EAAFP 10th Anniversary
2019 World Migratory Bird Day

Overview of global impact pollution and World Migratory Bird Day in EAAF

Vivian Fu, Communication Officer

East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership

Plastics

Durable but non-biodegradable

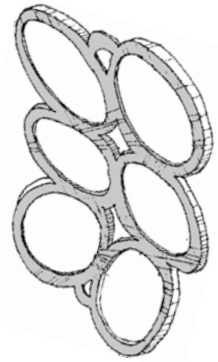
- produced from chemical derived from non-renewable resources
- unnatural products which cannot be degraded naturally

Lifespan:

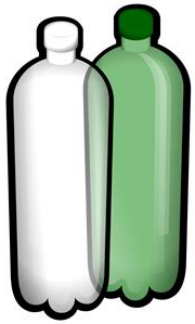
20 years

450 years

200 years



400 years



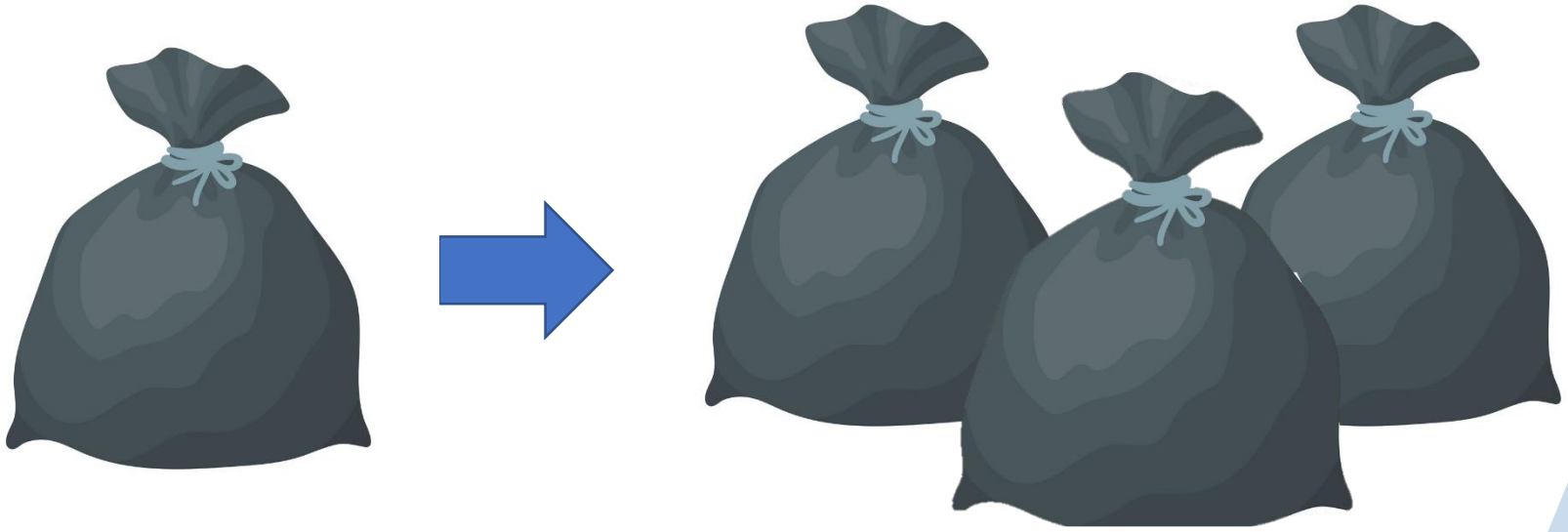
450 years

Source: UNEP, WWF

Global situation of Plastic Pollution

1950-70s

1990s

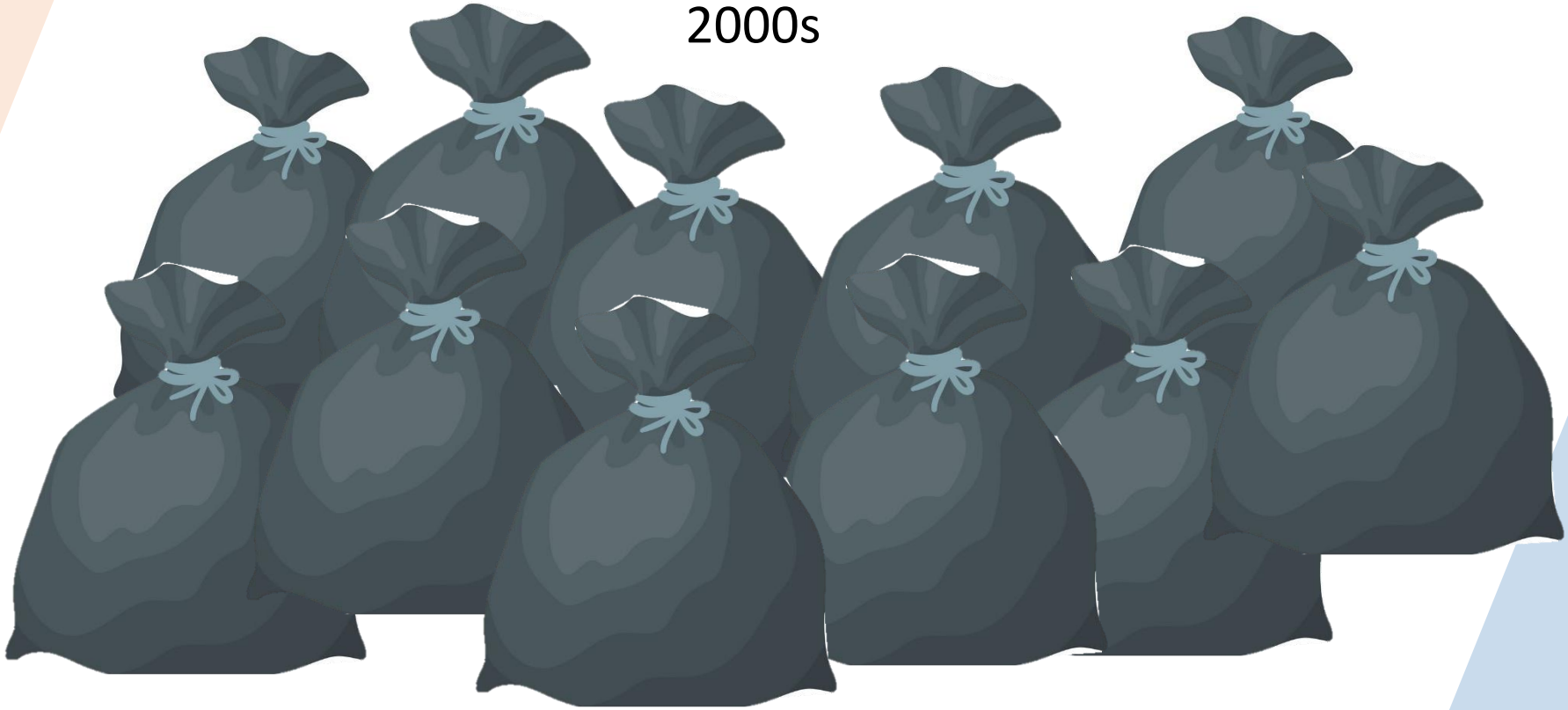


In two decades' time, the amount of plastic produced was about triple of that between 50s and 70s.

