

EMU PARADE Guidelines

The Emu Parade is a simpler method for sampling marine debris. For an 'Emu Parade' divide students into groups of 10 or less, with each group designated a specific section of the beach. Set up transects according to the following specifications-

- Transects are 30m wide (can be wider) along the beach.
- Transects are located at least 50m from main beach access point, wherever possible.
- Transects are located at least 25 metres apart (ideally 50 metres).
- Transect to run two metres into continual terrestrial vegetation (at the back of the beach, in the dune area, for example).
- Minimum of three transects and maximum of six per site/beach.

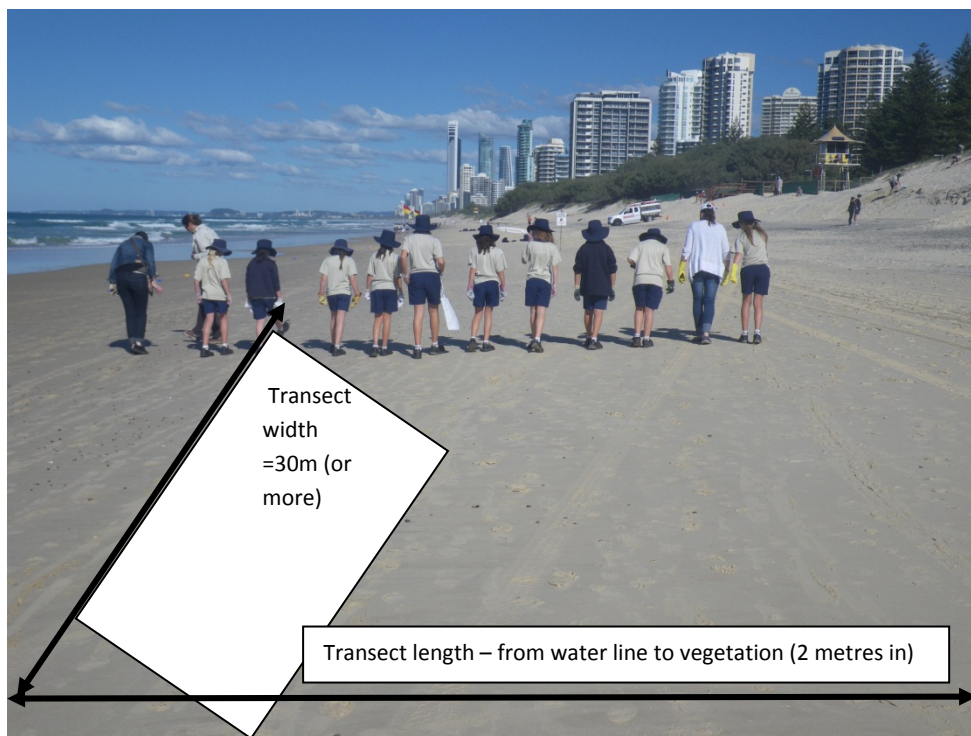


Photo- Earthwatch

Surveying Method

- Record the start of the transect using a GPS point, mark on map or use itracker.
- Place a marker at that point to mark Point 1, measure out the length of the transect and place another marker to designate Point 2.
- Participants walk in a line formation, approximately shoulder to shoulder along the transect, for the total width of the transect (30m, can be wider).

Continue to walk in line formation, back and forth along the transect width, until the length of the transect (from the water line to into the vegetation at the back of the beach) has been sampled.

- All marine debris found within the transect area is collected in a bag and brought back to the classroom for recording.
- Debris is sorted into groups according to size using the Marine Debris Size Chart to classify the different types of debris into size classes 1-5. A separate data sheet is used for each size classification.
- For each size classification, the type and colour of marine debris is recorded on the datasheet.
- Data is then put into the National Marine Debris database and/or sent to CSIRO for entry.

