

Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.)

B.E.A.C.H. is an all volunteer, non-profit organization that brings awareness and solutions to plastic marine debris through: environmental education in schools and the community; marine debris removal and research; and plastic reduction/litter prevention campaigns; in order to inspire actions by individuals and the community that will reduce and prevent marine debris, resulting in protection for Hawai'i's marine life, sea birds and ocean/coastal environment. B.E.A.C.H. was founded in 2006 by Suzanne Frazer and Dean Otsuki.

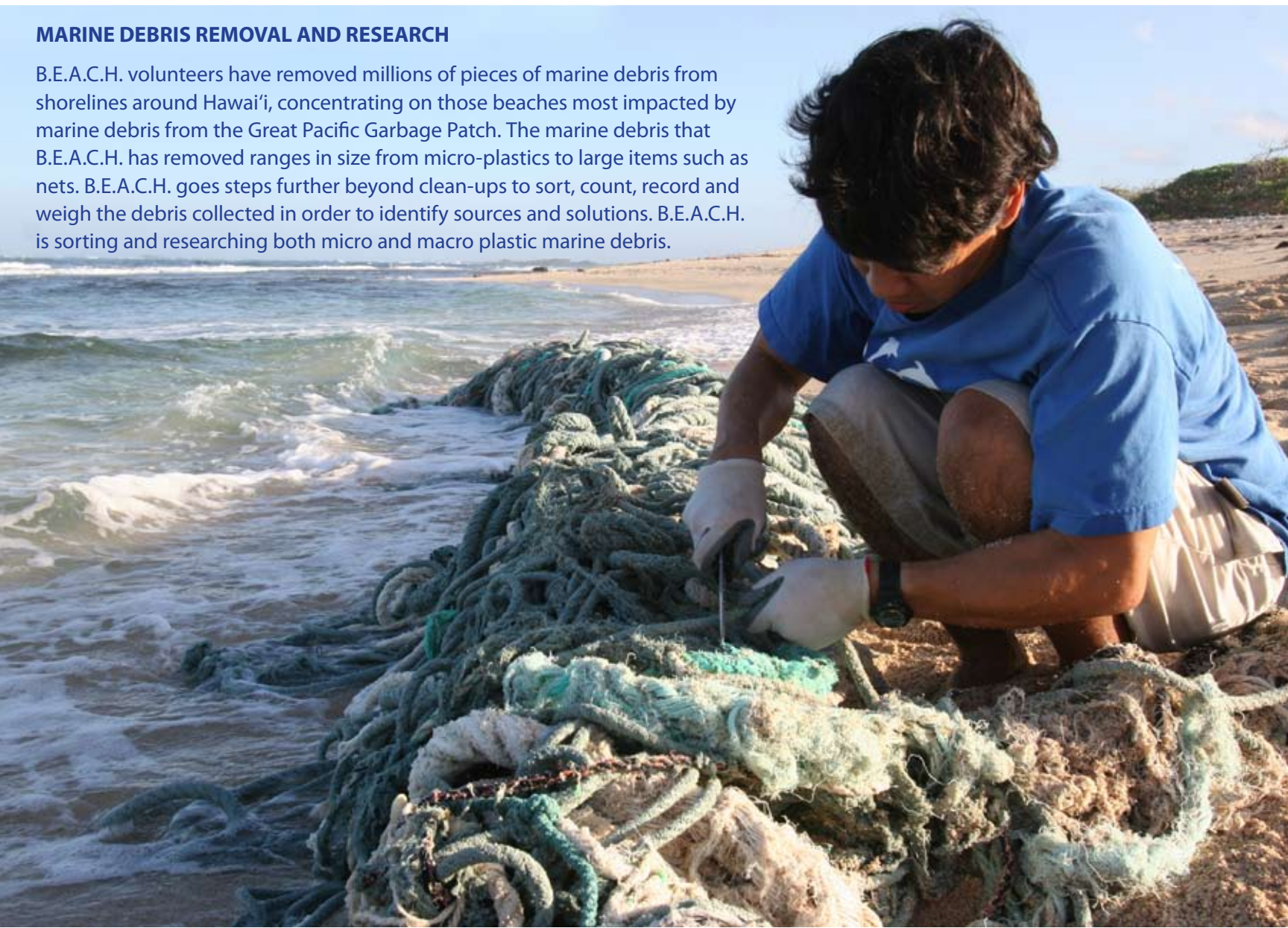


ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

B.E.A.C.H. provides free educational presentations in schools, universities and throughout the community, in order to raise awareness of marine debris impacts and solutions to the problem. B.E.A.C.H. initiated the Marine Debris Awareness Student Art Project involving more than 1500 students across 30 schools in learning about marine debris through presentations, discussions and hands on learning with marine debris from Hawai'i's beaches. The students then created paintings about marine debris impacts that were displayed in public venues including libraries to raise awareness of marine debris in the community. Books were created from these projects and are available to borrow from libraries in Hawai'i. B.E.A.C.H. also offers the Marine Debris Solutions Student Art Project where students create paintings to educate the public about how they can help reduce the plastic load on the ocean. B.E.A.C.H. has educational booths at community events throughout the year to educate the public about marine debris impacts and provide alternatives to plastic so people can take action right away. B.E.A.C.H. has organized a number of special events to educate the public including Marine Debris Awareness Month, the Plastic and Hawai'i's Marine Life lecture/film series and the POP's, Plastic and Hawai'i's Marine Life lecture series - month long series of free public events that included guest lectures.

