

MDMAP Data Analysis: Understanding your Standing-Stock Figures

This document describes each of the figures created by the MDMAP Data Analysis Template – Standing-Stock (SS) Surveys.

After you copy/paste your data and follow the instructions in tabs 1 and 2, your figures will appear in the last two tabs. In tab 3. *Figures - Debris Counts*, the data displayed are the number of debris items counted over the four 5-meter transects surveyed. In tab 4. *Figures - Debris Concentrations*, the data displayed are the debris concentration values (# of items/m²). Three figures are created in each of the figure tabs (for a total of 6 figures):

Tab 3: The figures in tab 3 (Figures 1-3 below) provide the total debris counts (y-axis) per monthly survey (x-axis).

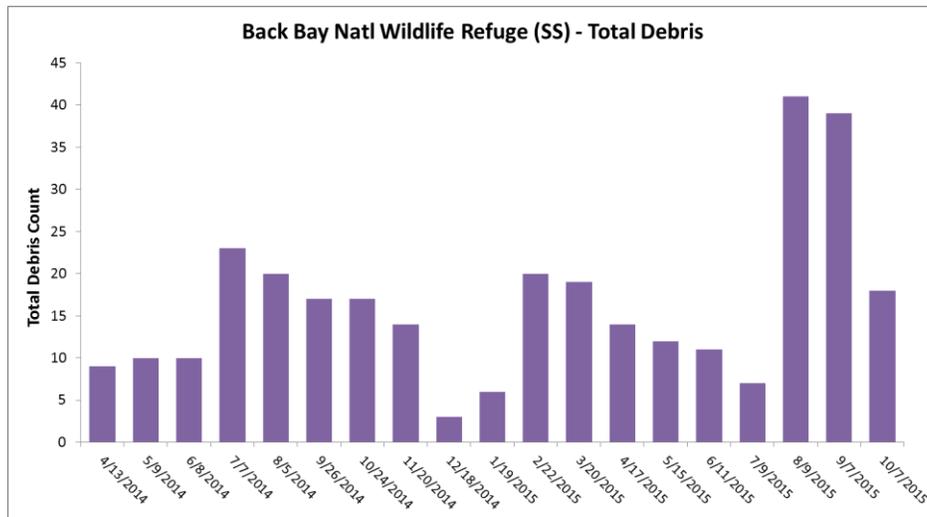


Figure 1: Total debris counts for all four transects combined.

Total Debris Counts: Figure 1 displays the number of debris items recorded for the combined four 5-meter transects surveyed each month. This figure can be used to illustrate snapshots of all debris items recorded from monthly beach surveys. Debris counts do not take into account the width of the beach surveyed.

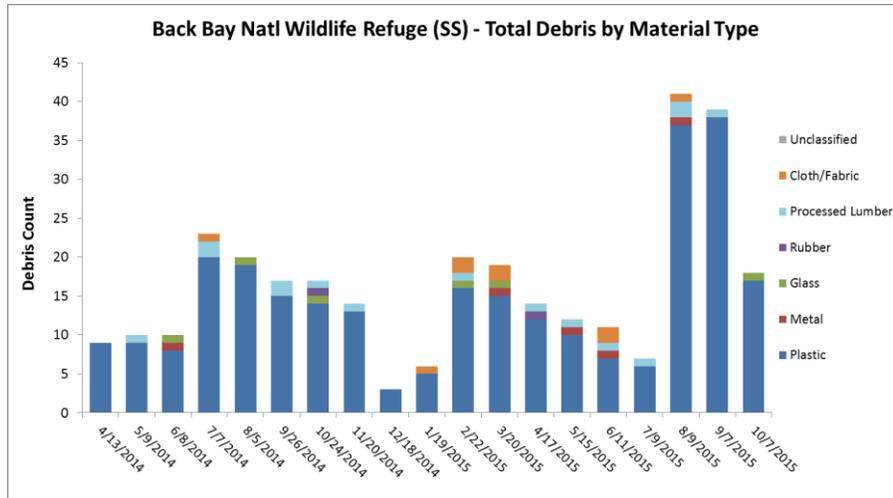


Figure 2: Summed debris counts across the four transects by material type (plastic, metal, glass, rubber, processed lumber, cloth/fabric, and other/unclassified).

Total Debris Counts by Material Type: Figure 2 displays the breakdown of debris items according to the material type of the items. Debris counts are recorded for the combined four 5-meter transects surveyed each month. This figure can be used to illustrate the predominant material type found on a given site. The relative abundances of different material types may vary from month to month. Debris counts do not take into account the width of the beach surveyed.

