

Global Pollution and Our Role

Chris Fenning

About Me



VALENCIA COLLEGE



- Lived in Florida since 1988.
- Always loved the ocean
- PADI Dive Professional
- Studied International Business at Valencia
- Study International Relations at FIU



National Parks Services

Right off our Shore



National Parks Services



Stephen Frink



Stephen Frink

PADI Conservation



CORALWATCH



Philippines



The Philippine Star

Hong Kong



CBS News

Pacific Ocean



The Hague Institute for Global Justice

Others are not so lucky

Plastics

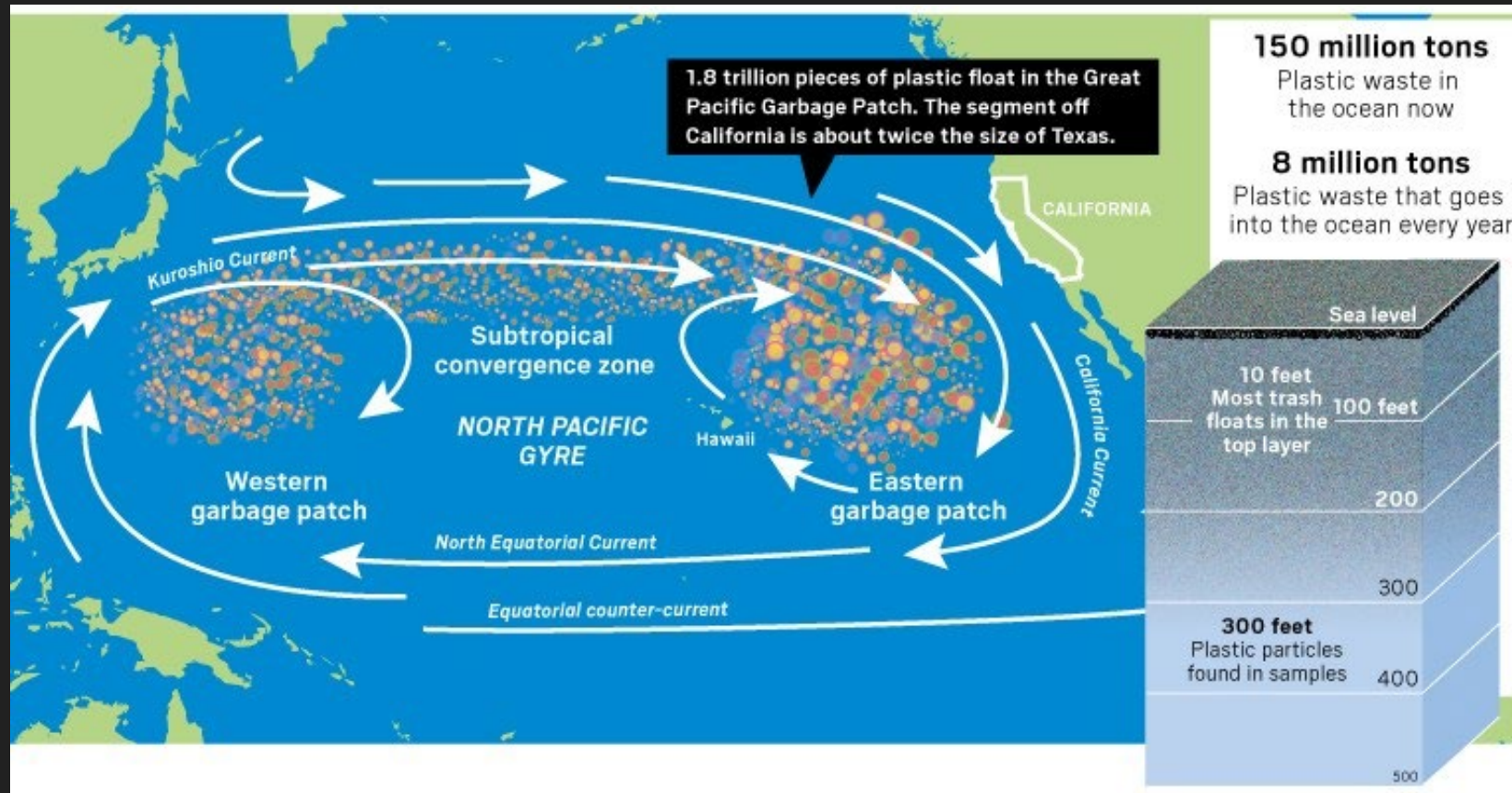


- US Production
- 1927 20 million lbs
- 1943 650 million lbs
80% Dedicated to WWII

