

# **Regional and International Collaborations on Ocean and Coastal Issues**

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# Overview

- Update on regional activities
  - West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health
  - British Columbia–Washington Coastal and Ocean Task Force
- Relationship of various ocean and coastal efforts

# WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH

CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

## What is it?

- Governors of Oregon, California and Washington pledged to collaborate on regional ocean and coastal issues.
- Established immediate actions.
- Identified seven priority areas to develop an action plan.

# WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH

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## Priority Areas:

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

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## Activities to date:

- Letters to President and Congress
  - Oil & gas moratorium permanent
  - Funding for coastal non-point
- Secured participation of federal agency liaisons.
- Released draft action plan (10/19/07) for public review.

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See Executive Summary handout for list of draft actions in the plan.

Document and info available at:

<http://westcoastoceans.gov>

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## Next Steps:

- Public comment period until Dec. 1, 2007.
- Finalize action plan by end of year.
- Carry out activities in plan.

# British Columbia-Washington Coastal and Ocean Task Force

New agreement signed between Premier and Governor in June 2007.

## Goals:

- Increase communication between governments on oceans and coastal issues.
- Foster collaborative activities to improve the health of shared marine waters.
- Monitor and report on progress to protect our marine waters.

# British Columbia-Washington Coastal and Ocean Task Force

## Objectives:

- Protect and restore coastal and marine habitats.
- Encourage the development of ecosystem management approaches for ocean and coastal resources.
- Foster sustainable coastal communities and development.

# British Columbia-Washington Coastal and Ocean Task Force

## Current activities:

- Developing draft work plan and proposals for task force membership.
- Reporting to Environmental Cooperating Council in November.
- Carry out activities in plan.

# Multi-level Actions Needed to Advance Issues

## **Local-level efforts:**

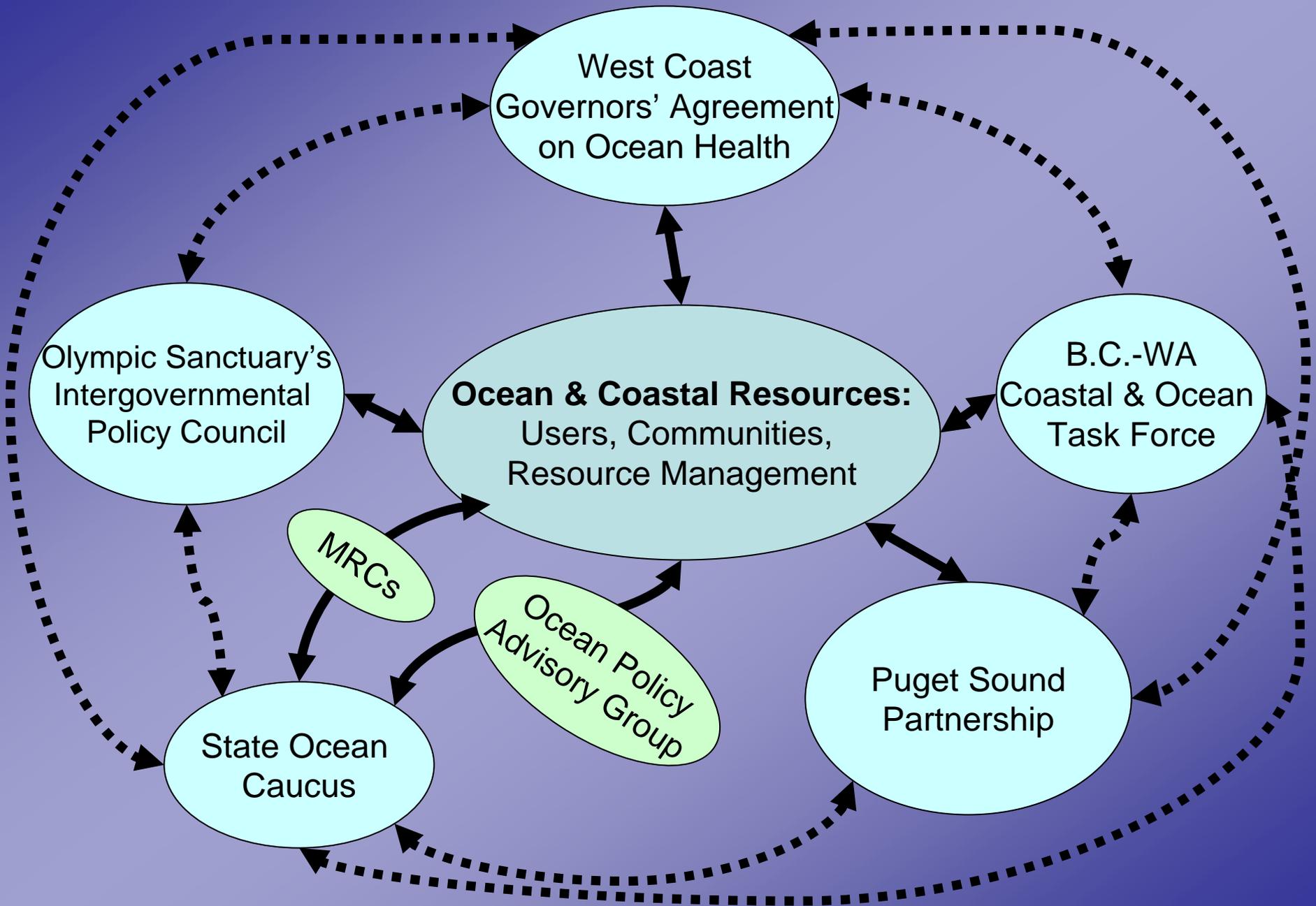
Focus on specific projects and issues  
Examples: shoreline assessments, education, marine debris clean-ups, habitat restoration or protection

## **State-level coordination:**

Focus on state-specific needs and differences  
Examples: weather information, erosion, water quality  
Puget Sound = clean up toxics and reducing pollution  
Outer Coast = improve basic monitoring and understanding

## **Regional collaborations:**

Shared activities leverage resources and reduce duplication  
Examples: ocean energy, seafloor mapping, ecosystem assessments, climate change, Harmful Algal Blooms



**Questions?**