



WEST COAST GOVERNORS'
AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH
CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

West Coast Regional Harmful Algal Bloom
Summit

**Background and Progress on the
West Coast Governors' Agreement
on Ocean Health**

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This talk will cover...

- History of the Agreement
- The Action Plan
- Progress to date
- Findings and Action for Harmful Algal Blooms



Background

- Three West Coast Governors signed an agreement on ocean health in September 2006
- The Agreement identified **7 priority areas**
- Final Action Plan released in July 2008
- Establishment of the Executive Committee and initial Action Coordination Teams

Website: westcoastoceans.gov

State Leadership

Three Governors' Representatives

| California | Oregon | Washington |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Brian Baird Assistant Secretary for Oceans Natural Resources Agency | Jessica Hamilton Natural Resources Advisor Governor Kulongoski's Office | Kathleen Drew Executive Policy Advisor Governor Gregoire's Office |

Federal Support



- **Federal Co-leads**

- Fred Piltz,
DOI / MMS

- Alexis Strauss,
U.S. EPA

- Usha Varanasi,
DOC / NOAA

Other Federal Agencies:

Department of Interior

- U.S. Geological Survey

- National Park Service

- Fish and Wildlife Service

- Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of State

Department of Energy

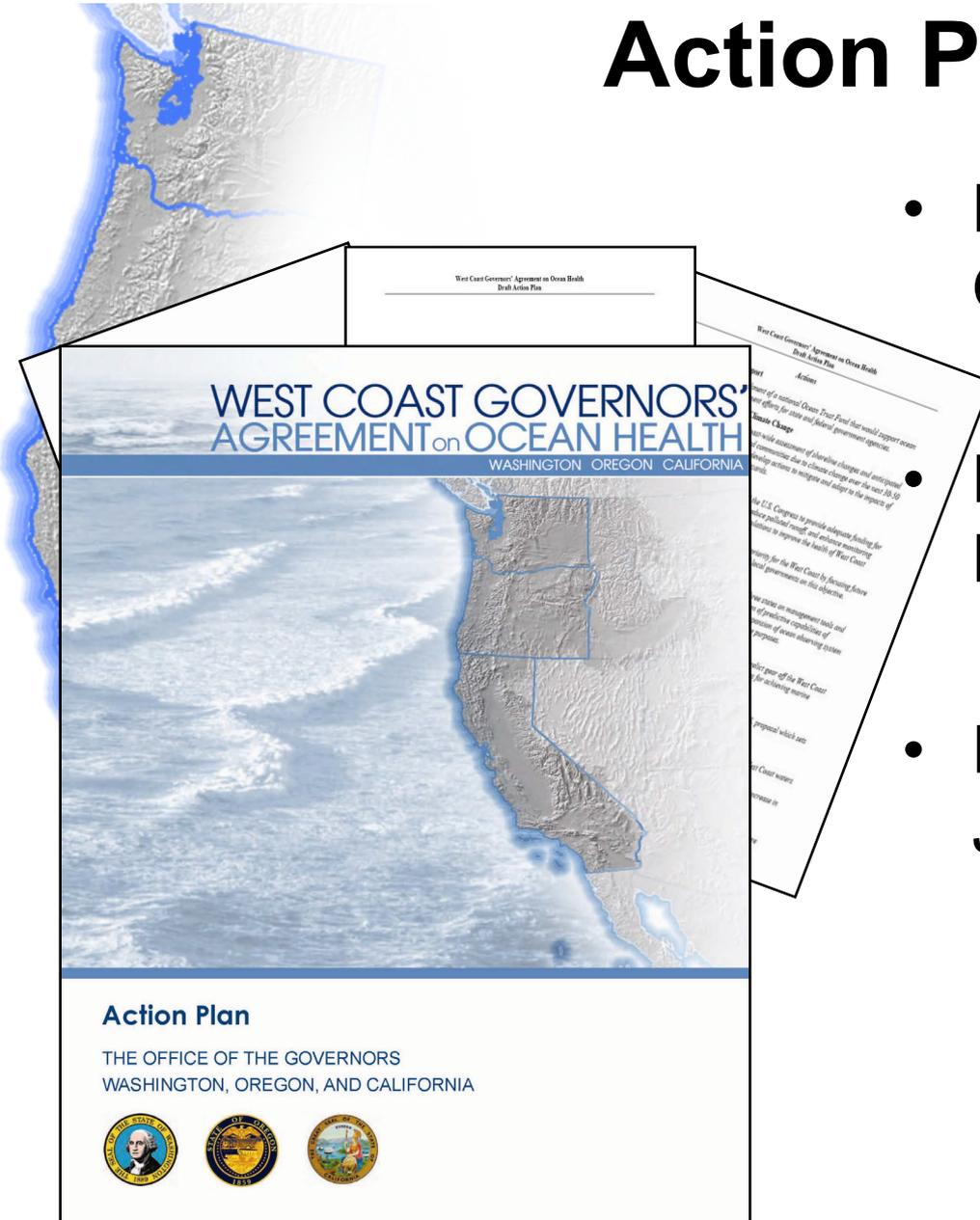
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Department of Defense, U.S. Navy

Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission

Action Plan



- Draft Action Plan in October 2007
- Public comment until December 2007
- Final Action Plan in July 2008
 - 24 actions plus 2 overarching
 - Finding 1C and Action 1.3



Seven Priority Areas

The priority areas target...

1. Clean coastal waters and beaches
2. Ocean and coastal habitats
3. Ecosystem-based management
4. Sustainable offshore energy
5. Ocean education
6. Research and monitoring
7. Vibrant coastal communities

Progress

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- Progress on action items since November:
 - West Coast Governors' Ocean Action Teams' Meeting, October 2008 in Seattle → ACT workplans in progress
 - Joint letter to President supporting IMO clean global shipping emissions standards
 - Seafloor mapping workshops, alternative energy workshops, and this harmful algal bloom meeting
 - Report on the Sea Grant regional research needs released for public comment
 - Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEAs) initiated in Puget Sound; foundations laid for the California Current

HABs

- Finding 1C:

Additional research and expanded monitoring efforts are essential to understanding the threats posed by HABs and to support management actions relating to Pseudo-nitzschia and other algae blooms along the West Coast.

HABs

- Action 1.3:

Exchange information among experts in all three states on management tools and techniques to promote development and operation of predictive capabilities of harmful algal blooms and hypoxia. Support the expansion of ocean observing system monitoring efforts among the three states for these purposes.





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Let's get to work!