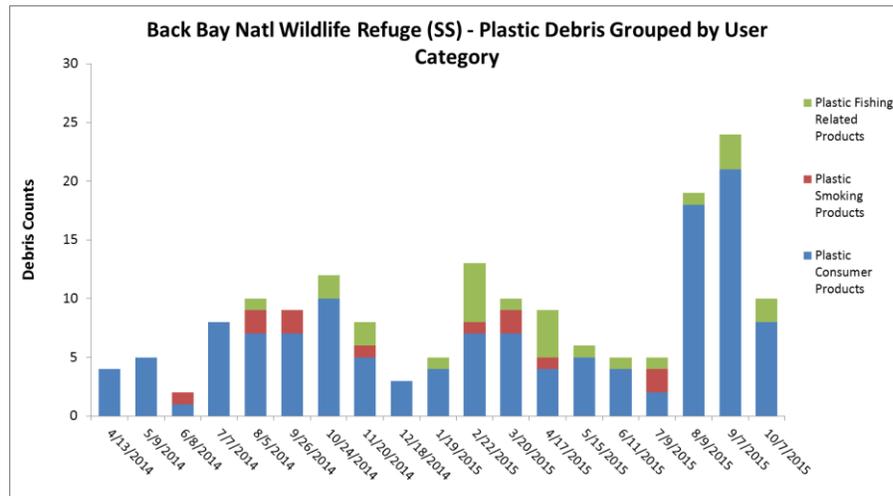


Figure 3: Summed plastic debris counts across the four transects by user category (plastic consumer products, plastic smoking products >2.5 cm, and plastic fishing related products). Plastic Consumer Products include: *Food Wrappers, Plastic Beverage Bottles, Other Jugs/Containers, Bottle/Container Caps, 6-Pack Rings, Bags, Cups, Plastic Utensils, Straws, Balloons, and Personal Care Products*. Plastic Smoking Products >2.5 cm include: *Cigar Tips, Cigarettes, and Disposable Cigarette Lighters*. Plastic Fishing Related Products include: *Plastic Rope/Net, Buoys & Floats, and Fishing Lures & Line*.

Total Debris Counts by User Category: Figure 3 displays the breakdown of plastic debris items according to user group categories. Debris sightings are recorded for the combined four 5-meter transects surveyed each month. This figure can be used to illustrate the types of plastic debris found on a given site. The relative abundances of different types of debris may vary from month to month. Debris counts do not take into account the width of the beach surveyed.

Tab 4: The figures in tab 4 (Figures 4-6 below) provide the debris concentrations (y-axis) per monthly survey (x-axis).

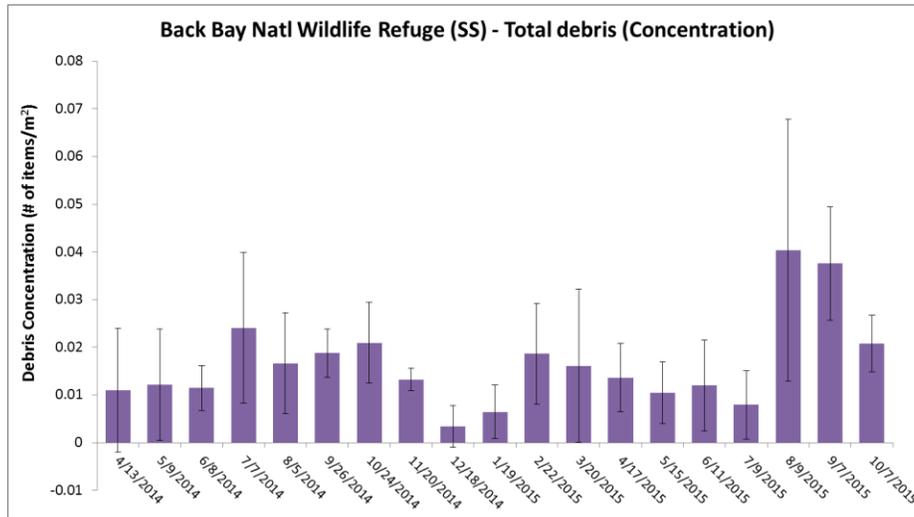


Figure 4: Total debris concentrations across the four transects. Error bars represent standard deviations.

Total Debris Concentration: Figure 4 illustrates the concentration of debris items (# of items/m²) recorded at each monthly survey. This figure is best used to display how the debris density (loads) changes for a site between surveys.

