

Environmental Plastic Assessment Program (EPAP) Data Sheet

DATE: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Team Information

RIB # circle which applies: #1 #2 #3 #4

Surveyors Full Name _____

Organization Name (if applicable) _____

Organization Location (City, Country) _____

Email Address _____

Cleanup Start Time _____

Cleanup End Time _____

Survey Area

Name of Beach _____

Coordinates

Lat: _____ Long: _____

Major Usage
(check most appropriate option)

- ☐ Recreation
☐ Commercial
☐ Remote/Unused
☐ Other: _____

Reason for Location Choice
(check all that apply)

- ☐ Proximity/Convenience
☐ Known for Debris
☐ Other: _____

Compass Direction
(when facing the water)

_____ °

Nearest River Output: Name: _____ Approximate Distance from "zero" on the Spine: _____

Last Tide Before Clean Up

Type (circle one): Low High

Height: _____

Time: _____

Next Tide After Clean Up

Type (circle one): Low High

Height: _____

Time: _____

Wind Speed: _____

Direction: _____

COMMENTS:

Slope

(check the most appropriate one)

- ☐ Winter Profile
☐ Summer Profile

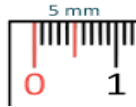
Substrate Type

(check all that apply)

- ☐ Sand
☐ Pebble
☐ Rip Rap (large boulders)
☐ Seaweed
☐ Other: _____

Surface Rib Scan

Debris MUST BE LARGER than 5mm



A pencil eraser is 5mm



	Rib #1		Rib #2		Rib #3		Rib #4			
SPINE Start Point (0-100 m)									Put Totals of all 4 Ribs in	
RIB LENGTH (m)									the Column Below	
	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered	F: Total	W:
Cigarette Butts										
Fishing Line /										
Poly- propylene Rope										
Plastic Cups and Lids										
Plastic Straws										
Film Plastic										
Misc. Plastic										
TOTALS									TOTAL (F)	TOTAL (W)

	Rib #1		Rib #2		Rib #3		Rib #4			
	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered	Fresh	Weathered		
Plastic Bottles										
Plastic or Metal Bottle Caps										
Urethane Foam										
Styrofoam										
Plastic base cloth such as nylon/ polyester										
Plastic Hygiene Items										
Plastic PPE										
Other										
TOTALS									TOTAL (F)	TOTAL (W)

Accumulation Survey

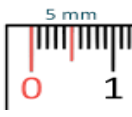

If unable to complete an accumulation survey, check box as to why:

- ☐ Not enough time
☐ Not enough people
☐ Too much area
☐ Too much trash
☐ Other: _____

	Fresh	Weathered	F: Total	W:
Cigarette Butts				
Fishing Line /				
Polypropylene Rope				
Plastic Cups and Lids				
Plastic Straws				
Film Plastic				
Misc. Plastic				
TOTALS			TOTAL (F)	TOTAL (W)

	Accumulation Survey	Accumulation Survey		
	Fresh	Weathered	F: Total	W:
Plastic Bottles				
Plastic or Metal Bottle Caps				
Urethane Foam				
Styrofoam				
Plastic base cloth such as nylon/ polyester				
Plastic Hygiene Items				
Plastic PPE				
Other				
TOTALS		All Accumulation Survey Totals:	TOTAL (F)	TOTAL (W)

MICRO Debris Survey

MUST BE SMALLER than 5mm  **A pencil eraser is 5mm** 

	Fresh Total	Weathered Total
Rib 1		
Rib 2		
Rib 3		
Rib 4		

Total Fresh:

Total Weathered:

Surface Rib Scan Totals (Use Numbers)

	Fresh Total	Weathered Total
Rib 1		
Rib 2		
Rib 3		
Rib 4		

Cleanup Totals (Use Numbers)

	Fresh Total	Weathered Total	Total
All Pieces from Surface Rib Scan			
All Pieces from Accumulation Survey			
All Pieces of Micro Debris			
All Pieces			

Total Weight of All Pieces

GLOSSARY:

Accumulation Sweep: The Accumulation Sweep documents the remaining 80% of the field area. Volunteers line up at arm's length at one end of the Spine and pick up and record all plastic trash along the 100-meter Spine. The Accumulation Sweep can only be done if you have enough volunteers to cover every portion of the field area, and you have the time to complete the task.

Field Area: If the field area being surveyed is extremely wide, the spine can be placed approximately 50 meters from the water's edge, or at the change of substrate. Each individual survey lead, needs to make a decision on how large the survey area should be. Once decided, all subsequent survey dimensions must remain the same to maintain consistency.

Film Plastic: Thin-gauge packaging material used as a bag or a wrap. Examples include grocery sacks, trash bags, candy/food wraps, drycleaner bags, agricultural sheeting, and plastic wrap.

Micro Debris: Any small pieces of plastic smaller than 2.5 cm.

Miscellaneous Plastic: Pieces or fragments of plastic that may or may not be identifiable. This category includes 100's of different types of plastic such as: hangers, toys, shotgun wads etc.

Plastic Hygiene Items: Whole pieces or fragments of toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, tampons etc.

Plastic PPE (Personal Protective Equipment): Medical face masks, shields, gloves, gowns etc.

Rib: The four ribs begin at randomly generated starting places along the 100-meter Spine that run perpendicular to the Spine toward the water's edge.

Spine: A 100-meter section of the shoreline that runs parallel to the water's edge that is typically located in the back beach where there is a change of substrate. The surveyors have the choice to shorten the Rib to accommodate their particular needs.

Substrate: The type of material that makes up the shoreline that you are surveying. The substrate can be sand, gravel, rock, seaweed, grass or other materials.

Surface Rib Scan: Starting at the Spine volunteers walk toward the water surveying on one side of the Rib at a time. Pick up and record all plastic items only on the surface that are greater than 2.5cm. The survey area is 2.5 meters on either side of the Rib, making a total of 5 meters per Rib. After four Surface Rib Scans are completed, 20 meters of the field area have been documented.

Urethane Foam: Soft porous foam material typical from a mattress or seat cushion, commonly turns brown as it oxidizes.