

NURDLE —NEWS—

FINDINGS

We're seeking eager volunteers to help us carry out nurdle hunts all around Scotland's coastline - and beyond! We'd love to hear from you if you've found nurdles on your local beach – even if you've looked and can't find any. Nurdles are easily blown by winds, tides and currents so their presence may vary day to day, or perhaps they don't collect there at all. Either way we'd like to know. Have a look on our website for some [tips to help you hunt](#).



TOP FIND

Thousands of nurdles were spotted by one intrepid hunter on a beach near Irvine, North Ayrshire.



NURDLES ABROAD

Our very own international nurdle hunter joined [Fauna & Flora International](#) to visit some keen Dutch nurdle seekers from The Plastic Soup Foundation. With FFI's support, [Plastic Soup Foundation](#) wants to assess the scale of plastic pellet loss in the Westerschelde, a 200km long tidal estuary that straddles the Dutch-Belgian border. We are looking forward to seeing how their sightings compare to the Firth of Forth. Look out for their results on our [nurdle map](#).

INDUSTRY

Over the past few months, we've had some really encouraging discussions with companies based around the Firth of Forth. The positive action of these companies will show others what can be achieved, both in the area and across Scotland. We'd love the trade organisations and representatives from the transport and shipping industries to get engaged too. They will be critical in raising awareness with their members.

SCIENCE

A recent scientific study estimates that 90% of the world's seabirds are likely to have pieces of plastic in their guts; furthermore nearly every seabird may be eating plastic by 2050.

Wilcox, Van Sebille and Hardesty. [Threat of plastic pollution to seabirds is global, pervasive, and increasing](#). Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences: July 2015.



NURDLES IN THE NEWS

[Recycling and Waste World](#)'s August edition featured a nurdles article on their front page. [The Independent](#), The Sunday Times and [The Ecologist](#) were some of the publications to report on a large spill of black and grey pellets on Cornwall beaches.

SUPPORTERS

A big thank you to all our existing supporters for their on-going help; and we'd like to thank our new supporters: Scottish Wildlife Trust, the Highland Biodiversity Seashore Project and the John Muir Trust – we look forward to working with you.



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