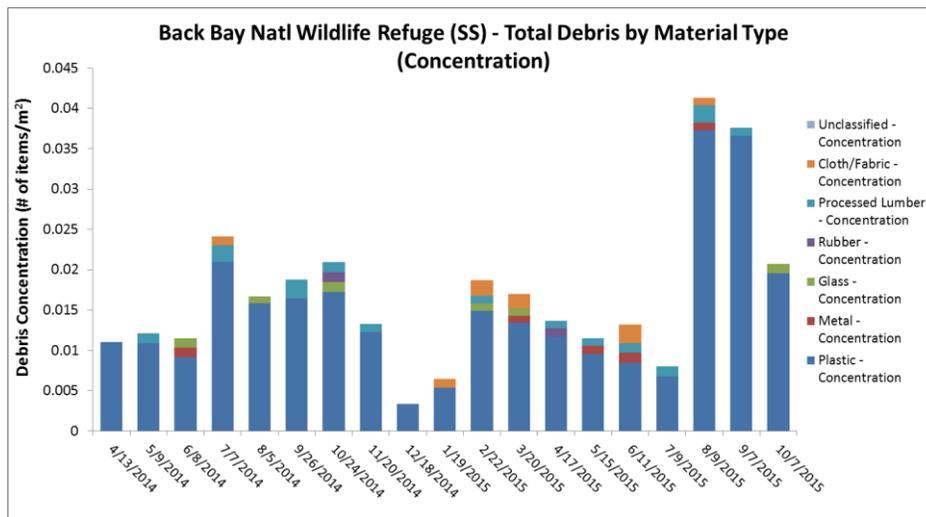


Figure 5: Debris concentrations for the four transects by material type (plastic, metal, glass, rubber, processed lumber, cloth/fabric, and other/unclassified).

Total Debris by Material Type Concentration: Figure 5 illustrates the concentration of debris items by material type. This figure is best used to display the debris densities (loads) for the various material types.

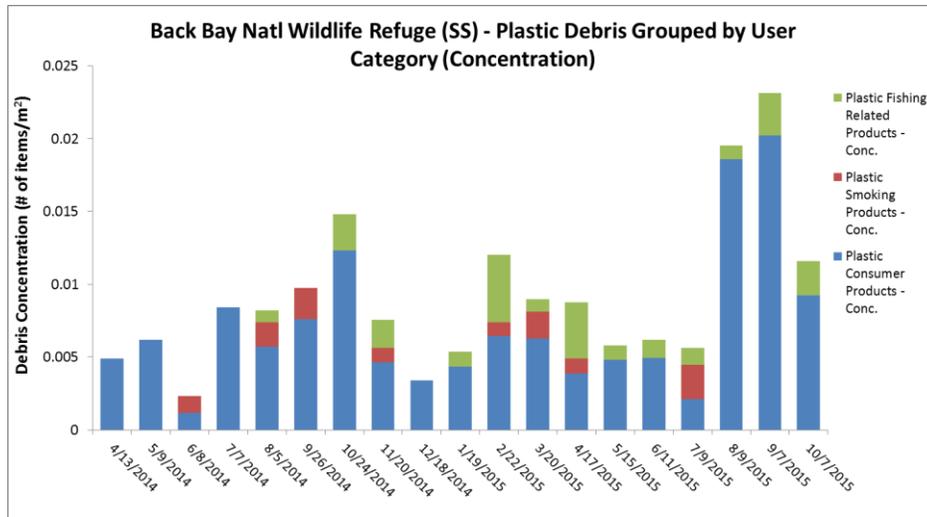


Figure 6: Plastic debris concentrations for the four transects by user category (plastic consumer products, plastic smoking products >2.5 cm, and plastic fishing related products). Plastic Consumer Products include: *Food Wrappers, Plastic Beverage Bottles, Other Jugs/Containers, Bottle/Container Caps, 6-Pack Rings, Bags, Cups, Plastic Utensils, Straws, Balloons, and Personal Care Products*. Plastic Smoking Products >2.5 cm include: *Cigar Tips, Cigarettes, and Disposable Cigarette Lighters*. Plastic Fishing Related Products include: *Plastic Rope/Net, Buoys & Floats, and Fishing Lures & Line*.

Total Debris by User Category Concentration: Figure 6 illustrates the concentration of plastic debris items by user group type. This figure is best used to display the debris density (loads) for the various user group types.