

Panel 30

WORKING TOGETHER

From the origin of the Save the Whales movement to today's ocean cleanup programs, people are working to re-establish and protect marine habitat. A clean ocean benefits all life.

As the sole source of pollution, humans have an obligation to change our behaviour and restore ocean health. The smallest individual act can have unexpected, far-reaching results.

Here are a few initiatives that are already under way.

The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, Ocean Wise, Hope Spots, Mission Blue, Project Aware and the **US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** are organizations developing projects with a global scope. These organizations foster an appreciation for marine life, help develop processes, policy and laws to help reduce our impact on the planet, and develop and protect spaces critical to the survival of species at risk of extinction.

If your interests are focused on orcas, look for projects by the **Center for Whale Research**, the **BC Cetacean Sightings Network**, **Orca Research Trust**, **Project O.R.C.A. (Orca Research and Conservation Australia)** and **ORCA**. These organizations work to protect whales and their habitat, inspiring everyone to help with marine conservation.

Perhaps you prefer to support the rehabilitation and release of captive orcas and other marine mammals? **Empty the Tanks, Whale and Dolphin Conservation - End Captivity** and the **International Marine Mammal Project** work against the confinement of whales and support the creation of seaside retirement facilities for captive whales.

And if you think pollution is our biggest issue, projects like the **Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup**, **Fighting for Trash Free Seas** and **Global Beach Cleanup** empower and support communities in their efforts to remove litter and document the types of trash polluting coastlines around the world.

Find a project you like and join in. Everyone can make a difference.

Act locally. Think Globally.