MARINE DEBRIS REMOVAL AND RESEARCH

B.E.A.C.H. volunteers have removed millions of pieces of marine debris from shorelines around Hawai'i, concentrating on those beaches most impacted by marine debris from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The marine debris that B.E.A.C.H. has removed ranges in size from micro-plastics to large items such as nets. B.E.A.C.H. goes steps further beyond clean-ups to sort, count, record and weigh the debris collected in order to identify sources and solutions. B.E.A.C.H. is sorting and researching both micro and macro plastic marine debris.



PLASTIC REDUCTION AND LITTER PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS

B.E.A.C.H. plastic reduction and litter prevention campaigns target marine debris that is causing harm to marine life. B.E.A.C.H. provides reusable items such as shopping bags, cotton produce bags, utensil sets, glass straw sets, stainless steel drink bottles and bees wax food wraps so that the public can take immediate action to prevent marine debris in order to save marine life. Each year on Earth Day, B.E.A.C.H. launches a new campaign to help reduce the plastic load on the environment. In addition, B.E.A.C.H. educates the public about many different plastic reduction solutions. B.E.A.C.H. began working on reducing cigarette butts, plastic bags and polystyrene foam in 2007. In 2015 B.E.A.C.H. successfully initiated a law banning smoking at all Hawai'i State Parks. B.E.A.C.H. gave key testimony supporting bills banning smoking at beaches in Maui County (2014), Honolulu County (2013) and Hawai'i County (2008). B.E.A.C.H. led the way with an educational approach to implementation of the smoking ban at all Honolulu County parks. B.E.A.C.H. supported the successful bans of plastic bags in Maui County (2008), Hawai'i County (2012), initiated the 2014 Honolulu ban and was instrumental in the passage of the 2017 ban in Honolulu County. B.E.A.C.H. supported the successful 2017 Maui and Hawai'i County bills to ban polystyrene foam containers. B.E.A.C.H. educates the public about plastic microbeads and has supported bills to ban plastic microbeads. B.E.A.C.H. installed wire recycle bins in county and state parks on O'ahu in 2013.

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Awards and Recognition

B.E.A.C.H. received the 2012 Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Douglas Tom Award which recognizes organizations that preserve and protect Hawai'i's marine and coastal environment and actively engage the community, especially youth. B.E.A.C.H. received honorary certificates of recognition from the Mayor of Honolulu (2008) the Hawai'i State Senate (2009) and the City and County of Honolulu (2008 and 2011). B.E.A.C.H. Co-Founders Suzanne Frazer and Dean Otsuki received the 2008 Living Reef Award for going above and beyond in their efforts to protect the reef and the 2012 Astrid and Donald Monson Community Action Award given for their outstanding community service and contribution to protecting Hawai'i's environment and marine life.



Membership

Help protect marine life by joining B.E.A.C.H. today! B.E.A.C.H. offers individual, family and organization memberships. With your membership donation you will receive free gifts as well as discounts on reusable items. Wherever you are in the world you can help bring awareness and solutions to the problem of marine debris by becoming a member of B.E.A.C.H.

Donations

B.E.A.C.H. is a 501(c)3 tax exempt non-profit organization therefore donations are tax deductible to fullest extent of the law. 100% of donations are used for projects that prevent marine debris at the source in order to protect marine life.

Volunteer and help make a difference!

B.E.A.C.H. is run entirely by volunteers and help is always appreciated. B.E.A.C.H. works 7 days a week. No experience is needed and training will be provided. B.E.A.C.H. also offers internships and service learning opportunities for individuals and groups.



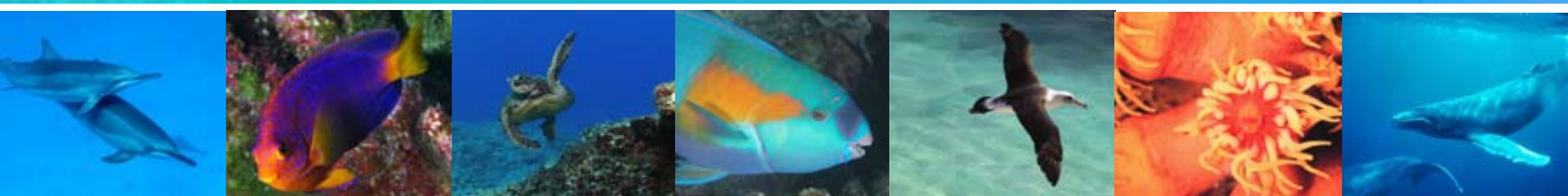
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Photo credits: James Watt - monk seal, dolphins, albatross, turtle, fish; James Mobeley - whale; James McVey - coral

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