Connecting Science to Policy to Better Manage the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME)

Pathways to Success

Integrating Human Dimensions into Fisheries and Wildlife Management
WCGA Executive Committee

**California**
Cat Kuhlman, Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Matters, California Natural Resources Agency

**Washington**
Bob Nichols, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Gregoire of Washington

**Oregon**
Gabriela Goldfarb, Natural Resources Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Kitzhaber of Oregon

**Department of Commerce**
Will Stelle, Regional Administrator for the Northwest Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**Department of the Interior**
Joan Barminski, Deputy Regional Director, Pacific OCS Region, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

**Roles and Responsibilities**

- Engage with NOP/NOC
- Seek funding/manage projects
- Support regional priority actions
- Inform and guide the progress of Action Coordination Teams (ACTs)

**Regional Partnerships**

- Caribbean Regional Ocean Partnership
- Council of Great Lakes Governors
- Governors’ South Atlantic Alliance
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean
- Northeast Regional Ocean Council
- West Coast Governors’ Agreement on Ocean Health
- EPA Region
Action Coordination Teams

- Seafloor mapping
- Polluted runoff
- Marine debris
- *Spartina* eradication
- Renewable ocean energy
- Ocean education
- Sediment management
- Coastal hazards/climate change
- Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
- Sustainable coastal communities
- Regional Data Framework
Regional Data Framework
Regional Science Priorities
Integrated Ecosystem Assessments
Regional Data Framework

- **WCGA Priority Area 6:**
  *Expand Ocean and Coastal Scientific Information, Research, and Monitoring*

- ACTs expressed needs for data and tools assistance

- Coordination of regional capacity and institutions to meet needs
Regional Data Framework

Mission

• Increase the efficiency of data discovery to support activities that promote ocean health

• Provide a single region-wide point of access for data, tools, and human resources
WEST COAST GOVERNORS ALLIANCE on OCEAN HEALTH
CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

Regional Ocean Management Issues

Data System

Coastal & Marine Geospatial Information

Framework

Human Network
Future work

- $625k
- Data Portal and Map Viewer
- Tool development
- Support for partners to publish data
Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning

- Balance ocean health and community prosperity
- Minimize user conflicts
- Transparent community engagement
- Based on sound science
- Respect the unique character of each US region
Regional Research Priorities

Climate Change:
- Sea Level Rise
- Ocean Acidification
- Fisheries
- Ecosystems

Marine Ecosystems + Multiple Uses:
- Cumulative Impacts
- Land-Sea Connection
- Ecosystem Health
- Seafloor Mapping

Vitality of Coastal Communities:
- Economic and Social Health
- Tradeoff Analysis
- MPAs

Water Quality and Pollution:
- Marine Debris
- Polluted Runoff
- HABs and Hypoxia
- CECS

Fisheries and Aquaculture:
- Fisheries Assessment
- Fisheries Management
- Offshore Aquaculture
- Bycatch

Emerging Issues:
- Offshore Energy
- CMSP

Disaster Response
- Response

West Coast Regional Marine Research and Information Needs
Regional Research Priorities

Marine Ecosystems and Multiple Uses
• Ecosystem Health
• Land-Sea Connection

Climate Change
• Ocean Acidification
• Sea Level Rise
• Changes in Ocean Circulation
Regional Research Priorities

Emerging Issues
• CMSP

Washington
• MSP legislation, $2.1 m for initial actions

Oregon
• Territorial Sea Plan update

California
• Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) process
Regional Research Priorities

Next Steps

• Guide for developing research and information priorities
  – Investing in natural and social science research
  – Promoting regional integration and implementation
IEA GOAL: to make tangible progress toward clear, well-defined ecosystem objectives that are built on a science strategy that fuses natural-science components and social-science considerations into a coherent characterization, assessment, and evaluation of future management scenarios.

2. Outer Washington Coast
3. Oregon Coast
4. Northern California
5. Central California
6. Southern California Bight
Regional-Integrated Ecosystem Assessments:

1. Puget Sound
2. Outer Washington Coast
3. Oregon Coast
4. Northern California
5. Central California
6. Southern California Bight

Current Status of R-IEAs

1. Underway by PSP / 2011
2. Conceptual Planning by OCNMS / 2012
3. “Scoping Discussions”
4. “Scoping Discussions”
5. MBNMS RFP Workplan / 2012
6. Conceptual Planning by CINMS / 2012
IEA Purpose: synthesize and analyze technical data and social-science information within the context of specified ecosystem management goals.

Regional-Integrated Ecosystem Assessments:

1. Puget Sound
2. Outer Washington Coast
3. Oregon Coast
4. Northern California
5. Central California
6. Southern California Bight

Biogeographic Limits
Regional Issues
Stakeholders
Ecosystem Drivers
Appropriate Indicators
Complementary pathways and work products for West Coast Marine Spatial Planning (MP) and Regional - Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) processes.
WCGA Partners and connections
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