



November 18, 2016

To: Governments and organizations committed to protecting ocean health

As leaders of California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, we invite you to join the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification (Alliance), a network of governments and organizations responding to threats from ocean acidification.

Ocean acidity has increased by 30 percent and is expected to double over pre-industrial levels by the end of this century, as the ocean absorbs one-third of the carbon dioxide generated by human activities. Extensive field studies conducted worldwide already show significant impacts on fisheries and marine ecosystems from ocean acidification, which will worsen in the future.

To avert a larger crisis, the science is clear that we must act immediately to reduce carbon emissions. Last year, 195 countries signed the historic Climate Agreement in Paris committing to meaningful action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Alliance seeks to build on this momentum by taking action to protect the health of the oceans and addressing the impacts of ocean acidification on our economies and coastal communities.

We invite you to join the Alliance by signing onto the Global Call to Action and committing to actions that:

- Advance scientific understanding of ocean acidification.
- Reduce the causes of acidification.
- Protect the environment and coastal communities from the impacts of a changing ocean.
- Expand public awareness and understanding of acidification.
- Build sustained support for tackling this global problem.

We also invite you to attend the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification Summit, to be held in California on December 13, to declare our commitment to combatting a critical threat to our marine ecosystems and the communities and economies that depend on them.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Edmund G. Brown Jr. in black ink.

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor  
State of California

Handwritten signature of Christy Clark in blue ink.

Christy Clark, Premier  
Province of British Columbia

Handwritten signature of Kate Brown in black ink.

Kate Brown, Governor  
State of Oregon

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in black ink.

Jay Inslee, Governor  
State of Washington