

Dr. Sarah Cooley

Sarah Cooley is the Director of the Ocean Acidification Program at Ocean Conservancy, in Washington DC. This program seeks to show that ocean acidification is an issue that is relevant to elected officials and their constituents, and can be acted upon by leaders, to advance this issue in a constructive, bipartisan frame that ultimately leads to longer-term support for action on acidification and a host of other ocean-related issues. Dr. Cooley has been working to incorporate science into decision making at Ocean Conservancy since 2014. She is currently a Coordinating Lead Author on Working Group II of the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report, has recently participated in the United States' 4th National Climate Assessment and the 2nd State of the Carbon Cycle Report, and has authored dozens of peer-reviewed scientific journal articles.

Dr. Cooley's scholarly focus spans ocean carbon cycling, science communication, and science-based policy development. She was trained as an ocean carbon cycle scientist and numerical modeler, then moved into interdisciplinary science. In her position at Ocean Conservancy, she works to educate and engage decision-makers and stakeholders from every political perspective at regional to international levels on ocean acidification, identifying ways that different groups can take concrete, stepwise action on the issue. In her work, Dr. Cooley combines science synthesis, strategic communications, political strategy and advocacy, and public advocacy.