

A scenic photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the water's surface. The sky is a mix of soft oranges, yellows, and blues. In the foreground, the ocean's surface is covered in white, frothy waves that catch the light. The overall mood is peaceful and inspiring.

IMPACTS

MOTIVATE ACTION

XPLORE 2015

REGISTRANT NO. 201517

"The ocean is the lifeblood of our world. If we were to lose our fish that we appreciate so much by overfishing; or if we were to lose some of our favorite beaches to overbuilding and pollution, then how would we feel? It's become a case of not knowing what you've got until it's gone." - Aaron Perisol

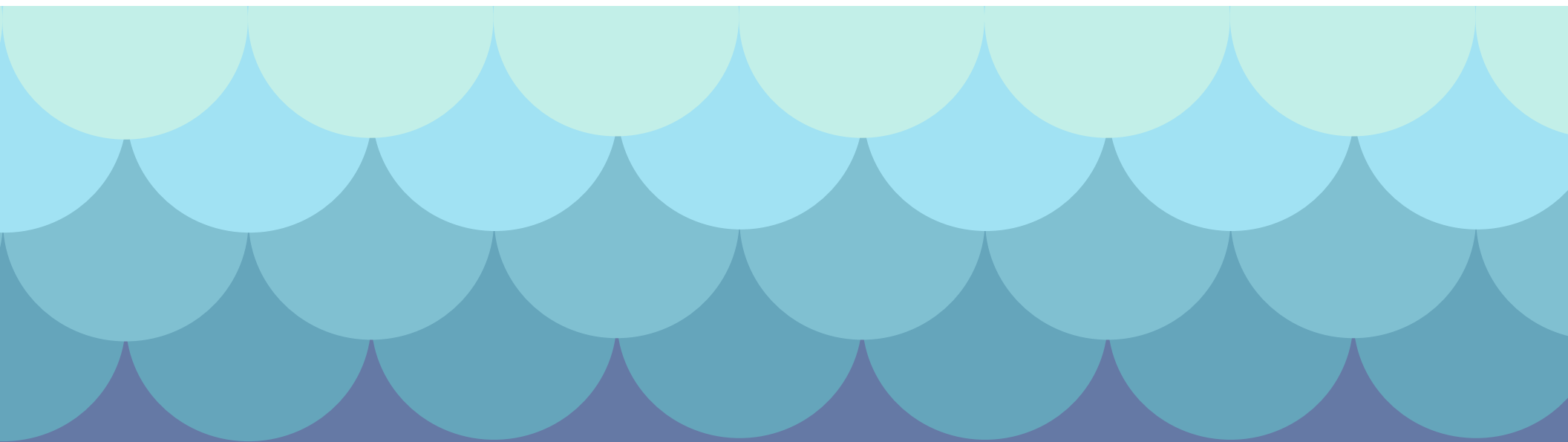
There are many things that are constant and the most important of them is **Change**. It's inevitable. It happens whether we like it or not. It happens when we least expect it, and it happens sometimes in the blink of an eye.

For the most part, change can be great. We grow as humans and as a society. We become more heartfelt, more aware, more alive, and awake. However, alongside the positives of change, there are negatives. One of the negatives we face in this century, and potentially the centuries that follow, is the abundance of waste that we create and cannot properly dispose of.

Our oceans, over the course of the last few decades, have become more littered by trash and debris than anyone could have ever expected. It's developing into a dire situation.

The even worse news is that the tonnage of trash is on target to increase tenfold in the next decade unless the world finds a way to improve how garbage is collected and managed.

While I can't erase the past or predict the future, the one thing I am certain of is that one small change in the right direction can lead to big impacts for many generations to come.



Let's take care of the Earth for the future of our children!

STOP Trashing our Oceans

CHEMICALS

PESTICIDES

PLASTICS

DIOXINS

TOXINS

SAVE
the
EARTH



The Problem: Pacific Ocean or Plastic Ocean?

