INTERFAITH OCEANS ACTION PLEDGE

WE HOPE FOR

Beautiful, stable, diverse oceans and coastal communities for generations to come

ACTION PLEDGE

I / We ___________________________
(name of individual or community) care about our Creator, the oceans, the marine species, and vulnerable people suffering from ocean destruction.
(For a menu of joint actions and resources: www.interfaithoceans.org)

I / WE COMMIT

1. To survey energy use and products, and work to conserve and change to alternatives to reduce fossil-fuel pollution in the ocean and atmosphere.

2. To advocate to local, state, and national representatives to ask for action on issues like reducing fossil fuels, supporting alternative energies, saving and replanting forests, establishing fishing limits and marine sanctuaries, and banning plastic bags; particularly in coastal states, to speak out against oil and gas drilling on the continental shelf and in marine protected areas.

3. To buy only sustainably caught seafood (see http://www.seafoodwatch.org/ and the Seafood Watch app).

4. To work to stop using single-use plastic items and bags, and recycle all recyclable plastics.

5. To help with the cleanup of an ocean or river beach, with an ocean restoration project, or with a reforestation effort with others as often as is feasible.

6. To visit the ocean, an ocean aquarium, or a river flowing to the sea to consider the gifts in joy, gratitude, and prayer; to ask at least three others to take this action pledge.

I / WE AFFIRM

The oceans are the Creator’s, and all the life within them. We shall not destroy the oceans, nor despoil the life dependent upon them.

We must be humble, grateful, and in awe. We will work to protect, restore, and renew the face of the earth.

I / WE KNOW

That all of life is interconnected, and all of life matters.

That the oceans give us beauty, joy, recreation, food, moisture, medicines, marine life, and breath. They provide good for all.

As the oceans are being damaged, the poorest coastal residents and communities are suffering intensely as are our brother and sister species.

Our world has the resources, creativity, scientific and technological knowledge to act sustainably and justly, and with love.

People of faith and spirituality must work with people of science and conservation to lead the way.

Transforming our energy choices, products, processes, and personal habits will transform our lives, communities, economies, and future for the better.

Our children and their children, and all people, species, and generations to come will benefit as we make needed changes.

I / WE VALUE

All Peoples and All Species
We know all are important and require respect and care.

Respect for Different Faiths
We recognize the highest callings in all faiths and spiritual paths, and our common goals that bring us together. Faith needs to inspire, challenge, guide, and give meaning to our choices.

Respect for Science
We need science to inform us of the physical realities and interrelationships, and of the potential consequences of policies and personal actions.

The Power of Local People
We know that local and indigenous people have solutions and power, and they must be part of all policies and actions that affect them.

Inclusive Decision-Making
We make better decisions when we listen to diverse perspectives and backgrounds.

Prayer
We believe that prayer helps move hearts, minds, and hands to do the needed work.

Signature Date