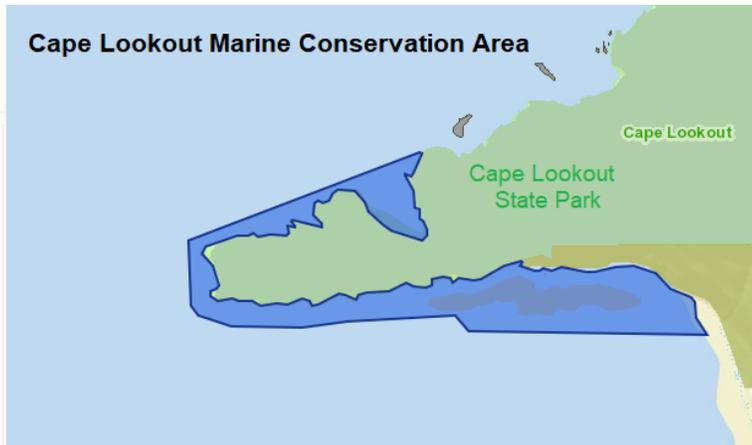


Site Name:	Cape Lookout		
Proposal Type:	New	Designation Type:	MCA
Proposer:	Audubon Society of Lincoln City, info@lincolncityaudubon.org		
Links:	SeaSketch Map (Cape Lookout)	Materials (Documents packet)	

Site Specific Goals: Conserve, to the highest degree possible, the ecological functions and rocky habitat resources in order to provide long-term ecological, economic, and social benefits for current and future generations.



Site Location: Cape Lookout is located 15 miles southwest of Garibaldi and 7 miles north of Pacific City. Most of the adjacent uplands are in Cape Lookout State Park. The Marine Conservation Area (MCA) lies within Sections 1, and 2 T35 R11W. The plan area is 217 acres with 3 miles of shoreline.

Key Natural Resources: Cape Lookout has been described as an undisturbed standard against which to monitor environmental quality, and an area from which to accumulate baseline data. There are extensive tidepools most easily accessible from nearby Camp Meriwether. The kelp forests, like most Oregon kelp forests, have recently experienced a rapid decline. There is a sea cave and a marine mammal haul out at the cape's tip. The south cliff face supports seabird nesting colonies with more than 8,800 birds representing eight species.

Stakeholder Outreach: Building community is central to this proposal. Outreach included webinars, social media posts, in-person conversations, phone calls, newspaper articles, and videos. A broad spectrum of stakeholders provided input, including charter boats, commercial fishers, educators, environmental groups, faith-based groups, local governments, the Pacific City dory fleet, Tribes, and watershed councils. ASLC listened to these groups' interests and concerns to shape the management recommendations. More than 1,100 people viewed the Youtube video for this proposal. The proposal's 17 letters of support include endorsements from the City of Garibaldi, the natural resources manager for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the Boy Scouts of America Cascade Chapter that owns and manages Camp Meriwether.

Management Overview: Education, community engagement, and monitoring rather than new regulation are emphasized in the recommendations to meet the site goal. Education programs will focus on collaboration with Camp Meriwether, which hosts many Outdoor Schools from around the state. Community engagement includes a biennial State of the Cape Symposium. This meeting is an ideal platform to foster collaboration of community groups, fishing interests,

agencies, Tribal Nations, and interested individuals in routinely evaluating progress toward achieving the designation goal and objectives, especially kelp restoration. The commitment of volunteer groups has been demonstrated by ongoing efforts to restore the kelp forests.

Non-Regulatory Management Recommendations:

General

- Consider climate change in management decisions
- Maintain access for all existing uses
- Collaborate among agencies, research institutions, and organizations on kelp restoration
- Place no restrictions on boat access and anchorage

Education

- Educate on rocky habitat mostly through Camp Meriwether and signage
- Educate boaters and drone users on avoiding seabird and wildlife disturbance

Community Engagement

- Implement stewardship program
- Enact community science focused on kelp restoration
- Hold a biennial State of the Cape Symposium

Monitoring and Research

- Research and monitor climate change impacts to rocky habitat
- Monitor effectiveness of kelp forest restoration efforts

Regulatory Management Recommendations:

Fish Harvest		Algae Harvest	
Commercial:	No change	Commercial:	Already closed
Recreational:	No change	Recreational:	Subtidal kelp harvest closed* Intertidal closed
Invertebrate Harvest		Other	
Commercial:	Subtidal No change Intertidal closed	Boat access/anchorage are unaffected	
Recreational:	Subtidal No change Intertidal Partial closure - open for commonly harvested species*		

**Rule change required*

Access and harvest by members of Federally recognized Tribal Nations are unaffected.

Summary Statement: Originally designated in the 1994 inventory but never implemented, the nearshore rocky habitats at Cape Lookout merit site-based management. This MCA designation will foster community involvement and prompt funding to address issues of climate change, the loss of essential kelp forests, and increasing use. Samuel Boardman called Cape Lookout one of Oregon’s crown jewels. A designation now will ensure its pristine nearshore habitats remain accessible for all.