



Our Regional Vision

Ocean conditions are changing, new uses of the sea are emerging, and the authorities for ocean management are complex and overlapping. These West Coast-wide challenges are best evaluated holistically rather than as individual management entities. Our work will support healthy, resilient ocean ecosystems and communities that thrive on ocean resources.

Our Goals & Objectives

• COMPATIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE OCEAN USES

- Increase understanding of past, current, and future interactions among ocean uses and the ocean and coastal ecosystem
- Proactively engage federal, tribal, state and local authorities to assimilate current and emerging regional ocean issues

• EFFECTIVE AND TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING

- Host an intergovernmental forum that supports open, transparent, and equitable dialogue based on a common vision for the West Coast
- Develop a clear, collective understanding of all co-management responsibilities and jurisdictions
- Avoid duplication in planning by building on existing efforts and including all relevant management entities

• COMPREHENSIVE OCEAN AND COASTAL DATA

- Facilitate ongoing discovery of, connectivity to, and sharing of data and science from all relevant entities through the West Coast Ocean Data Portal
- Include traditional knowledge in databases as appropriate
- Identify core data sets and produce synthesized data products to incorporate in decision-making
- Identify data gaps and collaborate to fill them

• INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF AND RESPECT FOR TRIBAL RIGHTS, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, RESOURCES AND PRACTICES

- Improve understanding of tribal rights and trust responsibilities
- Ensure inclusion and consideration of traditional knowledge in ocean management and decision-making as appropriate
- Improve awareness and recognition of traditional ocean uses

For federally-recognized Tribes along the West Coast, each its own sovereign nation, there are numerous languages, differing histories, and varying relationships with the ocean and resources therein. It is each tribe's inherent right and responsibility to continue acting as stewards of the ocean, as they have since time immemorial. For Tribes, the ocean is home, a life force, a source of strength, and a foundation of tribal health and well-being. It is in the Tribes' best interests to strengthen partnerships with other managers and increase tribal capacity to address shared concerns and responsibilities for the ocean.

Background

The West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA) builds upon previous regional ocean coordination activities carried out through the West Coast Regional Planning Body (2014-18) and West Coast Governors Alliance on Ocean Health (2007-2015) and West Coast Ocean Partnership (2015-18). The WCOA engages state, tribal and federal government partners in a collaborative non-regulatory forum to pursue consensus-driven activities carried out by members in support of the group's Regional Vision (previous page). The WCOA brings together its members through regular remote meetings and annual in-person meetings, while also supporting sub-regional working groups focused on specific coastal areas of the West Coast.

Participating Governments

• STATES

- **California** (Leads: Ocean Protection Council and CA State Lands Commission)
- **Oregon** (Leads: Dept. of Land Conservation & Development and Dept. of Fish & Wildlife)
- **Washington** (Leads: Governor's Office & Dept. of Natural Resources)

• TRIBES

- **Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians**
- **Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**
- **Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians**
- **Coquille Tribe**
- **Elk Valley Rancheria**
- **Makah Tribe**
- **Quileute Tribe**
- **Quinault Indian Nation**
- **Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation**
- **Trinidad Rancheria**
- **Yurok Tribe**

• FEDERAL AGENCIES

- **NOAA**
- **U.S. Coast Guard (Dist. 11, Dist. 13)**
- **U.S. Dept. of Defense**
- **U.S. Dept. of Energy**
- **U.S. Dept. of Interior (including BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, NPS, USFWS, USGS)**
- **U.S. Dept. of Transportation**
- **U.S. EPA (Region 9, Region 10)**
- **U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff**

• FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

- **Pacific Fishery Management Council**

For more information:

Visit www.westcoastoceanalliance.org

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Contact WCOA Coordinator John Hansen at john@westcoastoceanalliance.org