

WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH

CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

Agenda Item B.1
Supplemental Open Comment Period 7
September 2008

A map of the West Coast of the United States, showing the states of California, Oregon, and Washington. The map is rendered in a light blue and white color scheme, with the coastline highlighted in a darker blue. The map is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the main title text.

Accomplishing the Action Plan of the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health

Usha Varanasi

Presentation to the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
September 8, 2008



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CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

WCGA Executive Committee

State Co-leads

- Kathleen Drew, Washington
- Jessica Hamilton, Oregon
- Brian Baird, California

Federal Co-leads

- Usha Varanasi, DOC/NOAA
- Alexis Strauss, EPA Region IX
- Fred Piltz, DOI/MMS

WCGA staff

- Jennifer Hennessey, WA
- Amy Boone, CA
- Valerie Termini, CA
- Ephraim Leon–Guerrero, EPA
- Becky Smyth, DOC/NOAA
- Becky Pollock, DOC/NOAA
- Tom Hom, DOC/NOAA



Background

- Three West Coast Governors signed an agreement on ocean health in September 2006
- The Agreement identified **7 priority areas** for the states to work together
- The Agreement specified **4 actions** for immediate implementation
- The Agreement asked for an Action Plan



Seven Priority Areas

1. Ensuring clean coastal waters and beaches
2. Protecting and restoring healthy ocean and coastal habitats
3. Promoting the effective implementation of ecosystem-based management of our ocean and coastal resources
4. Reducing adverse impacts of offshore development
5. Increasing ocean awareness and literacy among our citizens
6. Expanding ocean and coastal scientific information, research, and monitoring
7. Fostering sustainable economic development throughout our diverse coastal communities

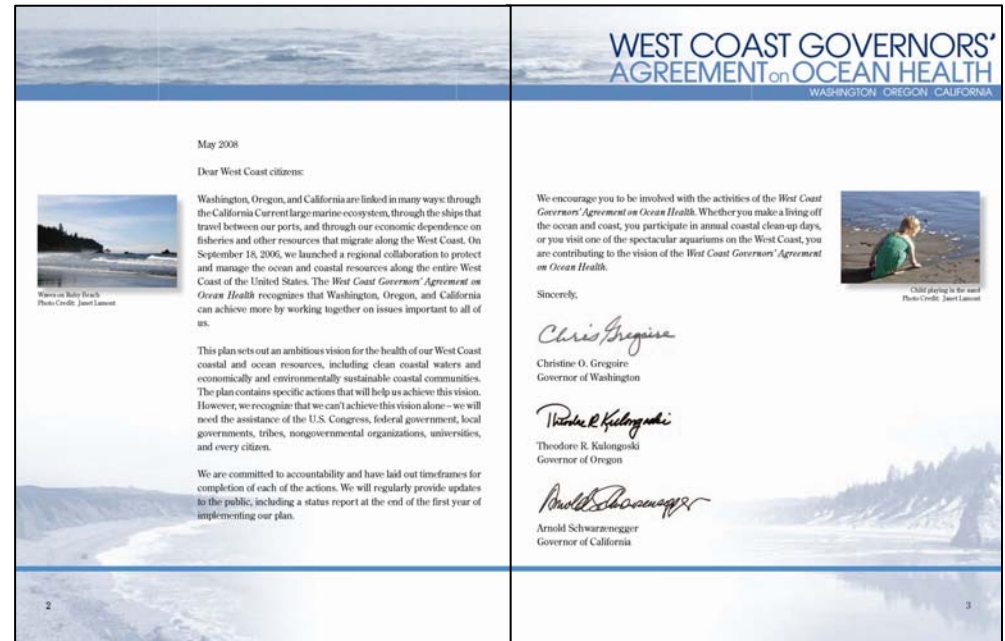
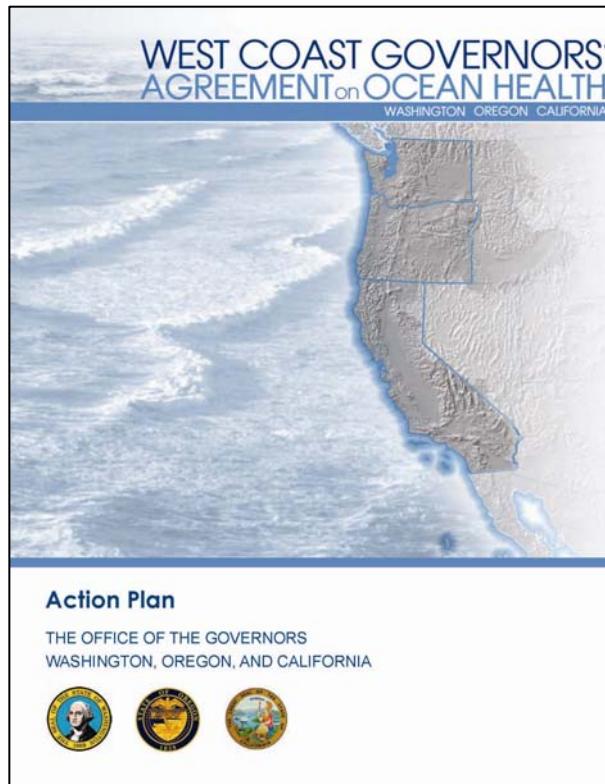