Source: UNEP

Global situation of Plastic Pollution

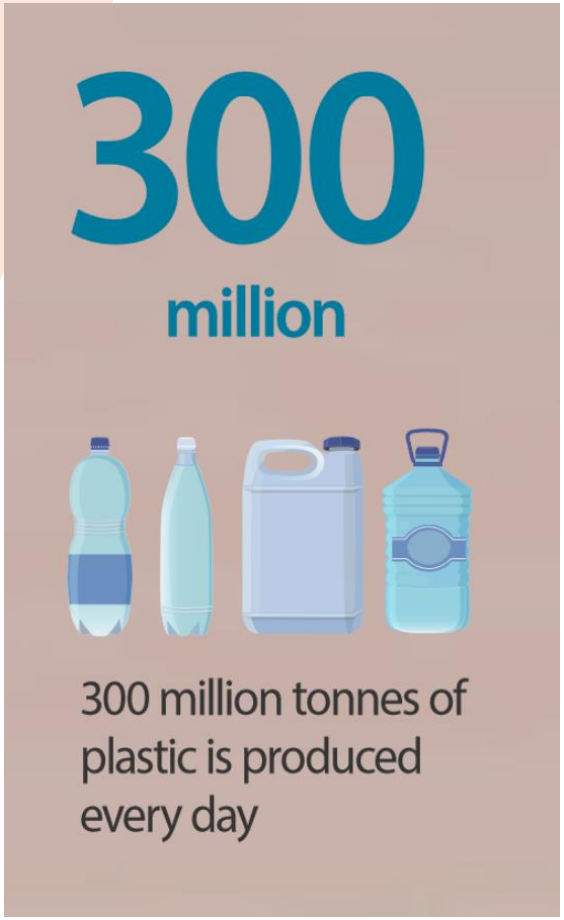
2000s



- Since 2000, we produced nearly half of the plastic ever been manufactured in the world

Source: UNEP

Global situation of Plastic Pollution

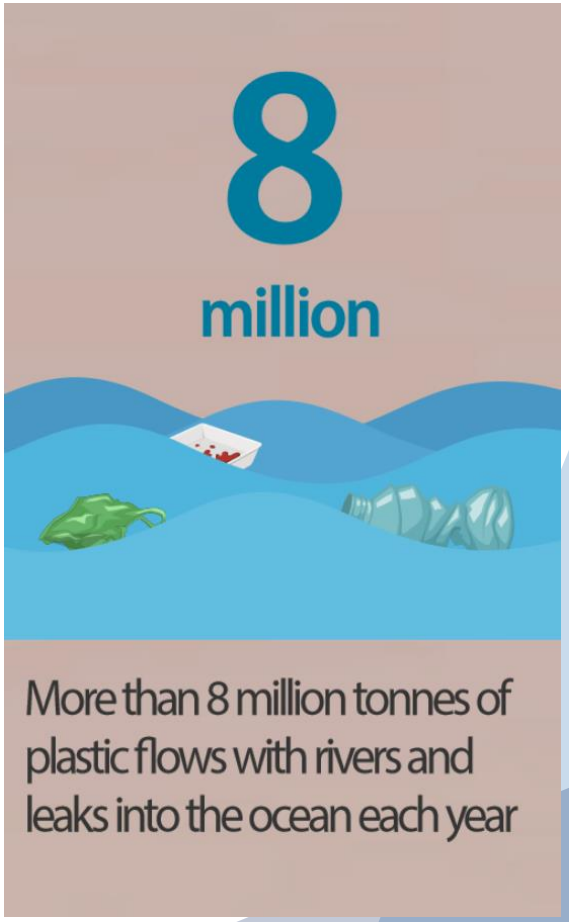


- Only 9% of plastic waste produced was recycled, 79% ended up in landfill or nature
- Half of them are designed to be used only once
- Trend: shift from durable plastic to single-sue plastic

Source: UNEP, Our World Data

Global situation of Plastic Pollution

- Plastic waste from lands leak to rivers, and then end up into the ocean
- Every year, 8 - 13 million tonnes of plastic goes to oceans
- Asia is the main producer of the world's plastics



Source: UNEP

Impact on wildlife

Impact of plastic pollution on wildlife

- 500-800 marine and coastal species are affected by marine debris (half are plastic)
- seabird and marine mammal species affected by marine debris is rising

