THE PACIFIC COAST COLLABORATIVE

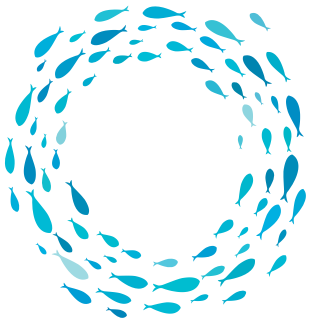
Combatting Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Through Regional and International Collaboration

Pacific Coast COLLABORATIVE

Climate change is causing waters off the West Coast of North America to acidify faster than anywhere else in the world. The compounding effects of acidification, oxygen loss, and ocean warming are **exacerbating threats** to marine ecosystems and impacting economically, ecologically, and culturally important organisms like shellfish and salmon.

These converging crises require **rapid and collaborative action** at local, regional, and global scales. British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and California are working together across their 25,000 miles of coastline to collaborate on research efforts, share knowledge, and align management responses to address ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts.

Ocean acidification and ocean hypoxia threaten marine ecosystems, coastal communities, and the regional economy:



Ecological Impacts: Ocean acidification makes it difficult for marine life to build their shells and skeletons. Climate change also causes extended periods of ocean hypoxia (low oxygen) in some areas, forcing marine organisms to flee and seek refugia. These conditions impact animals throughout the food chain, including crabs, fish, and larger marine mammals.

Economic Impacts: OA and hypoxia could significantly disrupt the seafood industry, impacting food security and ocean economies. This industry supports thousands of jobs, mostly in underserved coastal communities, and contributes significantly to regional and global GDP.

Cultural Impacts: OA and hypoxia disproportionately threaten the sociocultural fabric of Tribal and Indigenous coastal communities who rely on the ocean for traditional harvests, cultural connections, and economic security.

The PCC represents the world's fourth largest economy, a thriving region of 58 million people with a combined GDP of nearly $5 trillion.

OA ALLIANCE

FROM REGIONAL TO GLOBAL

The Pacific Coast Collaborative established the **framework and leadership** for the creation of the international OA Alliance. This global initiative calls for increased ambition to address climate change and transform our response to climate-ocean change (OAAlliance.org).

Membership in the OA Alliance includes more than 130 member jurisdictions across 22 countries and continues to grow.

What we've accomplished together:

4 West Coast OA Action Plans

which directly led to the development of other state OA Action Plans and a U.S. National OA Action plan.

Over $20 million (USD) in investments

to implement ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring, mitigation, and adaptation strategies.

More than 2,000 monitoring sites

across the West Coast to support observation and modeling of ocean acidification and hypoxia conditions.

PCC Leadership

Gavin Newsom California Governor	**Tina Kotek** Oregon Governor	**Ken Sim** Vancouver Mayor	**Ted Wheeler** Portland Mayor	**Sheng Thao** Oakland Mayor
Jay Inslee Washington Governor	**David Eby** BC Premier	**Bruce Harrell** Seattle Mayor	**London Breed** San Francisco Mayor	**Karen Bass** Los Angeles Mayor