



MARINE RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Summary

September 30, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Conference Call

Meeting Attendance and Objectives

The Washington Marine Resources Advisory Council (MRAC) held its thirteenth meeting on September 30, 2016. The call was facilitated by Martha Kongsgaard, MRAC Chair, and Angie Thomson of EnviroIssues.

Members in attendance: Martha Kongsgaard (Chair), Erika McPhee-Shaw, Gus Gates, Keith Ledford (Makah Tribe alternate for T.J. Green), Libby Jewett, Megan Duffy (Washington Department of Natural Resources alternate for Peter Goldmark), Mike Cassinelli, Rich Childers (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife alternate for Michele Culver), Teena Reichgott (Environmental Protection Agency alternate for Dennis McLerran)

MRAC members not in attendance: Bill Dewey, Brian Allison, Representative Dave Hayes, Dick Sheldon, Doug Steding, Garrett Dalan, James Peters, Kelly Wood, Senator Kevin Ranker, Lisa Graumlich, Maia Bellon, Nan McKay, Norm Dicks, Phil Rockefeller, Senator Steve Litzow, Terry Williams, Tom Davis, Tony Floor

Other participants: Cristiana Figueroa-Kaminsky (Washington Department of Ecology), Jan Newton (WOAC), Jessie Turner (Cascadia Law Group), Kirsten Feifel (Washington Department of Natural Resources), Michel Rechner (Washington Department of Natural Resources), Richard Feely (NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory), Shalin Bush (NOAA Ocean Acidification Program), Stephanie Harrington (UW College of the Environment), Terrie Klinger (WOAC)

Meeting objectives:

- Share updates on ocean acidification activities and events
- Discuss 2017-19 biennium budget outlook and opportunities
- Review proposed ocean acidification budget requests for the 2017-19 biennium

Materials distributed:

- None

Welcome and introductions

Chair Martha Kongsgaard opened the call and thanked council members for their participation.

What's new in OA:

- The [International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification](#) (or OA Alliance) was officially launched at the 2016 Our Oceans Conference in September 2016. This effort is aimed at securing political commitments at all levels (local, national, international) to

address ocean acidification and to integrate ocean acidification into international climate agreements.

- Early joiners include Pacific Coast Collaborative members Washington, California, Oregon, British Columbia, as well as Chile and France.
- Member jurisdictions are asked to create their own customized ocean acidification action plan.
- The OA Alliance will have a presence at COP 22 and is working with the UN to get ocean acidification-specific language integrated into climate agreements at COP 23 in 2017.
- The [Global OA Observing Network \(GOA-ON\)](#) launched a [new data portal](#) with real-time data from participating countries, including new representation within Africa.
- The State of California is convening a meeting at Stanford University October 17-18, 2016 with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Center for Biological Diversity to explore ocean acidification-specific chemical and biological criteria for listing under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. Richard Feely will be attending.
- NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program has a federal funding opportunity (FFO) available for regional vulnerability assessment projects. For more information, see the [FFO announcement](#) or contact Shallin Busch.
- The SeaDoc Society has launched a [\\$1.5 million development campaign](#) to expand its capacity for science and research activities in the Salish Sea, including those focusing on ocean acidification. For more information, contact Meg Chadsey.

Update on the 2017-2019 biennium budget requests

- A letter supporting MRAC's 11 budget priorities (see MRAC priority list) as well as decision packages for the two new requests – support for the Ocean Acidification Conversation Hatchery and adding ocean acidification parameters to Ecology's monitoring network – were submitted to Office of Financial Management (OFM) in September.
- Upon reviewing MRAC's submittal, OFM noted that funding for WOAC's biological response studies is not ongoing, as was previously understood. EnviroIssues will work with WOAC to prepare a decision package for biological response studies asking for \$200,000 in the upcoming biennium. This funding will support continued research on biological impacts of ocean acidification on key economically-important marine species. Synthesis of data over the last several years is being prepared for peer-reviewed publications.

Legislative strategy:

- Martha is coordinating with the Governor's Office, Speaker of the House, Senator Kevin Ranker, and others on legislative strategy and the budget process, and will call on MRAC members for assistance as needed.

Blue Ribbon Panel Refresh Meeting:

- EnviroIssues is organizing a meeting to reevaluate the 2012 Blue Ribbon Panel priorities and identify new actions that may need to be prioritized. The end product would be an addendum to the Blue Ribbon Panel Report highlighting progress made over the last five years and any changes to priorities over the next five years.

- The group decided to move the Blue Ribbon Panel meeting to January 2017 to provide additional time for pre-meeting discussions and work. EnviroIssues will send an invite out once the date and venue for January are confirmed, and will determine next steps for prepping for the conversation, which could include ad hoc committees conference calls and dedicated time in a December MRAC meeting.

Next steps:

- EnviroIssues will work with WOAC to prepare a decision package for biological response studies asking for \$200,000 in the upcoming biennium.
- The next MRAC meeting is planned for December. EnviroIssues will follow up with more information.
- A Blue Ribbon Panel refresh meeting will be planned for January 2017. EnviroIssues will follow up more information.
- Stay tuned for potential ad hoc committee conference calls in October and November to prepare initial thoughts for the Blue Ribbon Panel meeting.