



West Coast OCEAN ALLIANCE

August 2019

Member Call

SUMMARY

Friday, August 2, 2019

ACTION ITEMS

- WCOA Caucuses and Sub-regional Teams should discuss if and when they want to set meet at the December Annual Meeting, as stand-alone times for caucuses (with the exception of the Mon. afternoon Tribal Caucus) will not be part of the formal agenda. Meeting space will be made available as needed.
- Contact John Hansen if you would like to provide input on what should be included in a WCOA Membership Compact.

UPCOMING DATES

- Thursday Aug. 22: WA Sub-regional Quarterly Meeting
- Thursday Aug. 22: 2019 Annual Meeting Planning Committee Monthly Call
- Wednesday Aug. 28: Oregon-Northern CA Sub-regional Monthly Call
- Tuesday Sep. 3: WCOA Executive Committee Monthly Call
- Friday October 4: Next WCOA Membership Call

CALL SUMMARY

Attendees

West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA) Staff: John Hansen (WCOA Coordinator), Marisa Nixon (Oregon Sea Grant Fellow)

West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) Staff: Andy Lanier (WCODP Co-Chair, OR DLCD), Steve Weisberg (SCCWRP)

State Staff: Katrina Lassiter (WA Dept. of Natural Resources), Teresa Pucylowski (WA Dept. of Ecology) Casey Dennehy (WA Dept. of Ecology) Patty Snow (OR DLCD), Deanna Caracciolo (OR DLCD), Jenn Eckerle (California Ocean Protection Council), Jen Mattox (CA State Lands Commission)

Tribal Members/Staff: Mark Healey (Coquille Indian Tribe), Shirley Laos (Trinidad Rancheria), Joe Shumacker (Quinalt Indian Nation), Carl Merkle (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation)

Federal Staff: Carol Bernthal (NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary), Todd Hay (NOAA) Commander Craig Thedwall (Navy Region NW), Stefanie Stavrakas (USFW), Jane Marshall (Navy), Kris Wall (NOAA), Sara Gultinan (BOEM), Simon Gore (DOE), LCDR Robbie Cole (USCG), Irina Irvine (National Park Service), Hudson Slay (EPA Region 9), Kris Dellapina (White House Office of Science, Technology and Policy), Whitney Hauer (BOEM), Dana Goodson (Udall Foundation)

2019 Annual Meeting

John Hansen (WCOA) gave an update on Annual Meeting planning.

- Agenda updates: Thursday sessions will be hosted at UW Tacoma, including a morning Tribal Engagement workshop with the Udall Foundation. The Executive Session has been split into two sessions, on Wednesday and Thursday. Facilities will be available for WCOA Caucus and sub-regional meetings at their convenience throughout the week, as needed. Please advise WCOA staff to confirm meeting space.
- Logistics: There is a budget to support attendance by state and tribal partners. Hotel room details, along with a formal RSVP form, will be sent out soon. Once WCOA members have travel details set, lodging and RSVP will be opened to non-WCOA stakeholders.

Member Discussion: Stakeholder Engagement Session

John Hansen (WCOA) facilitated a discussion about how best to engage stakeholder attendees at the Annual Meeting. Wednesday morning (Dec. 3) will be a more traditional public-facing meeting, but we would like the afternoon to be more interactive than it has in the past. This content was edited significantly for length and clarity but there is a full transcript of the discussion available; contact John Hansen (WCOA) if interested.

Possible Objectives for Stakeholder Session ****Open Member Discussion****

- “We should be prepared with information on what the Alliance is, what our goals are, and how we have engaged with stakeholders thus far. Hopefully some of this will be communicated early in the meeting itself, but we may want to distribute information in advance of the meeting or host a webinar in the fall. A FAQ document may also be useful.”
- “We need to be clear about the areas where we are seeking input, and how we will actually address and incorporate feedback. We also need to decide how we will measure success over time in terms of stakeholder engagement. One suggestion is to create a more formal resolution process, where there is an obligation to respond, like the National Marine Sanctuaries Advisory Councils.”
- “An additional possibility for a stakeholder session could be to ask their opinion on an ocean health scorecard, or for specific feedback on a draft. Responses would also likely convey what priorities stakeholders have in terms of subjects / issues.”

- Based on the larger discussion, the top ideas for the stakeholder session focus on:
 - **Preferred approaches to stakeholder engagement.** What does this look like, what mechanisms could we use, and how does stakeholder input inform what the Alliance does?
 - **Data portal / ocean health scorecard.** What are the most important issues to stakeholders, and how does that link to what a scorecard could be?
 - **Stakeholder projects.** What are they working on, and how could stakeholder projects link to sub-regional or individual Member entities?

West Coast Ocean Data Portal Update

Andy Lanier (WCODP / OR DLCD) provided an update on the WCODP.

