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# NOAA and SEATTLE TIMES: Unprecedented Closures of West Coast in Extent and Magnitude... Public Health Alert Due to Extremely Poisonous Toxic Bloom...



US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

"This is unprecedented in extent and magnitude"... toxic bloom may stretch from Calif. to Alaska — Largest event ever recorded? — Official: "It's new territory... we've never had to close essentially half our coast" — Fish washing up "extremely poisonous" — "Serious

## The Latest

**Family of Walter Scott, who was fatally shot by a North Charleston, SC, officer: 'We were shocked and saddened to learn of the horrific tragedy that unfolded last night at the historic Emanuel AME Church in downtown Charleston ... It is our hope that justice will come swiftly'**

Jun 18,  
2015  
7:12:10



top  
conservative  
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concern for coastal communities”

**Sources below from NOAA Fisheries  
and Seattle Times on June 15, 2015**

[NOAA Fisheries](#) (pdf), Jun 15, 2015

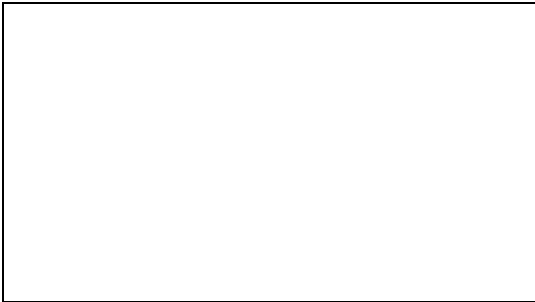
(emphasis added): **NOAA Fisheries mobilizes to gauge unprecedented West Coast toxic algal bloom** [that] spans much of the West Coast and has triggered numerous closures of important shellfish fisheries... The **bloom stretches from the Central California** Coast north to Washington and **possibly Alaska...**

[Seattle Times](#), Jun 15, 2015: *Toxic algae bloom might be **largest ever*** —

Scientists onboard a NOAA research vessel are beginning a survey of what could be the **largest toxic algae bloom ever recorded off the West Coast...** At the same time, two other types of toxins rarely seen in combination are turning up,,, along the Washington coast... the **toxin has never hit so hard** in the spring, **or required such widespread closures** for crabs... concentrations in California anchovies this year [are] as **high as any ever measured...** [Dan Ayres with Washington's Dept. of Fish & Wildlife] recently spotted a sea lion wracked by seizures... collapsed into a fetal position and quivered... Domoic-acid contamination is rare in Puget Sound, but several beds have been closed this year because of... paralytic shellfish poisoning

(PSP) and a **relatively new threat** called diarrhetic shellfish poisoning (DSP). The **first confirmed case** of DSP poisoning in the United States **occurred in 2011** [in Washington]... 2015 is the first time regulators have detected dangerous levels of PSP, DSP and domoic acid in the state at the same time — and in some cases, in the same places...

[SOURCE](#)



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