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a collection of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean. Marine debris is litter that ends up in oceans, seas, and other large bodies of water.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, also known as the Pacific trash vortex, spans waters from the West Coast of North America to Japan. The patch is actually comprised of the Western Garbage Patch, located near Japan, and the Eastern Garbage Patch, located between the U.S. States of Hawaii and California.

The area in the center of a gyre tends to be very calm and stable. The circular motion of the gyre draws debris into this stable center, where it becomes trapped. A plastic water bottle discarded off the coast of California, for instance, takes the California Current south toward Mexico. There, it may catch the North Equatorial Current, which crosses the vast Pacific.

Near the coast of Japan, the bottle may travel north on the powerful Kuroshiro Current. Finally, the bottle travels westward on the North Pacific Current. The gently rolling vortexes of the Eastern and Western Garbage Patches gradually draw in the bottle.

The amount of debris in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch accumulates because much of it is not biodegradable. Many plastics, for instance, do not wear down; they simply break into tinier and tinier pieces.

TOP 10 ITEMS FOUND



1 2,117,931
cigarettes / cigarette filters



6 692,767
cups, plates, forks,
knives, spoons



2 1,140,222
food wrappers / containers



7 611,048
straws, stirrers



3 1,065,171
beverage bottles (plastic)



8 521,730
beverage bottles (glass)



4 1,019,902
bags (plastic)



9 339,875
beverage cans



5 958,893
caps, lids



10 298,332
bags (paper)



HOW LONG UNTIL IT'S GONE?

Estimated decomposition rates of common marine debris items



Estimated individual item timelines depend on product composition and environmental conditions.

Source: NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), US / Woods Hole Sea Grant, US
Graphics: Oliver Lude / Museum für Gestaltung Zürich, ZHdK



WHAT GOES IN THE OCEAN GOES IN YOU.

RECENT STUDIES ESTIMATE THAT FISH OFF THE WEST COAST INGEST
OVER 12,000 TONS OF PLASTIC A YEAR. FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP
TURN THE TIDE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AT WWW.SURFRIDER.ORG/RAP

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Source: Darden R. Auer, PhD (2011) Plastic Ingestion by Marine Mammals in the North Pacific
Biology Letters, Royal Society Publishing 4(2): 175-180



80 %

Of trash in the ocean is
produced on land and has
a direct impact on wildlife
habitats that depend on this
vital ecosystem to sustain life.

12k

What goes in the ocean goes in
our food. Studies estimate that
fish off the West Coast ingest
over 12,800 tons
of plastic a year.

211,460 Miles

Hundreds of Thousands of
miles of the Earth's coastal
beaches are littered with
garbage.

My Proposal

My proposal is simple and unfortunately it doesn't entail the end of all pollution and debris scattered along our coasts, but it's a great start.

My proposal offers to include myself and my family on a journey up our beautiful California Coasts, collecting bags of waste and garbage per family member, at each beach we stop at. That's a minimum of 4 bags of trash removed from one beach, at various different beaches per day.

A small start can create a large impact. I'm one person showing my family that a little extra goes a long way. That doing our part and picking up after ourselves can help us sustain our beautiful oceans.



1 FAMILY 4 BAGS OF TRASH 4 BEACHES
MEMBERS

32 BAGS OF TRASH
PER DAY



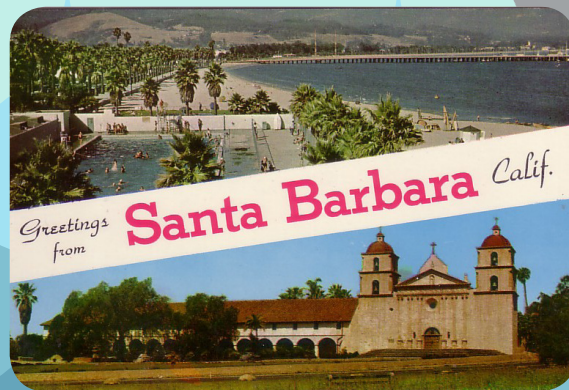
Impact Motivates Change...

