

### *Attitudes about the Ocean and Oceanography*

Here are a number of statements that may or may not describe your beliefs about learning oceanography. You are asked to rate each statement by selecting a number between 1 and 5 where the numbers mean the following:

1. Strongly Disagree
2. Disagree
3. Neutral
4. Agree
5. Strongly Agree

Choose one of the above five choices that best expresses your feeling about the statement. If you don't understand a statement, leave it blank. If you have no strong opinion, choose 3.

- \_\_\_ Knowledge in oceanography consists of many disconnected topics.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ I cannot learn oceanography if the teacher does not explain things well in class.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ I study oceanography to learn knowledge that will be useful in my life outside of school.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ Nearly everyone is capable of understanding oceanography if they work at it.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ To understand oceanography I discuss it with friends and other students.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ The subject of oceanography has little relation to what I experience in the real world.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ To understand oceanography, I sometimes think about my personal experiences and relate them to the topic being analyzed.<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ When studying oceanography, I relate the important information to what I already know rather than just memorizing it the way it is presented.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Colorado Learning Attitudes about Science Survey

- \_\_\_\_\_ My actions can have a significant effect on the health of oceans and coastal areas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have a personal responsibility to work for the health of the oceans and coastal areas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am familiar with the environmental issues facing the coastal areas in my home state
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am familiar with the issues facing the global ocean.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have enough background knowledge to write a substantive letter to my congressional representative about an issue affecting the ocean.

CNC: make it so

concern  
 responsibility  
 empowerment  
 specificity - specific problems and particular actions  
 action - really do it, not just say so  
 willingness  
 personal, not corporate impact

"the ocean starts here"

maybe significance questions, like OP

If you knew that taking the actions listed below would help protect the health and resources of our oceans, bays and coastal areas, how willing would you be to do them?  
 1 = not at all willing, 5 = very willing.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Eat less of certain kinds of fish. <sup>2</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pay more for fish and seafood. <sup>3</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Support government regulation restricting the use of the seashore <sup>2</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Support local efforts to reduce business and economic development of coastal areas. <sup>2</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Support the use of public money for new research and technologies to reduce pollution <sup>2</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pay more tax dollars <sup>3</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have fewer choices of where to vacation <sup>3</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Close beaches to public use. <sup>3</sup>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Not visit your favorite beach

Ocean Project: Thinking specifically about environmental issues, please tell me how serious you think each of the following is (1-10)

- Water pollution
- toxic waste
- loss of rain forests
- air pollution
- land being developed
- 15 damage to coastal waters
- overconsumption
- extinction
- 16 damage to ocean beaches
- global climate change
- 14 damage to open, deep oceans

**Q58-  
Q64**

**effect of actions to protect oceans**

- recycle motor oil
- stop using pesticides
- fish consumption
- get involved in local environmental project
- save water
- contact elected officials
- buy less stuff

very	very-not at all effective (4 pts)
78%	<i>they were coached! Q44-Q53</i>
47%	
44%	
35%	
33%	
30%	<i>no faith in politics?</i>
18%	

**OP claims:**

- 1) Oceans are powerful, vast, relaxing and fun
- 2) Public unaware of ocean health, especially beyond beach
- 3) Protecting oceans is not urgent
- 4) Superficial knowledge of oceans and functions
- 5) Oceans are viewed as vulnerable, but public does not see individual actions as having great impact.
- 6) Low levels of personal importance on protecting oceans.
- 7) Emotions, not facts are correlated with concern for the ocean.
- 8) Convincing values: balance of nature, human survival
- 9) Messages: recreation, responsibility, future
- 10) Most salient threat: pollution
- 11) Americans may sacrifice to protect the oceans