

OASeS 2024 Annual Accomplishments Report

The Olympic Coast Ocean Acidification Sentinel Site (OASeS) focuses on coordinating and facilitating collaboration on ocean acidification (OA) related policy, science and education/outreach on the outer coast of Washington. The sentinel site works to inform resource managers and coastal communities by telling the story of OA and its impacts on Washington coastal marine resources, coastal cultures, communities, and economies. The sentinel site will seek to ensure that the Olympic Coast is well prepared for changing ocean conditions, with research and management actions in place. The OASeS Steering Committee first met in September of 2020. Since then, OASeS has met quarterly and achieved several successes in a largely virtual environment. OASeS is led by two co-chairs: Micah Horwith, Senior Scientist for Washington Department of Ecology and Tommy Moore, Oceanographer for the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.

Over the past year, OASeS has been focused on implementation of the prioritized work plan. This work plan outlines key tasks the steering committee will focus on, including website development, hosting the second biennial symposium, filling key management and science gaps, and expanding our formal and informal education and outreach efforts.

OASeS held their second symposium in May 2024 in Forks, WA. Over 60 attendees gathered to hear and share on changing ocean conditions on the Olympic Coast. The goal of this event was to have stronger engagement with each of the Coastal Treaty Tribes and local communities, learn more about climate policy and local adaptation efforts, and have more audience participation throughout the meeting. The symposium focused on weaving cultural importance and space for information sharing throughout as well as increased awareness of the latest science, policy, local adaptation, and outreach.



OASeS intends to build off needs and information gaps shared during the symposium. This includes expanding collaborations to understand climate change impacts on Dungeness crab and related management challenges, expanding outreach and education opportunities for Olympic Coast youth, continuing engagement with each of the Coastal Treaty Tribes and other coastal communities; continuing to collaborate and coordinate to address information gaps to support adaptation planning; and hosting additional symposia and gatherings on the Olympic Coast every other year.

Overall, OASeS has strengthened existing partnerships in the region. Fostering communication and collaboration among these partners will result in stronger science and more holistic management. Ultimately, an improved ability to understand, forecast, and communicate the environmental and societal impacts of ocean change on the Washington coast can serve as a model for the broader Pacific Northwest and coastal regions around the world.

For more information, visit our [website](#).



Upcoming activities for 2025:

- 1. Create several video products on the importance of the Dungeness crab fishery on the Washington coast and impacts from changing ocean conditions;**
- 2. Conduct in person community outreach with Olympic Coast communities, especially the Coastal Treaty Tribes, as appropriate;**
- 3. Explore the management and policy landscape for addressing ocean acidification impacts, including a possible workshop with relevant management entities on this topic; and**
- 4. Continue to hold quarterly steering committee meetings, including an in-person meeting in the spring.**

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