



# West Coast OCEAN ALLIANCE

February 2019

Member Call

## SUMMARY

Friday, February 1, 2019 -- 10:00-11:30 am (Pacific)

---

### ACTION ITEMS

- If interested, please review the national-level federal Ocean Policy Committee's two latest reports:
  - [Science and Technology for America's Oceans: A Decadal Vision](#)
  - [Regional Data Platform Scoping Study: Federal Data Task Report](#)
- Dana Goodson (Udall Foundation, Washington DC) will be sharing Udall Foundation proposal to support a government engagement best practices document, British Columbia tribal exchange session, and WCOA training on tribal consultation and engagement with the WCOA.
- Jen Hennessey (WA Governors Office) will work with Joan Barminski (BOEM) to compile a request for Stacy Aguilera-Peterson (Office of Science, Technology and Policy, Washington DC) to help the Ocean Resource Management Subcommittee's Phase II data team to incorporate broader input from states and tribes for the west coast region.
- Oregon-Northern California sub-regional Work Plan is out for review by sub-regional team members (also distributed to full WCOA membership).

### UPCOMING DATES

- ~~February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019~~ (*Postponed to Feb 25<sup>th</sup>*): Washington sub-regional in-person meeting. Contact Jen Hennessey (WA Governor's Office) for more info.
- February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019: Federal Caucus call (tentative).

- March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019: Caren Braby will be briefing Pacific Fisheries Management Council on the WCOA. Materials need to be sent to Caren by February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10 am: Next WCOA member call.

---

## CALL SUMMARY

### Attendees

**West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA) Staff:** John Hansen (WCOA Coordinator)

**West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) Staff:** Andy Lanier (WCODP), Allison Bailey (WCODP Staff), Steve Weisberg (Southern California Coastal Water Research Project)

**State Staff:** Jennifer Hennessey (WA Governor's Office), Katrina Lassiter (WA Dept. of Natural Resources), Patty Snow (OR DLCD), Deanna Caracciolo (OR DLCD), Andy Lanier (OR DLCD), Caren Braby (ODFW), Jenn Eckerle (California Ocean Protection Council)

**Tribal Members/Staff:** Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe), Franchesca Perez (Stillaguamish Tribe), Mike Kennedy (Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians), Stan van de Wetering (Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians), Carl Merkle (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation), Janet Niessner (Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians), Abby Gomes (Kashia Band of Pomo Indians)

**Federal Staff:** Stephanie Stavrakas (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), Kris Wall (NOAA), Joan Barminski (BOEM), Becky Smyth (NOAA), Walt Wilson (Navy Region SW), Sara Gultinan (BOEM), Bill Standley (Bureau of Land Management, California Coastal National Monument), Jeff Ferguson (NOAA Office of Coast Survey), Stacy Aguilera-Patterson (Office of Science, Technology and Policy, Washington DC), Dana Goodson (Udall Foundation, Washington DC), **Carrie Schmaus (DOE, Washington DC)**, Irina Irvine (National Park Service), Jon Gornick (Army Corps of Engineers), Simon Gore (WPTO, Department of Energy)

---

## Tribal Engagement Update

### Udall Foundation 2019 Tribal Support

*Dana Goodson (Udall Foundation, Washington DC) provided an overview of the Udall Foundation and upcoming planned 2019 West Coast tribal engagement support.*

- **Udall Foundation Background:** Dana Goodson works for the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution within the [Udall Foundation](#), an independent federal agency, whose mission is to help federal agencies work with tribes, states, and stakeholders to resolve conflicts around environmental issues and build consensus on cultural resource issues. We are partly funded by federal appropriations and also by the Moore Foundation for tribal coordination, caucus,

and engagement work. We have been speaking with John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) and the Tribal Caucus to understand how we could best serve you all with the Moore Foundation funds we have remaining. Stephanie Lucero is the new Native Alaskan and Native American program coordinator (based in Sacramento, California) that will support some of the work we are doing with you all on the West Coast. Udall's support will include the following areas:

- Government Engagement Best Practices document: Udall Foundation will be working with a tribal caucus work group over a few months to develop a government-to-government engagement best practices document for marine management.
- BC Tribal Exchange Session: A British Columbia tribal exchange session would provide the Tribal Caucus with the opportunity to receive feedback on best practices document.
- WCOA Training and Tribal Consultation and Engagement: The Udall Foundation has a tribal consultation and engagement 2-day training that Stephanie Lucero will deliver, ideally at the next in-person WCOA meeting. The training would be tailored to the WCOA and best practices guidance document for the West Coast.
- Comments: John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) and Kris Wall (NOAA) noted that our state and federal partners already have some tribal engagement guidance documents, trainings, and efforts underway that could tie into this work.
  - Jenn Eckerie (California Ocean Protection Council) asked if there is a date set for the tribal exchange session because she would like to share the information at the next California Fish and Game Commission tribal committee meeting. John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) replied that there is no date set, but likely summer.
  - Andy Lanier (WCODP) asked if data or data sharing would be a topic of interest for the BC tribal exchange. The WCODP worked with Canadian partners to establish an initial catalog connection and knows there is a significant amount of tribal capacity in many BC first nations. Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) replied that they are still working on the agenda, but believe data sharing, tools and technology will be a key component.

