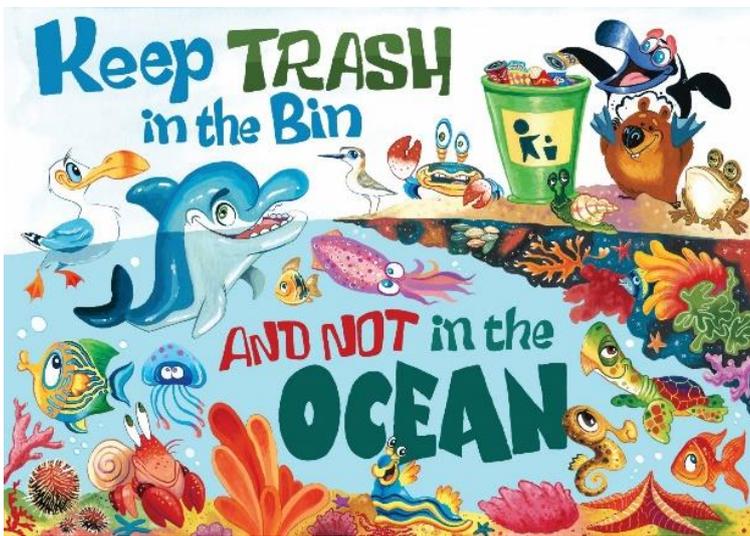




2020

International Coastal Clean-up South Africa



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Ocean Conservancy, Kelpak, African Marine Waste Network, Pick 'n Pay, Plastics|SA, PETCO (PET Recycling Company), POLYCO (Polyolefin Recycling Company), SAVA (SA Vinyls Association) and Polystyrene Association of SA, Packaging SA, Aquelle, Tuffy Manufacturing, Coca-Cola, National Recycling Forum, The Glass Recycling Company, Recycle Paper ZA, Tetrapak, Sasol, Safripol, Dow Chemicals, Fibre Circle, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment.

Plastics|SA





Results of 2020 International Coastal Clean-up

Disclaimer: The International Coastal Clean-up is a “Citizen Science” project and data provided was collected in various ways and might not be scientifically sound but still gives a reflection of the material found during the clean-ups. Where data is flawed, it is discarded and the clean-ups recorded as a “non-audited clean-up.”

For twenty-four years, on every third Saturday in September, South Africans have joined hundreds of thousands of other volunteers globally with the common goal of collecting and documenting the material littering their coastline.

2020 Will be remembered for the restrictions and the fear created by an international pandemic that caused great uncertainty. South Africa was under lockdown “two” during this period with the conditions of lockdown “three” still fresh in everyone’s minds as there were restrictions on the numbers of people that could be in groups, which was complicated by constraints on people on beaches, rivers and dams.

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The 2020 International Coastal Clean-up in South Africa

On Saturday 19 September 2020 (International Coastal Clean-up) and the week prior, South Africa experienced true spring weather. It was sunny and with the relaxation of the Covid restrictions, people were out enjoying the weather and supporting the 24th International Coastal Clean-up and World Clean-up Day in South Africa. Coordinators ensured that all protocols for safe clean-ups were adhered too. Some of the protocols were indeed already in place as sanitation has always been a major factor during national clean-ups.

2020 Volunteer Numbers	
Northern Cape	739
Audited Clean-ups	326
Non Audited Clean-ups	413
Western Cape	6 987
Audited Clean-ups	946
Non Audited Clean-ups	5 486
Eastern Cape	2 747
Audited Clean-ups	330
Non Audited Clean-ups	2 417
Kwazulu Natal	1 222
Audited Clean-Ups	228
Non Audited Clean-Ups	994

