
The Ocean Plastics Crisis

Tara Brock, Pacific Counsel





Photo: Geoff Shester, Oceana





Credit: NOAA

Photo: Chris Jordan

**90% of
seabird
species have
consumed
plastic**





Photo: Manuel Maqueda



Single-Use Plastics Are the Most Commonly Collected Items in Beach Cleanups



Straws, Stirrers



Forks, Knives, Spoons



Plastic Beverage Bottles



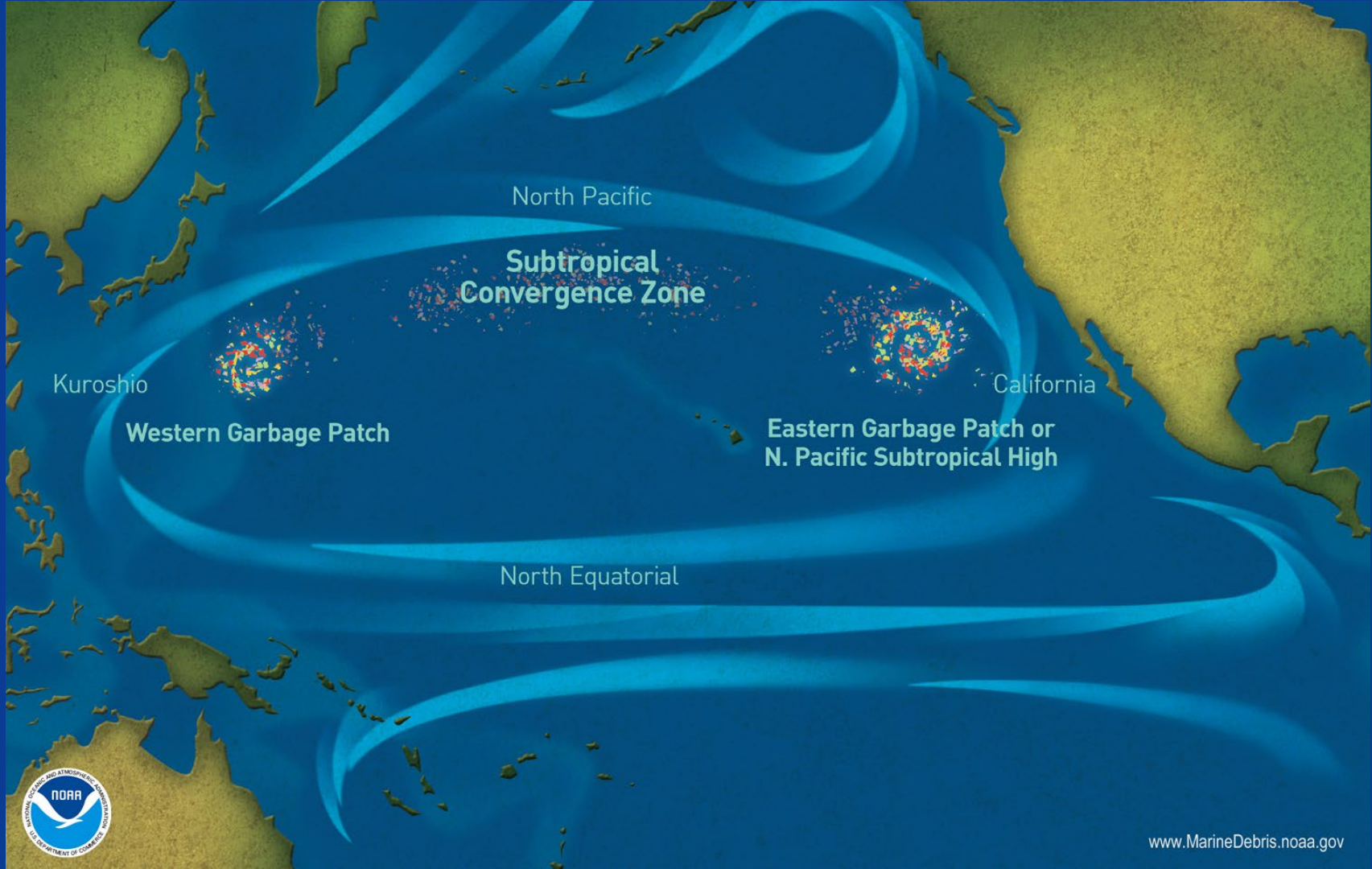
Plastic Grocery Bags



Plastic Cups, Plates

An estimated 33 billion pounds
of plastic enter the marine
environment each year





North Pacific

**Subtropical
Convergence Zone**

Kuroshio

Western Garbage Patch

California

**Eastern Garbage Patch or
N. Pacific Subtropical High**

