

Millions of people around the globe are going “plastic free” this July in order to both raise awareness of this massive problem as well as fight plastic pollution. And in this month of the combat against plastic Greenpeace Croatia found a rather novel, and extremely effective, way to highlight the terrible problem of plastic pollution of our seas and oceans.

As part of the fight against single use plastics Greenpeace today unveiled a six-metre high sculpture of whales emerging from a sea of plastic waste in the Istrian town of Umag. They also pushed for an international day without plastic bags and have started a petition for the total ban on plastic bags, which so far has been signed by more than 50,000 citizens in just a few months.

Single-use plastics, or disposable plastics, are used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These items are things like plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, soda and water bottles and most food packaging. And these very items are clogging the earth’s oceans and seas.

“July was declared as the month of the fight against plastic, so we wanted to show off its damaging impact on the sea world in a picturesque manner,” commented Petra Andric, the head of Greenpeace Croatia anti-plastic campaign. She added that “Plastic pollution on the beaches are only a small part of the pollution, most of the plastic that falls into the sea sinks to the bottom and creates terrible consequences for life in the sea, animals can be stuck in it, suffocate or eat it.”

The news about marine animals affected by plastic is getting more and more common, and the findings of recent research are also a concern. For example, recently 102 turtles were examined in the Mediterranean, the Pacific, and the Atlantic and everyone one of them had some form of micro-plastic inside them.

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