

WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH
CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

westcoastoceans.gov

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Welcome

"Just as our western states have started to work together to fight global warming and protect our air, we now join forces to make sure we are doing everything in our power to maintain clean water and beaches along our coast."
- Governor Schwarzenegger

"Our oceans provide critical economic, environmental and social benefits to the Pacific Coast states. Today's historic agreement will mean clean water, healthy oceans and a better future for our children."
- Governor Kulongoski

"Our oceans are home to a great diversity of marine life and clean beaches and oceans are vital to West Coast fishing communities, recreation and tourism. We know that isolated local efforts cannot adequately address the breadth of degradation to our oceans. By cooperating, our three states will combine our resources and influence to make a real difference in the fight to clean and protect the oceans."
- Governor Gregoire

West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health

On September 18, 2006 the Governors of California, Oregon and Washington announced the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health. The Agreement launched a new, proactive regional collaboration to protect and manage the ocean and coastal resources along the entire West Coast, as called for in the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission.

The Agreement seeks to advance the goals of:

- Clean coastal waters and beaches;
- Healthy ocean and coastal habitats;
- Effective ecosystem-based management;
- Reduced impacts of offshore development;
- Increased ocean awareness and literacy among the region's citizens; and
- Expanded ocean and coastal scientific information, research, and monitoring;
- Sustainable economic development of coastal communities.

The Agreement also underscores the importance of managing activities that affect our oceans on an ecosystem basis. That is, managing human activities and their impact on ocean resources in a way that accounts for the relationships among all ecosystem components, including people and other species and the environment in which we all live.

NEWS!

4/23/08 Governors of California, Oregon and Washington Request Congressional Support for Maritime Pollution Prevention Act. Read the [Press release](#)

3/14/08 Governors send letter to US Secretary of Commerce requesting a declaration of a fishery resource disaster if salmon fisheries are closed. Read the [Press release](#)

Release of the final plan is anticipated in early 2008.

WCGA Update - Sign me up!

Please send me updates about the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health.

Enter your Email address:

From Jessica Hamilton, Natural Resource Adviser to the Governor of Oregon: Recent dialogue in June 2008 about Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council's (OPAC) role in implementation once the Action Plan is released. We are looking at the last week in July for release. There will be work groups set up on priority issues/actions. The workgroups will contain reps from the states, fed agencies, NGOs, academia, industry, tribes, etc, from all three states. Work groups will be formed after the report release."

The actions in the plan are not prioritized in any order. Jessica Hamilton has agreed to work with OPAC to help prioritize them for OR.

New Pacific Coast Collaborative Agreement



Canada's
Pacific Gateway



“Together, Alaska, B.C., California, Oregon, and Washington represent more than 95,500 km of coastline, and we share common concerns and ideas for action and a network of connections between us. This is the first agreement that brings the Pacific leaders together as a common front to set a cooperative direction into the Pacific century.”

“The Pacific Coast Collaborative will meet at least once a year ...will seek information sharing and cooperation on clean energy; regional transportation; innovation, research and development; enhancing a sustainable regional economy, especially with respect to environmental good and services; emergency management; and other future topics.”

Press Release - June 30, 2008

PACIFIC COAST LEADERS BUILD REGIONAL COLLABORATION

A new Pacific Coast Collaborative agreement between British Columbia, Washington, California, Oregon and Alaska will forge a new partnership and a forum for leadership, cooperative action, and a common voice on issues affecting the Pacific coast region.

The agreement establishing the Pacific Coast Collaborative was announced today by B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell, Washington Governor Chris Gregoire, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski and Alaska Governor Sarah Palin.

“The Pacific Coast Collaborative builds on the consensus among B.C. and other coastal jurisdictions on climate change to create engagement among leaders for cooperative action on critical issues facing the region,” Premier Campbell said. “Together, Alaska, B.C., California, Oregon, and Washington represent more than 95,500 kilometres of coastline, and we share common concerns and ideas for action and a network of connections between us. This is the first agreement that brings the Pacific leaders together as a common front to set a cooperative direction into the Pacific century.”

“In a world with increasingly complex challenges such as dealing with climate change, ocean health, security, or regional economic growth and stability, we