COQUILLE POINT MARINE GARDEN MANAGEMENT PLAN

OREGON ROCKY HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

OREGON
Coastal Management Program
DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Cover Photo: Western view of Coquille Point offshore rocks and headland, Oregon ShoreZone, 2011.

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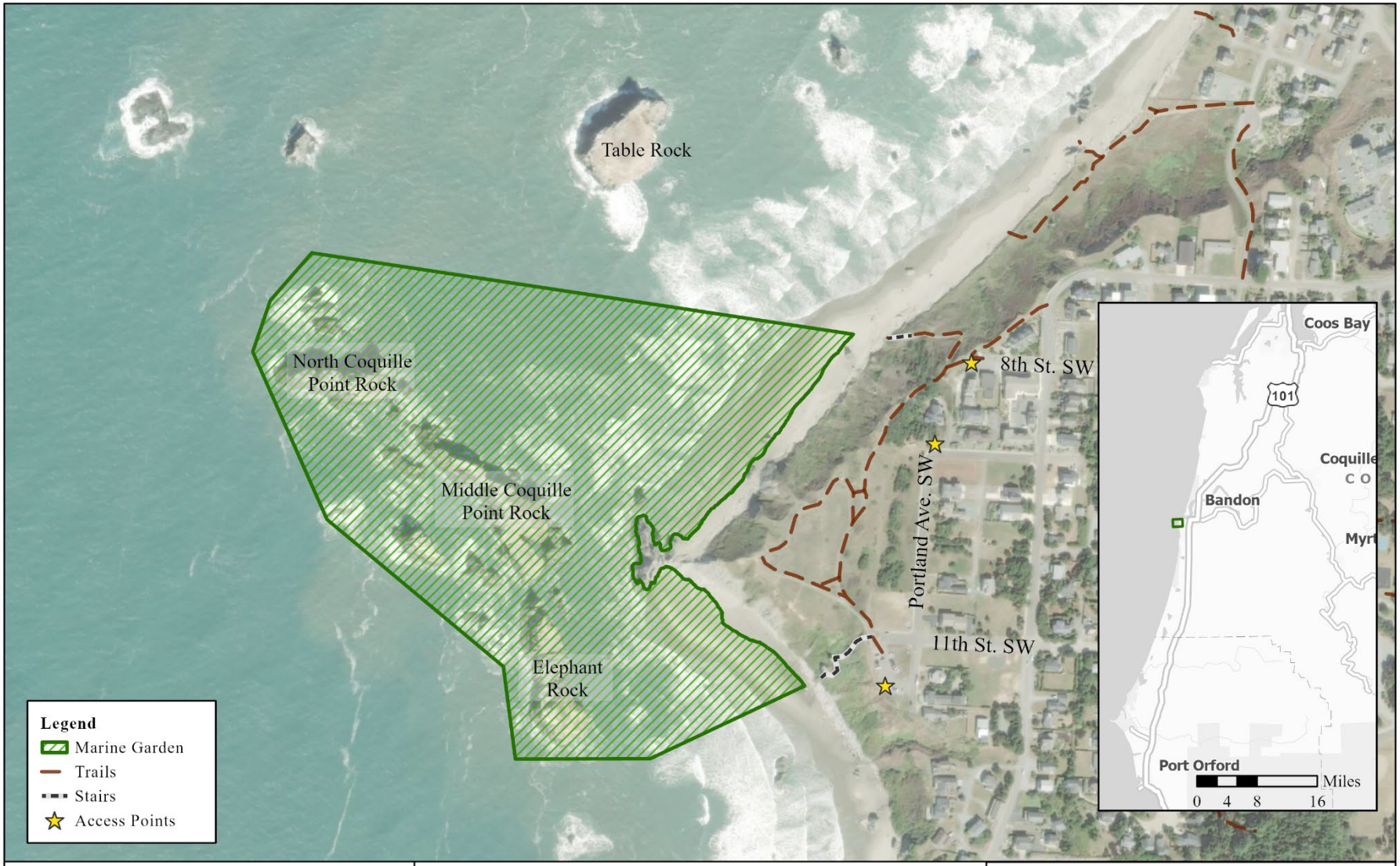

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Projection Oregon Statewide Lambert, NAD1983 International feet, EPSG 2992

COQUILLE POINT MARINE GARDEN BOUNDARY

Miles
0 0.05 0.1 0.2

N

Access Points by OCMP
Trails by Open Street Map
Reference Map by Oregon Dep. of Transportation
Imagery by Maxar
Marine Managed Areas by:

NOAA
OREGON Department of Land Conservation & Development
OCMP Oregon Coastal Management Program

Eva Krukowski, OCMP, Date Modified 09/12/2025

The Coquille Point Marine Garden boundary includes the intertidal habitat between a line perpendicular to the shore from the 8th Street beach access point and a line perpendicular to shore from the 11th Street Coquille Point beach access staircase.