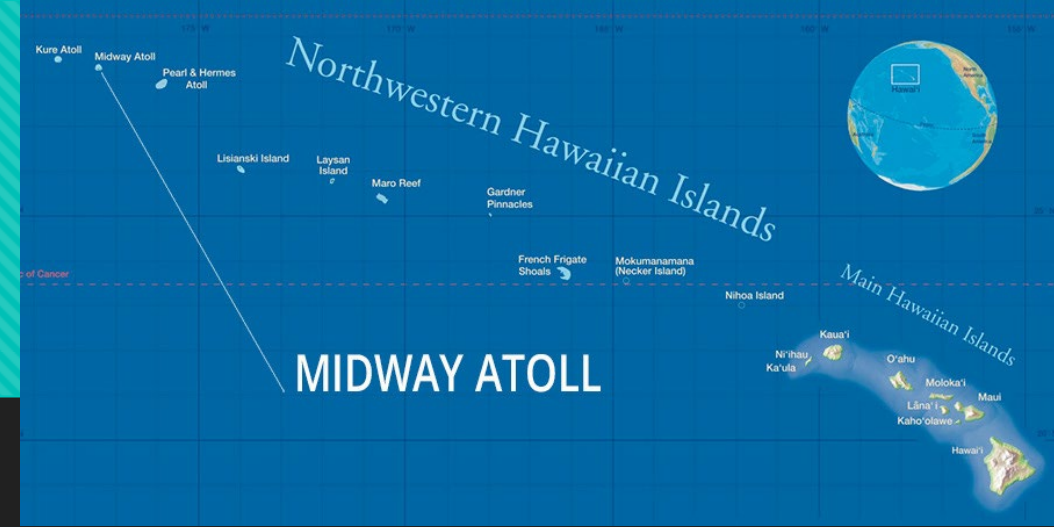
- Today 115 billion lbs
- 2050 2 trillion lbs



Great Garbage Patch



Evidence, Midway Atoll



- Hawaiian Island
- 2.4 square miles
- National Wildlife Refuge
- 2 million Albatross
- Tons of Plastic