## **British Columbia First Nations & U.S. West Coast Tribal Exchange Planning**

- John Hansen (WCOA Coord.): We have funding in our new grant to support travel of tribal members to British Columbia, as well as paying for meeting venue, and other costs for a British Columbia first nations and U.S. West Coast tribal exchange meeting that would potentially take place this summer. The Tribal Caucus is working on meeting goals and objectives right now. If you would like more info or have suggestions on meeting topics, or links to BC First Nations, contact John Hansen or Katie Wrubel.

## WCOA Executive Committee: Additional Tribal Representative

- Please contact Katie Wrubel (Makah Tribe) if you would like to be part of the Tribal Caucus as a tribal representative for the region, and/or a co-tribal coordinator with Katie. The West Coast Regional Planning Body had a formal process for being involved on the executive committee, but the WCOA process may be less formal without an official charter.

---

## WCOA Caucus Updates

### State Caucus

- Patty Snow (Coastal Program Manager, OR DLC): Discussions are underway between regional staff from the Gulf of Mexico, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and West Coast on possible approaches to pursuing federal appropriations and/or authorization for Regional Ocean Partnerships. Through its membership the [Coastal States Organization](#) may be interested in helping with any initial dialogs. CSO state members appear supportive, as long as funding for regional ocean partnership grants wouldn't impact state coastal management grants. Caren Brady (PFMC representative for WCOA) is also very active in the [Pacific Fisheries Management Council](#) (PFMC) and will be briefing them on March 7<sup>th</sup> about the WCOA (materials needed by 2/11).

### Federal Caucus

- Joan Barminski (BOEM): The federal Ocean Policy Committee's (OPC) last meeting was held on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The OPC is administering the federal aspects of the new oceans Executive Order through the Science and Technology Subcommittee and the Ocean Resource Management Subcommittee (ORMS). ORMS is managing the data sharing partnership. The following outcomes were produced:
  - The national data sharing effort produced a final document: [Science and Technology for America's Oceans: A Decadal Vision](#).
  - [Phase I](#) of identifying federally sourced data needs was completed in fall 2018 including regional interviews. It was produced in the [Regional Data Platform Scoping Study: Federal Data Task Report](#), released in 2018. It includes the top 10 ocean and coastal issues and federal data needs:
    - **Top 10 Ocean and Coastal Issues** (ranked by number of regions reporting)
      1. Offshore aquaculture siting
      2. Fisheries management
      3. Community resilience and climate adaptation
      4. Offshore renewable energy siting and leasing
      5. Sand and sediment management
      6. Species and habitat management
      7. Water quality, including marine debris, ocean acidification, harmful algal blooms, and oil spills

8. Oil and gas exploration and extraction
  9. Ocean disposal
  10. Maritime and navigation safety
- **Top 10 Federal Data Needs** (ranked by number of regions reporting)
    1. Jurisdictions and regulated areas (varied)
    2. Abundance and distribution of marine species (NOAA, DoD, BOEM, FWS)
    3. Synthesized oceanographic parameters (NOAA, NASA)
    4. Commercial fishing effort – Vessel Monitoring System (NOAA NMFS)
    5. Vessel traffic – automatic identification systems (USCG, MARAD)
    6. Human and cultural use areas (NPS, BIA, NOAA)
    7. Commercial fishing effort – Vessel Trip Report (NOAA NMFS)
    8. Bathymetry (NOAA, USGS)
    9. Sand and borrow sites (BOEM, USACE)
    10. Species and habitat locations (NOAA, BOEM, USGS, FWS)
  - Phase 2 will look at regional-scale data sharing. The team will identify and review federal agency data availability and develop a plan to prioritize the release of those data sets. The deadline for that is July 2019, although it may take longer due to the federal shutdown.
  - Other Ocean Policy Committee Items include the submission of letters of support of federal involvement from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Council and Northeast Regional Planning Body. On the West Coast, the federal family continues to be supportive of the WCOA.
  - Next Federal Caucus Call is planned for February 28<sup>th</sup> (pending future shutdowns) where federal representatives will discuss support of Phase II of the data sharing work.
  - **Comment:** Jen Hennessey (WA Governors Office) will work with Joan Barminski (BOEM) to compile a request for Stacy Aguilera-Patterson (Office of Science, Technology and Policy, Washington DC) to bring to the Phase II team to incorporate broader input from states and tribes for the West Coast region. Andy Lanier (OR DLCD) emphasized that the West Coast, given its size and diversity of topics and focus areas, needs to have follow up conversations on the specifics of the data and resources needed by the sub-regions and how customizations of a large federal dataset may benefit the region more than a standardized national approach.