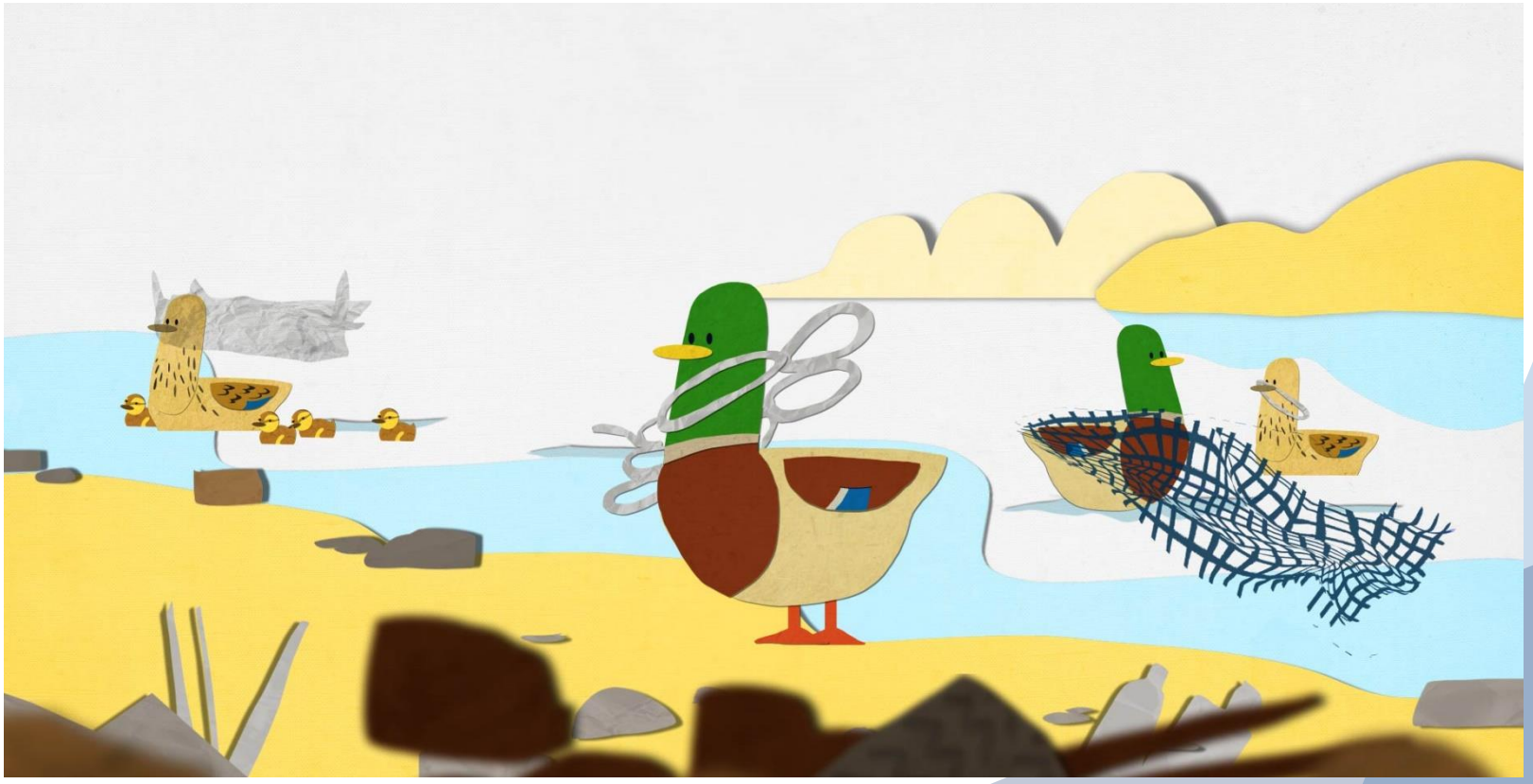
Species group	Total number of known species	Number of species with entanglement records		Number of species with ingestion records	
		Laist (1997)	This report	Laist (1997)	This report
Marine Mammals	115	32 (28 %)	52 (45 %)	26 (23 %)	30 (26 %)
Fish	16,754	34 (0.20 %)	66 (0.39 %)	33 (0.20 %)	41 (0.24 %)
Seabirds	312	51 (16 %)	67 (21 %)	111 (36 %)	119 (38 %)
Sea Turtles	7	6 (86 %)	7 (100 %)	6 (86 %)	6 (86 %)

Source: CBD Technical Report No 67 (2012) & 83 (2016)

Impact on migratory waterbirds

Entanglement

Fishing gear, long filaments and ring-shaped items entangle and trapping the birds, hindering their movement, injuring them or even end up drowning, or easily become prey of other animals



Entanglement

- Direct harm or death more frequently documented than other causes
- All waterbirds are at risk of plastic entanglement
- Mainly from fishing line or netting, active or “ghost” fishing gear