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Oregon Department of State Lands

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Oregon State Police

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Tribal Partners

Coquille Indian Tribe

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians

Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians

Other Partners

Shoreline Education for Awareness Board

Ocean Policy Advisory Council

Land Conservation and Development Commission

Native people have lived and used beaches, dunes, and rocky environments since time immemorial. We strongly encourage Oregonians and others to learn about the people indigenous to Oregon from the materials and resources made available by the tribes themselves. Learn how the state interacts with Tribes from the Legislative Commission on Indian Services.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

SUMMARY

A Marine Garden, also known as a Marine Education Area, is any area within Oregon's territorial sea or adjacent rocky intertidal area that the State designates to protect rocky habitat resources through public enjoyment, learning opportunities, public access, and by supporting ecological integrity. These sites are characterized by their high public visitation and educational potential. The terms Marine Garden and Marine Education Area are used interchangeably. For the purposes of this document, the term Marine Gardens will be used.

Marine Gardens are established through a public proposal process outlined in the Territorial Sea Plan Part Three, Section E., facilitated by the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC). Community members can propose new or revised designations, which OPAC reviews and then recommends to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for approval. The Land Conservation and Development Commission is the governing board of the Department of Land Conservation and Development. Once approved, state agencies like OPRD, ODFW, and DSL must adopt new rules through a formal rulemaking process.

The goal of the Coquille Point Marine Garden designation is to provide more protection of the plants and animals while encouraging enjoyment of the designated area.

This Coquille Point Marine Garden Management Plan (Plan) provides a framework for implementing site-based management actions at the Coquille Point Marine Garden. Management focuses on education, stewardship, and community science to protect the rich biodiversity at this site.

SITE INFORMATION

Coquille Point is used by residents and visitors primarily for photography, beachcombing, picnicking, bird watching, observing pinnipeds, flying drones, exercising dogs, playing on the beach, fishing, paddle boarding, climbing rocks, biking, jogging, flying kites, and strolling on the beach.

MARINE GARDEN DESCRIPTION

The Coquille Point Marine Garden encompasses roughly 50 acres covering about 0.3 miles of shoreline around the Coquille Point headland. There are around 16.6 acres of intertidal habitat area and six acres of offshore rocks and islands within the boundary. The Marine Garden boundary includes the intertidal habitat between a line perpendicular to the shore from the 8th Street beach access point and a line perpendicular to shore from the Coquille Point beach access staircase. The largest sea stacks within the boundaries include Elephant Rock, Middle Coquille Rock, and North Coquille Rock.

The government agencies with jurisdiction within or nearby Coquille Point Marine Garden are the Oregon Department of State Lands, Oregon Department of Fish and

Wildlife, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. See Appendix E and Appendix F for more information about state and federal regulations.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

The Coquille Point Marine Garden Management Plan (further referred to as "the Plan") is multipurpose: 1) it is a tool for community members to learn about rocky habitat management and support programming in the area, and 2) it will help government agencies implement the regulations for marine gardens and coordinate stewardship of the habitat.

The Plan includes regulatory and non-regulatory management strategies for achieving management goals. Regulatory strategies are added restrictions to the harvest of marine plants and animals associated with the Marine Garden designation. Non-regulatory strategies describe the resources and existing or desired efforts or programs for educational programming and scientific monitoring.

The audience for this Plan is all individuals and groups with an interest in the ecological health and resilience of Coquille Point. These groups include Tribal Nations, state, local, and federal government agencies, non-governmental organizations or NGOs, community groups, charter and commercial fishing companies, residents, local businesses, tourists, researchers, and local schools.

The Plan can help communities:

- Understand how the policies and principles from the Oregon Rocky Habitat Management Strategy are applied at Coquille Point.
- Share the goals and objectives for management priorities at Coquille Point.
- Document what supports efforts community groups and government agencies can contribute towards achieving Plan goals.
- Connect with existing and building new engagement opportunities at Coquille Point.
- Participate in scientific monitoring at Coquille Point.
- Access outreach and educational materials about rocky habitats.

Land Acknowledgement

Indigenous tribes and bands have been with the lands that we inhabit today throughout Oregon and the Northwest since time immemorial and continue to be a vibrant part of Oregon today. We would like to express our respect to the First Peoples of this land, the nine federally recognized tribes of Oregon: Burns Paiute Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, Coquille Indian Tribe, Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians, and The Klamath Tribes.

It is important that we recognize and honor the ongoing legal and spiritual relationship between the land, plants, animals, and people indigenous to this place we now call Oregon. The interconnectedness of the people, the land, and the natural environment cannot be overstated; the health of one is necessary for the health of all.

