

# Harmful Algal Blooms and California Fisheries

*Responding to the 2015-2016  
Domoic Acid Event and Future  
Impacts*



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TRUST

**Tom Maloney**  
*Executive Director  
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# About Ocean Science Trust

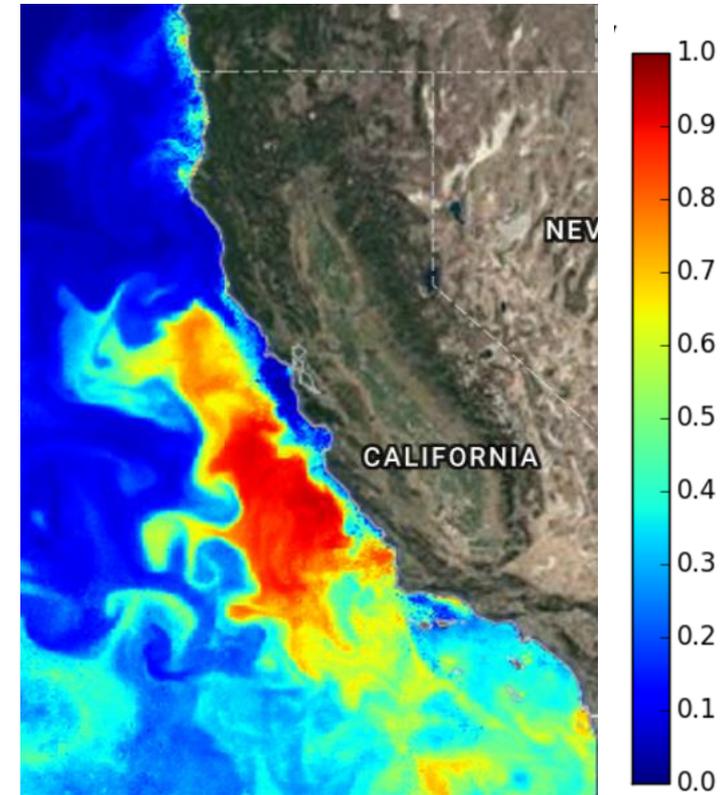
Established by the **Coastal Ocean Resources Stewardship Act of 2000 (AB2387)**

- Advance science that meets State needs on a range of issues (e.g., fisheries, changing ocean conditions, MPA monitoring)
- Executive Director serves as **science advisor** to the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC)
- Convene the OPC **Science Advisory Team**

# Responding to an Unprecedented Event

- The 2015-16 west coast-wide *Pseudo-nitzschia* bloom resulted in some of the highest concentrations of domoic acid ever observed in CA
- Resulted in a number of health advisories and fishery closures, devastating economic impacts to industry

Particulate domoic acid probability, July 2015



Credit: CeNCOOS

# Providing Scientific Guidance: HAB and Biotoxin Monitoring

- OPC convened an Interagency Marine HAB Task Force, charged Ocean Science Trust with:
  - **Developing an FAQ:** Build common understanding across all engaged in the issue
  - **Advancing Science:** Convening an **OPC Science Advisory Team** Working Group to develop science guidance on HAB and toxin monitoring

## INTERAGENCY MARINE HAB TASK FORCE

*California Department of Fish  
and Wildlife*

*California Fish and Game  
Commission*

*California Department of  
Public Health*

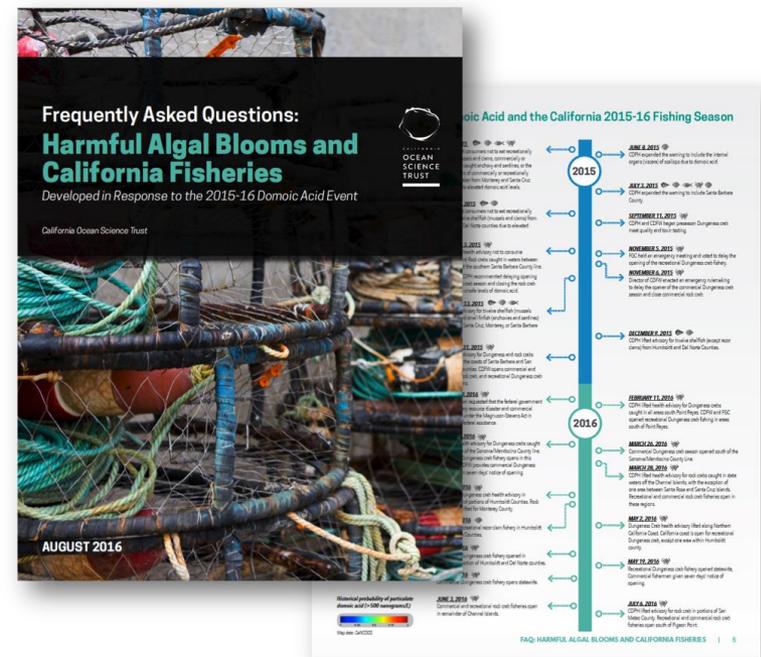
*Office of Environmental  
Health Hazard Assessment*

*California Ocean Protection  
Council*

# Frequently Asked Questions: Harmful Algal Blooms and California Fisheries

August 2016

- Addresses questions submitted by fishing industry, NGOs, HAB Task Force, Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Provides clarity on the State's HAB monitoring and management, and seafood toxin sampling and testing protocols
- Process engaged fishing community, 3 west coast states, multiple state/federal agencies



# Advancing Science: Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team Working Group

- Developing scientific guidance  
*Release date: September 2016*
  - State of the science
  - Guidance on bolstering existing HAB and biotoxin monitoring in California
  - Addressing information needs and gaps between government and science
  - Linkages with broader changing ocean conditions (e.g., acidification, nutrients, hypoxia)
- Longer-term science working group to be convened through 2017

## OPC-SAT WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

**Dr. Raphael Kudela**  
*UC Santa Cruz*

**Dr. William Cochlan**  
*SF State University*

**Dr. Dave Caron**  
*USC*

**Dr. Gregg Langlois**  
*CA Dept. of Public Health  
(retired)*



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