A small change from our everyday life, can have lasting impacts on our following generations.





Where are we going?



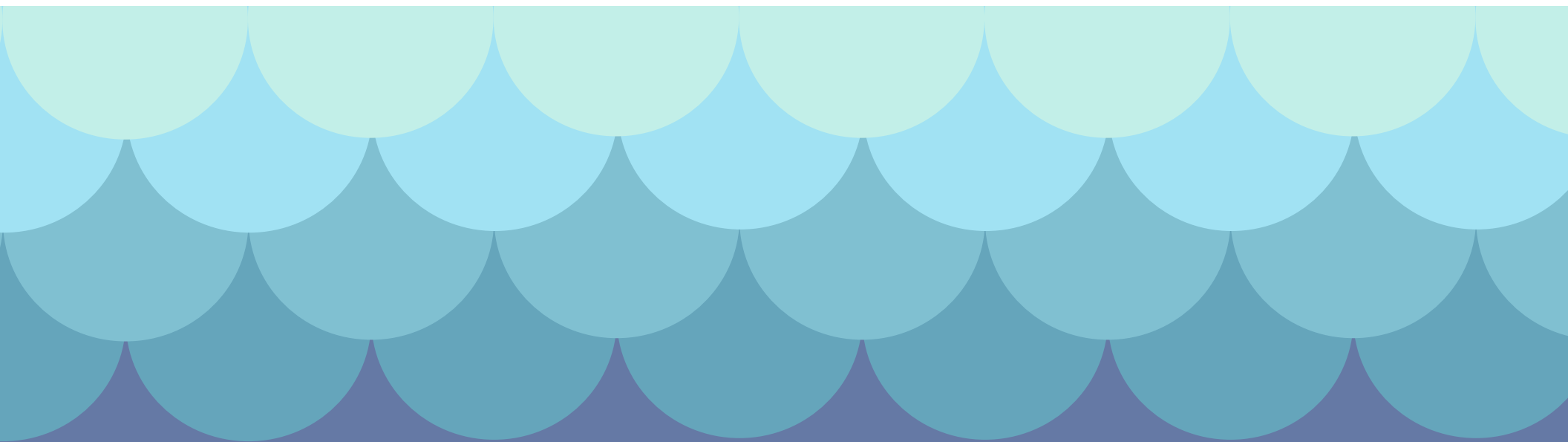
Whats the Plan...?

It's pointless to take this journey if this journey
can't be shared with others,
or better yet to inspire others into action.

When I return from this trip, I will have documented the amount
of trash that we have collected with pictures of the shores and
the trash we have collected.

I will present my coworkers with my plan to start an annual
trash collection day that we can all participate in to help clean
up our shores and beaches.

My intention is to get people involved.
To inspire my coworkers to think twice about the amount of
trash they create, and how a small change can have a lasting
positive result.



