



PLASTICS AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

NAS Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability

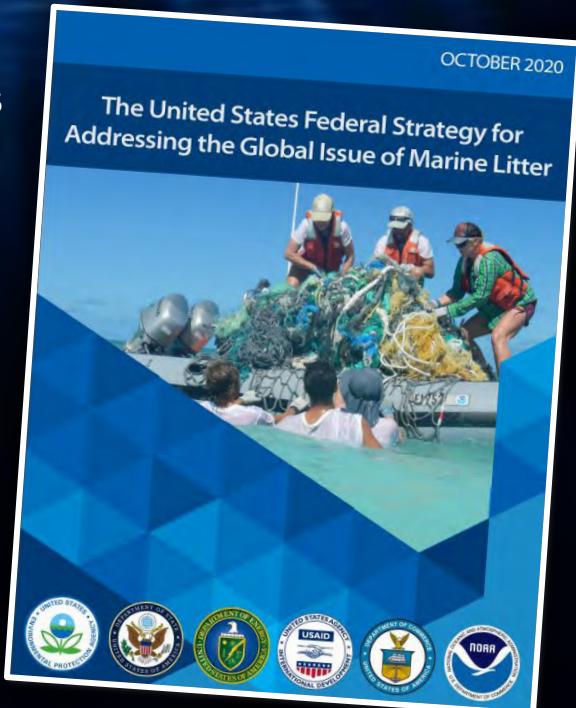
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ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITY AREAS

- Executive Order 13840 “Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the U.S.” (2018)
- Save Our Seas Act S. 3508 (2018)
- Science and Technology for America’s Ocean: A Decadal Vision (2018)
- White House Summit on Partnerships for Ocean S&T (2019)
- Presidential Memorandum on Ocean Mapping of the EEZ and Shoreline/Nearshore of Alaska (2019)
- Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness & Economic Growth (2020)
- NOPP 2.0 Reauthorization
- United States Federal Strategy for Addressing the Global Issue of Marine Litter (2020)



Ocean Economy (\$373 Billion)*

*Source: <https://www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/ocean-economy>



THE ISSUE WITH MARINE DEBRIS

- Economic loss
- Wildlife entanglement and ingestion
- Habitat damage
- Vessel damage and navigation hazards
- Invasive species



NOAA'S MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM

Federal Lead for Marine Debris:

- Prevention
- Removal
- Research
- Regional Coordination
- Emergency Response



U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL OCEAN PLASTIC WASTE



NOAA & NAS Study: June 2020 - Fall 2021

1. Evaluate U.S. contribution types and sources
2. Assess mismanaged plastic waste
3. Examine waste management infrastructure
4. Assess value of a national marine debris tracking
5. Recommend areas for further study
6. Determine means to reduce waste

OCEAN DECADE CHALLENGES



- 1) Pollution and Marine Debris
- 2) Ecosystem Protection, Restoration
- 3) Food Security, Sustainable Seafood
- 4) Economic development
- 5) Ocean-Climate Nexus
- 6) Multi-Hazard Warnings
- 7) Ocean Observing Systems
- 8) Digital Ocean Map and Data Portal
- 9) Capacity Development
- 10) Social & Behavioral Barriers to Change

COVID CHALLENGES

- Increase in PPE Waste
- Single use plastics

How can we build back
better?

There is no “away”!

INSPIRING THE FUTURE

- Define your needs
- Use the Decade as a vehicle
- Educate constituencies
- Industry: Business Plan
- Science Plan: Be Ambitious
- If not now, when??
- Return to Campaign Oceanography
- If you like your 7 day weather forecast thank an Oceanographer
- Speak up, bring the kids



QUESTIONS?