## Individual Member Updates

- BOEM Conventional Oil & Gas Update (by Joan Barminski, BOEM): The next step in our [National OCS Oil and Gas program](#) is a program release.
- BOEM Offshore Wind Update (by Joan Barminski, BOEM): The call for information and nominations was issued by BOEM in December 2018 and the

comment period closed on the January 28, 2019 for California. The two sites include one in northern CA (off Humboldt bay) and one off central California (offshore Morro Bay and offshore Diablo Canyon). We are now analyzing the comments for information and data. We had nominations that came in as well. We will soon have those comments published to our website. The next step is to look at area identification where BOEM and the state of California identify offshore wind energy areas.

- New California Administration (by Jenn Eckerie, California Ocean Protection Council): California has a new Governor (Governor Newsom) and Secretary for Natural Resources (Wade Crowfoot) that the Ocean Protection Council is getting up to speed with their work.

---

## West Coast Ocean Data Portal Update

*Andy Lanier (WCODP) provided an update on the West Coast Ocean Data Portal.*

- New Hire for WCODP Support: The WCODP will be hiring someone collaboratively with the WCOA to help staff both efforts on a full-time basis. We have a scope of work established and somebody in mind; the federal government shutdown has delayed the effort. If our first choice doesn't work out, we will be reaching out, possibly via RFP, to see who fit that role.
- Washington Sub-Regional In-Person Meeting: Andy Lanier will be attending the in-person meeting next week to discuss follow-up actions.
- Upcoming Projects: The WCODP will work on how we access and display priority data and themes of information, similar to the Mid-Atlantic or Northeast Data Portals. There are also some continuing work program areas within the sub-regions. One will be continuing to review data and data gaps available within the sources that are already providing data to the WCODP. We will have data contacts review existing WCODP data to help identify existing datasets that need updates and information that is missing. We will be working with connecting Washington Marine Spatial Plan catalogs and a database system in California to the WCODP. Finally, a "spatial coordination framework" has been identified as a top priority for the Oregon-Northern California sub-regional group. This will essentially be as smart database of entities and their interest areas that can support the broader regional goal of increasing coordination and communication around different kinds of management activities.
- Introduction of Steve Weisberg (SCCWRP): Steve Weisberg is the Executive Director of the [Southern California Coastal Water Research Project](#) (SCCWRP) who has been asked to participate in a contract BOEM has given us to:
  - (1) Have Steve Weisberg assist Andy in the running of the WCODP community,
  - (2) Provide hardware and software support for maintaining the WCODP itself, and
  - (3) Helping pull together datasets that we can put into the WCODP, with initial focus on benthic infauna invertebrates. We chose this because they are widely used in assessment of conditions (i.e. for wind farm

assessment, regional Santa Monica Bay estuarine program, national EPA reports, etc.). It is an interesting challenge to put into a regional dataset because there are many groups that collect this data and they don't all use the same gear, methods, or naming conventions. The hope to enhance those conversations and get people interacting in ways to create more consistent and accessible data.

---

## Sub-regional Team Updates

### Oregon-Northern California

*John Hansen (WCOA Coord.) gave an overview of the last in-person Oregon-Northern California sub-regional meeting and the new draft work plan.*

- 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 – Short term; how are states, tribes, and federal entities coordinating on projects and work
  2. Tribal Engagement Best Practices – Short term; need for more effective tribal engagement and defining best practices
  3. Offshore Project Tracker – A longer term effort to develop a tool that tracks real-time projects and proposals offshore, building on Spatial Coordination Framework.
- A draft Oregon-Northern California Sub-regional Work Plan that includes action items and products for the three tasks listed above was sent to the ORNC work group for review. It will be discussed on their next call on Weds Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Washington Pacific Coast

- Jen Hennessey (WA Governor's Office): An in-person Washington Coast sub-regional meeting will take place on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Given the federal government shutdown, we haven't been able to reach out to the federal folks that we would like to invite to attend. For those outside of Washington, let me know if you would like to attend. We will be talking about how we want to work together as a team sub-regionally and begin to think about a draft work plan. There is some overlap with what the Oregon-Northern California sub-regional group is talking about and we have invited Andy to come and attend our meeting. An agenda will be sent out to those interested.
  - **NOTE: this meeting was rescheduled for Feb 25<sup>th</sup>.**

END CALL

**NEXT CALL: Friday, April 5, 2019 at 10 am**