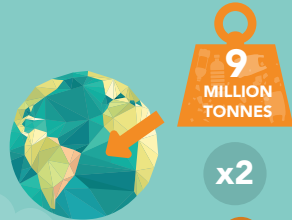


THIS YEAR OVER
9 MILLION TONNES
OF PLASTIC¹
WILL ENTER THE WORLD'S OCEANS

PLASTIC DOES NOT GO AWAY

WE MUST ACT NOW



THE RATE WE ARE POLLUTING THE OCEAN **DOUBLES**



"Plastic is so permanent and so indestructible that when you've tossed it, in the ocean or even into a dustbin... it does not go away"

Sir David Attenborough

x2

EVERY 11 YEARS² of plastic each year of which



BY 2026 ??

124 BILLION PIECES OF PLASTIC

litter our coasts² including (every year):

<9%

is recycled



THE FIRST 4 STEPS WILL ELIMINATE OVER

70%

of marine plastic pollution **BEFORE** it enters our oceans:

- 1 Introduce a container deposit system to eliminate beverage rubbish
- 2 Ban all single-use plastic bags
- 3 Remove microbeads from personal care & laundry products
- 4 Ensure plastic producers & recyclers capture microplastics on their premises

PLASTIC DOESN'T DECOMPOSE

IT JUST **GETS SMALLER**



Over time a single plastic bottle can break up into over **10,000 PIECES OF MICROPLASTIC**

Microplastics act as a toxic sponge. Studies show that it can be **1 MILLION TIMES MORE TOXIC** than the water around it³

This creates serious concerns regarding the potential contamination of our seafood.



180 MILLION PLASTIC BAGS

420 MILLION PLASTIC BOTTLES

200 MILLION OTHER PIECES OF PLASTIC PACKAGING

TRILLIONS OF MICROPLASTIC BEADS & FIBRES

52% of all **SEA TURTLES⁴**

96% OF ALL **BIODIVERSITY** potentially ingests plastics⁶ including

100% of all **CORAL REEFS⁵**

90% of all **SEA BIRDS⁷**

The animals most vulnerable to the toxic effects of plastic contamination are those at the very top of the food chain – **US!**⁸

Join the campaign to **STOP MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION**
www.boomerangalliance.org.au/plastic_pollution

INFORMATION SOURCES

- 1 University of Georgia
- 2 CSIRO
- 3 Algalita Marine Research Foundation
- 4 University of Queensland
- 5 ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies
- 6 Sydney Institute of Marine Science
- 7 Australian Marine Conservation Society
- 8 Catalyst, ABC TV

For more information see our slideshow about marine plastic pollution and/or our submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Threat of marine plastic pollution in Australia: http://www.boomerangalliance.org.au/plastic_pollution_resources