

SCCWRP Director's Report

Stephen B. Weisberg

December 7, 2012

WAYS THE CLEAN WATER ACT DOCUMENT WAS USED IN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

- **Special session at Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Annual Meeting**
 - The journal Nature did a news article about this session
 - SETAC has requested an article for its Globe publication
- **Presentation at California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Annual Conference**
- **Plenary presentation at American Academy of Environmental Engineers Meeting**

WAYS THE CLEAN WATER ACT DOCUMENT WAS USED BY THE MEMBER AGENCIES

- **Ocean Protection Council asked for a presentation to the Council**
- **State Water Board asked for a presentation to California Water Quality Monitoring Council**
- **City of San Diego distributed it to their City Council and Mayor's office**
- **Ventura County displayed a poster about it in their lobby**
- **Are there others we are unaware of?**
 - Are there other presentations you would still like us to make?

EPA'S NEW RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY CRITERIA

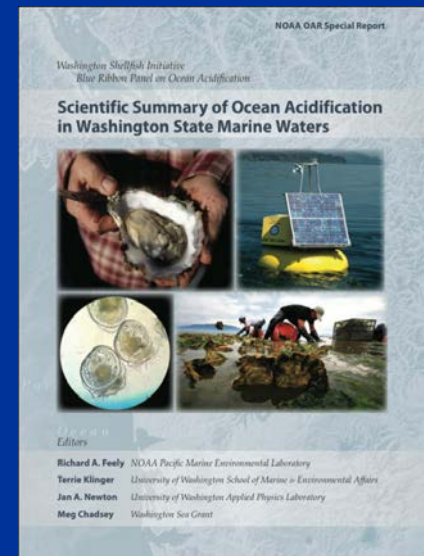
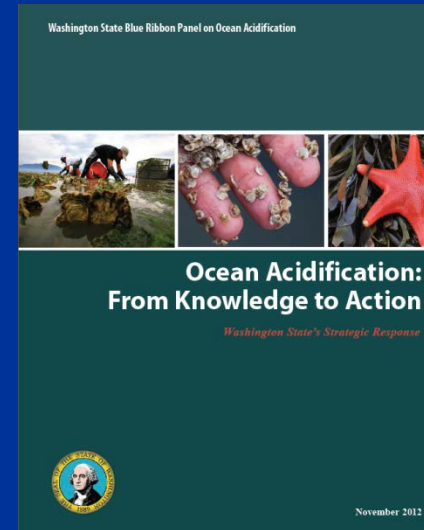
- **Opens the opportunity to use QPCR rapid measurement methods**
- **Provides new threshold guidance**
 - Removes the single sample maximum recommendation
 - Introduces the statistical threshold value for regulatory application
 - Introduces the beach action value for health notification programs
- **Allows the use of quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA) for setting site-specific criteria**
 - QMRA will be one of SCCWRP's research foci

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

- **At previous Commission meetings, we briefed you on how acidification is accelerating and affecting the shellfish industry**
 - Effects were identified at two workshops held here at SCCWRP
- **California Current Acidification Network (C-CAN) was formed to help address this issue**
 - A collaboration among OA scientists and the shellfish industry to develop a monitoring and assessment network
- **C-CAN's unified scientific voice has started to attract management interest**
 - State of Washington Blue Ribbon Panel
 - California Ocean Protection Council Expert Panel

WASHINGTON STATE'S BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

- Convened by Governor Gregoire in February 2012 to help set Washington's course for protecting shellfish and marine resources
- 27 high profile members representing a cross-section of disciplines
- Panel produced two reports
 - State of the science report
 - Panel's management recommendations report
- Both reports were released November 27
 - Accompanied by an Executive Order to begin implementing the recommendations



WASHINGTON STATE BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

Co-Chairs

WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS
Madrona Venture Group

JAY J. MANNING
Cascadia Law Group

Panel Members

LISA AYERS, Pacific County Commissioner

THE HONORABLE BRIAN BLAKE, Washington State Representative

STEVEN BLOOMFIELD, Mason County Commissioner

SHALLIN BUSCH, NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center

CHRIS DAVIS, The Nature Conservancy

BILL DEWEY, Taylor Shellfish Company

THE HONORABLE NORM DICKS, U.S. House of Representatives

RICHARD A. FEELY, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory

CAROLYN FRIEDMAN, University Washington School of Aquatic & Fishery
Sciences

PETER GOLDMARK, Washington Department of Natural Resources

SARA KENDALL, Weyerhaeuser Company

TERRIE KLINGER, University of Washington School of Marine & Environmental
Affairs