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Action Plan

- Draft Action Plan released in October 2007
- Open for public comment until December 2007
- Final Plan released in July 2008



Action Directly involving the PFMC

- **Action 3.3 Ecosystem-based Management:**
Strengthen coordination among the three states and their representatives on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC).

Actions of potential interest to the Council:

- **Action 1.3** Develop predictive capabilities of harmful algal blooms and support the expansion of ocean observing system monitoring efforts.
- **Action 1.4** Support marine debris reduction goals, including derelict fishing gear.
- **Action 2.1** Map marine and estuarine ecological communities, characterize human uses of those areas, ensure effective habitat protection.
- **Action 2.2** Restore estuarine habitats to achieve a 10% net increase in habitat and function over next 10 years.

Actions of potential interest to the Council:

- **Action 3.2** Establish standards and indicators for ocean health.
- **Action 6.1** Develop a regional research agenda with Sea Grant and seek federal support.
- **Action 6.3** Complete sea floor mapping of Pacific Coast waters.
- **Action 7.1** Promote sustainable fisheries and coastal-dependent businesses.
- **Action 7.2** Support revitalization efforts for struggling ports.



Achieving the Goals: Action Coordination Teams

1. Climate change
2. Polluted runoff
3. Marine debris
4. Spartina eradication
5. Integrated ecosystem assessments (IEAs)
6. Renewable ocean energy
7. Ocean education
8. Sustainable communities

Additional, existing work groups include:

- + Regional research*
- + Seafloor mapping*
- + Ballast Water
- + Oil Spills
- + Community-based EBM

* These groups formed around the WCGA as it was being developed.



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Achieving the Goals: Leveraging other programs

Priority Area 3: Promote the effective implementation of ecosystem-based management

- **Action 3.2** Establish standards and indicators for ocean health.
- **Action 3.3** Strengthen coordination and cooperation with PFMC.

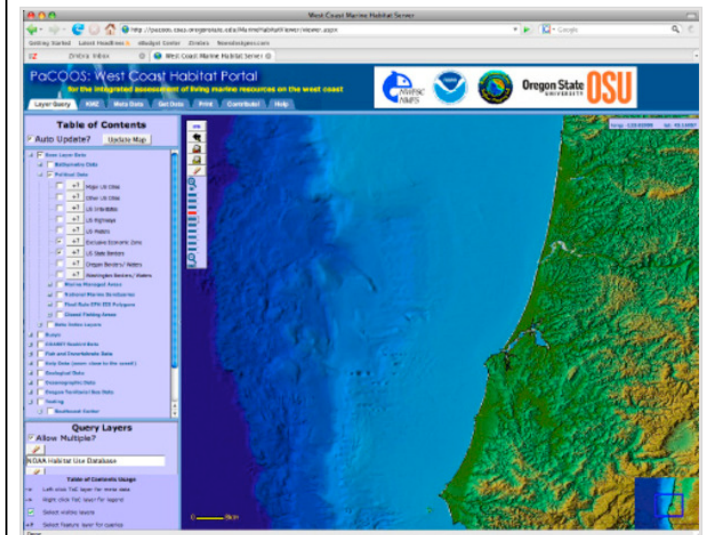
Priority Area 6: Expand ocean and coastal scientific information, research, and monitoring

