

Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council
Issues of Concern to OPAC Members
Sorted by Theme (draft of 11/17/05)

Marine Reserves

1. In terms of reduced fish populations and reduced fish sizes, is ocean pollution or over fishing/bad fishing practices more important. This answer is needed before **marine reserves** are located in the name of stopping "over fishing" alone.(JB)
2. Developing a **process for designating marine reserves and other types of protected areas** (I think we need to look at both) that works from the bottom-up, involves local coastal communities, particularly port communities (I use the term community broadly, not to mean city) -- I would include estuaries and state waters to 3 nm to ensure connectivity). (JG)
3. Address the issue of a **system of limited marine reserves** or other protected areas. (see ORS 196.443(1)(d))(DA)
4. **Marine protected areas.**(JB)
5. **Marine reserves/parks** (SM)
6. Resolve Oregon's agenda for **marine protected areas/reserves.** (PB)
7. Funding and implementation of **marine reserves.**(PE)
8. Establishing an OPAC process for dealing with **MPA issues** and compiling an inventory of existing MPAs in Oregon.(FW)

Protection of Marine Ecosystems

1. Understanding what "**ecosystem based management**" means since this is increasingly part of the lexicon of ocean management and many agencies have mandates in this area. It appears that there may be several working definitions of the phrase and differing expectations on what successful achievement means.(JR)
2. Third, to **preserve ocean ecosystems** that are endangered applying reasonable steps within the limitations of what is humanly possible, utilizing priority number one.(JP)
3. Restoration of **near-shore ecosystems.**(DH)
4. Restoration of the **estuary ecosystems.**(DH)

5. **Protection and the management of ocean ecosystems** and non -living diversity by appropriate research and corrective actions. The imposition of the necessary preventative actions to guarantee ecosystem success including education of the public of ocean issues. (FS)
6. **Protect and restore marine biodiversity** – Identifying and using management tools available, including marine reserves and protected areas, that can be implemented in the near term so that, as we add knowledge about how marine ecosystems function, we will have been conservative enough with our use of marine resources that we can make the necessary adjustments to improve our management strategies. I'm committed to doing the hard work required up front to assure adequate funding is available over the long-term to allow for good research design and monitoring, continued public involvement and education, as well as enforcement.(RH)

Pollution

1. What are the scientific explanations of dead zones off the Oregon coast. Water temperature changes? **Pollution**? Others? This answer is basic to the design of any new initiative to restore ocean health.(JB)
2. Establishment of a near shore (coastal ocean) **water quality monitoring** program. There is a complete lack of data on the water quality in the near shore area. For example - there have been numerous postings of various beaches over the past year. Apparently, we have not been able to pinpoint the sources of this bacteria. Septic tanks, leaking sanitary sewers, cross-connections, wildlife? Enhanced knowledge of this resource would assist us in making future ocean management decisions and reacting to potential future uses.(PS)
3. Marine **pollution**.(JB)
4. **Pollution**, particularly non-point source pollution (SM)
5. **Ocean pollution** which includes all harmful materials added or removed from the ocean including seawalls and the armoring of beaches.(FS)
6. **Pollution** – Taking a serious look at the cause of the “dead zones,” and making recommendations to the state about how to improve actions occurring on land that may lead to impacts in the ocean. (RH)
7. Coastal development and coastal **pollution** as related issues.(PE)
8. Identification of marine **pollution** sources and major contributors.(FW)

Zoning the Ocean

1. Understanding and responding to demands for multiple uses via differing types of spatial, **temporal or spatial and temporal zoning**. There are existing and proposed overlay zones from fisheries management to gardens and parks. Open ocean aquaculture needs and a variety of research or conservation parks are but a few examples of newer interests. The state may well need to explore what exists, why and its impacts. That may be part of the review of the Territorial Sea Plan as well.(JR)
2. Identifying other **spatial/temporal zoning needs** for marine waters (e.g., wave energy and aquaculture areas, if deemed appropriate), designed in part to protect commercial and recreational fisheries in state waters.(JG)
3. Lease requests for estuary bottoms and the territorial sea bottom for activities such as energy production, potential oil and gas exploration, and aquaculture (AH) **zoning?**
4. Ocean **Zoning** (including MPA's) (AH)
5. **Zoning** of the ocean.(PB)
6. Development of off-shore facilities (i.e. wind/wave generators/aquaculture) and **identification of potential conflicts** with existing activities such as fisheries, shipping or other current activities. (FW)