North Equatorial





*Photo: Algalita Marine Research
and Education*

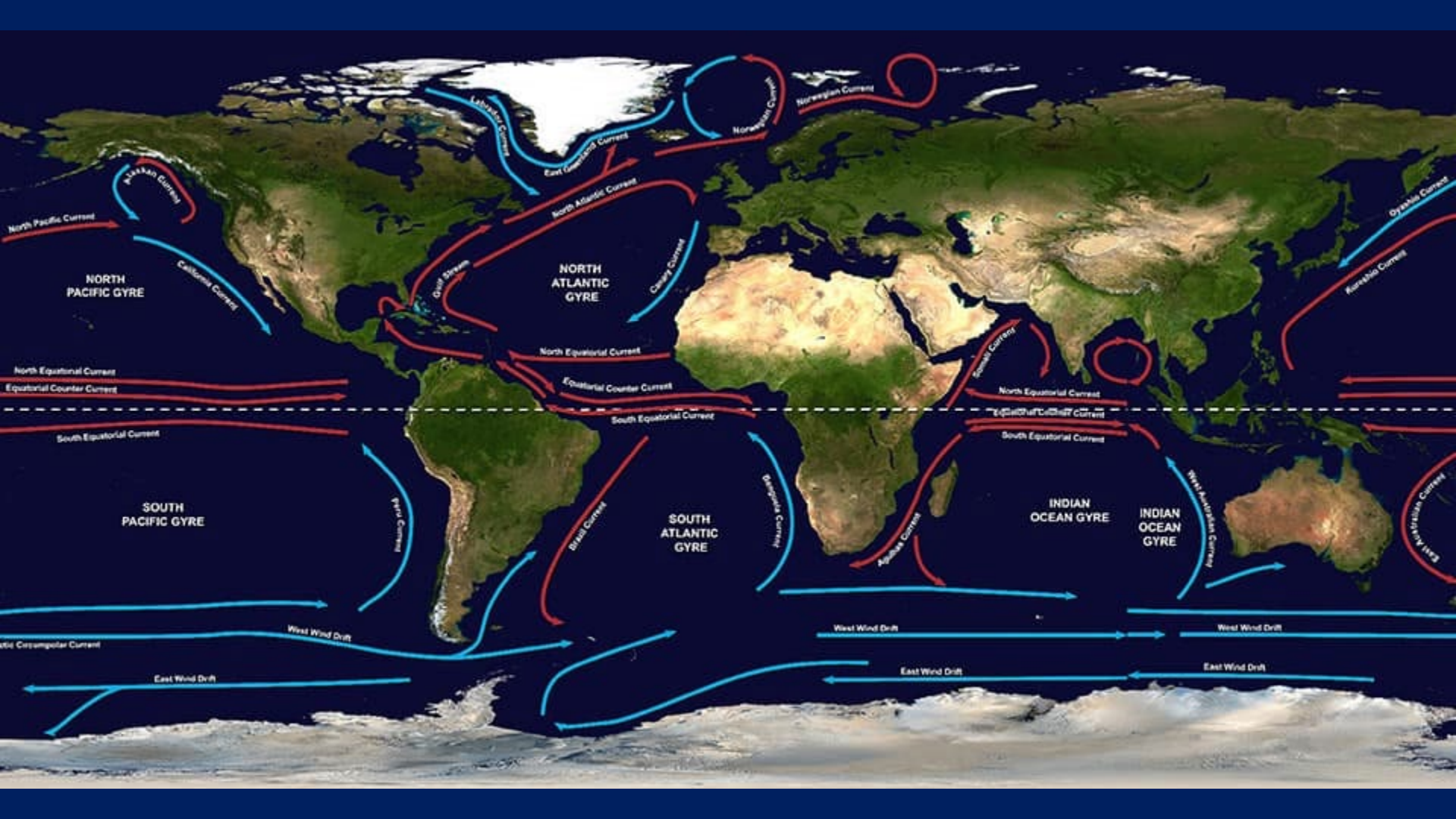




Photo: Kristal Talbot

An estimated
900 marine species
are affected by
marine plastic
pollution



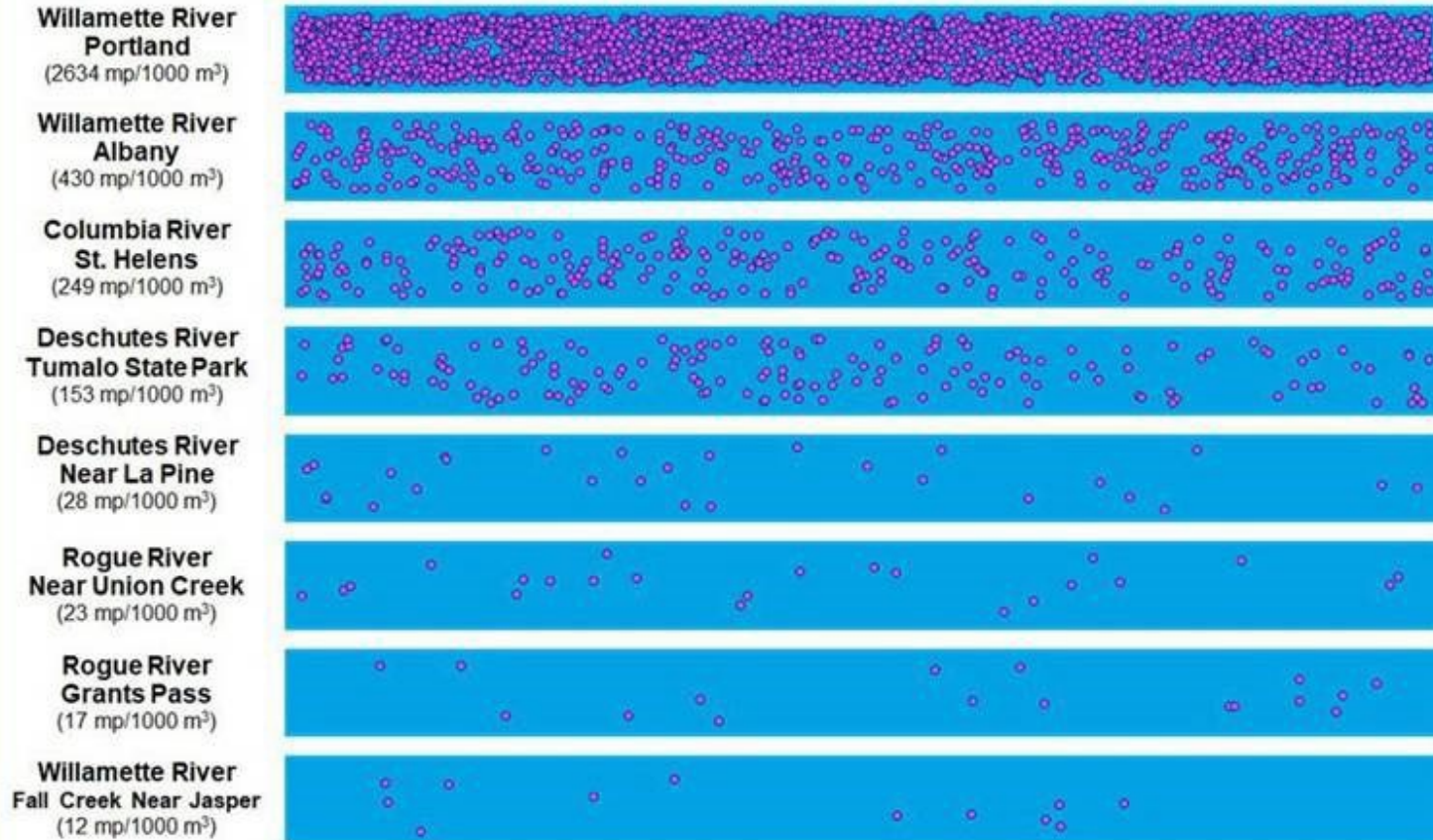
Credit: Amelia Vaughan, Beverly Beach State Park