Table 3. The debris items responsible for entangling birds in different habitats

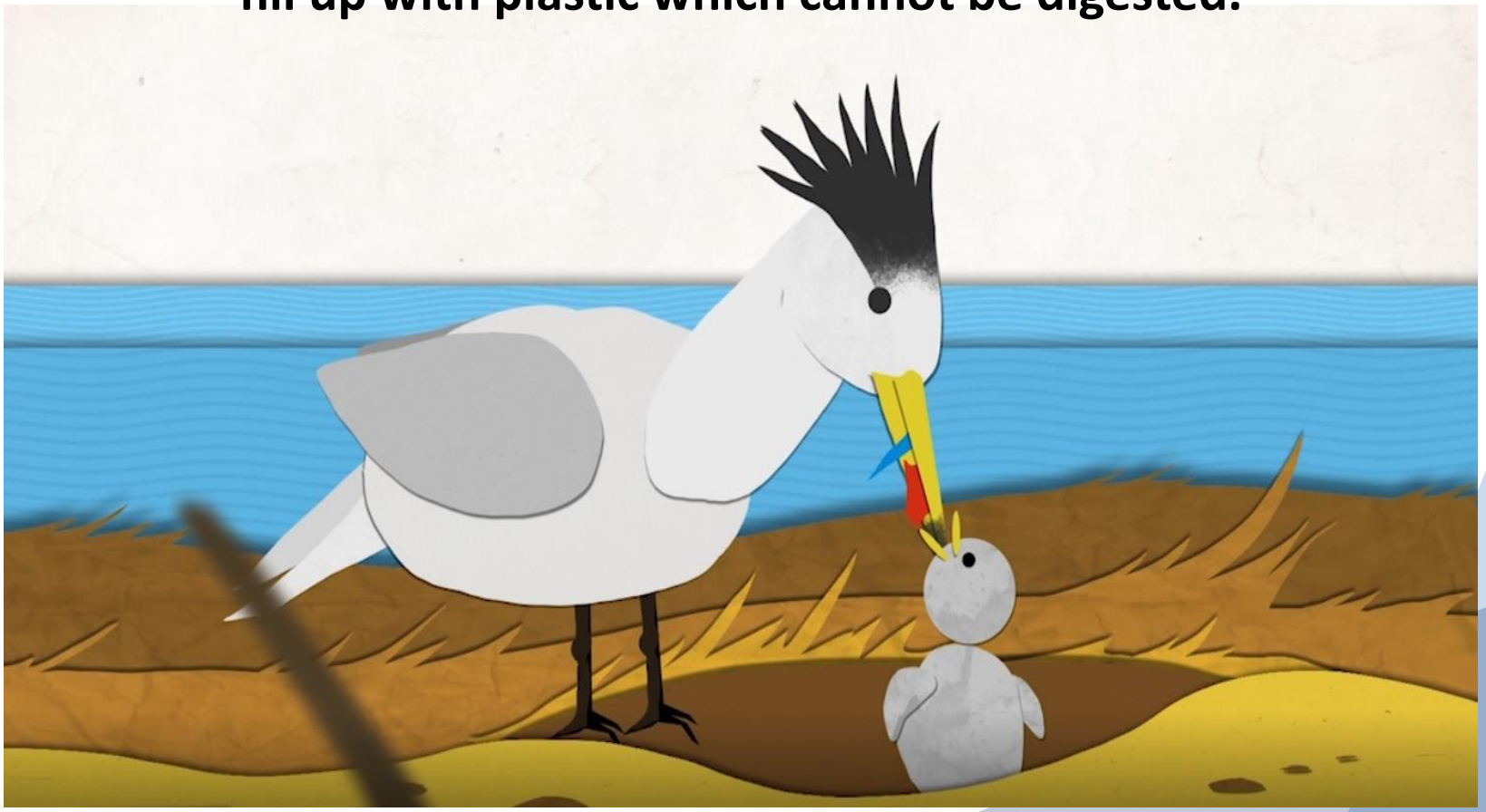
	Seabirds		Freshwater birds		All waterbirds	
	n=147	%	n=69	%	n=216	%
Fishing gear*	128	88%	63	91%	191	88%
Fishing line	114	79%	57	83%	171	79%
Nets and netting	53	36%	12	17%	65	30%
Balloon strings	11	7%	3	4%	14	6%
Kite strings	1	1%	1	1%	2	1%
Other rope/string	16	11%	11	16%	27	13%
Six-pack ring	10	7%	5	7%	15	7%
Packing strap	5	3%	0	0%	5	2%
Bags	9	6%	4	6%	13	6%
Lid rings	5	3%	1	1%	6	3%
Other items	7	5%	8	12%	15	7%

* Fishing line and nets combined

Source: AEWA/MOP 7.28, 2018; Ryan, 2018

Ingestion

Birds sometimes mistake plastic as food, lodging in digestive tracks or causing them to starve to death as their stomachs fill up with plastic which cannot be digested.



