

# House Bill 3114

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG, Senator ANDERSON, Representatives SMITH DB, WRIGHT (at the request of Oregon State University)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Ocean Science Trust, State Department of Fish and Wildlife and Higher Education Coordinating Commission in certain amounts for certain purposes related to ocean chemistry.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to ocean chemistry; and declaring an emergency.

2 Whereas Oregon is an epicenter for the global manifestation of ocean acidification and hypoxia;  
3 and  
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5 Whereas the natural seasonal process of upwelling transports corrosive waters into the  
6 nearshore and estuaries, causing marine waters within this state's jurisdiction to be especially vul-  
7 nerable to ocean acidification; and

8 Whereas ocean acidification, hypoxia and changes in ocean temperature are intensifying; and

9 Whereas Oregon has rich and vibrant wild marine fisheries, including shellfish fisheries; and

10 Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia are known to cause mortality and reduced growth and  
11 productivity in marine organisms, including in species that form the foundation of the marine food  
12 web; and

13 Whereas negative impacts from ocean acidification, hypoxia or both have already been observed  
14 in species that are commercially, culturally and economically important to this state, including  
15 oysters, mussels and crabs; and

16 Whereas Oregon's coastal communities and economies are important to this state and are de-  
17 pendent on a thriving marine ecosystem; and

18 Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia severely endanger Oregon's commercially and cul-  
19 turally significant ocean resources; and

20 Whereas Oregon has academic institutions with world-class expertise in ocean issues, including  
21 ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

22 Whereas Oregon has played a leading role in fostering collaborative ocean acidification and  
23 hypoxia monitoring, research and action; and

24 Whereas the partnerships between the shellfish industry and university scientists in this state  
25 are an example to the nation for building innovative solutions to address ocean acidification and  
26 hypoxia; and

27 Whereas the Ocean Policy Advisory Council has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue  
28 for Oregon; and

29 Whereas the Oregon Ocean Science Trust has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue  
30 for research and monitoring funding; and

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       Whereas the Oregon Shellfish Task Force established under section 5, chapter 814, Oregon Laws  
2 2015, and the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, through collab-  
3 oration with Oregon stakeholders, have made recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on  
4 strategic actions to address ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

5       Whereas strategic investments are necessary to address the risks and vulnerabilities caused by  
6 ocean acidification and hypoxia that threaten the state's economy and ecosystems; now, therefore,

7 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

8       **SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
9 **ated to the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the**  
10 **General Fund, the amount of \$1,060,000, to be expended by the Oregon Ocean Science Trust,**  
11 **in consultation with the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia,**  
12 **in the form of competitive grants as follows:**

13       (1) \$100,000 for intertidal ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Oregon marine  
14 reserves;

15       (2) \$300,000 for subtidal ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Oregon marine  
16 reserves;

17       (3) \$100,000 for ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Yaquina Bay;

18       (4) \$140,000 for ecosystem modeling of submerged aquatic vegetation;

19       (5) \$25,000 to develop recommendations, through workshops or seminars, for maximizing  
20 the abundance of wild shellfish, cultured shellfish and submerged aquatic vegetation in  
21 estuaries in Oregon;

22       (6) \$150,000 to develop best management practices for conducting shellfish cultivation in  
23 a manner that protects or promotes estuarine health;

24       (7) \$180,000 to fund a study on the life cycle impacts of ocean acidification and hypoxia  
25 on shellfish species that are of importance to Oregon; and

26       (8) \$65,000 to develop a communications plan and strategy for outreach and education on  
27 ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts, science and solutions.

28       **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
29 **ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021,**  
30 **out of the General Fund, the following amounts to be expended for the following purposes:**

31       (1) \$420,000 to be expended for the shellfish and estuarine assessment of coastal Oregon  
32 project; and

33       (2) \$50,000 to be expended to conduct estuary mapping for long-term documentation of  
34 ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts.

35       **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
36 **ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for distribution to Oregon State**  
37 **University, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the following**  
38 **amounts to be expended for the following purposes:**

39       (1) \$170,000 to be expended to support the Molluscan Broodstock Program at the Hatfield  
40 Marine Science Center in conjunction with the Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery;

41       (2) \$100,000 to be expended to support the work of the Cooperative Institute for Marine  
42 Resources Studies in augmentation of sampling along the Newport Hydrographic Line in or-  
43 der to support research on ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

44       (3) \$100,000 to be expended to support the work of the College of Earth, Ocean, and At-  
45 mospheric Sciences in monitoring for ocean acidification using Burke-O-Lator systems.

1        **SECTION 4. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
2        **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect**  
3        **July 1, 2021.**

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