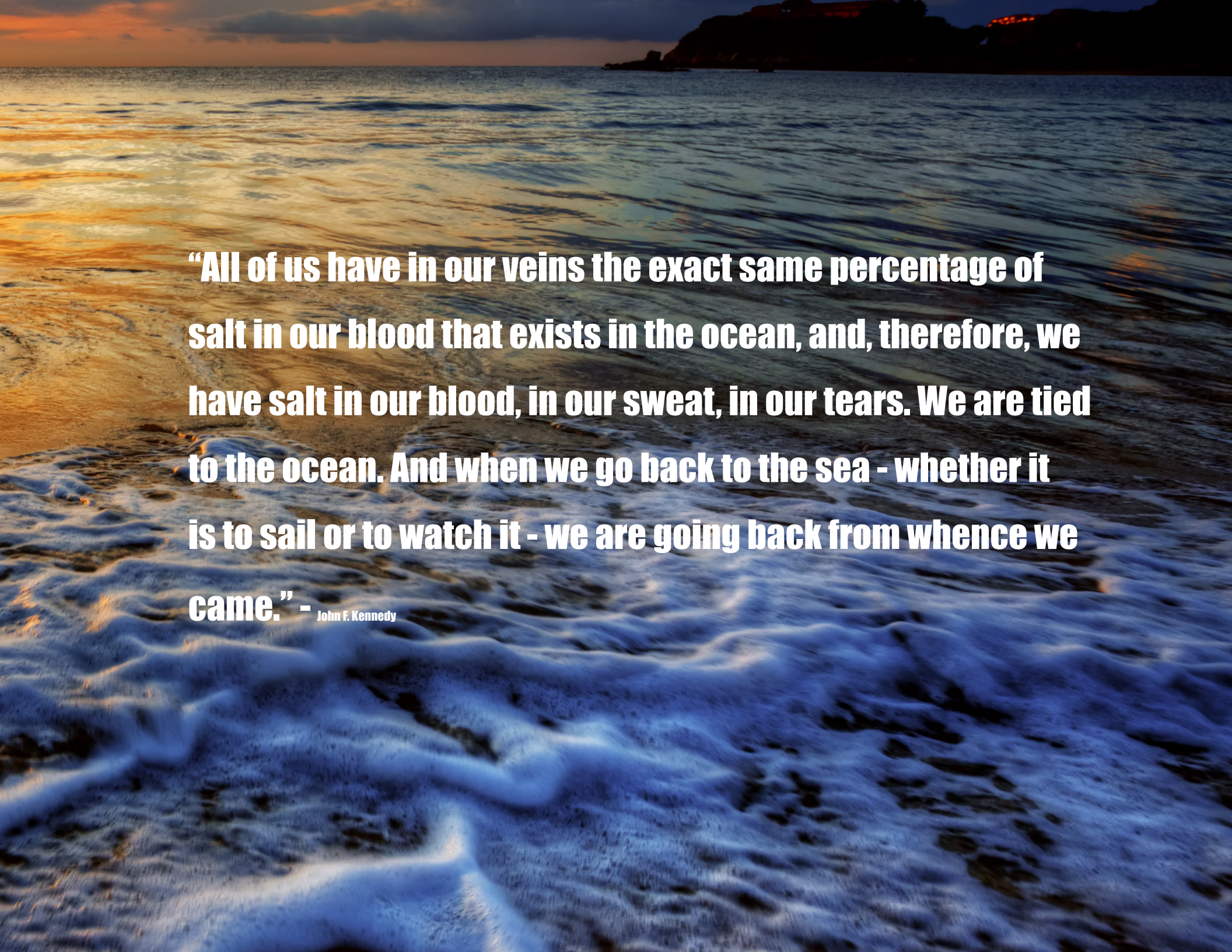
How Change can make an Impact...

Throughout this journey up the coast of California, I will take pictures of how many bags we have collected per beach site, per day.

I'd like to show my coworkers how small changes, like picking up after ourselves on a beach trip, can help eliminate some of the waste and debris that ends up in our oceans.

Additionally, I would like to arrange a company wide annual "Stop Trashing Our Beach Day", where everyone who wants to participate can meet up at a beach, spending the day cleaning up our shores, and afterwards have a BBQ and Bonfire.

I believe these small changes can eventually rid the oceans of some of the waste and debris that is currently destroying them.

A photograph of a beach at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and dark blue. The ocean is dark blue with white foam from waves crashing onto the shore. The sand is wet and reflects the light from the sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

“All of us have in our veins the exact same percentage of salt in our blood that exists in the ocean, and, therefore, we have salt in our blood, in our sweat, in our tears. We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea - whether it is to sail or to watch it - we are going back from whence we came.” - John F. Kennedy

**Thank you for your time and
consideration.**

Xplore Registrant No. 201517

