

**OPAC Agenda Item Detail for
Ocean Acidification (2:30-3:30 p.m.)
November 1, 2017**

Background:

The Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH Council) was formed through legislation (SB 1039) to convene a small but diverse group to make recommendations to the state on ocean acidification adaptation and mitigation actions. The OAH Council will convene for the first time in January 2018. Of the 13 representative seats, OPAC has appointment authority to select the representative from a “conservation organization”. In addition, STAC has appointment authority to select the academic representative. Multiple seats on the OAH Council overlap with current OPAC members/representation, ensuring good communication and cross-fertilization of OPAC with OAH Council processes.

The OAH Council co-chairs, Caren Braby and Jack Barth, will introduce the Council and lead a discussion on OPAC’s process for short-term and long-term selection of a “conservation organization” representative. The goals of the OAH Council for 2018 are to convene, build a foundation of knowledge among members on OAH issues and impacts in Oregon and regionally, and develop recommendations to the legislature, due September 2018. Intended monthly meetings will alternate between in-person and remote modes of communication, to build rapport but minimize travel time and costs. Consistent meaningful participation by OAH Council members during Phase I (the first 8 months from January-August) is critical, in order to meet the September deadline in a representative fashion. ***The co-chairs urge OPAC to select an appointment process that meets this goal of continuous participation over the first 8 months.***

OPAC Actions:

Select a “conservation organization” representative for the OAH Council, which first convenes January 2018.

Design the appointment process for a long-term representative on the OAH Council.

- Suggestions on how to do this for Phase One of OAH Council (January-August, 2018)
- Suggestions on how to do this for Phase Two of OAH Council (Fall/Winter 2018)

Provide preference on appointment term length, depending on the appointment process selected.

Appointment pathways for discussion:

1. Interim (two-step) approach: OPAC select a standing OPAC member to serve as an “interim” on the OAH Council from January-August 2018. Design and implement an appointment process for selecting a long-term representative from Oregon’s community of conservation organizations (logistics for this can be implemented by DLCD/ODFW on behalf of OPAC). The permanent representative could be selected at OPAC’s Spring or Fall meeting, to serve starting in Fall 2018.
 - a. Pros of this approach: Ensures OPAC/conservation organization is represented during Phase 1 of the OAH Council. Highly transparent.
 - b. Cons of this approach: Long-term continuity of representation starts late, during Phase
2. Permanent approach: OPAC designate a long-term representative by January 2018. On November 1, OPAC designates a subcommittee to select from subsequently solicited applications (logistics for this can be implemented by DLCD/ODFW on behalf of OPAC). Selection occurs in time for 1st meeting of OAH Council in January 2018.
 - a. Pros of this approach: Meets SB 1039 intent of long-term continuity of representatives starting with Phase 1 of the OAH Council
 - b. Cons of this approach: Requires an additional process step (e.g. subcommittee) between now and January 2018. Only a subset of OPAC members make the final selection.
3. Hybrid (Ratification Step): Combine the two approaches above to design a rapid process for a subcommittee to make a permanent appointment that starts January 2018, but with a “ratification step” at the first full OPAC meeting (Spring 2018) to get full OPAC membership support of the selection and the option to reverse the appointment if necessary.