

The marine plastic waste problem: reasons for northern Europe and Arctic to take notice



It is estimated that **15%** of marine refuse is floating on the surface, **15%** is washed ashore, and the remaining **70%** sinks and rests on the ocean floor

(Lozano et al., 2009)

Plastic is a durable material that can have a breakdown period **from hundreds to thousands of years.**

Over 8 million tonnes of marine litter end up in the ocean every year.

If no action is taken **155 million tonnes** of plastic may be in the ocean by 2025

(Jambeck et al., 2015)

During this time, it may encounter marine organisms and adversely affect **marine ecosystems.**

REFERENCES

Lozano, R.L. & J. Mouat. 2009. Marine Litter in the North-East Atlantic Region: Assessment and priorities for response. (publication number: 386/2009). KIMO

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