

**West Coast Ocean Partnership
Strategic Framework
April 2016**

PURPOSE

The West Coast Ocean Partnership (WCOP) is a state, tribal and federal forum for fostering dialogue on ocean health that:

- Improves understanding of regional ocean health issues and respect for shared regional priorities.
- Addresses shared regional opportunities by connecting people, information, approaches and resources.
- Builds upon existing efforts.
- Informs policy, planning and management.

I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In January 2015, the West Coast Ocean Summit (Ocean Summit) brought together West Coast tribes, state and federal agencies and representatives from the governors' offices of California, Oregon, and Washington, to:

- Discuss and determine regional ocean health priorities that can be advanced through intergovernmental coordination and collaboration;
- Enhance dialogue, develop strategies, and foster consensus building in identifying opportunities and overcoming barriers to regional ocean coordination and collaboration; and
- Identify appropriate long-term coordination strategies and/or mechanisms to support regional ocean coordination and collaboration.

Participants at the Summit agreed to work together to acknowledge and address long-term regional-scale ocean health priorities and objectives through the creation of a lasting regional ocean collaboration for the West Coast. This new collaboration, the West Coast Ocean Partnership, will align with and build upon the functions of prior and existing regional entities [e.g. the West Coast Governors Alliance on Ocean Health (WCGA) and the West Coast Regional Planning Body (RPB)] for efficiency and effectiveness and members will include tribes, state, and federal government entities from Washington, Oregon, and California.

In addition to the outcomes of the Ocean Summit, preparation of this Strategic Framework document has been informed by:

- A lessons-learned analysis of the WCGA.
- Initial discussions among tribal, state and federal agency representatives to inform development of the West Coast Regional Planning Body.

- Collaborative discussions among a “Working Group” composed of tribal, state, and federal representatives. This includes participation in two strategic planning meetings on June 30-July 1, 2015 and January 5-6, 2016 to discuss the outline and content of this framework. All the participants in and invitees to the West Coast Ocean Summit were invited to participate in the Working Group. A subset of 65 individuals decided to join the Working Group.

II. GOALS

The West Coast Ocean Partnership will focus on information sharing, coordination, communication, and relationship building among West Coast governmental entities that share the same long-term interest to improve regional ocean health for future generations. Its goals are to:

- Promote informed action on ocean health priorities.
- Present a collaborative and unified voice to exert influence on national policy issues.
- Strengthen the use of natural and social science to inform policy and drive action to improve ocean health.
- Maximize and leverage financial resources, capacity and expertise among members and reduce duplication of efforts.
- Assemble and mobilize its members around emerging issues.
- Improve multi-sovereign consultation and the operational capacity of members.
- Enhance working relationships, information sharing and learning from each other’s experiences and best practices.

III. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The WCOP will not supersede any existing legal authority; it is not formal consultation nor does it replace any government-to-government consultation process.
- The WCOP will respect tribal sovereignty and tribes’ inherent authority, right to gather traditional natural resources, and trust responsibility of the federal government to the tribes.
- The WCOP will respect the government protocols and processes of the states, federal agencies, and tribes.
- WCOP activities will be inclusive for all participants. Tribes, states, and federal agencies are equal partners in the WCOP.
- The WCOP will be consistent with the engagement directives of the National Ocean Policy, state, and tribal policies.

IV. INITIAL REGIONAL PRIORITIES, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Through the WCOPE, partners seek to advance their mutual interests in priority ocean health issues that can be addressed at the regional scale on the West Coast by connecting people and resources; exchanging regional, state and tribal insights to inform actions; and improving the understanding of and respect for West Coast ocean issues and our regional capabilities.