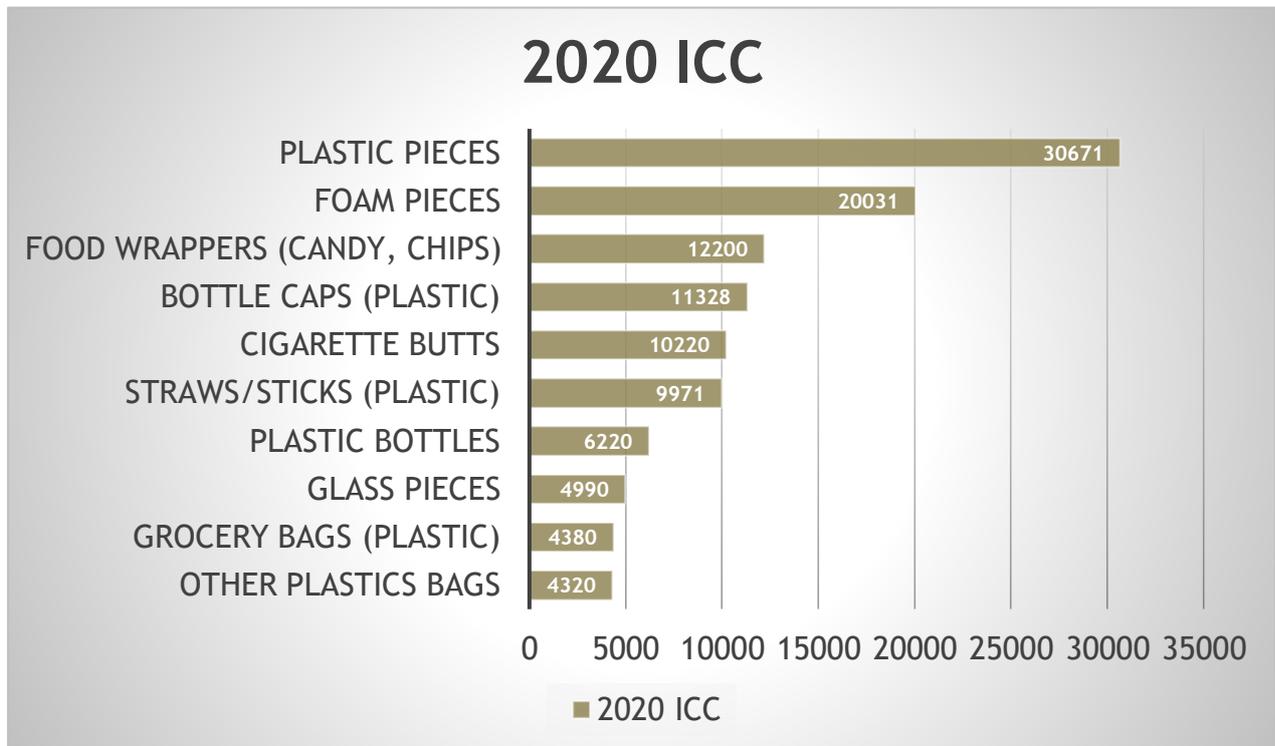


Total volunteers in South Africa – 11 695

Site data is available at <http://www.coastalcleanupdata.org/>



Top ten items collected in 2020 nationally



Conclusion

The need for a standard platform to record data is the foremost goal for the 2021 clean-up. 2020 was the last time that data cards were used on a large scale although there will be some small pockets still using the data cards due to poor signal strength or no link to any mobile service.

This year was a challenge, thanks to the outbreak of COVID-19. The concern around numbers in groups and which areas could and couldn't be visited, was a national deterrent to attending clean-ups. As we envisage that the pandemic will still be with us during the 2021 clean-up, we will hopefully have learnt a lot and we won't face the same issues again.

Volunteer clean-ups are increasing in South Africa so the need for the International Coastal Clean-up was reaffirmed with the 2020 clean-up as the conduit for logistical material for various groups and individuals to ensure that they can partake in further clean-ups during the year.

The next International Coastal Clean-up takes place on Saturday **18 September 2021**.

John Kieser
National Coordinator

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