THE HONORABLE MICAH McCARTY, Makah Tribe

DENNIS J. McLERRAN, EPA Region 10

EDWARD MILES, University of Washington Climate Impacts Group

JAN NEWTON, University of Washington Applied Physics Laboratory

BETSY PEABODY, Pacific Shellfish Institute and Puget Sound Restoration Fund

THE HONORABLE KEVIN RANKER, Washington State Senator

JENNIFER RUESINK, University of Washington Department of Biology

RON SIMS, Puget Sound Partnership

THE HONORABLE NORMA SMITH, Washington State Representative

TED STURDEVANT, Washington Department of Ecology

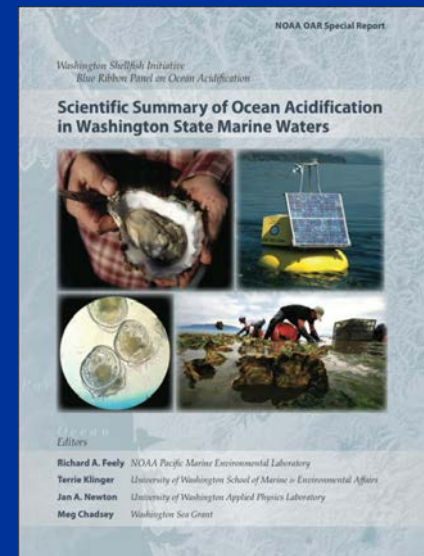
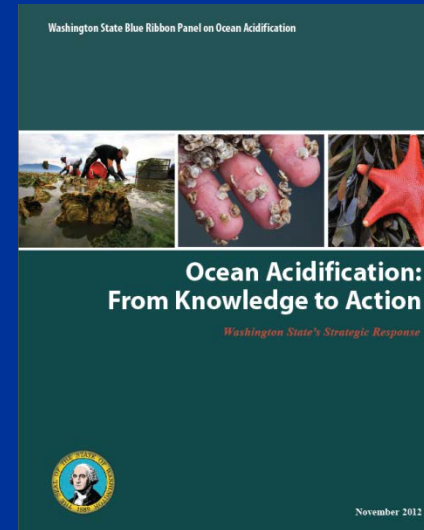
THE HONORABLE DAN SWECKER, Washington State Senator

GEORGE WALDBUSSER, Oregon State University, College of Ocean & &
Atmospheric Sciences

BRAD WARREN, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership

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THE PANEL'S REPORT INCLUDED SIX THEMES

(ACCOMPANIED BY 42 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS)

- **Reduce global and local CO₂ emissions**
- **Reduce local nutrient and dissolved carbon contributions to acidification**
- **Adapt and remediate the impacts of ocean acidification**
- **Study and monitor our marine waters and species**
- **Educate the public about ocean acidification**
- **Support and facilitate implementation of the Panel's recommendations**

NUTRIENT CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Panel identified that nutrient additions contribute to acidification**
 - More nutrients leads to more phytoplankton, which leads to more CO₂ when they degrade
- **Panel determined that nutrient inputs will be of greatest concern in enclosed water bodies, such as Puget Sound**
- **They acknowledged the extent to which nutrient inputs affect acidification in coastal waters is an open scientific question**

OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

- **California's Ocean Protection Council has made acidification a priority issue**
- **Charged their Science Advisor with forming an Ocean Acidification Expert Advisory Panel**
 - OPC Science Advisory Team was asked to help in populating and charging the panel
- **Science Advisory Team identified two key issues**
 - Developing a monitoring network
 - Assessing the contribution of anthropogenic nutrients

POTENTIAL SCCWRP ACTIONS TO HELP ADDRESS THESE SCIENCE NEEDS

- **Greater involvement in C-CAN**
 - There is presently a leadership opportunity
- **Work with the water quality compliance committee to improve our member agency pH monitoring programs**
 - Develop a scientifically sound and consistent approach for assessing compliance with the Ocean Plan's pH requirement
- **Take a leadership role in developing models that address the nutrient input question**
 - We are already planning to hold a modeling workshop in the spring
 - Use Bight '13 as a key means of parameterizing the model

COOKIES?