Funding

1. Getting **funds** to carry through with the MPA/MRV at process and getting it underway. (JG)

Economic Impacts of Zoning

2. It is critical to estimate the **economic impacts to coastal communities** and fishermen before any ocean is taken from public use. In addition the values (e.g., restoring ocean health, etc.) should be estimated as a result of taking ocean zones off limits.(JB)

Territorial Sea Plan

1. **Review the Territorial Sea Plan** and, if necessary, recommend any amendments or updates. (see ORS 196.443(1)(a))(DA)
2. Review/Revise/Amend **Territorial Sea Plan** and Ocean Plan.(PB)

Federal Legislation, Emerging Activities

1. Address relevant, pending **federal legislation** as it arises (*e.g.*, open ocean **aquaculture**).(DA)
2. We suggest that OPAC begin a dialogue concerning the state's policies toward assessment and possibly exploration of **offshore mineral resources, wave energy resources, and even desalination facilities**. The Energy Policy Act Bill just signed by the President mandates assessment of offshore **oil and gas resources** along all USA coasts. Although the initial focus will likely be in the Gulf Coast, although after Katrina perhaps not, the west coast will certainly be under discussion within the decade. There are other mineral resources that also may be of interest including coal bed methane. Wave energy facilities have already been proposed and water issues will likely make desalination processes more feasible at some point. This group has the opportunity to initiate the dialogue before policy decisions are made after the fact.(VM)
3. Coordination with **federal activities** in the Federal Exclusive economic zone. (including Oil, **Gas and Minerals, wave and wind energy, ocean aquaculture**) (AH)
4. **Ocean energy** (SM)
5. Ocean **aquaculture**. (PB)
6. **Energy issues**, including LNG, wind and wave.(PE)
7. Establishment of a state near shore ocean management strategy where the state could **speak with one voice** on the type of management decisions described in the Legislation. (We suspect that OPAC is trying to do this but it is essential if the state is going to make any headway at all with **federal management decisions** that we can respond in a single voice.)(PS)

Coastal Processes and Dredged Materials

1. Dredging in the Columbia R. and **disposal of dredged material**, particularly at the mouth of the Columbia River. (VM)
2. Improved science and information about **near-shore marine and coastal processes**. (VM)
3. **Coastal Erosion**. We have had a number of construction projects, including some involving water supplies, where coastal erosion has been an issue. Proper controls are essential.(PS)
4. **Dredge spoils into the littoral drift**.(JB)

Education and Outreach

1. Guidance toward developing effective **community education and outreach** regarding marine and coastal issues.(VM)

Research and Information

1. To generate a list of **research priorities** of projects that can be accomplished so we can do accomplish responsible ocean management. Also produce a list of recommended funding sources for each project. (TT)
2. My first priority is thoughtful and **fact based decision making** by the council. (JP)

No Obvious Fit

Better understanding of the human dimensions of communities of place, interest and practice from the application of concepts around ecosystem management and management tools such as fisheries plans and conservation zones.(JR)

Sub dividing the Ocean into Section for the benefit of corporate and destroying a 200,000 dollar fishing industry.(TT)

Sub dividing the temperate Oceans of Pacific N.W. for environmental interest with no research to show the true effects, and possibly destroying the fishing industry for a perceived problem. (TT)

Second, is to be reasonably sensitive to people who live by or make a living from the oceans.(JP)

Providing tribal access to traditional fisheries.(DH)

Climate change – This problem is so significant, especially in terms of the consequences that human impacts will bring to ocean conditions. The challenge is convincing people, and agencies, that any steps we take, individually, as a community or as a state, can have any kind of effect on the big picture. I think OPAC must play a role in informing Oregonians about the consequences of not taking steps to address this problem during our lifetime, and make recommendations to the state about steps that should be taken in the coming decades to help do our part to reduce human impacts on the climate. (RH)

Navigation and shoreline development in estuaries (AH)

Assistance to coastal communities to adapt to changing demographics, workforce issues, and changes in natural resource availability and uses. (AH)

Easy **accessibility** to the ocean including right of access to all its influences by everyone. (FS)