Ingestion

- Plastic ingestion is thought to have the greatest impact on birds at a population level

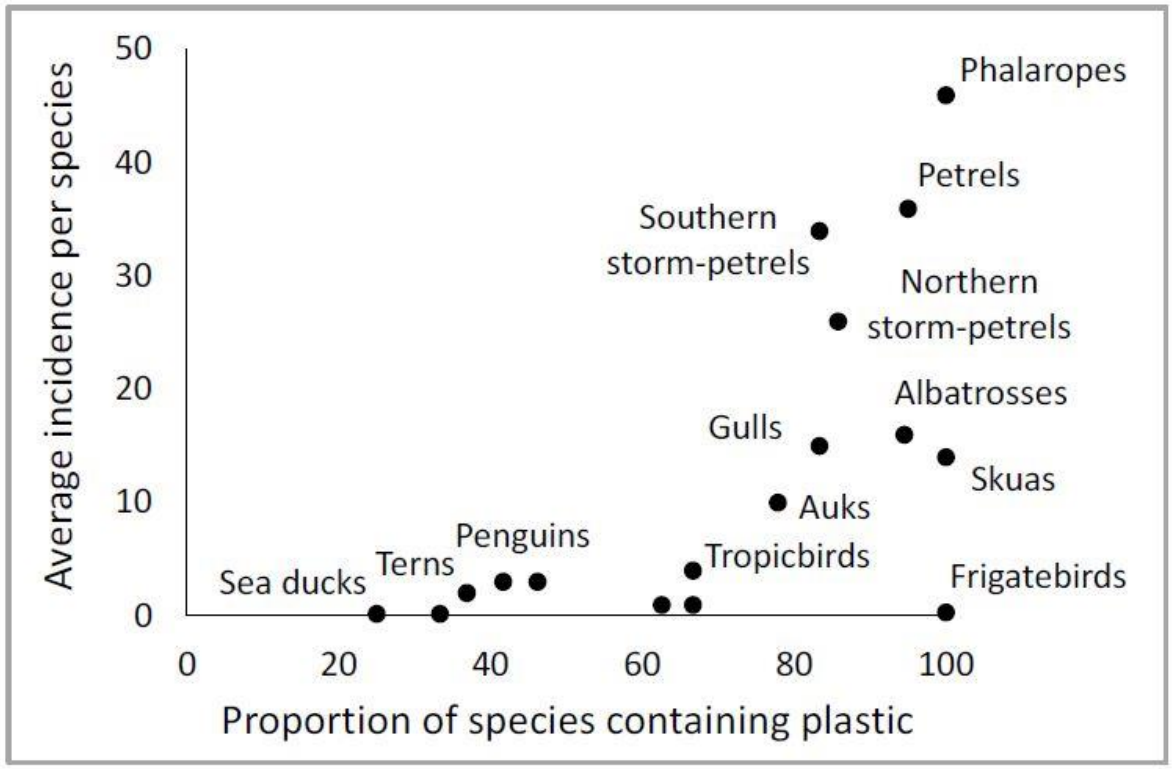


Figure 2. The relationship between the proportion of species in each seabird family or sub-family containing ingested plastic (excluding species not examined) and the average incidence of plastic load per species

Source: AEWA/MOP 7.28 doc. no. 20, 2018; Ryan, 2016

Other threat: Use as nest materials

Broken pieces of that the birds used for making the nest may injure the fragile chicks.

