

"Delightful, poetic and politically-aware surfing movie. Beautifully done and very enjoyable."

SOUTH AFRICA | 2016 | 6 MIN

John McCarthy is a South African surfer, freediver, author and environmentalist that has had a lifelong connection to the ocean. "Sea Change" beautifully captures John's search for meaning and the perfect wave. It explores how he realized how the large number of surf boards he's owned over the years are not eco-friendly and how there was no way to properly recycle them. This awareness inspired him to set out on a quest to discover a more environmentally responsible board to surf the waves that he is so strongly connected to.

DIRECTORS: BRUCE BUTTERY & WAYNE POTTERTON

OVER 500K SURFBOARDS ARE PRODUCED PER YEAR, TYPICALLY MADE WITH

TOXIC FOAMS AND RESINS

SURFBOARD PRODUCTION EMITS OVER 300 MILLION POUNDS OF

CARBON DIOXIDE EACH YEAR

ABOUT **70%** OF ALL SURFBOARDS ARE MADE WITH FIBERGLASS, EITHER WITH POLYURETHANE OR POLYSTYRENE (PLASTICS!)

RELEVANT UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:







Bruce Buttery O @BruceButtery f @BruceButtery John McCarthy O @OceanChild001f @John.Mccarthy.96387 PLASTIC™ OCEANS

PlasticOceans.org/Sea-Change/



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **1** John McCarthy identified a problem with surfboards and came up with a more sustainable solution. Can you think of other examples of entrepreneurs that did something similar?
- 2 What is something you use daily that is not environmentally responsible? Can you think of a more eco-friendly alternative?
- **3** The term "Sea Change" is often used to express a profound shift in something. In your opinion, what environmental issue requires the biggest change in human behavior and why?
- **4** Think back to what you knew about environmental issues when you were young. How does that compare to what our youth is aware of today?
- 5 Where do your personal environmental values stem from?
- 6 John's emotional connection to the ocean is why he took action to be a more environmentally responsible surfer. Take a moment to reflect on your emotional connection to nature. Does it inspire you in any way?
- 7 Strength in numbers is paramount to fostering a healthier planet. How can you collaborate with others in your community to address and solve environmental issues that impact you locally?
- 8 What part of nature do you feel most connected to and why?
- **9** Why do you think some people care more about the environment than others? How can you inspire others to develop a deeper connection to the Earth and stronger desire to protect it?





