

Contact:  
Janette Rizk  
[janette@5gyres.org](mailto:janette@5gyres.org)



## SCIENCE RESEARCH HUB LAUNCHES JUNE 8

*5 Gyres hosts livestream Q&A to release database of plastic pollution research on World Oceans Day*

LOS ANGELES (June 4, 2018)—The 5 Gyres Institute will launch its [Science Research Hub](#) at [www.5gyres.org/science-research-hub](http://www.5gyres.org/science-research-hub) on World Oceans Day.

On June 8 at 11 a.m. PST, 5 Gyres will host a live **#sciencetosolutions** Q&A co-hosted by 5 Gyres (@5gyres) and Sophie Uliano (@sophieuliano). Guests are encouraged to rsvp [here](#) and tune in via Twitter and Instagram.

During the one-hour livestream, 5 Gyres will cover key questions and issues on plastic pollution highlighting research from the new portal.

“We are proud to launch our [Science Research Hub](#) on World Oceans Day as part of our ongoing effort to educate communities about the importance of reducing plastic pollution,” said 5 Gyres Co-Founder and Research Director Dr. Marcus Eriksen.

“Understanding the scope of the problem is essential to solving it,” said Anna Getty, 5 Gyres’ board member and primary contributor to the project. “Solutions start with good science - that’s what 5 Gyres is providing.”

The [Science Research Hub](#) provides a comprehensive scientific overview of the most relevant topics in ocean plastic pollution. It was created to filter the enormous amount of information and gather the most relevant studies into one place for people to use as a free resource.

The hub will include the “Why Should We Ban Polystyrene?” policy brief, with information promoted through the organization’s Nix the 6 action campaign to ban polystyrene nationwide. A concern for human health, studies show that polystyrene plastics are made from styrene, which was found “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen” by the National Toxicology Program and “probably carcinogenic to humans” by the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

Throughout 2018, the [Science Research Hub](#) will expand this series of “Why Should We Ban” policy briefs to codify the research behind action campaigns on microbeads, plastic bags, plastic straws and more.

The portal also includes 5 Gyres’ seminal studies—the organization was the first American organization to identify plastic microbeads in 2012, first to estimate the quantity of surface marine plastic pollution in 2014, and first to assess plastics simultaneously on toxicity, recyclability and more through the 2016 and 2018 Plastics Better Alternatives Now List studies.

5 Gyres is a non-profit organization dedicated to a planet free of plastic pollution. More information at [www.5gyres.org](http://www.5gyres.org).