- **Action 6.2** Support ocean observing systems and monitoring capabilities for the long-term.
- **Action 6.3** Complete sea floor mapping.

Web map gives close-up view of ocean floor

BY WINSTON ROSS
The Register-Guard

Published: September 2, 2008 12:00AM



A new interactive map displays the coast near Coos Bay. It lets people find out exactly what the ocean floor looks like and what lives in it. To view the map, go to <http://pacos.coas.oregonstate.edu/> then click "launch" under "map viewer."

FLORENCE — At first click, it's just a map, if a sublime one. There's the big blue ocean off to the left, and the green and tan and dusts of white of the Pacific Northwest on the inland portion.

But this is no ordinary map, says Oregon State University's Chris Goldfinger, an associate professor in the school's College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences. It's the first and best-detailed look at Oregon's territorial sea, right down to the shape of the rock and sand at the ocean floor and the types of fish in whatever area you choose to more closely scrutinize. It's useful for a range of things, from picking out choice spots for marine reserves to wave

STORY TOOLS

E-MAIL STORY

PRINTABLE VERSION

INFO

FONT SIZE:



Achieving the Goals:

West Coast Governors Ocean Action Team Meeting

- October 27-28, 2008 in Seattle
- Targeted, working meeting to kick-off the efforts of the Action Teams
 - Face-to-face breakout sessions on work plans and timelines
- Teams progress will be tracked by the Executive Committee



Transparency and Accountability

- WCGA Executive Committee will provide regular updates on progress of the various actions
- Progress report will be produced at the end of Year 2
- Public input to the individual actions as well as the overall effort will continue
- WCGA website and email lists will be primary way to communicate to partners and public




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Questions?




Thank you!

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WASHINGTON OREGON CALIFORNIA



Action Plan


THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNORS
WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND CALIFORNIA

WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH
WASHINGTON OREGON CALIFORNIA

May 2008

Dear West Coast citizens:




Waves on Baker Beach
Photo-Credit: Janet Lambert

Washington, Oregon, and California are linked in many ways: through the California Current large marine ecosystem, through the ships that travel between our ports, and through our economic dependence on fisheries and other resources that migrate along the West Coast. On September 18, 2006, we launched a regional collaboration to protect and manage the ocean and coastal resources along the entire West Coast of the United States. The *West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health* recognizes that Washington, Oregon, and California can achieve more by working together on issues important to all of us.

This plan sets out an ambitious vision for the health of our West Coast coastal and ocean resources, including clean coastal waters and economically and environmentally sustainable coastal communities. The plan contains specific actions that will help us achieve this vision. However, we recognize that we can't achieve this vision alone – we will need the assistance of the U.S. Congress, federal government, local governments, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and every citizen.

We are committed to accountability and have laid out timeframes for completion of each of the actions. We will regularly provide updates to the public, including a status report at the end of the first year of implementing our plan.



Child playing in the sand
Photo-Credit: Janet Lambert

We encourage you to be involved with the activities of the *West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health*. Whether you make a living off the ocean and coast, you participate in annual coastal clean-up days, or you visit one of the spectacular aquariums on the West Coast, you are contributing to the vision of the *West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health*.

Sincerely,

Chris Gregoire
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor of Washington

Theodore R. Kalongoski
Theodore R. Kalongoski
Governor of Oregon

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California

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Website: www.westcoastoceans.gov

