



West Coast OCEAN ALLIANCE

December 2018 Member Call SUMMARY

Friday, December 7, 2018 -- 10:00-11:30 am (Pacific)

ACTION ITEMS

- The West Coast Regional Planning Body and West Coast Ocean Partnership have now officially transitioned to the new single West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA). Please change your email contact for John Hansen (WCOA Coordinator) to john@westcoastoceanalliance.org.
- Notes from the Ocean Policy Committee's first meeting in August 2018 can be found here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/OPC-Summary-Initial-Meeting-080118.pdf>

UPCOMING DATES

- December 11, 2018: WCOA panel on regional coordination and management at the National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Management in Long Beach, California.
- December 19, 2018: WCOA Oregon-Northern California sub-regional call.
- January 28, 2019: BOEM public comment period for California's offshore wind energy projects end.
- February 2019: Estimated next Washington sub-regional meeting.
- February 8, 2019: Next WCOA member call.

CALL SUMMARY

Attendees

West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA) Staff: John Hansen (WCOA Coordinator), Courtney Hann (WCOA Staff)

West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) Staff: Allison Bailey (WCODP Staff)

State Staff: Katrina Lassiter (WA Dept. of Natural Resources), Jennifer Mattox (CA State Lands Commission), Maren Farnum (CA State Lands Commission)

Tribal Members/Staff: Joe Shumacker (Quinault Indian Nation), Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe), Danielle Edelman (Makah Tribe), Mike Kennedy (Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians), Franchesca Perez (Stillaguamish Tribe), Janet Niessner (Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians), Jennifer Hagen (Quileute Tribe)

Federal Staff: Joan Barminski (BOEM), Sara Gultinan (BOEM)

Lt Marcie Kohn (U.S. Coast Guard, District 11), Carolyn Winters (Navy region NW), Jeff Ferguson (NOAA Office of Coast Survey), Stefanie Stavrakas (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), Brad Bird (Army Corps of Engineers, Portland), Jon Gornick (Army Corps of Engineers, Portland), Yvonne Fish (Bureau of Indian Affairs), Steve Duboyce (US Navy, Point Mugu Sea Range, Southern California), Bill Stanley (Bureau of Land Management, California Coastal National Monument), Allan Ota (US EPA, Region 9 San Francisco), Simon Gore (Department of Energy), Carrie Schmaus (Department of Energy), Tracy Borneman (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

West Coast Ocean Alliance: Transition & Launch Announcement

John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) gave an overview of the transition from the West Coast Regional Planning Body to the now West Coast Ocean Alliance.

- New West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA) branding and email for John Hansen (WCOA Coordinator, john@westcoastcooceanalliance.org).
- Regional Membership Calls: now bi-monthly (February, April, June 2019...).
- Executive Committee: leadership from our tribal caucus, three states, and federal representatives of 8-10 people that meet monthly.
- Working Groups: sub-regional working groups, data portal working group, etc. that meet as needed, determined by each working group.
- There is no formal 'charter', but a continuation of regional co-manger (tribal, state, fed) engagement.
- West Coast Ocean Alliance Email Launch: A formal announcement of the WCOA will be rolled out soon and sent to around 200 email addresses of external stakeholders. It is a 1-pager outlining the WCOA as a new regional partnership for the West Coast. It also includes the four corresponding goals of the WCOA and gives background on the EO that eliminated the West Coast Regional Planning Body. We are including two formal quotes, one from our tribal partnerships and one from our state partnerships. The last part of the announcement highlights the importance of data as a key priority. We will highlight our new website and John Hansen's contact information.

WCOA Panel: National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Management (Long Beach, CA)

John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) gave an overview of the WCOA panel on regional coordination and management (December 11, 2018) at the upcoming National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Management in Long Beach, CA.

- Panelist and Focus Areas (in order of presentations):
 - John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) will introduce the panel and WCOA, following by presenting (on behalf of Maren Farnum) on local planning activities and coordination, including the San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership.
 - Patty Snow (Oregon Coastal Program) will present on state planning and coordination.
 - Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) will present on tribal planning and coordination.
 - Joan Barminski (BOEM) will present on federal planning and coordination, as well as the responsiveness of federal agencies to states and tribes.
 - Andy Lanier (WCODP) will present on data coordination and responsiveness to all regional members.

Sub-regional Coordination Update

Washington Pacific Coast

Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) gave an overview of a recent state-tribal meeting in Washington State.

- There was a recent state-tribal meeting in mid-November in Forks, Washington. The meeting had representation from all four coastal tribes, Jennifer Hennessey from the Governors Office, Corey Niles (WDFW), and staff member from the Northwest Indians Commission. The group agreed to continue Washington-focused sub-regional dialog and make sure to include broad federal engagement moving forward.
- Priorities include continuing the jurisdictional map, data needs (monitoring assets and how we advance the West Coast Ocean Data Portal, WCODP, to meet more of our resource management needs), and what type of foundational document, if any, is needed. The group anticipates quarterly meetings, with the next meeting in February 2019.
- Allison Bailey (WCODP) told Katie to let the WCODP know if they should participate, be involved in the ongoing meetings, etc. Katie Wrubel replied that they do want the data portal engaged at the right moment, but we are still flushing out when that is.

Oregon-Northern California

John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) gave an overview of the last in-person Oregon-Northern California sub-regional meeting.