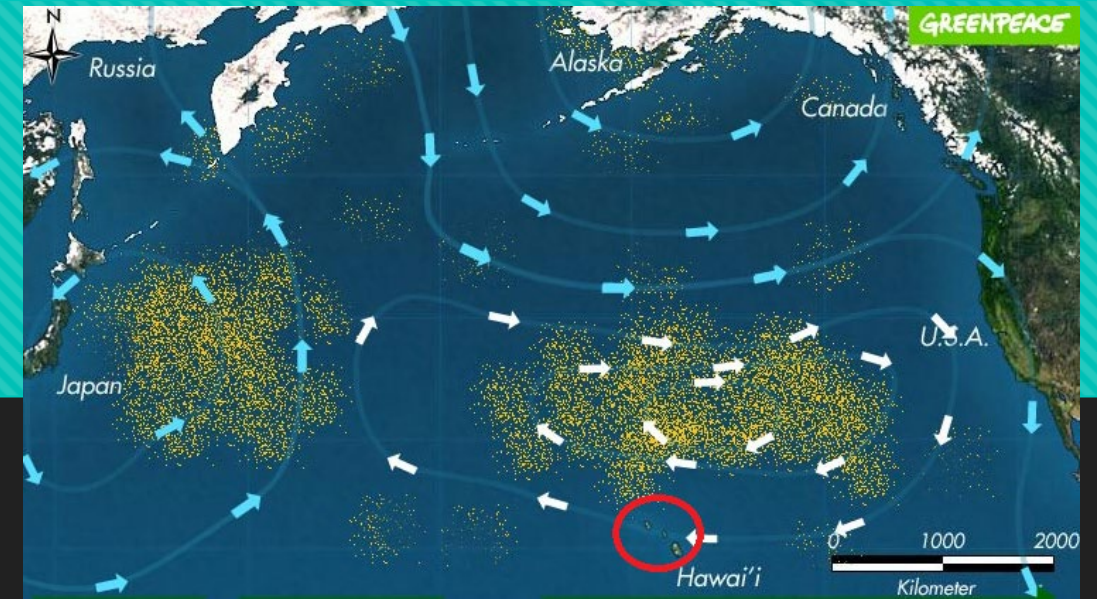
US Fish and Wildlife Services



Huffington Post

Evidence, Midway Atoll

- Closest Island to Garbage Patch
- Current flows through Midway
- Controlled by US Government
- Research and Cleanup
- Permissions...



Greenpeace



US Dept of Interior



Plastic Paradise



Other Plastic Perils



Plastic Paradise



Andrea Marshall



Spotmydive

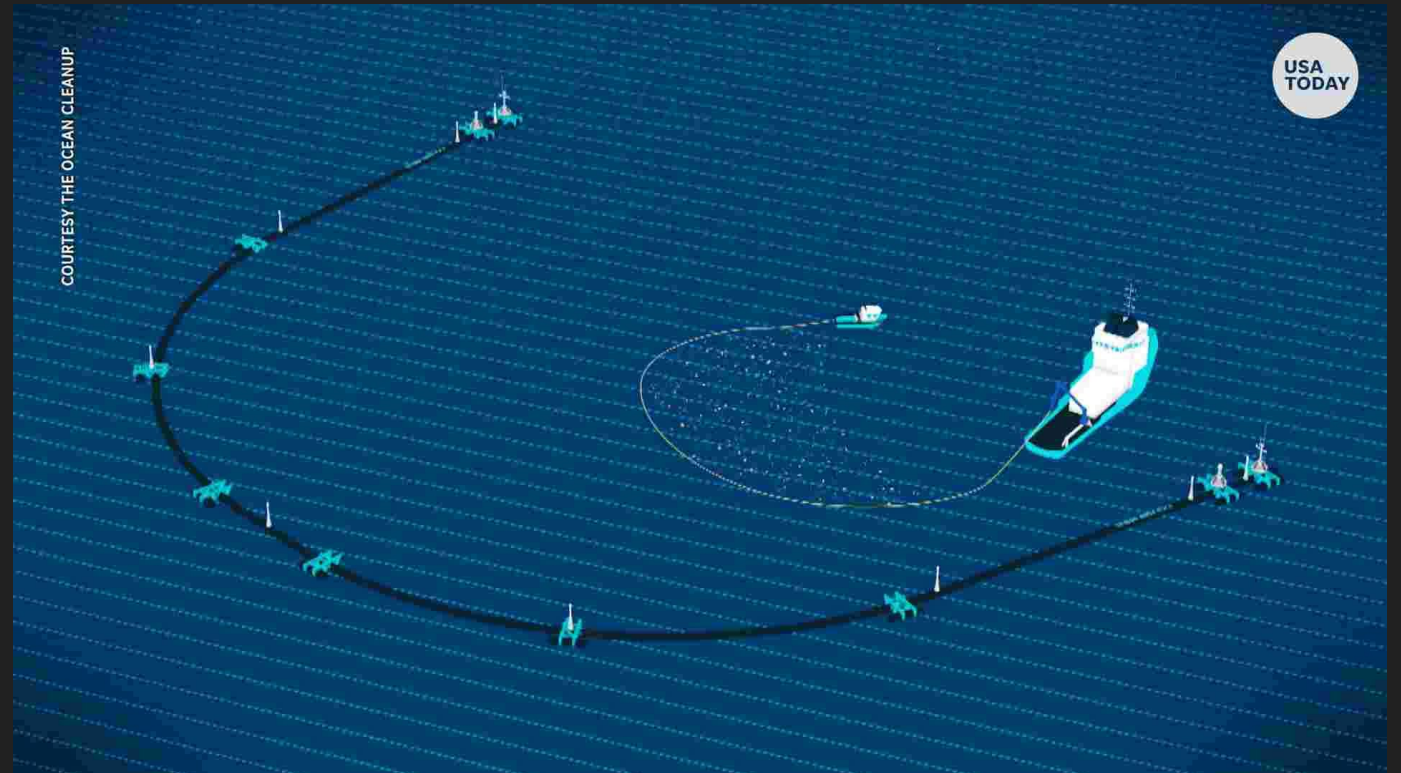


123RF.com

The Ocean Cleanup Project



Technobyte



What can we do?

