

Washington's
Ocean Action Plan:
Update from the State Ocean Caucus

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Outline

- Background on Washington's Ocean Action Plan
- State Ocean Caucus
- Public Involvement Opportunities
- Recommendation highlights
 - Completed, ongoing and future activities
- Next Steps

Washington's Ocean Action Plan

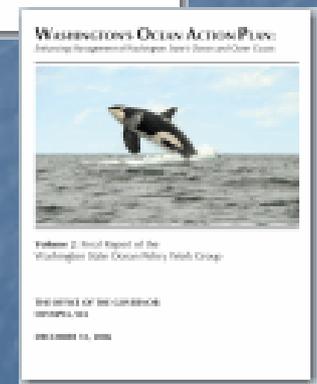
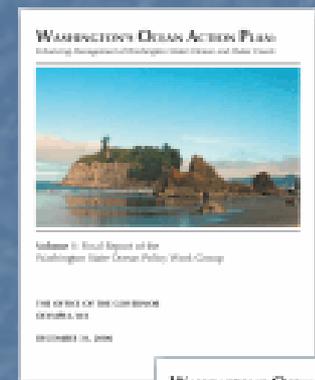
Ocean Policy Work Group's final report

Volume 1:

- Summary of status and value of state's ocean and coastal resources
- 15 Key Recommendations

Volume 2:

- Comprehensive recommendations (50+)
- Background on existing programs and issue analysis



Ocean Action Plan

Recommendations by Issue

- Sustainable Fisheries
- Aquaculture
- Ecosystem-Based Management
- Ocean Energy
- Coastal Hazards
- Erosion & Sediment Management
- Climate Change
- Marine Debris
- Oil Spills
- Research & Observing
- Education
- Sustainable & Resilient Communities
- Governance

State Ocean Caucus: an interagency team



How do state agencies coordinate their work?

State Ocean Caucus provides a way:

- For state agencies to work together on important coastal and ocean issues.
- To act on Ocean Action Plan recommendations.
- To learn from and share information with citizens, interest groups, and local, tribal, and federal governments.

Addresses Ocean Action Plan recommendation 6-1

Public Involvement with State Ocean Caucus

- Ocean Policy Advisory Group
- Outreach meetings
- Workshops
- Email listserv and website established for updates.
- Marine Resource Committees, *if formed.*



Addresses Ocean Action Plan recommendation 6-1

Public Involvement with State Ocean Caucus

Ocean Policy Advisory Group roles:

- Share issues and expertise.
- Provide input to State Ocean Caucus on ocean and coastal issues.
- Review documents and policy responses.
- Attend meetings on outer coast a few times each year.



Addresses Ocean Action Plan recommendation 6-1

Sustainable Fisheries

Completed:

- Created new fund to improve rockfish research with increased fishing license fees.

Ongoing:

- Increasing rockfish research.



Ocean Action Plan recommendation 1-1

Ocean Research & Observing

Completed:

- Purchased a Remotely Operated Vehicle for underwater studies and activities. (WDFW/DNR)

Ongoing:

- Developing regional research priorities plan for state and region through Washington Sea Grant.
- Investigating ways to advance ocean observing with NANOOS.

Ocean Action Plan recommendations 1-2, 4-1, 4-3

Ocean Education

Ongoing:

- Supported, with partners, a project proposal to create a model ocean education curriculum and pilot it in 5 outer coast counties at 10 high schools.
- Researching funding opportunities and cultivating and extending partnerships.

Ocean Action Plan Recommendation 4-5

Erosion and Sediment Management



Completed:

- Hosted a science-policy workshop with technical experts on Washington's nearshore environment (July 07, Ilwaco).

Ongoing:

- Developing large project to use sediment beneficially and advance understanding of sediment processes in Washington's nearshore with local, state, and federal partners.

Recommendations 2-9, 2-10, 2-11, and 2-12

Ocean Energy

Ongoing:

- Engaging federal agencies on associated regulatory and planning issues.
- Identifying baseline and site specific data needed for permitting potential pilot projects.

Future:

- Host workshop with West Coast states and federal agencies to increase information on technologies.

Recommendations 1-9 and 1-10.



Sustainable Communities

Ongoing:

- Creating regional offices to better assist local communities with economic planning and projects (CTED).



Future:

- Examine use of innovation zones and other tools to increase sustainability of coastal communities.

Recommendation 5-1

Governance

Ongoing:

- Providing outreach on establishing Marine Resource Committees in outer coastal communities.

Future:

- Examine Washington's Coastal Zone Management Program policies. Utilize assistance from internships or fellowships.

Recommendations 6-1, 6-2, 6-6

Regional and International Collaborations

Ocean Action Plan recommendations being advanced by these efforts including:

- Ocean energy
- Collaborative and prioritized research
- Ecosystem indicators and assessment
- Regional sediment management
- Seafloor mapping

Recommendations 1-2, 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9, 1-10, 2-1, 2-3, 2-9, 2-11, 3-1, 4-1, 4-2, 5-3, 5-4, 6-3, and 6-4.

Other activities related to recommendations

■ Climate Change

Governor's Climate Change Challenge.

Includes developing preparation and adaptation strategies for problems specific to coastal areas such as sea level rise, erosion, flooding, and storms.

Recommendations 2-15, 2-16, 2-17, and 2-18

Next Steps

By end of 2007

- Finalize draft work plan
- Host outreach meeting

2008-beyond

- Continue making progress on recommendations.
- Identify funding and policy needs as appropriate.

For more information

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/ocean/>

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