

# FACTSHEET

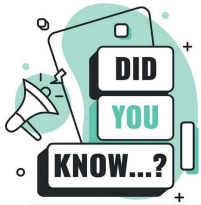
## PLASTIC POLLUTION & MARINE MAMMALS



INFORM | AWARENESS | UNDERSTAND



## THE FACTS



- 🐬 Globally, **100,000 marine mammals die every year** as a result of plastic pollution. This includes whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals and sea lions.
- 🐬 The **declining health of ocean-going mammals**, especially the increase in various cancers, sends an undeniable message to humans. **Marine mammals are therefore showing us our future – unless we change our ways.**

Only 3% of the 500 billion plastic bags produced every year, get recycled?



Marine mammals are showing us our future – we need to change our ways.

- 🐬 Just like us, **marine mammals can't breathe underwater**, and the most common way that entanglement kills is through drowning.
- 🐬 It's estimated that **56% of the planet's whale, dolphin and porpoise species have consumed plastic** as their sophisticated use of sonar confuses plastic pollution as food.

- 🐬 An estimated **640,000 tonnes** of the 12 million tonnes of plastic that enters the oceans every year is so-called ghost fishing equipment, gear that's either deliberately jettisoned or washed from ships or shorelines.

If you share our vision of eliminating plastic pollution in our oceans and preserving them for future generations to enjoy, then you can

## GET INVOLVED

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## A PLASTIC BAG, FULL OF WATER

can look a lot like squid, or other prey, to the **SEALS & MARINE MAMMALS** that hunt them

## 12.7 million tonnes

of **PLASTIC WASTE** produced each year ends up in our **OCEANS**

Source: Greenpeace

## PLASTIC POLLUTION

causes unnecessary deaths in marine mammals through **suffocation, starvation and drowning**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- 🐬 Use **YOUR OWN** cutlery, food containers and drink cups when getting takeaway, rather than using disposable alternatives.

- 🐬 **ASK YOURSELF**, "Do I really need a **straw** with my drink?"

- 🐬 **RECYCLE** everything you can.

- 🐬 **JOIN IN** with beach or community clean-ups.