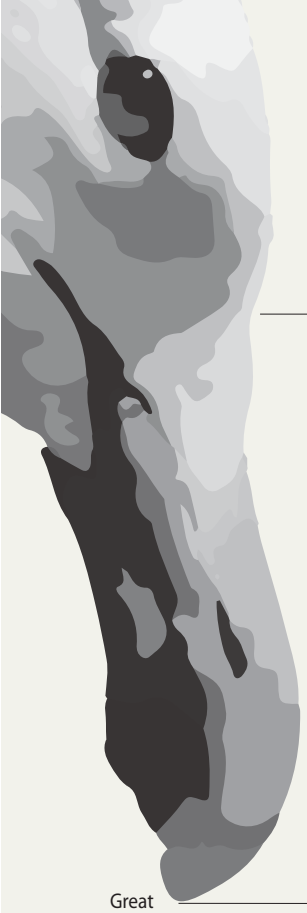
Size does matter



Great black-backed gull

Plastic bottle cap

28 mm

77 mm

6 mm

Cigarette filter

Polystyrene pellets

3 mm

2 mm

1 mm

Debris size category

Animal groups affected by entanglement, suffocation and/or ingestion

MEGA

1 metre

MACRO

Whales, seals, dolphins, turtles, birds

2.5 centimetre

Birds, fish, invertebrates

MESO

5 millimetre

MICRO

Fish, invertebrates, other filter feeders

1 micron*

Particle invisible to naked eye

Invertebrates, other filter feeders

NANO

Source: GESAMP, Sources, fate and effects of microplastics in the marine environment: A global assessment, 2015

* one thousandth of a millimetre