

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 3rd, 2025 Contact: Sam Cutcliffe BC Marine Trails (902) 213-3039 scutcliffe@bcmarinetrails.org

## Two New Marine Debris Drop Zones Installed in Quatsino Sound

**Quatsino Sound, Vancouver Island** — BC Marine Trails (BCMT), in collaboration with the Quatsino Nation and Ocean Legacy Foundation, have installed two new marine debris drop zones at Cape Palmerston Recreation Site and Grant Bay. These sites will serve as collection points for shoreline debris gathered by recreational users, with Ocean Legacy coordinating the removal and recycling of collected materials.

The drop zones are designed to support responsible recreation by providing a place for paddlers, boaters, and hikers to concentrate debris they find on the nearby coast. They are not intended for the disposal of camp garbage, with signage clearly indicating as such.

By expanding this drop zone program to Quatsino Sound, BCMT and its partners are working to make marine debris removal a routine part of coastal recreation. The drop zones are part of a growing network across BC's coast, connecting visitors and stewardship organizations in the effort to protect sensitive coastal sites.

All collected debris will be transported to Ocean Legacy's processing facility where recyclable materials will be recovered and the remainder sent to landfill. The initiative underscores the value of collaborative, community-led stewardship in maintaining the health and beauty of BC's coastline.

For more information about BC Marine Trails and Ocean Legacy, visit <u>bcmarinetrails.org</u> and <u>oceanlegacy.ca</u>

Find photos of the new drop zones <u>here</u>. Credit to Ashley Tapp, Ocean Legacy.

## Quotes

"Galvanizing recreationists to help in the fight against marine debris is crucial. As thousands of individuals visit the BC coast annually, we are working to give them the power to make a difference."

- Sam Cutcliffe, BC Marine Trails, Stewardship & Communications Coordinator

"Ocean Legacy, along with BC Marine Trails are creating a simple circular model that links wilderness beaches to real recycling outcomes- diverting plastic away from sensitive ecosystems and landfills. This program gives paddlers and outdoor enthusiasts an easy way to remove plastics from shorelines and recirculate these resources back into the circular economy."

- Ashley Tapp, Ocean Legacy, Field & Facility Specialist

## **Secondary contact**

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