The WCOP has identified its top three regional ocean health priorities as:

1. Climate Resilient Coastal Communities
2. Responding To Changing Ocean Conditions
3. Improving Ocean Data and Coordination

The foundational tools and approaches that may be used to address these identified regional priorities, where applicable, include:

- Improving multi-sovereign consultation process and communication and creating a shared understanding on best practices.
- Supporting education and outreach for activities to inform state legislators, members of Congress, and key stakeholders about the regional priorities.
- Promoting alignment and leveraging of shared federal, tribal, and state ocean efforts.
- Coordinating and aligning with the newly-formed West Coast Regional Planning Body, including advancing priority ocean issues using marine planning and other appropriate tools and leveraging the U.S. National Ocean Policy and enhanced federal participation.
- Using and expanding the West Coast Ocean Data Portal and associated West Coast Ocean Data Network

At the end of this document is a detailed table of regional priorities, objectives, activities and outcomes that were initially identified at the 2015 West Coast Ocean Summit and refined by the WCOP Working Group (Appendix A). This table represents a list of *potential* activities that the WCOP can undertake, depending on capacity and resources. The WCOP will agree on which activities from this list to pursue.

V. GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

The West Coast Ocean Partnership (WCOP) is a region-wide, voluntary, intergovernmental collaboration along the West Coast open to the tribes, federal agencies, and the state governments of Washington, Oregon and California.

For purposes of participation in the WCOP, the terms “tribe” and “tribal” refer to Native

American tribes and tribal entities located within Washington, Oregon, or California and which fall within the following two categories:

- a. Any federally recognized tribe located within the three states, or whose ancestral territory is located within those states, including any tribe with specific ocean-related treaty rights; and
- b. Any non-federally recognized tribe located within the three states, or whose ancestral territory is located within those states, and which has standing to be consulted under the law and policy of the State in which it is located.

STRUCTURE, MEMBERSHIP, AND ROLES

The WCOP will be composed of:

- Member Entities with Delegates
- Co-Chair Committee
- Senior Staff

In addition, Work Groups may be convened as described below.

Member Entities with Delegates

Each member entity will have a primary and alternate delegate on the WCOP. Primary and alternate delegates from each member entity will be responsible for coordinating with each other to ensure that they are both sufficiently tracking and responding to WCOP activities. Both delegates may participate in WCOP meetings at the discretion of the member entity.

The primary and alternate delegates will be selected by their respective government entity. The member entity will sign a membership form provided by the WCOP (see Appendix B). Delegates shall be at an appropriate level of responsibility within their respective governing body to be able to perform the roles and expectations of members as outlined below.

Nothing herein shall prevent a delegate or alternate delegate to the WCOP from also participating as a voting representative on the RPB or on any other ocean forum or committee.

When formal decisions need to be made, each government entity (as represented by the primary or alternate) will have one response regarding the decision.

Co-Chair Committee

The primary role of the Co-Chair Committee will be to support and advise the WCOP Coordinator on meeting agenda content and planning, and in the absence of the coordinator, plan and host the calls/meetings. Co-Chairs would also serve as signatories on any official correspondence from the WCOP, on behalf of the WCOP as a whole. Additionally, each co-chair will support convening or caucusing of their government counterparts if/as needed to discuss WCOP issues.

The Co-Chair Committee will be comprised of a single federal co-lead, single state co-lead, and single tribal co-lead who are currently serving as a primary or alternate on the WCOP. Federal members will select the federal co-lead, state members will select the state co-lead, and tribal government members will select the tribal co-lead.

The Co-Chair Committee and/or the Coordinator will have the authority to make day-to-day operational and administrative decisions (e.g., scheduling a conference call based on an internet poll) to help facilitate the operation of the WCOP. The Co-Chair Committee may delegate administrative tasks (e.g., scheduling a conference call) to Senior Staff if necessary. The Co-Chairs will not have any additional policy or strategic decision-making authority beyond their role through the WCOP, nor will any single co-lead provide formal input on behalf of the larger group of government counterparts they represent.

Co-Chairs will have a two-year term. While there is no limit on consecutive terms, rotating Co-Chairs is encouraged when there is availability and interest from another member delegate to serve as Co-Chair). Co-Chairs may be re-elected or replaced through an approach determined appropriate by each governmental group.

Senior Staff

The primary role of Senior Staff is to provide topical and policy advice to their member delegates. Each government entity is welcome to have Senior Staff participate in WCOP calls and meetings as a way of contributing topical and policy expertise to the WCOP conversations.

