

Report on Using Aquatic Vegetation as Ocean Acidification Management Tool



The Ocean Protection Council and Ocean Science Trust are pleased to announce the release of a new report: *Emerging Understanding of Seagrass and Kelp as an Ocean Acidification Management Tool in California*. The report is available here: <http://www.oceansciencetrust.org/projects/sav/>.

The report, which synthesizes data and results from ongoing research and monitoring, provides guidance on next steps for the State as it considers future nature-based actions to reduce the negative impacts of ocean acidification in California and beyond. The report was produced by a working group of the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT) and the California Ocean Science Trust.

Key findings and next steps from the report will be presented on February 6 in Sacramento at a hearing of the Select Committee on Coastal Protection and Access to Natural Resources. In addition to the report's findings, the hearing will include presentations from researchers at The Nature Conservancy, University of California, Davis, and California State University, Northridge highlighting specific actions being taken locally and key next steps for California. More information on the hearing can be found [here](#).

EMERGING UNDERSTANDING OF SEAGRASS AND KELP AS AN OCEAN ACIDIFICATION MANAGEMENT TOOL IN CALIFORNIA

Developed by a Working Group of the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team
and California Ocean Science Trust

AUTHORS

Nielsen, K., Stachowicz, J., Carter, H., Boyer, K., Bracken, M., Chan, F., Chavez, F.,
Hovel, K., Kent, M., Nickols, K., Ruesink, J., Tyburczy, J., and Wheeler, S.

JANUARY 2018

...dwelling seagrasses include eelgrass
(*Zostera marina*) and surfgrass (*Phyllospadix scouleri*).
Z. marina is the best candidate for
...the non-native and invasive eelgrass *Z.*
...Bay. Further, field studies in Oregon have
and confers less benefit to oysters than
...impact water chemistry is proportional
...sed more in the following section). *Z.*
...ern California) and surfgrasses are less
...they occur where water flow and mixing
...there is some evidence to suggest *Z.*

...kelp forests, two canopy-forming species
...candidates for OA amelioration because
Macrocystis pyrifera) and bull kelp (*Nereocystis*
lutescens). Bull kelp is more tolerant of high
... (Moiles, 1999). Giant kelp is more
... Bull kelp tends to dominate forests north
...es and its photosynthetic blades occur
...al species (grows from new spores each
...face).



Eelgrass
Zostera marina
Photo: Liam Neasey



Eelgrass
Zostera pacifica
Photo: Tom Mc



Giant kelp
Macrocystis pyrifera
Photo: NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries



Bull kelp
Nereocystis lutescens
Photo: Dan Hendrick