

Background information and contacts

South Bend outreach meeting
May, 28, 2008



State Ocean Caucus

The State Ocean Caucus is an interagency team that provides a way for state agencies involved in ocean and coastal resource activities to work together to prioritize activities and solve problems related to the ocean environment. The caucus acts on the recommendations of the Ocean Policy Work Group and fosters continued involvement and participation by local communities, coastal tribes, business and environmental interests, federal agencies, academics, and others in their efforts. The following State agencies participate on the State Ocean Caucus: Community Trade and Economic Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Ecology, Department of Health, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Emergency Management Division, State Parks and Recreation Commission, and Washington Sea Grant.

Over the past year, the State Ocean Caucus' developed a detailed work plan to act on the Ocean Policy Work Group's recommendations in their final report, "Washington's Ocean Action Plan: Enhancing Management of Washington State's Ocean and Outer Coasts" and established an advisory group as well as conducted several outreach meetings in coastal communities. More recently, with the support of Washington Sea Grant, the group established a graduate fellowship (Hershman Fellowship) to advance the work of the caucus and give graduate students experience working with state agencies. The group continues to coordinate with local, state, tribal and regional entities on ocean resource policy and guides state activities to execute the work plan.

For more materials and information or to join the WA-Ocean email list, visit the State Ocean Caucus' website at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/ocean/>

Contact:

State Ocean Caucus Coordinator

Jennifer Hennessey

Washington Department of Ecology

(360) 407-6595

jenh461@ecy.wa.gov

Washington Clean Coast Alliance

The recent April Washington Coast Cleanup netted 1176 volunteers and 22.84 tons of debris coast-wide. CoastSavers are people dedicated to saving our coast by getting rid of marine debris. The mission of the Washington CoastSavers program is to empower concerned citizens to combat marine debris in a variety of ways. Organized cleanups, educational outreach, and in-home conservation programs are just a few of the ways that we can all join in the effort to ensure that the astounding beauty and ecological diversity of Washington's coast is restored and preserved forever. The Washington Clean Coast Alliance is comprised of nonprofits, community groups, and government agencies all working together to support the CoastSavers program. Alliance members include: The Grass Roots Garbage Gang, The Clallam Bay-Sekiu Lions Club, Northwest Interpretive Association, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Olympic National Park, Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association, Surfrider Foundation, and Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

To volunteer for upcoming cleanups or find more information on the Washington Clean Coast Alliance, visit the Coast Savers website at: www.coastsavers.org/volunteer

Contact:

Washington CoastSavers Program Coordinator

David Lindau

Northwest Interpretive Association

164 S. Jackson St.

Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 220-4279

Upcoming beach cleanup events

July 5 - Grass Roots Garbage Gang Cleanup on the Long Beach Peninsula and selected State Park locations. Their website is: www.ourbeach.org

Sept 20-21 - Pacific Northwest Four-Wheel Drive Association's Operation Shore Patrol Each of these groups is a member of the Washington Clean Coast Alliance and a partner in the CoastSavers program. Their website is: www.pnw4wda.org

Marine Water Quality Monitoring and Real-time data for Shellfish Growers

Washington Department of Ecology monitors marine water quality around the state, including in Willapa Bay. Monitoring includes monthly sampling sites and moored stations that take continuous measurements of water quality. Parameters measured include temperature, salinity, chlorophyll proxy, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, fecal colliform bacteria, pH, and nutrients. Willapa Bay contains two moorings that continuously sample and seven sites that are monitored monthly. Marine monitoring allows the state to:

- Establish and maintain baseline environmental data
- Characterize variability of basic water quality in space and time
- Identify significant changes in trends
- Collect data to support management
- Provide data for modeling and to the public

This summer, Ecology plans to link the Willapa Bay central bay mooring station to enable real-time data sharing via an already established online water quality for shellfish growers' tool.

Real-Time Water Quality Data available to Shellfish Growers website:

<http://www.nanoos-shellfish.org/>

Contact:

Marine Monitoring

Stephanie Jaeger

Environmental Assessment Program

Washington Department of Ecology

sjae461@ecy.wa.gov

(360) 407-6519

Real-time water quality data for Shellfish Growers tool

Coastal Training Program Coordinator

Cathy Angell

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

(360) 428-1075

cangell@padillabay.gov

Reports and resources on Willapa Bay water quality

Newton, J.A., S.L. Albertson, K. Van Voorhis, C. Maloy and E. Siegel. 2002. *Washington State Marine Water Quality in 1998 through 2000*. Washington State Department of Ecology, Environmental Assessment Program, Publication #02-03-056, Olympia, Washington, USA.

Wind-Induced Plume and Bloom Intrusions into Willapa Bay, Washington G. Curtis Roegner, Barbara M. Hickey, Jan A. Newton, Alan L. Shanks and David A. Armstrong *Limnology and Oceanography*, Vol. 47, No. 4 (Jul., 2002), pp. 1033-1042. <http://www.jstor.org/pss/3069023>

Dynamics of Willapa Bay, Washington: A Highly Unsteady, Partially Mixed Estuary N. S. Banas, B. M. Hickey, P. MacCready, and J. A. Newton

<http://ams.allenpress.com/perlserv/?request=get-abstract&doi=10.1175%2FJPO2637.1>

Use of phytoplankton species indicators to track the origin of phytoplankton blooms in Willapa Bay, Washington. J. Newton and R. Horner. 2003.

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/4726n6240484r35w/>

Lower Willapa River Fecal Coliform Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load Evaluation

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/documents/willapa_fc_lower_wrreport2.pdf

Carbaryl Concentrations in Willapa Bay and Recommendations for Water Quality Guidelines

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0103005.html>

Willapa River Dissolved Oxygen: Total Maximum Daily Load: Water Quality Improvement Report and Implementation Plan. <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0610017.pdf>

Condition of Outer Coastal Estuaries of Washington State - A Statistical Summary. Published in 2007. <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0703012.html> <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0703051.html>