Work Groups

Subject to availability of funding and other resources, the WCOP may convene Work Groups. Work Groups are intended to be temporary, task-oriented groups that are established to implement a specific activity that supports priority ocean health objectives of the WCOP and then disband upon completion of that activity. (Many of these potential activities and objectives are listed in Appendix A.) Work Groups may be comprised of individuals from WCOP member entities, as well as academia, industry, non-profits, local governments and other stakeholders when appropriate, to identify and/or implement actions that address regional ocean health priorities.

The WCOP will determine the process for identifying Work Group members. Membership in a Work Group does not imply membership in the WCOP itself. Work Group members (who are not already included as Senior Staff or delegates) will not participate in regular WCOP calls and meetings unless specifically invited to present on their current efforts or initiatives.

Work Groups shall provide a report and/or update on their activities to the WCOP on at least an annual basis. The WCOP will review the need for each Work Group every three years after the Work Group is established to ensure continued effectiveness and streamlining of the Partnership.

Membership Principles

Members will:

- Strive to be open, transparent, inclusive, and accountable in all of their actions.
- Adhere to the highest ethical standards in their work and deliberations, and commit to using informed judgment and thoughtfulness in decision-making.
- Seek to hear, understand, and reflect broad stakeholder interests and diversity throughout the region.
- Seek consensus whenever possible; where individual entities decline to support common goals, they will explain their decisions.
- Provide input that is strategic, science-based and when accessible includes Traditional Ecological Knowledge. This input should reflect a regional perspective and long-term view.

- Facilitate coordination and promote inclusive, collaborative, and respectful communication among multiple entities.

Roles and Expectations of WCOP Delegates and Senior Staff

- Identify ocean health priority issues that can be addressed through a regional response.
- Participate in or assist in identifying members for the WCOP Work Groups to conduct activities that address identified priority issues.
- Create opportunities for a West Coast-wide information exchange of regional, state, and tribal insights to inform priority issues.
- Improve the understanding of and respect for West Coast ocean issues and regional capabilities.
- Provide strategic guidance help to guide timely progress of WCOP activities on regional ocean health priorities.
- Participate in WCOP meetings, and come prepared to participate effectively.
- Communicate information from the WCOP back to their own government entity leadership and councils to ensure that all of the entities are tracking WCOP developments and solicit input from entity leadership and councils to ensure comprehensive representation.
- Seek funds for advancement of regional priority issues where appropriate.
- Oversee the appropriate use of grants and other funds that are awarded to the WCOP or to member entities on behalf of the partnership to carry out WCOP activities.
- Coordinate with other states, regions and tribal governments on national issues in order to ensure the West Coast-wide perspective is taken into consideration.
- Foster a cooperative and effective partnership on ocean health.

WCOP Membership and participation will be evaluated annually by the Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs may choose to approach any government entity that has not had consistent participation to discuss their membership and participation in the WCOP. Each member entity will reaffirm their participation in the WCOP at least every five years.

Relationship to the West Coast Regional Planning Body

The WCOP focus is on Ocean Health, which is a different focus than that of the the West Coast Regional Planning Body (“RPB”), although their interests are related. The WCOP will serve as the regional ocean partnership for the West Coast and coordinate closely with the RPB, which implements the U.S. National Ocean Policy through the development and use of regional marine planning. The relationship between the WCOP and RPB may change over time as signatories to each determine the most appropriate method to align appropriate activities and maximize efficiency of their members’ efforts.

The relationship between the WCOF and RPB includes collaboration among regional participating entities concerning priority ocean issues using marine planning and other appropriate tools. The RPB operates pursuant to the terms under its own Charter, but operations of the WCOP and RPB overlap in order to build consensus for tribal, state and federal governments in the West Coast on ocean health issues, prevent duplication, create more efficiency, and leverage resources. The streamlining of operations includes overlapping membership to the extent possible and at the discretion of each government entity.

A table comparing elements of the WCOP and RPB can be found at the end of this framework (Appendix C).

LOGISTICS AND ENGAGEMENT

Meetings

The WCOP will meet via teleconference on a quarterly basis or more often, as needed. The Co-Chair Committee or other groups (senior staff or work groups) may meet approximately monthly via teleconference. If funding is available, an in-person meeting will be held annually at a time and location that meets the needs and interest of the most entities. When possible, both teleconference and in-person meetings will be coordinated in conjunction with RPB meetings.

