua, Deputy Director
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Question 1



Ocean Litter Strategy (2018-2024)

- Community driven, federal and state co-led
 - 6 stakeholder goals with 64 total actions
 - Developed by ~50 California organizations & industry
- Implementation Process
 - Webinars, Goal-based Workgroups, Progress Reporting on Actions
- 6 year strategy 2018 - 2024



Goal 1

Reduce the use of common ocean litter items through mandates and incentives targeting **public institutions and businesses**



Goal 3

Improve **waste management and interception** of litter on land before it enters the ocean



Goal 5

Generate behavior change by **educating and engaging** communities and individuals to reduce ocean litter



Goal 2

Reduce the prevalence of common ocean litter items through changes in product **production, design, and management**



Goal 4

Conduct and communicate **research** on existing and emerging issues related to land-based ocean litter



Goal 6

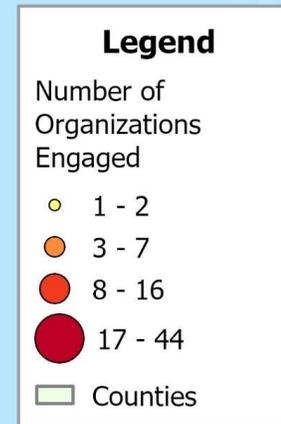
Reduce the sources of **ocean-based debris** and maximize the efficiency of ocean-based debris clean-up

CALIFORNIA
OCEAN
PROTECTION
COUNCIL

Gap Analysis

- ~288 organizations and ~586 individuals have engaged with the Strategy at least once since the 2018 release of the plan
- ~45% of orgs engaged more than once since 2018
- Top cities:
 - Sacramento
 - San Francisco
 - San Diego
 - Los Angeles

Geographic Scope of OLS Engagement - CA



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Email us at COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov or visit our [staff page](#) to reach out directly to one of our team members.

Sign up for OPC Announcements

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Question 2



Benefits to Communities

What it means to provide direct & meaningful benefits

Community-Informed Research & Projects

Technical Assistance

Workforce Development

Outreach & Engagement

Meaningful & Direct Benefits Assessment

More information at resources.ca.gov

