

Marine Activists raise awareness of plastic vortex

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Here's a question, have you ever heard of the Plastic Vortex? If not, do not be surprised, as most of the people involved in trying to deal with it now had not heard of it until at least two years ago. The Plastic Vortex is the name given to part of the Pacific Ocean covering an area estimated to be twice the size of the US state of Texas, where the discarded plastic and other synthetics from around the world ends up. It's in international waters outside shipping lanes and is having a negative impact on sealife and ecology.

Over the past two years a group of marine scientists and activists have been measuring the scale of the vortex and looking for ways to control it. They call themselves "Project Kaisei" and one of its coordinators is Doug Woodring, based in Hong Kong. Right now he is in Melbourne Australia raising awareness of the vortex.

Presenter: Campbell Cooney Speaker: Doug Woodring from Project Kaisei

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