- Reduce Plastic Consumption
- Push for Responsible Legislation
- Educate ourselves
- Support worthy causes
- Get involved in cleanup efforts



THE OCEAN[®]
CLEANUP

Emerging Markets and Pollution



- Philippines
- World's 34th Largest Economy
- World's 4th Largest Shipbuilder

- Over 100 Shipyards



Maritime Review



Manila Bulletin Business

Prosperity comes with a price.



Property Insights



The Philippines



The wakeup call was heard.



Greenpeace Philippines



Manila One

What Can We Do?

- Hold firms here accountable.
- Support International Conservation Efforts
- Leave them Be!!



Panorama

IVHQ



E-Waste



- Discarded Electronics
- International Exploitation
- Unethical
- Technically Illegal



Recycling???



ELECTRONIC
RECYCLING

Sandia Heights Recycling

- Distributors, not Recyclers
- No Tracking
- Much more Profitable



Guiyu, Hong Kong



中外对话

- Small Farming Community
- In the early 2000's, E-Waste Began
- Workers profited at a great cost
- Fallout in 6 years



cio.com.au



SCMP Today

Toxic Process



Basel Action Network

- CRT (Cathode Ray Tubes)
- Open Burning of Wires
- Desoldering and Acid Stripping



Greenpeace USA



Basel Action Network

Are we doing our part???

Basel Convention on Hazardous Wastes

Basel Convention On the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal

The "Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal" controls the international trade in hazardous wastes. The Convention, which was adopted in 1989 and entered into force in 1992, was negotiated to establish a "notice and consent" regime for the export of hazardous waste to importing countries. Under the Convention's provisions, trade in hazardous wastes generally cannot take place:

- without the importing country's written consent to a particular export; or
- where the exporting country has reason to believe that the particular wastes will not be handled in an environmentally sound manner.

Currently, there are more than 160 Parties to the Convention. The United States signed the Basel Convention in 1990. The U.S. Senate provided its advice and consent to ratification in 1992. However, before the United States can ratify the Convention, there is a need for additional legislation to provide the necessary statutory authority to implement its requirements. Until that time, as a non-Party to the Convention, the U.S. participates in the meetings of the Convention Parties, but is not allowed to vote.

The Parties adopted an amendment to the Convention in 1995 to prohibit the export of hazardous wastes, for both recycling and disposal, from countries listed in a new Annex VII to countries not listed in the Annex. This amendment is not yet in force for any Party. The amendment has not been submitted to the Senate for advice and consent, and no Administration has supported it.

Currently debated issues include ship scrapping; classification of, and control systems for, used and scrap electronics; and materials for repair/refurbishment/remanufacturing.

- In terms of ship scrapping, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) is currently negotiating a legally binding instrument for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships. The U.S. has urged Basel Parties to coordinate internally between maritime and environmental components of government, and participate actively in IMO negotiations to achieve environmentally sound management of ship recycling.
- In terms of classifying used and scrap electronics, the current Basel system for controlling international shipments of hazardous waste makes trade in many of these materials difficult, and in some cases impossible. The U.S. supports consideration of alternative systems of control for "e-waste" under the Convention.
- Some Basel Parties are beginning to argue that the Convention applies, in its current form, to the international movement of used products for repair, refurbishment, or remanufacture. The U.S. position is that international movement of equipment for repair, refurbishment, or remanufacturing does not constitute movement of waste, and thus is not impacted by the Convention or its procedures.

-US Department of State

Moving Forward, what can we do?

- Pressure our elected officials.
- Pressure our retailers and producers.
- Pressure ourselves.



Basel Action Network

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