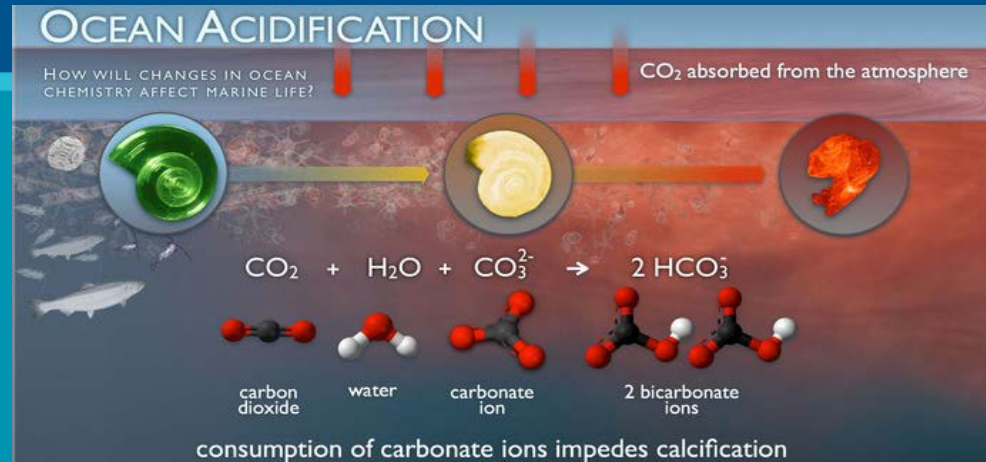




National Marine Sanctuaries of the West Coast Ocean Acidification Action Plan

Presentation to the GFNMS Advisory Council
Kelley Higgason
May 12, 2011

West Coast Sanctuaries OA Plan



- Report in response to Sept 2008 CINMS report and subsequent resolutions passed by west coast SACs
- By Jan 2010, all sanctuary sites had adopted similar resolutions, motions, or letters
- Coordinated regional approach to addressing OA issues

GF/MB Councils Joint OA Resolution

Whereas, the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils jointly recognize ocean acidification as a significant threat to the long-term conservation and health of sanctuary resources and qualities, warranting additional NOAA research, monitoring, education and outreach, and management action to reduce and mitigate its impacts.

Therefore be it resolved, the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils recommend that the West Coast Regional Office take a leadership role in coordinating ocean acidification monitoring with the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, other research laboratories, and other interested parties.

Therefore be it further resolved, the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils recommend a coordinated approach to ocean acidification issues amongst all five west coast sanctuaries.

West Coast Sanctuaries OA Task Force

- West Coast Regional Office
- Olympic Coast NMS
- Cordell Bank NMS
- Gulf of the Farallones NMS
- Monterey Bay NMS
- Channel Islands NMS
- Advisory Council Rep (from CINMS)
- NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory
- NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Service

Taking Action: Regional Strategies for OA

Goal

Understand and protect biological communities within west coast sanctuaries from the impacts associated with ocean acidification, develop adaptations to these impacts, and communicate these impacts and solutions to the public.

Taking Action: Regional Strategies for OA

Seven Strategies

1. Monitoring for OA
2. Research on OA
3. Education and Outreach
4. Mitigating Damages to Sanctuary Resources
5. Influencing National Policy
6. Demonstrating Leadership by Reducing Carbon Emissions
7. Internal Coordination on OA Issues

Implementation Activities, Costs & Priorities

- 19 detailed activities
- Budgets provided for each strategy / year for 5 years
- Possibilities for no cost and low cost (i.e., staff time reallocated) activities identified
- Activities that can be funded through NOAA and/or outside sources identified
- Will work to implement no cost and low cost activities and search for additional funds for others

Questions for the Council

- Did the report meet expectations and the intent of the council resolution?
- What do you see as priorities for implementation (as outlined in the report) at GFNMS or across the west coast region?
- Has the Task Force missed anything?