

West Coast Regional Planning Body

WHAT

Regional Forum for Ocean Planning

The West Coast Regional Planning Body provides a unique forum for collaboration and planning between governments on the West Coast of the U.S.

Established in 2015, the West Coast Regional Planning Body (RPB) is a partnership between federally-recognized tribes, federal government agencies, and the states of Washington, Oregon and California focused on enhanced coordination and communication around planning and management of current and emerging ocean uses, as well as information and data-sharing on the West Coast of the U.S.

WHY

Effective Decision-making

Support effective decision-making and ocean planning activities carried out by tribal, state and federal co-managers along the West Coast.

Info-sharing & Data Coordination

Enhance information-sharing and data coordination between governments, regional entities and non-governmental partners regarding ocean resources.

Efficient Ocean Governance

Increase understanding of existing and new ocean uses to promote compatibility and improve government transparency and efficiency.

WHO

FED

- NOAA
- U.S. Coast Guard (Dist. 11, Dist. 13)
- U.S. Dept. of Defense
- U.S. Dept. of Energy
- U.S. Dept. of Interior (including BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, NPS, USFWS, USGS)
- U.S. Dept. of Transportation
- U.S. EPA
- U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Pacific Fishery Management Council

STATE

- State of California
 - ▶ Resources Agency: Ocean Protection Council
 - ▶ State Lands Commission
- State of Oregon
 - ▶ Dept. of Land Conservation & Development
 - ▶ Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
- State of Washington
 - ▶ Dept. of Ecology
 - ▶ Dept. of Natural Resources

TRIBES

- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Coquille Tribe
- Elk Valley Rancheria
- Makah Tribe
- Quileute Tribe
- Quinault Tribe
- Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation
- Trinidad Rancheria
- Yurok Tribe



WEST COAST GEOGRAPHY

The RPB's focus area is the West Coast of the U.S. from the mean high water (MHW) line to 200 nautical miles seaward, the extent of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The RPB coordinates and communications **region-wide**, while engaging voluntarily on ocean planning at **sub-regional** scales through 'Sub-regional Planning Teams.' Currently RPB members are determining appropriate sub-regional planning areas to effectively partner on existing efforts and engage coastal stakeholders.

RPB CORE FUNCTIONS

To achieve its objectives around effective decision-making, information and data-sharing, and efficient ocean governance, RPB members will undertake the core functions below on a region-wide basis between its tribal, state and federal membership.

Regional Coordination & Communication

The RPB will **support region-wide coordination and communication** regarding high-priority topics related to current and emerging uses of the ocean. These efforts will focus on supporting effective partnerships between governments, strong engagement with coastal stakeholders, and links to other regional ocean entities.

Strengthen Ocean Planning & Partnerships

The RPB will **engage and strengthen ocean planning at sub-regional scales** in the West Coast, based on existing and new planning activities of its membership. This planning support may include addressing emerging ocean uses, enhanced engagement of government partners, increased data and information-sharing, and more effective project notification, among others.

Harmonize West Coast Ocean Planning Products

The RPB will support efforts to **harmonize ocean planning done throughout the region** to ensure alignment of planning outcomes and achieve a cohesive approach to ocean uses throughout the West Coast. Sub-regional planning approaches will be aligned to maximize compatibility, and issues appropriate for region-wide planning will be identified and addressed accordingly.

Support Data Coordination & Information-sharing

The RPB will work to **coordinate and support ocean and coastal data and information-sharing** in the region, with special focus on its partnership with the **West Coast Ocean Data Portal (ODP)**. The RPB will leverage entities like the ODP to efficiently address regional data needs, while also facilitating use of appropriate ocean planning tools based on priorities of its members.

Pursue Long-Term Capacity for Ocean Planning

The RPB will prioritize identifying strategies to ensure **long-term funding and capacity for coordination and support** of regional and sub-regional ocean planning, and associated coordination between tribal, state and federal partners. The RPB will also work with the West Coast Ocean Data Portal to ensure long-term capacity for data coordination and information-sharing to support the work of the RPB.