

## **Executive Summary**

Oregon OAH Action Plan

**The Oregon Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Action Plan** outlines actions that Oregon will take to adapt to and mitigate OAH impacts. Through this Action Plan, Oregon joins British Columbia, Washington, California, and other global partners in our commitment to building solutions for OAH impacts to better prepare for the future. Every action requires state leadership and resources to implement projects that lead to better understanding of OAH and to adaptation and mitigation steps. Broad partnerships with all Oregonians are essential to the success of this Action Plan.

## Here are **5 ACTIONS** the State of Oregon has identified to address OAH impacts over the next six years



 Advance scientific understanding to address
OAH vulnerabilities

• Invest in Oregon's existing research sites and tools



2) Develop and use strategies to reduce causes of excess CO<sub>2</sub> and other causes of OAH

- Enhance local and global communication networks working on CO<sub>2</sub> reduction
- Support research on effective and efficient ways to reduce excess CO<sub>2</sub> and OAH stressors
- Implement measures to reduce excess CO<sub>2</sub> and OAH stressors in Oregon



in Oregon

3) Support resilience to OAH in Oregon's ecosystems and communities

Assess the socio-economic impacts of OAH

Invest in monitoring of ocean life

• Support data collection, synthesis, and modeling

• Restore, protect, and sustain native shellfish stocks and submerged aquatic vegetation

• Develop Best Management Practices based on current ecosystem and economic research



4) Share OAH science, impacts, and solutions to raise awareness

• Build OAH communications plan and outreach materials

• Provide timely updates to Oregon's decision-makers and affected communities

• Evaluate the effectiveness of OAH communications



5) Build sustained support and mobilize agencies to address OAH

• Governor issues a 2019 policy to address Oregon's OAH priorities

• Leadership, coordination, and policy guidance by Governor's Natural Resource Office

• Oregon agencies work to fill gaps in State OAH efforts

## Why is this OAH Action Plan Needed?

Ocean acidification and hypoxia (OAH) are increasing, and are related to the same factor that is causing climate change.

The culprit? Fossil fuel combustion and related accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases.

The solution? Local actions will lead to a brighter future, for the oceans, its species and the communities that depend on them. We can and must act now!

## Ocean Change since the Industrial Revolution (Late 1800s)



Pierce, S. D., J. A. Barth, R. K. Shearman and A. Y. Erofeev, 2012. Declining oxygen in the Northeast Pacific. J. Phys. Oceanogr., 42, 495-501 Schmidtko, S., L. Stramma & M. Visbeck, 2017. Decline in global oceanic oxygen content during the past five decades. Nature, 542, 335–339 https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/world-of-change/DecadalTemp https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/climate-change-indicators-sea-surface-temperature

**The Oregon OAH Action Plan** identifies ways that our government and individual Oregonians can make a difference to slow these impacts and adapt to the changes we are already seeing. Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) are harmful to ocean life and the economic stability of the Oregonians who rely on a healthy ocean.

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To learn more about OAH science, impacts, and solutions, please visit the Oregon OAH Council's website:

oregonocean.info/index.php/ocean-acidification