

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL



September 20, 2013

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Brady Scott, Vice-Chair
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Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Dept. of Natural Resources

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Olympic National Park

U.S. Coast Guard

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Navy

Artwork: David Sones

Dear Superintendent Bernthal:

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) formed a joint Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC) and Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) Ocean Acidification Working Group in 2013. The working group was established to review recommendations of the Washington State Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification (OA), identify recommendations most relevant to the outer coast of the Olympic Peninsula and provide advice on potential responses and actions for consideration by OCNMS, the SAC, IPC and other authorities on the outer Olympic Coast.

The Ocean Acidification Working Group identified eight Actions from the Washington State Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification, in order of highest priority, for immediate implementation along the outer coast of Washington. The Working Group then focused on developing advice on potential responses and actions.

Based upon the eight Blue Ribbon Panel Actions identified by the OA Working Group and the relevant “what we need to know” sections of the *Scientific Summary of Ocean Acidification in Washington State Marine Waters*, the OA Working Group has identified specific needs as they relate to the implementation of the prioritized Actions identified for the outer coast of Washington. All of this is detailed in the IPC/SAC Ocean Acidification Working Group’s Final Report to the SAC.

We ask you to please share the final report and these recommendations to encourage support for outer coast implementation of the identified actions of the Washington Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification.

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As the OCNMS AC, we represent a diverse group of constituencies that have a strong interest in sanctuary and marine resource management in the Olympic Coast region. Our role is to advise the OCNMS Superintendent on sanctuary management topics and concerns. We volunteer our time to assist OCNMS in maintaining a transparent, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive management structure for the sanctuary.

The council is an advisory board to the Sanctuary Superintendent. The opinions and findings of this letter do not necessarily reflect the position of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Sincerely,

Myles (Chip) Boothe
Chair, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

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