Global campaigns

BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

INDIA 2018

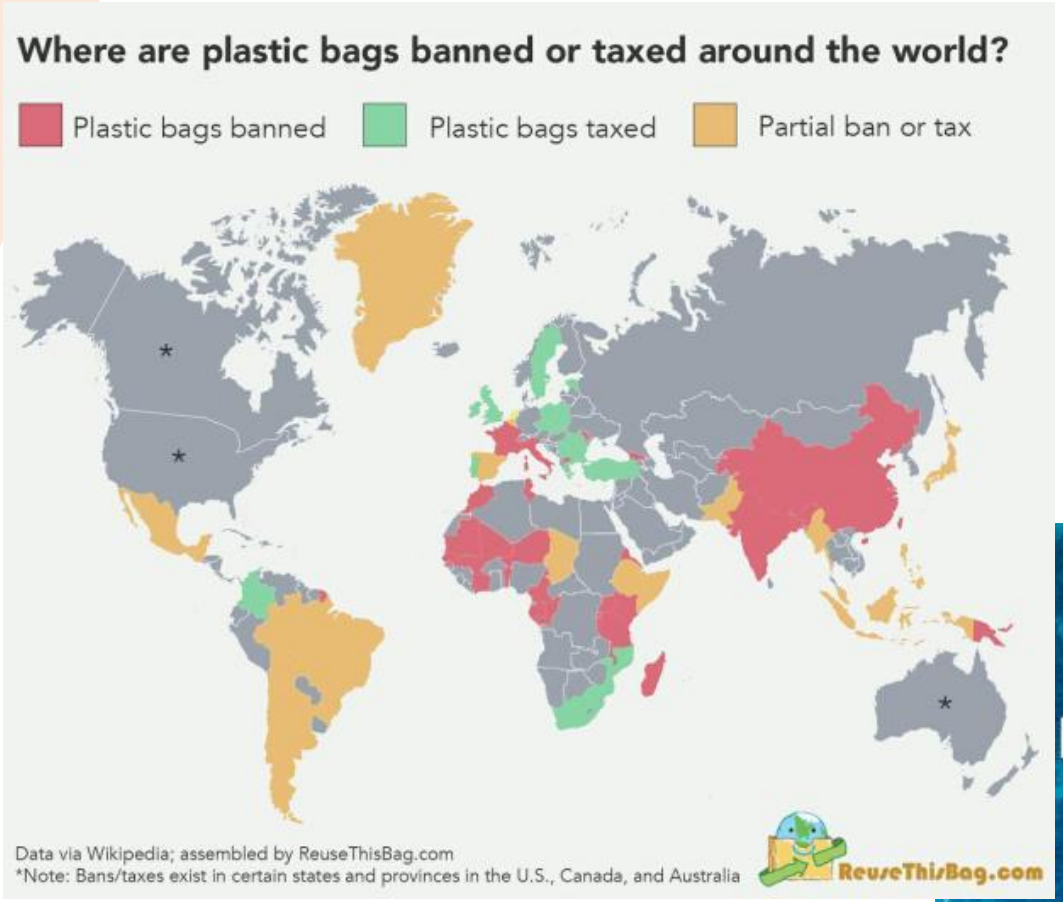
UN environment

clean seas

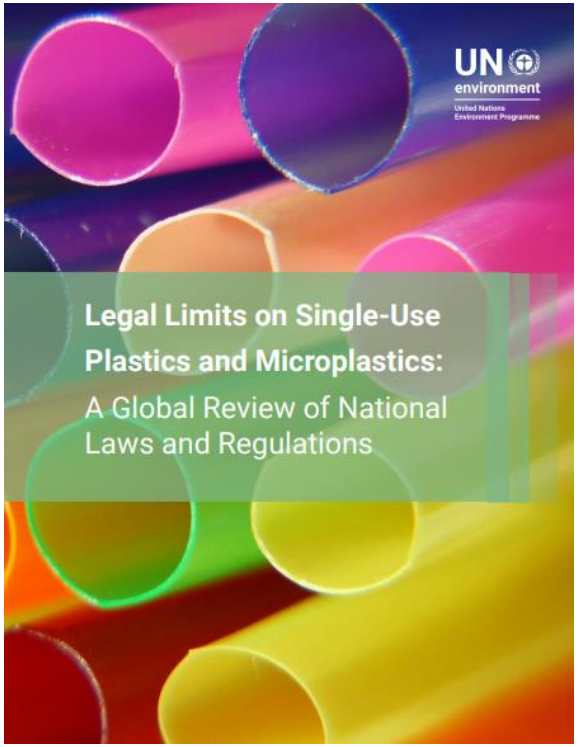
turn the tide on plastic

PLASTIC FREE JULY

Global Policies



Source: Resuethisbag.com



World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)

World Migratory Bird Day

- An annual global awareness-raising campaign
- 2nd Saturdays of May and October
- Three main partners:

CMS AEWA Environment for the Americas

- **2019 theme: Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!**

Thank you for listening
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