

how do we compare?



- People all over the world are trying to assess the trash that escapes into their communities so they can take effective action to prevent it. There are apps, datasheets, databases, competitive opportunities, photo based efforts, drones, AI, you name it, someone is using it try to figure out how to create the data set for their community. This energy and creativity allow for local solutions, ownership, and pride, but makes comparing between efforts difficult.
- Building a state wide understanding of a problem is tricky, much less a national or international one.

Why ETAP?

Community groups wish to collect data that is meaningful to regulators

Upstream source ID and waste reduction



This is a draft; we would appreciate your input on our wording and our organization.

A Few of the Existing Protocols

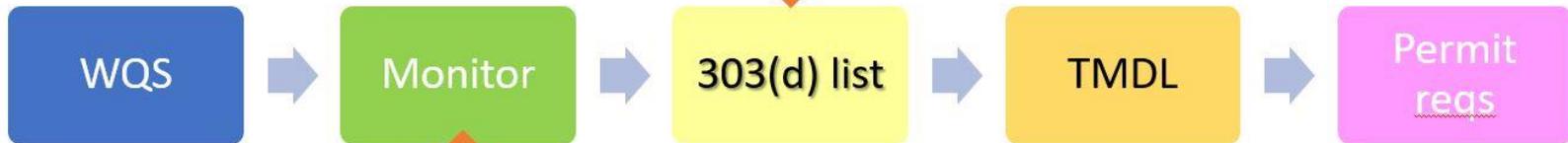
- NOAA – Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project (MDMAP)
- Ocean Conservancy – International Coastal Cleanup
- 5 Gyres – Plastic Beach/Plastic Ocean/Plastic Observe
- COASST (UW) – Marine Debris Survey
- Surfrider – Multiple beach cleanup methods, chapter-based
- Keep America Beautiful – National Visible Litter Survey
- Bay Area Stormwater Management Association (BASMAA) – On-Land Visual Trash Assessment (VTA)
- State of California Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) – Rapid Trash Assessment (RTA)
- Alliance for the Great Lakes – Adopt-A-Beach Litter Monitoring

A Few Existing Data Platforms

- Marine Debris Tracker (NOAA MDP; SEA-MDI)
- Ocean Conservancy – Clean Swell
- Pirika/Takanome
- Litterati
- Global Partnership for Oceans (GPO) – Global Alert

Clean Water Act sequence

EPA is testing listing methodology with the help of the Tulalip Tribes



At present, this step is missing in most jurisdictions. Need methods. EPA's Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol is a possible option

We would have to list every inch of our state!

- Having robust comparable data would make it clear where the problem areas are

We do not have anyone to deal with this

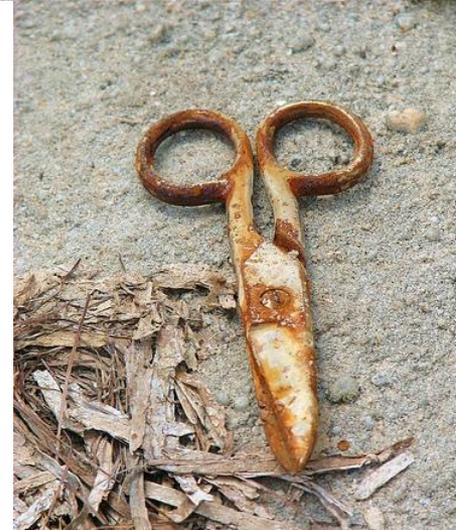
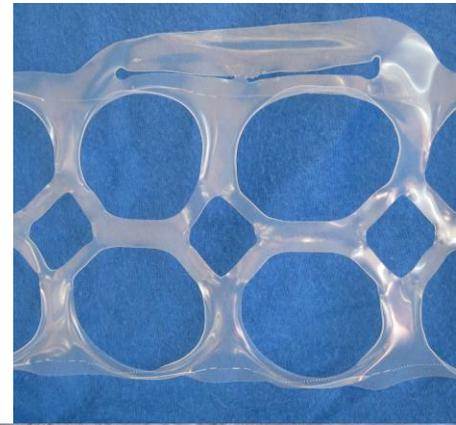
- Community groups are seeking a way to partner with you to solve problems
- If you set up a framework for how you can use the data, then the work can get done by others
- People support agencies they see as effective at problem solving

This is a trash problem, not a water problem

- The ETAP collects data on the threats posed to human and aquatic health by trash
- It is both a water & a trash problem, which can be difficult for bureaucracies, but also can generate an additional set of allies for water quality

So many questions!

- How to assess risk to human and aquatic life?
- Visual score + [(volume of sharps * a risk factor) + (volume of poison and acutely toxic materials * a risk factor) + (volume of plastics * risk factor) + (volume of glass * risk factor) + (volume of medical waste * risk factor) + (volume of everything else)] / area = rating for the site ?



Measurement: Count vs Weight vs Volume

- A piece of a granola bar wrapper – is that 1 if you are counting? How about several pieces of the same wrapper?
- Does a bag of wet, dirty granola bar wrappers weigh the same as dry ones? How big is the bag? If you compact your collection of wrappers, do you compact as much as I do?