Credit: Coos Bay Surfrider

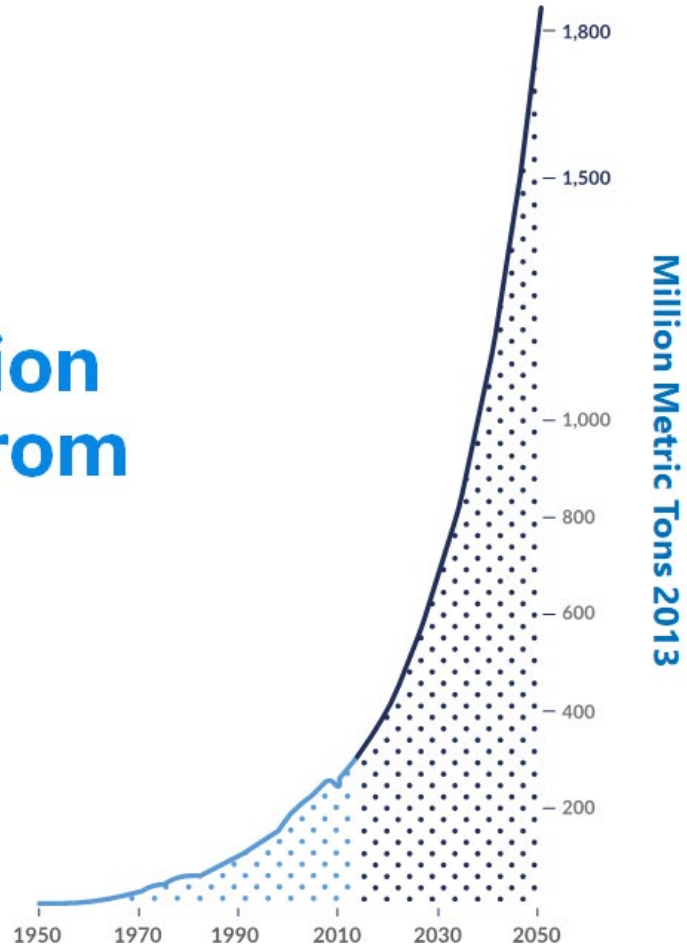
Microplastic Concentrations In Oregon Rivers

Estimated relative abundance of microplastic pollution per 1000 m³ (mp/1000m³) of river water



Plastic Production to Quadruple from 2014 to 2050

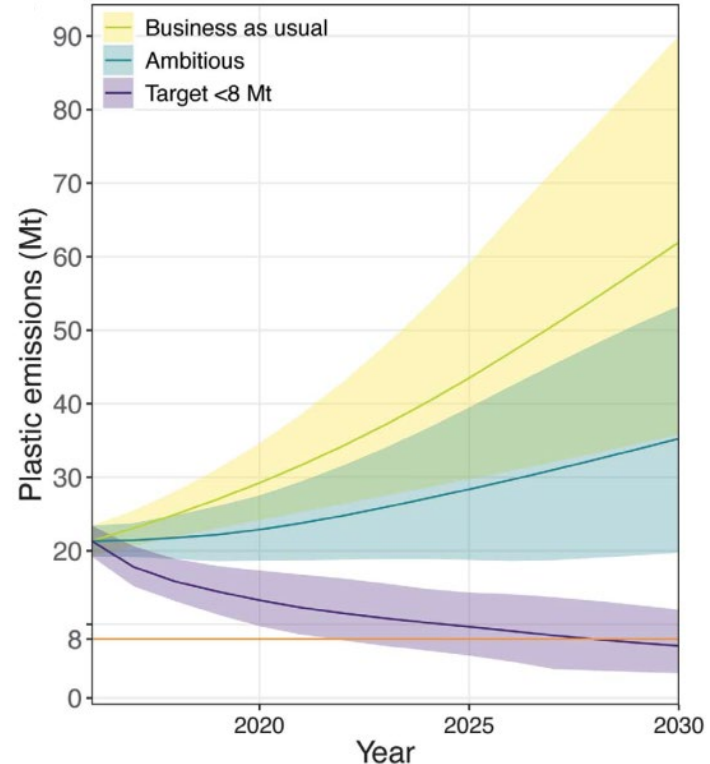
● Historical Growth ● Future Growth



The real solution must be reduction

To reduce the amount of plastic entering the ocean to **8 Mt a year** (2010 levels), we need to:

- Make less plastic: **25-40% decrease per capita**
- Increase quantity and quality of waste management/recycling: **60-99%**
- Continue targeted clean ups: **40%**





WHICH FUTURE

DO YOU WANT?



Break Up with Plastics, Oregon!