- FY19 NOAA Funding: Funding has been approved. The application was structured in line with other data portals in the country, and says we will look for opportunities for improvement from a data sharing perspective, pick 1-3 issues to focus on, and create a plan. This may fit nicely with the regional ocean health scorecard, which will be a perfect opportunity to identify gaps and then allocate money toward them.
- Ocean Health Scorecard: Marisa Nixon is working on identifying and comparing existing reports. Members are invited to contribute ideas and perspectives on this project, and the data workshop in December will be structured around it.

Tribal Caucus Update

John Hansen (WCOA) gave an update on behalf of Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) regarding Tribal Caucus activities. Dana Goodson (Udall Foundation) also provided some updates.

- BC First Nations & West Coast Tribal Summit Meeting: 14 tribal representatives have confirmed their attendance. The list of tribal representatives will be shared with the Member group, so that tribes who are not attending can funnel their input and questions through those who will be there. John Hansen, Andy Lanier, and Marisa Nixon will also attend to represent WCOA / WCODP. The Udall Foundation is continuing to build the agenda for this meeting, and will attend as facilitators.
- Tribal Engagement Best Practices Development: There should be a draft ready to share with the Tribal Caucus in September, and more information may be integrated from the BC Summit. Then the document will be reviewed by leadership and tribal councils. At the Tacoma meeting, a draft will again be shared with the Tribal Caucus, and then hopefully with a broader audience. The document may be integrated with the Tribal Engagement training planned for the Tacoma meeting as well.

Regional Ocean Partnership Legislation

John Hansen (WCOA) gave an update on Senate Bill S.2166.

- This Bill would formally authorize Regional Ocean Partnerships (ROPs) and enables them to accept funding in a formal way from federal entities. It also lays out a roadmap for additional ROPs to form, with specific parameters. Based on input from the West Coast, new language was integrated that highlights the role of tribes. The Bill has passed out of committee, and a companion bill with the same language may be introduced in the House at some point. Representative Bonamici (OR) has been identified as someone we may want to reach out regarding possible House-side legislation, as she is Chair of the House Oceans Caucus.

WCOA Membership Compact

John Hansen (WCOA) gave an update on the development of a Membership Compact.

- John Hansen and Marisa Nixon continue to work on a one-pager that clarifies the role and function of the WCOA, along with membership. It builds off of previous documents, but will not replicate the RPB charter process and will not be binding. Goal is to have a good working document by December meeting.

Member Updates

- Shirley Laos (Trinidad Rancheria): Attending CA MPA Collaborative Statewide Forum week of Aug. 5. This meeting will highlight work done on embedding native curriculum into recently developed MPA curriculum, which Shirley contributed to. May update on new developments from this effort.
- Sara Guiltinan (BOEM):
 - Oregon Task Force: BOEM and State partners in Oregon continue to work together on renewing the BOEM-Oregon Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force, as a forum to coordinate potential offshore renewable energy planning. A meeting is being planned for Sep. 27 in Portland, which will be open to the public and include public comment opportunities. It will also be accessible via webinar, and the agenda and other meeting details will be available on the Oregon page of the BOEM website as they are finalized.
 - PacWave: On May 31, 2019 OSU submitted its final license application to FERC for PacWave South. It would be a grid-connected wave energy test facility, approximately 6 nm offshore Newport, OR. The facility would be comprised of four test berths where a variety of wave energy technologies could be placed. As proposed, it would require a license from FERC for construction and operations and also a research lease from BOEM. There is shared authority, though FERC is the lead. BOEM is reviewing a research lease request that was submitted by OSU in 2013. Will provide links to FERC docket and lease info on BOEM website.

- California: BOEM and the State are continuing to review comments that came in from the call for information and nomination. There are three areas included: Humboldt Bay and two in the Morro Bay area. An Area Identification process might refine these areas some more, and then results will be reviewed under NEPA. 14 nominations were received from developers under the call and are available on BOEMs website.
- Jenn Eckerle (California Ocean Protection Council): California Ocean Protection Council is working closely with BOEM and other agencies regarding wind energy projects. They have funded several projects looking at environmental baselines and vulnerability, and are in discussions about accessing other data streams so they can understand potential impacts and how to limit them.
- Jen Mattox (California State Lands Commission): State Lands Commission has received 2 applications from Ideol, one of which they will be taking to the Commission on Aug. 23. It is a short term lease to do feasibility and planning studies offshore from Vandenberg AFB. The other application is not going to the Commission right now, but is for the actual construction of the pilot project. They have received 3 or 4 other inquiries or proposals.
- Hudson Slay (EPA Region 9): Preliminary work will be done in Eureka the week of Aug. 5 before an environmental assessment for expanding ocean disposal site. Link: <https://www.epa.gov/ocean-dumping/public-information-meetings-proposed-expansion-humboldt-open-ocean-disposal-site-hoods>

END CALL

NEXT CALL: Friday October 4 2019