Coordination

The WCOP Coordinator is currently a grant-funded contract position and shall report to the Co-Chair Committee. In the event that funds are not available for the Coordinator position, the Delegates, Senior Staff and/or RPB staff will assume portions of this position as their capacity allows.

The WCOP Coordinator shall serve as the lead staff person for the WCOP and perform or have oversight for:

- Project management
- Conference call and meeting scheduling and facilitation
- Event management
- Content management for the WCOP website
- Writing and development of outreach materials
- Communication and outreach to stakeholders
- Liaising between the Co-Chair Committee, Delegates, Senior Staff, and Work Groups
- Overall daily coordination of operations
- Regular communication and coordination with West Coast RPB staff
- Research
- Fundraising
- Preparation of grant proposals and grant management
- Drafting of policy documents (e.g. letters)

Stakeholder Engagement

The WCOP will strive for appropriate and robust public engagement in its activities. The WCOP may choose to develop and implement a stakeholder engagement plan and evaluate and refine it over time.

Data and Information

The West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP, <http://portal.westcoastoceans.org>) represents an important tool in helping to provide access and coordination of science and information for the region. The WCOP recognizes the value of the WCODP in coordinating data partners, synthesizing new regional data, building technical capacity, and developing data and maps to help communicate and inform regional ocean health priorities. The WCOP encourages data staff from member and supporting organizations to participate in the WCODP network to shape data priorities and contribute resources.

Coordination with Other Regional Bodies

The WCOP will have a strong working relationship with other regional, multi-state, and international organizations and initiatives through the exchange of information and coordination on issues of mutual interest. To the extent possible, entities should consider choosing representatives on the WCOP that also participate in these other organizations or having their representatives engage in regular communication with others from their entity that participate in these organizations. Where WCOP regional priorities and activities closely align with these other regional groups, the WCOP may establish and implement additional mechanisms to foster improved coordination and communication.

These bodies include but are not limited to: Pacific Coast Collaborative, West Coast Marine Debris Alliance, Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Panel, Pacific Fisheries Management Council, Pacific States-British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, and Integrated Ocean Observing Systems.

DECISION-MAKING

The WCOP seeks to function in a manner that optimizes the ability to develop and sustain an effective working relationship among the members. The WCOP will aim to achieve high-level agreement in its decision-making. The intent is to strive for decisions that earn broad-based, cross-interest support from all WCOP members.

It is important to note that decisions by the WCOP do not impede the ability of individual members to engage separately on the same policy issues.

Consensus-Based Decision-Making

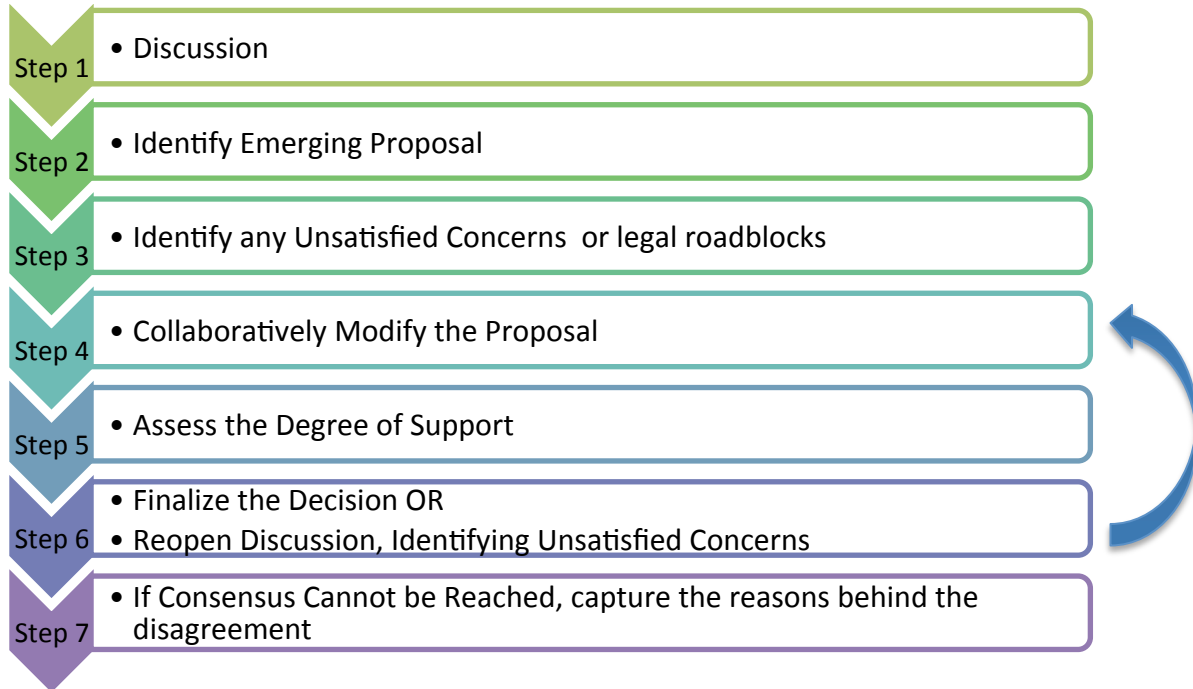
For substantive matters associated directly with strategy and policy decisions, the WCOP will strive for full consensus. Full consensus of the WCOP is reached when every WCOP member is in full agreement with a given decision. General concurrence of the WCOP is reached when every WCOP member agrees with each of the following:

- I believe that other WCOP members understand my point of view;
- I believe that I understand other WCOP members points of view;
- Whether or not I prefer this decision, I support it because it was arrived at openly and fairly and is the best solution for the WCOF at this time.

A decision is made when full consensus or general concurrence is reached by WCOP members.

Decision Making Process

WCOP decision making will follow the following general process:



Step 1

- With input from full WCOP membership, the Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator will facilitate a balanced discussion of the issue at hand.

Step 2

- After discussion of the issue, the Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator will consult with the full WCOP membership to see what areas of consensus have emerged, if any. This will help identify a proposal. WCOP delegates may state what, if any, areas of consensus they believe exist.

Step 3

- Given the proposal, the Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator will ask WCOP delegates to identify any unsatisfied concerns or interests or any legal roadblocks to the proposal.

Step 4

- WCOP will work together to address remaining concerns or eliminate illegalities, and integrate the changes into the proposal.

Step 5

- The Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator will ask WCOP delegates to indicate verbally (in person or remotely) their position on a given decision. Possible responses include:
 - In full agreement;
 - In general concurrence - not in full agreement but can respect the decision of the rest of WCOP delegates (i.e., can live with it);
 - Cannot agree;
 - Abstention.

Step 6

- When consensus or general concurrence is reached by WCOP delegates, it will be recorded as the decision of the WCOP by the Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator. A WCOP delegate may register their concern with a co-chair or the coordinator about a proposed course of action either orally or in writing without preventing general concurrence from being reached. If consensus has not been reached, the members will reopen discussion to address unsatisfied concerns until they are all addressed.

Step 7

If consensus or general concurrence cannot be reached, the Co-Chair Committee or Coordinator will detail the areas of disagreement in a written summary and the proposal will be tabled.

Types of Decisions

Depending on the type of action or discussion, the WCOP will need to consider engaging different levels of the organization.

The Co-Chair Committee and/or the Coordinator will have the authority to make day-to-day operational and administrative decisions (e.g., scheduling a conference call based on an internet poll) to help facilitate the operation of the WCOP). The Co-Chair Committee and/or Coordinator will consult the WCOP if it is not clear that a decision fits in this category.

The WCOP will make various other types of decisions, such as:

- Establishing or changing WCOP priorities
- Work Group formation or disbanding
- Applying for external funding
- Writing letters of support or letters expressing a policy stance or concerns
- Determining how WCOP resources are used (e.g., funds, in-kind services, or member entity staff time)

The WCOP acknowledges that decisions requiring senior leadership or council support cannot be made during a call or meeting. In these situations, the item for decision will be presented verbally and/or in writing and discussed, considered and modified on the call or during the meeting. Alternatively, the information and anticipated decision will be presented to WCOP members well enough in advance, so that WCOP members have time to get preliminary input from council members or senior leadership. The formal decision will occur either at the next WCOP meeting or call. Members who were not able to participate will be notified via email of the decision in an agreed-upon timeframe following the call, allowing sufficient time (generally up to two months) for consideration by councils and senior leadership and dependent on the time-sensitivity and type of the decision being made.

