



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO  
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

# STATE OF OREGON ACTION PLAN



OA MEMBER:

# STATE OF OREGON



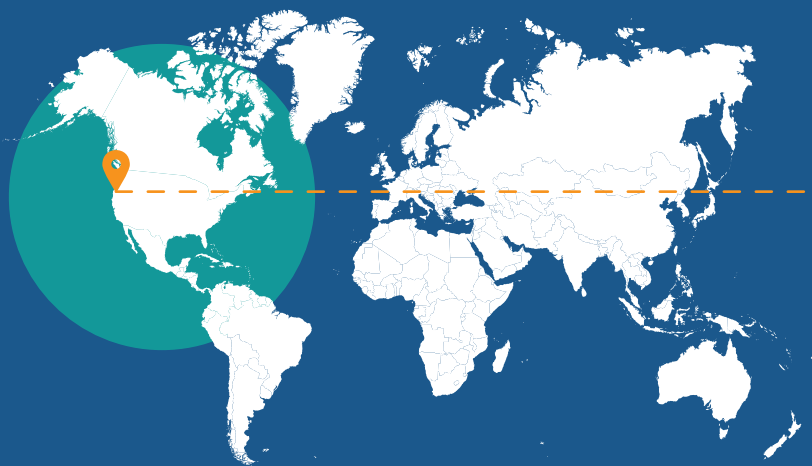
MEMBER TYPE:  
**GOVERNMENT MEMBER**

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LOCATION:



CONTINENT:  
NORTH AMERICA

OCEAN BASIN:  
PACIFIC

KILOMETERS OF COASTLINE:



**584 km**

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT  
**MARINE ECOSYSTEMS:**



THE **OA ACTION PLAN**  
WAS COMMISSIONED THROUGH:

LEGISLATION

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT  
**USES OF RESOURCES:**



# ADVANCING OA ACTION PLANNING

## Main reason why an OA Action Plan was created/ decided to work on ocean acidification:

Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery, located in Netarts Bay, Oregon, was among the first places in the world to observe direct impacts from acidification starting in 2007.

Along the U.S. West Coast and Oregon, natural seasonal process of upwelling transports corrosive low oxygen waters into the nearshore and estuaries, causing our marine waters to be especially vulnerable to Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH).

OAH events are projected to intensify and threaten Oregon's wild rich ocean ecosystem and impact fisheries and aquaculture species, which remain key to coastal economics today and are enjoyed by Oregonians across the state year-round.

## Body that approved the final set of recommendations:

Oregon OAH Council has been meeting since January 2018 and is comprised of 13 individuals representing State agencies, fishermen, shellfish aquaculture industry, Tribes, academics, conservation, and the Governor. The Oregon Legislature directed the OAH Council to create biennial reports (on even years), that address research needs, as well as adaptation and mitigation measures for the State to consider. Concurrently, the Governor requested that the OAH Council build Oregon's OAH Action Plan as part of Oregon's commitment to the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification.

## OA Action Plan policy context:

Oregon's first OAH Report (submitted in September 2018) provided the foundation for the the State's 2019 OAH Action Plan that will guide Oregon's actions from 2019-2025.

## Partners involved in helping to draft or conceive the OA Action Plan:

- Academic institutions
- Government or municipal departments
- Industry, associations or organizations
- Community members
- Tribal governments, indigenous communities or First Nations
- Monitoring and science networks

# PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS

OA Alliance Toolkit themes included in the Action Plan:



Highlights from the OA Action Plan that are unique to jurisdiction/regional context:

Oregon's OAH Action Plan articulates needs in the following 5 priority areas:

1. Invest in Oregon's monitoring network to document oceanographic and biologic conditions, and socioeconomic vulnerabilities relating to OAH.
2. Develop and integrate strategies to reduce causes of excess carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and OAH.
3. Support activities and initiatives that promote adaptation and resilience to OAH, for Oregon's human communities and ecosystems.
4. Communicate OAH science, impacts, and solutions to raise awareness and support decision-making.
5. Mobilize agencies to address OAH priorities each of these actions are key to addressing OAH impacts at all levels, from science to policy, from education to adaptation.

Nested within the 5 themes, there are 12 general recommendations and 38 specific actions; in total, this inspirational list of potential actions provides a vision of all that could be done for Oregon, given the resources and time to do so.

# MEASURES OF SUCCESS, CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED

## Main challenges encountered while drafting the OA Action Plan:

The Oregon OAH Action Plan was developed in recognition of the impacts that we see today, in hopes of minimizing the impacts for tomorrow, and to alter the trajectory of ocean changes for future generations.

To build the brightest future for the ocean and its species and the communities that depend on them. Despite uncertainty, we can and must act now in a pro-active way that will improve ecosystem outcomes for resilience, as a “no-regrets” strategy.

## What will success look like in 5 years?

The OAH Council itself will continue to serve as a public convening entity to provide opportunity for discourse, provide information and to facilitate alignment and collaboration in Oregon on OAH and climate issues, for all who are ready to take action to address OAH impacts.

The Oregon OAH Action Plan, along with OAH Action Plans from other jurisdictions, will help demonstrate that local actions are meaningful in fighting the global challenges of climate and ocean changes.

## Financial investments/ commitments made to help advance proposed recommendations to-date:

Nearly \$300,000 USD in investment has been made by the state to convene the OAH council, develop an OAH action plan. Now funding has been provided for ongoing monitoring and targeted communications efforts.



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through the OA Alliance. Visit:  
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This case study was published on 2019.  
However, please note that climate-ocean commitments, policies, and priorities are dynamic. They are responsive to new information, administration changes and funding. Activities reflected here may have changed or evolved since the time of this publication.