

Enrolled
House Bill 3114

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

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to ocean chemistry; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Oregon is an epicenter for the global manifestation of ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

Whereas the natural seasonal process of upwelling transports corrosive waters into the nearshore and estuaries, causing marine waters within this state's jurisdiction to be especially vulnerable to ocean acidification; and

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

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

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

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

Whereas Oregon's coastal communities and economies are important to this state and are dependent on a thriving marine ecosystem; and

Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia severely endanger Oregon's commercially and culturally significant ocean resources; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of State Lands, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,060,000 for deposit into the Oregon Ocean Science Fund established under ORS 196.567, to be expended by the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, in consultation with the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, in the form of competitive grants as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Passed by House June 22, 2021

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 24, 2021

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2021

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State