Decision Making Principles

To the greatest extent possible, WCOP deliberations will be:

- **Inclusive:** As many member representatives will be involved in group discussions as possible. Conference calls and meetings will be scheduled based on maximizing participation.
- **Participatory:** All member representatives will have a specific chance to contribute to the discussion, either on conference calls, in-person meetings, or by email.
- **Collaborative:** The WCOP will construct proposals with input from all interested member representatives. Any individual authorship of a proposal will be subsumed as the group modifies it to include the interests of all members.
- **Agreement Seeking:** The goal is to generate as much agreement as possible.
- **Cooperative:** Member representatives are encouraged to keep the good of the whole group in mind. Each individual member's preferences should be voiced so that the WCOP can incorporate all concerns into an emerging proposal as much as possible. When deemed appropriate, concerns that are not incorporated will be addressed outside the immediate process. Individual preferences should not, however, impede the progress of the WCOP as a whole.
- **Transparent:** All materials related to WCOP decisions and activities, including meeting notes and summaries, will be open and available to members of the WCOP and the public.

Dispute Resolution

Members of WCOP who find that the above decision making process places their entity in dispute, potentially affecting the smooth functioning of WCOP, agree to arrange a private conversation (entity to entity) to work out the differences amicably. If they are unable to reach resolution between them, they agree to seek the assistance of a mediator or other impartial third party.

This is a living document, and can be changed by consensus of all members. It is not a legally binding document.

APPENDIX A – INITIAL PRIORITIES, OBJECTIVES, POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Regional Priorities	Potential Activities	Outcomes
<p>1. Climate Resilient Coastal Communities</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote cross-regional learning opportunities and information sharing about resilience efforts and funding opportunities • Develop a common understanding of what makes communities climate resilient and ways to achieve that desired result. • Develop a framework for understanding and aligning and/or streamlining various climate resilience efforts and authorities. • Understand cultural significance and sensitivity of climate impacts on tribes. • Understand the challenges to integrated management across jurisdictions and identify strategies to improve coordination. • Create linkages with leadership on what makes a resilient community and importance of relationship to oceans 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serve as a voice for putting national focus on key issue for West Coast: What do climate related impacts mean for our coastal communities (inc. storms). Articulate needs to leadership/funders. 2. Identify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Regional climate resilience issues (e.g., what are changes/impacts that influence our region as a whole, but help us individually support improved community resilience). b) Policy challenges that tribal, state and federal governments need help with (science, approach to resilience, etc.) 3. Facilitate the exchange of information, challenges, approaches, and examples of climate resilience among West Coast climate resilience practitioners. Develop a communication mechanism(s) for understanding and aligning various efforts and authorities. 4. Establish a workgroup to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify experts and stakeholders • Pursue funding • Identify specific topics/activities to be addressed • Find solutions for challenges, and roadblocks • Develop and carry out a plan for policy briefings for high level government officials 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letters to high-level decision makers (e.g. CEQ). Communications strategy for region and WCOP. 2. Workshop or meeting if funding exists. List of specific regional issues, challenges, activities and solutions. 3. Potential outcomes include: email listserv, webinar series, annual conferences/workshops, white papers or other products, web resources, etc.) 4. This workgroup may initiate discussions to begin conceptualizing government alignment and/or streamlining of resilience guidance, terminology, and processes; evaluate the potential prospects for sponsorship of an inaugural West Coast Climate Resilience Summit to promote cross-regional