- The meeting in June 2018 brought state, federal, and tribal representatives together to discuss the Oregon-Northern California Action Plan. The three tasks laid out from this meeting were:
 1. Spatial Coordination Framework – how are states, tribes, and federal entities coordinating on projects and work
 2. Tribal Engagement Best Practices – need for more effective tribal engagement and defining best practices
 3. Offshore Project Tracker – WCODP will work on this more
- Offshore wind tracking is also of keen interest to the group. On the last sub-regional call, the director of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (Eureka, CA) shared an update on what their proposed offshore wind energy project would look like and steps they are taking to move forward.
- Alan Ota (EPA Region 9) noted that the EPA is beginning the process of expanding the Humboldt Open Ocean Disposal Site (HOODS), a dredged material disposal site located offshore of Humboldt Bay. The EPA wanted to alert the Tribes in particular to get any feedback on the expansion, which is needed to mitigate further mounding and avoid a potential navigation hazard to Humboldt Bay entrance. It would be about a four-fold expansion in the area, but EPA believes it is necessary to prevent a navigational hazard at the site, 3 miles offshore.
 - Joan Barminski (BOEM) noted that BOEM is coordinating with the EPA on that project.

Caucus & West Coast Ocean Data Portal Updates

Tribal Caucus Update - Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe)

- Tribal caucus had a call yesterday afternoon with 10 participants from California, Oregon, and Washington. We gave a recap of the WCOA launch, some of the projects we want to focus on, and agreed that the tribal guidance and best practices should be a priority, followed by the jurisdictional and project tracker.
- The Udall Foundation discussed support for a tribal working group to pull together best practices documents. The tribal-first nations exchange in British Columbia is coming up in mid-2019. We are assessing which coastal tribes are interested. Additionally, we hope

to have BOEM join some of our tribal caucus calls to talk about both the offshore wind energy projects and have a Q&A session for those that can't attend a BOEM meeting. Joan Barminski (BOEM) noted BOEM would be happy to do that.

State Caucus Update

- Katrina Lassiter (WA Dept. of Natural Resources) – our commissioner of public lands decided she wants us to come up with a “salmon strategy”. We are approaching it a lot like marine planning, but focused on Puget Sound.
- Maren Farnum (CA State Lands Commission) – the San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership released the final version of our Preliminary Assessment Report (<https://www.sdoceanplanning.org/preliminary-assessment-report>). This report includes perspectives from stakeholders on ocean planning, how they currently use the San Diego Bay area, and challenges they see. We repeatedly heard a desire to develop an early engagement framework. The vision is for stakeholders and managing entities to come together early on, identify potential areas/topics of conflict, and work together to resolve those conflicts. We are hoping to work with all the stakeholders currently engaged to help with the development of this early engagement framework. We are also working on the web mapping application.

Federal Caucus Update

- Sara Gultinan (BOEM) – federal partners continue to prioritize being responsive to the needs of our tribal and state partners. Our presentation at next week's panel will provide a good overview of how the feds will respond these priorities on the West Coast. The federal Ocean Resources Management Sub-committee met in November, but we don't yet have notes from the meeting. The discussion was focused on the data scoping study to examine use of federal data and any data gaps.
 - *BOEM update* – BOEM issued a call for information and nominations for California wind energy planning in October 2018. The public comment period ends on January 28th. We are also engaging with federally recognized tribes individually. On the conventional energy front, we have been sharing information on the proposed 2019 - 2024 oil and gas leasing on the OCS will be released maybe in January 2019. We will share information about that as soon as it is available.

West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) Update

- Allison Bailey (WCODP) – Funding for the WCODP will be focused on web hosting, server maintenance, an annual meeting of the WCODP network (which we haven't had for a couple of years), and putting together a regional dataset synthesis. This funding only goes through next September. Courtney Hann (WCOA Staff) synthesized information from the WCODP, Ocean Assessment, and current marine spatial plans to provide information on what data is available and where data gaps exist. From that, we want to recommend that the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) work on a proposal to synthesize benthic infauna data, which was shown as a data need and gap through Courtney's analysis work.

Group Discussion: 2019-2020 Regional Work Plan

John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) led the group in discussing each topic below.

Review of West Coast Regional Goals & Corresponding Work Plan contents

- The West Coast Regional Vision was started in 2018 and includes four overarching goals and objectives: 1) compatible and sustainable ocean uses, 2) effective and transparent decision-making, 3) comprehensive ocean and coastal data, and 4)

increased understanding of and respect for tribal rights, traditional knowledge, resources and practices.

- The WCOA will now develop a work plan based on those broad goals to establish specific action items, tasks, deliverables and associated timelines within each of the four goals.

Regional models: Northeast & Mid-Atlantic (Pre & Post-RPB)

- The Northeast Regional planning Body finished their plan in 2016, laying out their framework in a 30-page document. Overall, it was focused on some broad goals and how they would actually produce things. We are envisioning a similar framework with having a broad goal, objectives for each broad goal, and more specific actions for how to accomplish these objectives.
- The Pacific Islands sub-regional planning group produced an ocean plan for American Samoa. Again, this document laid out overarching goals and objectives. We can learn from that and build from that approach.

Group Discussion:

- John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) showed an example of the WCOA regional work plan and how specific tasks would fulfill overall goals (ex/ tribal engagement best practices document, tribal data and science working group, developing a jurisdictional map), and including an estimated timeline. John will bring a draft of the regional work plan to the executive committee for feedback, which the full WCOA membership will eventually review and provide feedback on.
- Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) agreed that being able to see specific actions that we are focusing on and who is taking the lead, versus the partners, is a great approach. Linking specific actions that advance some of the key issues we have identified makes a lot of sense.
- John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) noted that the work plan could also show specific actions for the Washington and Oregon-Northern California sub-regional teams.

END CALL

NEXT CALL: Friday, February 8, 2019 at 10 am