

HOLD NORGE RENT



**Marine litter in the Arctic:
Results from three years of citizen science**

Arctic Plastics Symposium 23

Malin Stapnes Dahl
Project manager marine litter

The Arctic Cleanup

- Part of PAME
- Collaboration with Ocean Conservancy
- Started in 2021
- Main goals:
 - CONNECT with voluntary groups in Arctic areas
 - ENGAGE these groups to do cleanups
 - Gain KNOWLEDGE about litter in the Arctics





Focus areas

- Norway
- Iceland
- Greenland
- Alaska

The importance of engaging locals

- Essence of Arctic Cleanup
- Give the locals the tools they need
- Local anchoring
- 2021-2023: Over 40 different local actors



Arctic data form

- Based on ICC protocol (OC)
- Adapted together with Arctic actors
- Easy to use vs quality data we need
- «Not another protocol»

ARCTIC OCEAN TRASH DATA FORM

Thank you for tracking your cleanup with this data card customized for the Arctic Region. While cleaning up, please be mindful of the unique circumstances of your location, from sensitive habitat to cultural and/or historic items that should not be removed. This card allows you to record collected debris in a number of ways: by item count, by weight or by volume (filled bags). You do not need to report all of these measurements – choose which method works best for your group and circumstances. Thank you for making an impact and contributing to the world's largest ocean plastics database.

HERE IS HOW IT WORKS:

1 CLEAN UP TRASH & COLLECT DATA

2 ORGANIZE & ANALYZE DATA

3 PUBLISH RESULTS

4 INFORM SOLUTIONS & REDUCE OUR IMPACT

NAME: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	EMAIL: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
DATE OF CLEANUP: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS WORKING ON THIS CARD: adults: <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/> children (under 12): <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>

CLEANUP SITE DESCRIPTION	SITE INFORMATION
Type of Environment (choose one): <input type="radio"/> Saltwater (ocean/bay/estuary) <input type="radio"/> Freshwater (river/stream/lake) <input type="radio"/> Inland (no water body present)	Cleanup Site Name: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> State or Province: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> Country: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> Zone or County: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> Nearest Crossroad or Landmark: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
Mode of Data Collection (choose one): <input type="radio"/> Land (beach/shoreline/inland) <input type="radio"/> Underwater <input type="radio"/> Watercraft (powerboat/sailboat/kayak/canoe)	

POST-CLEANUP COMMENTS

General comments:	Fouled debris or debris with clear animal bite marks:
Notable brands or source identification:	Items not removed (hazardous material, items of cultural or historical significance):

DEAD/INJURED ANIMAL	STATUS	ENTANGLED	TYPE OF ENTANGLEMENT ITEM
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Dead or Injured	Yes or No	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

40 968

Number of kg collects






346 000

Number of meters cleaned






111 171

Number of items registered

Topp 5 items, by count numbers

1	Plastic/foam pieces > 2.5 cm	69%	
2	Packaging/strapping bands	6%	
3	Line & Rope	4%	
4	Other plastic waste (fisheries)	3%	
5	Fishing line	2%	

Topp 5 items, by presence on cleanup

	1	Beverage bottles (plastic)	80%
	2	Line & Rope	80%
	3	Boys/floats (hard plastic)	71%
	4	Food wrappers (candy etc.)	67%
	5	Plastic bottles (cans, oils)	64%

Lessons learned

- Take the time to give proper training
- Local coordinators are essential
- Cleanups are extra hard in the Arctics!
 - Bad weather
 - Remote areas
 - Waste management



Plans for 2024

- Expand the focus areas
- Increase the data collection
- Focus more on origin of litter and sources



The background of the slide is a photograph of three people in rain gear standing on a rocky beach, looking out at the ocean. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic is overlaid on the image, with a white border and a light blue-to-white gradient. The text is centered within this circle.

Thank you!

Questions or want to be a part of the Arctic Cleanup project?
Contact me at malin@holdnogerent.no