	<p>5. Update and maintain existing Climate Change Funding Wizard</p> <p>6. Promote or begin coordinating co-sponsorship of a new regional study by the National Research Council focused on sea-level rise and vertical land motion in the Pacific Northwest.</p> <p>7. Create a strategy for identifying differing terminologies for common resilience references (e.g., mitigation and adaptation) and a mechanism for either promoting a common language or translating and defining these terms for various coastal audiences.</p> <p>8. Create an award program for model climate resilient communities (one for each state); case studies, press around planning, identify needs</p> <p>9. Identify/list existing activities and efforts by each member entity to see where alignment between members takes place and where projects can be duplicated, leveraged, or scaled up to a regional level.</p>	<p>information exchange, learning opportunities, amongst other activities</p> <p>5. Updated resource for local governments to find funding for climate related projects</p> <p>6. Updated NRC Sea-Level Rise Study</p>
<p>2. Responding to Changing Ocean Conditions</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create organizing framework 	<p>1. Create mechanisms to connect with, leverage and enhance work from such as the West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel and the Pacific Coast Collaborative. Foster iterative conversations between resource</p>	<p>1. Change conversation on and reaction to ocean acidification. Engage in post-panel process and help bridge transition from science</p>

<p>for data synthesis and coordinated approaches that can be taken to deal with (adverse physical, biological and chemical changes to the ocean) Ocean Acidification, Hypoxia, and Temperature (OAHT) and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve understanding of and forecasting of changing conditions and impacts to ocean resources and California Current ecosystem. • Coordinate effectively with similar partnerships focused on these same topics. • Reduce marine debris and improve our understanding of microplastics 	<p>managers and scientists.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Leverage partnership with West Coast IOOS regional association and their data analysis and communication platforms. 3. Examine role for regional ocean data portal in synthesizing, translating and improving access to regional data and information on changing ocean conditions. 4. Develop mechanisms to lead and engage in cross-regional communication about OAHT, and discuss what aspects of OAHT are most appropriate for WCOP engagement and further activity. (What is the right niche for the WCOP?) 5. Improve understanding and forecasting of OAHT/HABs (including modeling) 6. Support the Marine Debris Alliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide new leadership • Support the Alliance when they are seeking funding (e.g. letters of support) • Continue to support the relationship between ODP and MDA • Signing an MOU with MDA? 	<p>to policy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Identify and secure funding for monitoring programs through political power of WCOP 3. Develop product (synthesized data) to address policies that is useful to resource managers/decision makers 4. Webinars, synthesize papers 5. Improved detection
<p>3.Improving ocean data access and coordination</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with regional partners to assess data gaps related to regional policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of existing data gaps related to regional policy questions.

<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase availability of data related to regional ocean health priorities • Increase discovery and connectivity of ocean and coastal data and people to better inform regional resource management, policy development, and ocean planning • Increase coordination and capacity of partners engaged with the West Coast Ocean Data Network (WCODN) • Increase the use of the WCODP by partner organizations to inform resource management • Identify sustainable funding for WCODP • Improve stakeholder and decision-maker knowledge about available data relevant to ocean issues. 	<p>questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Scope technical connections to priority existing data systems 3. Synthesize regional data to fill priority gaps 4. Develop training and technical documents to increase data sharing capacity in the region and conduct webinars to provide background, tutorials, and use cases of WCODP 5. Meet with key regional partners to discuss role of the WCODP 6. Host annual WCODN meeting to discuss WCODP progress, priorities, and planning 7. Assess regional partner needs for the WCODP 8. Develop functional improvements to the WCODP based on partner needs 	<p>Transmit needs for new data generation on key data gaps to funders.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Scoping document. Identification of data systems and steps needed to connect them to data portal 3. New data published through portal that can fill priority gaps 4. Best practices for data sharing document, training webinars 5. Document outlining what role of portal within the WCOP and RPB 6. Meeting. Travel funding and meeting support needed. 7. Document that details needs and how portal can fulfill them 8. Changes, improvements, enhancements needed to be made to portal
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	<p>9. Develop connections to share WCODP catalog at a national or international level</p> <p>10. Develop data, maps, and geospatial communication products to support education and outreach related to regional policy priorities</p> <p>11. Pursue and/or support funding to continue to support operation, maintenance and expansion of the West Coast Ocean Data Portal</p> <p>12. Continue support the Marine Debris Database</p>	<p>9. List of connections to other systems</p> <p>10. New story maps within the portal that address and inform WCOP priorities.</p> <p>11. Business plan for operations and maintenance of Data Portal. Grants written, funds received</p> <p>12. Updated Marine Debris Database</p>
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APPENDIX B – WCOP MEMBERSHIP FORM

