



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
115 East Railroad Avenue, Suite 301
Port Angeles, WA 98362-2925

May 28, 2004

Hon. Gary Locke
Governor, State of Washington
Legislative Building
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Locke,

I am forwarding the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council) comments on the United States Commission on Ocean Policy Report (USCOP). The Council consists of representatives of various public sectors, Indian tribes, local government, and state and federal agencies. The purpose of the Council is to provide advice and recommendations to the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent in matters concerning the protection and management of Sanctuary resources. For the past year the Council has been following the progress of the USCOP as it developed its recommendations. Since many of the recommendations could affect marine resources both within and adjacent to the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary boundaries as well as the management of those resources, the Council felt it was important to convey their comments to you on the USCOP report.

It is important to note that the views in the enclosed letter represent the Council's views only and do not necessarily represent the views of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, the National Marine Sanctuary Program, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me and I will connect you with the appropriate Council member.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Bernthal".

Carol Bernthal, Superintendent
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary



**OLYMPIC COAST
NATIONAL
MARINE
SANCTUARY
ADVISORY
COUNCIL**



May 28, 2004

Hon. Gary Locke
Governor, State of Washington
Legislative Building
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dr. Terrie Klinger, Chair
Bob Bohlman, Vice-Chair

Dear Governor Locke,

Representation

Citizen-At-Large
Environmental/Conservation
Business/Tourism
Commercial Fishing
Maritime Industry
Education
Research
Hoh Tribe
Makah Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Quinault Indian Nation
Local Government
Washington State:
Dept. of Ecology
Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Dept. of Natural Resources
Olympic National Park
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Navy
Northwest Straits Commission

The Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (Advisory Council) wishes to take this opportunity to provide you with comments on the Preliminary Report of the United States Commission on Ocean Policy (USCOP). We greatly appreciate the effort that you have made to reach out to the public of Washington State to gather views on all aspect of the Preliminary Report. We would like to provide comment on issues specific to Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

The Advisory Council is chartered by law to help assist the Superintendent of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in carrying out his or her duties managing and protecting the marine resources of the Sanctuary. The Advisory Council consists of 15 voting members and 6 non-voting members. The voting members represent a cross section of public interests (including commercial fishing, marine transportation, and conservation interests), tribal governments, local, and state agencies. In addition, there are 6 non-voting federal agency members.

The Advisory Council has been following the progress of the USCOP for some time. Some of our members attended and made oral and written comments during the hearings held by the Commission when they previously visited Seattle to take public testimony. Members of the Advisory Council feel that many of the recommendations included in the Preliminary Report have potential to affect the management of Sanctuary marine resources as well as resources outside and adjacent to the Sanctuary. As a result, the Council offers the following comments on the USCOP Preliminary Report.

Artwork:
David Sones

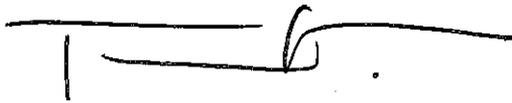
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
115 East Railroad Ave. Suite 301 •Port Angeles, WA 98362•360/457-6622
•email: olympiccoast@noaa.gov

- 1) The creation of regional ocean councils is explicitly recommended by the Commission. The size of the regions should be considered carefully so that regional councils can work effectively. The regions must be big enough to consider regional ecosystem functions, but small enough to take specific and effective actions. We believe it is essential that the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary be represented on the regional council by the Sanctuary Superintendent or other designated representative of the Sanctuary. We further support the representation of Washington tribal co-managers on any regional ocean council.
- 2) The Sanctuary lies within usual and accustomed areas of four coastal tribes. The importance of tribal co-management must be recognized and emphasized in the Commission's final report.
- 3) The Preliminary Report highlights the important role of science in guiding sustainable management of marine resources. We recommend that funding for scientific research within the Sanctuary and adjacent waters be increased substantially to meet the needs stated by the Commission.
- 4) Biological pollution (e.g., harmful algal blooms, invasive species), chemical pollution (e.g., from discharge and accidental spills), and marine debris all have negative impacts on marine resources within the Sanctuary. We recommend that programs for remediation and prevention of pollution and marine debris be adopted and enforced.
- 5) Development of marine aquaculture is a major topic in the Preliminary Report. We strongly recommend that the potential application of aquaculture within Sanctuary be stringently evaluated, to preclude inadvertent harm to marine habitat and living resources within the Sanctuary.
- 6) Federal policy should acknowledge and consider, where applicable, existing local, state, and regional watershed planning, regulatory and natural resource restoration programs.
- 7) The marine environment of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary is confluent with that of neighboring British Columbia, and the physical and biological linkages between the two are well documented. We recommend that this international linkage, and the potential for transboundary cooperation regarding marine resources be recognized and emphasized in the Commission's Final Report.
- 8) We support the recommendation to create a strong nation ballast water program. This should be done in consultation with the maritime states.

The statements in this letter represent the Advisory Council views only and do not necessarily represent the views of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary or the National Marine Sanctuary Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Tribal representatives noted that the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission has submitted a separate detailed letter of comment, and tribal representatives therefore abstained from voting on this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important Preliminary Report. Please address questions regarding our comments to me at the address below.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terrie Klinger', written over a horizontal line.

Terrie Klinger, Chair
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
tklinger@u.washington.edu