



EXPLORING OUR CHANGING OCEAN:

Impacts and Response to Ocean Acidification in the U.S.A

A collaborative ocean acidification communications project between:



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION



CHALLENGE:

- The ocean has **absorbed** approximately 90% of excess heat and 25% of **carbon dioxide emissions** released into the atmosphere **by human activities**.
- Increased carbon pollution has **consequences** for our ocean.
- Most people still don't **understand the causes, impacts and solutions** for addressing **ocean acidification** and taking climate-ocean action.

OPPORTUNITY:

- **Increase public understanding** about the impacts of carbon emissions on the ocean and coastal environments.
- **Accelerate calls to action** to reduce carbon emissions and minimize the effects of ocean acidification on marine resources that humans depend on.



COMMUNICATING CLIMATE-OCEAN CHANGE:

Aquariums serve tens of millions of people every year. A targeted communications project about ocean acidification strengthens aquariums' approach to place-based storytelling about the importance of addressing climate change in communities they serve.

By regionalizing information and storytelling about ocean acidification, the project supports education, outreach, and calls to action that U.S. aquarium partners and science institutions can utilize across climate change narratives and outreach efforts.

We encourage project partners to share the OA StoryMaps and associated materials with their channels and networks, including aquariums, marine learning centers, schools and educators, community non-profit groups, conservation organizations and international climate leadership fora.



EACH REGIONAL OA STORYMAP INCLUDES:

- Overview of climate-ocean change and OA.
- Synopsis of OA trends and potential impacts to marine species, ecosystems, and human communities in one distinct area of the U.S.
- Highlight reel of actions/policies from state government, seafood growers, Tribal government, Port/ municipalities, and community members.
- Proposed "calls to action"

Calls to Action



Use your voice



Wave goodbye to carbon



Dive into an ocean-friendly routine



Champion others who are doing the work



This communications project supports outcomes of the UN Decade Endorsed Programme, "OA Research for Sustainability (OARS)." The OARS programme is dedicated to minimizing and addressing the impacts of ocean acidification and achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14.3 through science, policy and communications. www.oars-commitments.org

Learn more here:

