

LITTER ON CHESIL BANK

	Max size (cm)	2014	2015	2016	2018
Coarse	>20	MAJOR STORM EVENTS	139	88	34
Medium	10-20		241	95	66
Fine	5-10		372	139	100
Fragments	2-5		319	165	174
Totals			1071	487	374
Totals (excl natural wood)			683	290	240

Litter counts by size category from 5m x 130m corridor across Chesil Bank at Moonfleet (Right)



What is it and where does the litter come from? Litter strand lines are left by recent tides plus older storm events. **Upper Left** 2014 storm strandline. Along remote areas of Chesil the litter present arrives from the sea. Light litter is blown over the beach crest entangling in the shrub zone on the Fleet shore (**Lower left**). Heavy litter stays in place in the strand lines.

An old boot colonised by lichens



Kinder egg, MSC Napoli

Types of litter breakdown at different rates ranging from weeks to decades.

The most common litter items are plastic in its many forms. Sources of litter are both local and international. Ocean currents bring buoyant litter across the Atlantic from as far away as Newfoundland and the Caribbean.



Natural "litter" can be food, substrate and shelter for wildlife. Man-made litter is a different story.... Litter picking near beach access points provides a great service if done sympathetically with regard to the delicate habitats in which it is entangled.