

small sea changes:

BIG California Impacts

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URBAN & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

A workshop to explore how monitoring and understanding the ocean delivers economic and environmental benefits to industries, government and the citizens of California.

Tuesday, May 25th, 2010

The Seaside Forum, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California



Early registration for the free event is highly recommended.

For more information visit: www.oceanleadership.org/iwgoo/california

This workshop is sponsored and organized by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observations and the following organizations:





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A workshop to explore how monitoring and understanding the ocean delivers economic and environmental benefits to industries, government, and the citizens of California.

The ocean has a profound impact on the economy and environment of the State of California. Meeting the challenges of a densely populated coastal region requires anticipating localized hazards such as: coastal flooding, coastal erosion, and harmful algal blooms. Oceans also dictate weather and climate patterns extending far inland, affecting business activities and the environment throughout all of California.

Knowledge of the ocean delivers economic benefits to industries and government through better prediction of coastal hazards, management of coastal waters, and improved weather and climate forecasts. Sustained ocean observations help to ensure the welfare, safety, and security of Californians, protecting the environment in which they live, work, and play.

Rising sea levels and temperatures, combined with more severe weather events, poses substantial coastal and inland risks, which can only be more reliably predicted by better understanding of the oceans.

Making the connections between oceans and weather better enables us to determine when and where severe weather will strike. Reducing the uncertainties of climate impacts can significantly improve strategies for safe and economic infrastructure design, long-term management of existing and future assets, and the reduction of business risk. Major industries in California are especially weather sensitive such as agriculture, power generation, and water supply.

A sustained, Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), that connects information at a global, national, state, and local scale, is an essential component in monitoring and mitigating these risks.

The workshop will provide delegates with:

- An understanding of how ocean observations benefit industry, government, and citizens;
- An in-depth assessment of coastal hazards and their impact on infrastructure;
- An understanding of the connection between ocean observation and predicting regional change;
- An exploration of how California's ocean observations can drive improvements in regional weather forecasts and climate projections; and
- An opportunity to network across a range of disciplines and sectors.



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