

# WEST COAST OCEAN ACIDIFICATION & HYPOXIA SYMPOSIUM

13-14<sup>th</sup> October, 2022  Portland Marriott Waterfront, 1401 SW Naito Parkway, Portland, OR 97201

 **Pacific Coast**  
COLLABORATIVE

## Symposium Objectives:

The Symposium is being hosted by the OA and Hypoxia Working Group of the Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC) and is designed to bring together state and provincial councils, steering committees, agencies, and ministries responsible for implementing OAH Action Plans over the next 5-10 years.

The agenda will explore common opportunities and challenge related to: (1) measuring and communicating impact; (2) designing synthesis and visualization products that support existing management priorities; (3) developing indicators; (4) evaluating water quality impacts; (5) exploring the role of coastal wetlands/ submerged vegetation; (6) policy and decision making.

Importantly, the symposium will be an opportunity to identify policy alignments and common interests and—where applicable—outline regional recommendations for the PCC and participating governments to promote or advance over the next 3-5 years.

## Jurisdiction Approaches and Commonalities:

At the individual jurisdiction level, governments have commissioned ocean acidification and hypoxia (OAH) councils and developed OA Action Plans. All jurisdictions are now working to implement action plans, in part by integrating and expanding activities across relevant agency programs and existing climate, environment, marine and water authorities.

Jurisdiction	Organizing Body	OAH Action Plan Status
British Columbia	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries; OAH Action Plan Steering Committee	Needs assessment began in 2021. Plan will be developed and finalized by October 2022.
Washington	Marine Resources Advisory Council	OA Action Plan released in 2012; updated in 2018. MRAC implementing work under legislative mandate.
Oregon	Oregon OA and Hypoxia Coordinating Council	OAH Action Plan released in 2019. Coordinating Council implementing work under legislative mandate.
California	2018-2021 California OAH Task Force	OA Action Plan released in 2018. Key strategies are incorporated within CA Ocean Protection Council Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025; implementation is ongoing.

While each plan reflects the unique geography, concerns, and priorities of the jurisdiction, commonalities across west coast plans include:

- Expanding jurisdiction-led monitoring to increase relevant coastal/ bay coverage.
- Coupling biological and chemical monitoring and data with an emphasis on determining biological impacts.
- Developing OA indicators (for agency use or state report cards) – emphasis on bio criteria.
- Exploring approaches for expanding upon water quality criteria.
- Emphasizing targeted communications for state policy development/ appropriations
- Expanding eelgrass, seagrass and kelp inventories and evaluating co-benefits.
- Continuing to update and utilize West Coast OAH Monitoring Network.
- Increasing West Coast engagement across the UN Decade of Ocean Science OA Research for Sustainability program