



ADOPT A BEACH

The Scottish Islands Federation (SIF) is looking for local volunteers to help record a sample of data about the items they find when carrying out a coastal clean. This data is important as it helps track the litter back to source with the objective of finding solutions to reduce or reuse the marine litter. By having the same beach cleaned and a sample of data recorded 4 times a year we can get a meaningful trend.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The sample can be a length of beach from 10 metres wide onwards and the width of the beach is from the high tide mark to the edge of the beach. However if large items have come from the beach onto the shore please also include them. If too large to pick up please send photos to us.

The plan is to pick up all the items in the sample stretch and record them on the SIF ADOPT A BEACH – Data Survey form which is attached. If you can record the items you find and if not included in the form – please make a note of them under 'other'. Also please weigh the fishing (including the aquaculture) and non-fishing items and record the weights with the length of beach surveyed and the number of volunteers as well as the name of the beach surveyed. If you find any aquaculture items please take a photo and record the location and report them to Salmon Scotland on this link [Marine Debris | Salmon Scotland](#).

The simplest method to record the results is to take a photo or scan the sheets and send it to marinelitter@scottish-islands-federation.co.uk. We will input the data to the Marine Litter Conservation Beach Surveys with whom SIF partner for data analysis. If we have questions ask us and we will respond.

However if you would like to become a member of the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) and complete their beach surveys directly please either let us know or contact them at <https://www.mcsuk.org/become-a-member/>

If you have further questions do please contact us at marinelitter@scottish-islands-federation.co.uk. Thanks for helping to clean the seas.

The form is split into two sections – the first section being for the items most commonly found on Northern Isles beaches and the second for the remaining items which are recorded to comply with the MCS data requirements.




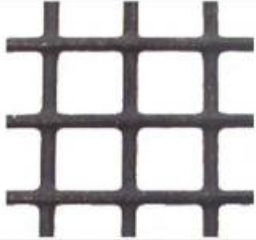




Beach Name:		Organiser details
Beach Location (what3words):		Name:
County / Island:		Email:
Date: / /	Time :	
Length of beach surveyed (metres):	Number of volunteers:	How many bin bags full:
Rubbish collected from survey area:		
Total weight (kg):		
Total weight of marine-sourced litter (kg):		
Total weight of household/un-sourced litter (kg):		

Weather & Influencing factors (in the week leading up to the survey)		
Winds: <input type="checkbox"/> Offshore <input type="checkbox"/> Onshore <input type="checkbox"/> Light <input type="checkbox"/> Strong	Were there any circumstances that influenced the survey? E.g. beach events	
Seas: <input type="checkbox"/> Calm <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Rough <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally high tide		

1. Plastic / Polystyrene	Tally	Key Items Found	Tally	Tally
Bags: Dog mess (full / empty)		Floats / buoys		Plastic fragments: 0-2.5 cm
Bags (e.g. shopping)		Foam / sponge / insulation		Plastic fragments: 2.5-50 cm
69		Food containers - plastic		Plastic pipes (incl feed pipes)
Bottles/containers: drinks		Injection gun (e.g. sealant)		Shotgun cartridges
Buckets or parts		Mussel pegs (floats/buoys)		Strapping bands
Caps/lids		Oil containers/drums 0-50cm		String/filaments from rope (not dolly) (~0.5 cm diam.)
Creel sheath fragment		Oil containers/drums 50cm +		Net clippings
Fish boxes/fragments		Oyster nets / mussel bags		Rope (~1cm diam. – fishing)
Fishing net & pieces: 0-50cm		Packaging/plastic sheeting		Rope (>1cm diam.– shipping)
Fishing net & pieces: 50cm +		Packets: Crisp / sweets etc		Other (please specify)
2. Rubber		3. Cloth		4. Paper/Cardboard
Creel strapping (rubber)		Clothing/shoes/towels		Cardboard
Other (specify)		Other (specify)		Other (please specify)
5. Wood		6. Metal		7. Glass
Pallet		Aerosol / spray cans		Bottles
Other (specify)		Cans (drink)		Jars (including fragments)
		Lobster/crab/prawn pots		Other (specify)
		Scrap (industrial)		10. Medical
		Other (specify)		Containers/Tubes (incl. pills)
8. Pottery / ceramics		9. Sanitary		Single use gloves/face masks
Please give details		Tampons & applicators		Syringes & needles

1. Plastic (other)	Tally	Other items found	Tally	Tally
4/6 pack yokes		Cups-plastic		Light/glow sticks
Bag ends		Cutlery/trays/straws		Lobster & fish tags
Bagged dog faeces		Fertiliser/animal feed bags		Lobster/crab pots & tops
Bags: Mesh (e.g. vegetable)		Fibreglass		Nurdles
Bags: small (e.g. freezer)		Fish Boxes – foamed polyst.		Octopus pots
Biobeads		Fishing lines (angling)		Oyster trays
Biofilm support media		Polystyrene pieces: 0-2.5cm		Pens & pen lids
Bottles/containers: cleaner		Foamed pieces: 2.5-50cm		Plastic fragments > 50 cm
Bottles: toiletries/cosmetics		Foamed poly pieces:>50cm		Sheeting from mussel culture
Car parts		Food containers – foam poly		Shoes/sandals
Cigarette lighters/ pouches		Gloves (e.g. washing up)		Dolly ropes filaments
Cigarette stubs		Gloves (industrial)		Tangled dolly rope
Combs/brushes/sunglasses		Hard hats		Tangled nets/rope/string
Crates		Sealant cartridge		Toys/party poppers
Cups-foamed polystyrene		Jerry cans		Other (specify)
2. Rubber		3. Cloth		4. Paper/Cardboard
Balloons (incl. ribbons)		Furnishings		Bags
Boots		Sacking		Cardboard
Tyres & engine belts		Shoes (leather)		Cartons (e.g. milk)
Tyres used as fenders				Cartons (tetrapack e.g. juice)
5. Wood		6. Metal		Cigarette packets
Corks		Appliances		Cups/newspapers/magazines
Crab/lobster pots & tops		BBQs (disposable)		7. Glass
Crates		Cans (food)		Light bulbs/tubes
Fish boxes		Caps/lids		9. Sanitary
Lolly sticks/chip forks		Fishing weights/hooks/lures		Condoms
Paint brushes		Foil wrappers		Cotton bud sticks - cardboard
8. Pottery/Ceramics		Oil drums		Cotton Bud sticks - plastic
Construction materials		Paint tins		Toilet fresheners
Octopus Pots		Wire/mesh/barbed wire		Towels/panty liners

Marine litter items to look out for that are potentially sourced from aquaculture

	<p>Pipe Black plastic piping used in the construction of fish farms. 90mm diameter,</p>		<p>Net Tubular net of varying colour used in mussel culture.</p>
	<p>Peg Measuring approx. 20cm, these pegs are inserted into mussel cultivation ropes at intervals.</p>		<p>Mesh Galvanised wire mesh of varying mesh size coated in vinyl.</p>
	<p>Marker tags / labels Tags used for marking gear may come in various guises.</p>		<p>Coupler Pipe fitting</p>
	<p>Sheeting Plastic sheeting about 50x40cm which are cut at one end into fringes or stripes, so that they look like a grass skirt from Hawaii. Used to protect mussel cultures from predators.</p>		<p>Floats Large floats used to support mussel ropes.</p>

Scottish Islands Federation (SC345492) was formed over 10 years ago and is a network of island communities working together to have a stronger voice on common challenges. The work of the SIF-Marine Litter Development Officers is part funded by Crown Estate Scotland.