WEST COAST OCEAN PARTNERSHIP

TO: PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF WEST COAST OCEAN PARTNERSHIP (WCOP)
--TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS
--STATE GOVERNMENTS
--FEDERAL AGENCIES

FROM: KIM MCINTYRE, WCOP COORDINATOR

SUBJECT: MEMBER DESIGNATION FORM FOR WCOP

DATE: APRIL 28, 2016

The purpose of this form is to confirm your entity's membership to the WCOP and to identify delegates that will serve on the WCOP (please see page 4 of the Strategic Framework for more information). Please return the completed form to Kim McIntyre (kim@westcoastoceans.org). It can be filled out and returned on a rolling basis, with the goal of having members committed to the Partnership by the first official meeting of the WCOP on October 26, 2016. New members may join at any time.

Member Entity: [Insert name and address here]

Delegate Designation

Our entity designates the following as our formal delegates for WCOP membership:

Primary delegate: [Name, Title, Contact information (phone, email, mailing address)]

Alternate delegate: [Name, Title, Contact information (phone, email, mailing address)]

Senior staff: [Name, Title, Contact information (phone, email, mailing address)]

(Senior staff may be added at a later time if names are not currently available).

Form submitted:

Date:

APPENDIX C – WCOP AND RPB COMPARISON TABLE

West Coast Ocean Partnership & West Coast Regional Planning Body COMPARISON TABLE		
	West Coast Ocean Partnership (WCOP)	West Coast Regional Planning Body (RBP)
Potential membership (voluntary)	All tribal governments, state governments and federal agencies located in Washington, Oregon and California	All <i>federally-recognized</i> tribal governments, state governments, and federal agencies located in Washington, Oregon and California. Federal membership is compulsory.
Focus area(s)	Broad issues impacting regional West Coast ocean health	Marine planning and other appropriate tools at regional and/or sub-regional scales
Purpose	“(WCOP) Improves understanding of regional ocean health issues and respect for shared regional priorities; addresses shared regional opportunities by connecting people, information, approaches and resources; builds upon existing efforts; informs policy, planning and management”	“The RPB provides a voluntary forum for dialog, information-sharing and coordination of marine and coastal planning and management activities at various scales along the Pacific Coast, focusing on enhancing existing marine planning activities and identifying management gaps appropriate for a marine planning approach through clearly defined criteria agreed to by RPB members”
Timeline	Ongoing	Work towards production of a regional marine plan (recommended 4 year timeframe)
Product(s)	No defined products at its inception, although some may be produced in accordance with its goals.	Regional and/or sub-regional marine plans
Link to Federal Government	No mandate (federal or otherwise) to form the WCOP. Participation by the federal agencies is voluntary	U.S. National Ocean Policy calls on federal agencies to engage in RPB, and National Ocean Council approves regional marine plan

Lobbying	State and tribal governments can work separately to lobby federal agencies and/or legislators	Tribal, state and federal partners work on marine plan(s) without formal lobbying activities
Prioritization of issues	WCOP members identify shared regional ocean health priorities	Tribal and state RPB members identify priority issues at regional and/or sub-regional scales, Federal agencies responsive to those priorities
Coordination Structure	“Co-Chair Committee”: comprised of a single federal co-lead, single state co-lead, and tribal co-lead or co-leads who are currently serving as a primary or alternate delegates; committee will make day-to-day operational and administrative decisions to help facilitate the operation of the WCOP with no additional policy or strategic decision-making authority.	“Executive Secretariat”: May consist of at least a single federal co-lead, single state co-lead, and single tribal co-lead. Any subset of members (federal, state or tribal) may choose to have more than one co-lead to better facilitate operations of the RPB; Secretariat will facilitate region-wide coordination and communication around regional and sub-regional marine planning activities on the West Coast.
Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)	FACA-exempt.	Not exempt from FACA requirements.
Role of West Coast Ocean Data Portal	West Coast Ocean Data Portal and West Coast Ocean Data Network support both the WCOP and WCRPB through data access, coordination, and synthesis to inform regional ocean health priorities	