

In 2018 Southern Cross University scientists conducted a review of the research literature around marine debris in New South Wales. The review looked at the most common marine litter items across a range of habitats from beaches and estuaries to under water and the open ocean.

91%
of marine
debris is plastic

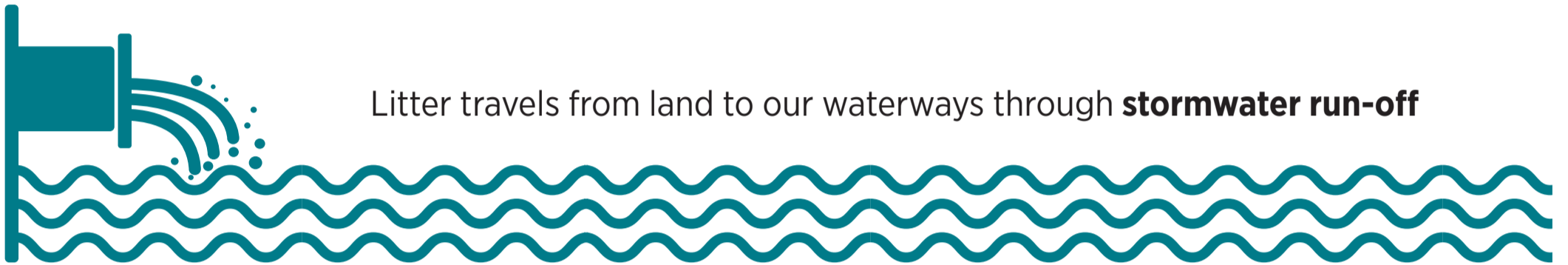
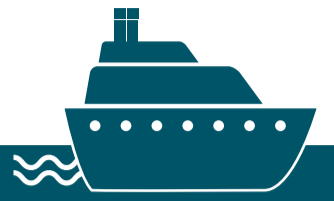
Microplastics
are the most
common
marine debris



67%
of underwater
litter is fishing
tackle



Plastic bottles
littered from ships
are common in the
open ocean



Litter travels from land to our waterways through **stormwater run-off**



For every piece of litter on land, **9 times** more are in our waterways



Cigarettes are the most littered item on our **beaches**



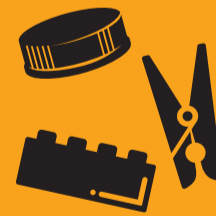
followed by



plastic food
packaging



soft plastics



and small
plastic bits

Common litter items in estuaries are



glass
fragments



styrofoam
pieces



soft and
hard plastics

