

Plastic Sandbags

Midcoast Community Council presentation, July 25, 2012

When plastic sandbags are used to control runoff and erosion, or to weight down hazard signs, the plastic bags degrade in UV light into flakes and larger pieces that blow and wash away into creeks and ocean. Attached photos show degraded plastic sandbags at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Area of Special Biological Significance.

The Midcoast Community Council requests that the County investigate alternative more environmentally friendly products to replace plastic sandbags.



Plastic sand bags on Ocean Blvd in Moss Beach, degraded within one year, with pieces flaking off and blowing/washing their toxins into the ocean.



Once plastic bags have degraded enough that the sand is spilled, the rest of the bag is set loose into the environment -- Ocean Blvd. in Moss Beach.



A retaining wall of degraded plastic sandbags at Ellendale in Moss Beach –
Sunshine Valley watershed outlet to Fitzgerald Marine Reserve