OceanGybe Beach Pollution Study

Location: Amos Creek, Brookes Peninsula, Vancouver Island, BC, Canada
Latitude: 50º 04.8' N
Longitude: 127º 49.2' W

Local Geography: The western tip of the Brookes Peninsula sits as close to the continental shelf as is possible on Vancouver Island. The mountains plunge steeply down into the ocean. Beach has a stream on it, but due to the fact that no-one lives upriver, this play no additional depositional role, perhaps it actually helps clean the beach.

Local Population Size: None. Closest area of habitation is Winter Harbour - approximately 100km away.

Study Location Description: Flat gravel/sand area towards the mouth of the river. Approximately ½ of the area was heavily covered with drift wood and therefor impossible to collect all the plastic debris.

Study Area: 100m X 3m = $300m^2$

Pollution:

- Plastic fishing floats: 3
- foam fishing floats: 2
- fin for outboard motor: 1
- 2-3 foot short pieces of plastic pipe: 3
- 12 foot thin plastic pipe: 1
- pieces of mesh: 4
- rubbermaid plastic lid: 1
- small piece of foam: 1
- shotgun shells: 3
- crab bait bucket: 1
- heavy piece of plastic ceramic thing: 1
- 5-10cm smaller pieces of random plastic: 15
- 10-20cm larger pieces of random pieces: 9
- tube of brand new caulking sealant with Japanese writing: 1
- large yogurt container from USA: 1
- food containers: 4
- large jerry gas can: 1

gallon oil can with bite marks: 1
bottle caps: 2
spray bottle lid: 1
random lid: 1
giant lid from a random container: 1
plastic drinking bottles: 13
other liquid plastic container: 8
crates and/or pieces of crates: 7
~ 100metres or 40kg of a lot of rope and net

Pollution Density: 75 pieces / 300m^2 = 0.25 pieces/m^2

Notes: This beach was extremely polluted however the large logs in the study area and the size of each piece of plastic distorts the pieces/m^2 reading. One of the most polluted beach on the entire voyage thus far. The 100m or 40 kg of PP rope not used in final calculation.