

This Comment on the West Coast Governors' Agreement web site is from:

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State(s): Washington

Regarding Topic Areas:

- * Clean coastal waters and beaches
- * Habitat protection and restoration

Comment/Suggestion:

Why dont we start where theres most chance of success, and in an area where YOU, in your positions as Governors, can make a huge difference.

STORMWATER RUNOFF - since 80 of our marine water pollution comes from land, we can effectively cut it down to 20 or even less. Yes - it would require spending a lot of money to filter the water and catch all the garbage that ends up in gutters, but probably not much more money than its going to take to do a dozen more studies on the subject, have a few more conferences, sit and discuss, talk, study, verify, even suggest solutions. No matter how much we talk about it, its not going to go away until we DO something about it.

All storm drains eventually lead to the ocean. Because of industry, were NEVER going to stop people from using pesticides, chemicals etc.. We (YOU) have to face the reality of peoples habits, easy fixes, do it fast, who cares what its made of is not going to change unless those chemicals are taken off the market, and thats not going to happen. Far too many people dont care about dumping their trash wherever they happen to be. wind hits landfills and blows the trash around, it still ends up in the oceans. The Plastic Sea.

Cruise ships need to be reigned in, an undercover informer should be aboard each sailing from every port. Bottom trawling is a major threat to the oceans. Why is it so difficult to restore nearshore habitat How can a person get some eelgrass and replant along the shorelines Because you cant get eelgrass and our scientists raise all kinds of red flags about eelgrass restoration. WHY

We can get technical help, scientific help, but its still all just words.

We can observe, we can address, we can map, we can monitor, we can educate, we can have another conference, we can join forces in recognizing all that is wrong, but until we DO something, nothing is going to change.

Words are just not going to cut it.