



# Alaska Ocean Acidification Network

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## About the Network

The Alaska Ocean Acidification Network was developed to expand the understanding of ocean acidification (OA) processes and consequences in Alaska, as well as potential adaptation and mitigation actions. The network helps connect scientists and stakeholder communities to identify knowledge gaps, recommend regional priorities, share data, and determine best practices for monitoring in Alaska.

## Why is Ocean Acidification a Concern for Alaska?

Scientists estimate that the ocean is 30% more acidic today than it was 300 years ago due to increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from humans. Higher acidity affects the ability of shell-building organisms to develop and maintain their shells. Since the most susceptible species often constitute the basis of the food chain, researchers expect the effects of OA to be felt throughout the ecosystem. This could dramatically affect the lives and livelihoods of Alaskans, including the \$5.8 billion Alaska seafood industry. Alaska is predisposed to ocean acidification due to its water temperature and circulation patterns, making it likely that we will feel the effects sooner and more intensely than other regions.

## Ways to Get Involved

- Browse the website to learn about OA, including the current state of the science
- Use the Expert Database to connect with researchers working on OA issues
- Access OA data in regional, national and global databases
- Learn about monitoring projects close to you
- Join our monthly list serve to stay up to date on new OA-related findings and upcoming events in Alaska, including speakers and workshops

[www.aos.org/alaska-ocean-acidification-network](http://www.aos.org/alaska-ocean-acidification-network)

## Partners

- Alaska Ocean Observing System (coordinator)
- NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center
- Alaska Sea Grant
- Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council
- Alaska Shellfish Growers Assoc.
- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers
- Sitka Tribe
- Alaska Marine Highway System
- Univ. of Alaska Southeast
- Aleutian and Bering Sea Islands LCC
- National Park Service
- Hakai Institute
- UAF Ocean Acidification Research Program
- Alaska Center for Climate Assessment & Policy
- NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program and more.



Russ Hopcroft



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