We recognize the pre-existing and continued sovereignty of the nine federally recognized tribes who have ties to this place and thank them for continuing to share their traditional ecological knowledge and perspective on how we might care for one another and the land, so it can take care of us. We commit to engaging in a respectful and successful partnership as stewards of these lands. And as we are obliged by state law and policy, we will uphold government-to-government relations to advance strong governance outcomes supportive of tribal self-determination and sovereignty.

Legislative Commission on Indian Services. Land Acknowledgment Guidance. Retrieved July 2024, from https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/cis/ Pages/education.aspx

CHAPTER 2: COQUILLE POINT MARINE GARDEN MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Chapter 2 will cover objectives and implementation actions for habitat management strategies like information sharing, interpretation, site monitoring, and compliance.

Management strategies and objectives for the Coquille Point Marine Garden will foster cooperation and coordination among local, state, and federal resource management agencies, and Tribal Nations, to ensure that ecosystem-based management principles guide decision-making for marine resources, wildlife, and habitat.

Communities will coordinate stewardship efforts at Coquille Point Marine Garden with the Coquille Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, and any other interested Tribes, U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Land Conservation and Development, Department of State Lands, and the City of Bandon.

MARINE GARDEN NON-REGULATORY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The Territorial Sea Plan Part 3 includes three non-regulatory standards & management practices for Marine Gardens. More information about these standards is in Table 1: Regulatory Standards & Management Practices on page 31.

1. Increase, enhance, and maintain visual and physical access on public lands to rocky habitats to be inclusive of diverse uses while prioritizing the protection of ecological and cultural resources.
2. Encourage educational and interpretive programming that increases informed visitation to the site and minimizes impacts to site resources.
    - Educational programs should aim to reduce the impacts of trampling and wildlife disturbance, as well as monitor impacts of visitor use. Increase and enhance messaging around rules and regulations and highlight general rocky habitat etiquette and stewardship.
3. Other actions and practices that aid in reaching site goals.

COQUILLE POINT MARINE GARDEN MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Below are the site-specific objectives and recommended implementation actions for Coquille Point Marine Garden. These objectives and implementation actions build upon the coastwide standards for management of Marine Gardens while also addressing site-specific needs for the habitat and local community. Workshop participants developed recommended implementation actions during the 2025 South Coast Rocky Habitat Workshop, following consultation with community groups, state agencies, and other partners.

The list below categorizes Objectives 1–6 and the associated Actions 1–52. For the complete table of the recommended implementation action matrix, see Appendix H.

1. Tribal Coordination Objectives

1.1) Preserve Cultural Resources: See Actions 1, 10, 15, and 27.

1.1.a. Recognize and protect cultural resources at Coquille Point, ensuring they are respected and preserved in any activity within the Marine Garden.

1.1.b. Coordinate with the Coquille Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians to identify the abundance of cultural resources present at Coquille Point.

1.2) Include Tribes in Resource Monitoring: See actions 1, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, and 13-15.

1.2.a. Notify the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer or the Natural Resources Department Director from the Coquille Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and

Siuslaw Indians before any resource monitoring or extractive activity occurs within the Marine Garden.

1.2.b Coordinate with all interested Tribes on the appropriate handling and collection of marine life.

2. Public Access Objectives

2.1) Maintain Visual Access: See Actions 15 and 37

2.1.a. Preserve unobstructed views of the ocean and Coquille Point from public areas, benches, and key scenic viewpoints[1].

2.2) Enhance Inclusive Physical Access: See Actions 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, 29, 37, 47, and 52.

2.2. a. Provide and maintain safe, equitable physical access to Coquille Point and surrounding public lands, accommodating a diversity of users and activities.

3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives

3.1) Protect Ecological Resources: See Actions 2 – 4, 6, 27, 37, and 42.

3.1.a. Prioritize the preservation of ecological resources in the rocky habitat at Coquille Point.

3.1.b. Conserve biodiversity and support ecosystem functions by monitoring site conditions and minimizing human disturbance.

3.1.c. Maintain Coquille Point's ecological integrity by preserving habitat complexity, species diversity, and healthy populations of keystone species, as identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP).

3.2) Minimize Wildlife/Habitat Disturbance: See Actions 2, 16-18, 27, 37, 42, 43, 47, and 50.

3.2.a. Prevent human disturbance of wildlife or habitats, particularly during shorebird nesting season (April – August) and Harbor seal pupping season (March – June).

3.2.b. Encourage responsible public behavior through education about proper etiquette around marine plants and animals, fostering stewardship and minimizing ecological impacts.

3.3) Advance Research and Adaptive Management: See Actions 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12-14, 23, 27, 39, and 46.

[1] The City of Bandon Scenic Resources Inventory lists key scenic viewpoints in Bandon. Chapter 3, Section 1, Appendix 1, Site Inventory, https://www.bandon-or.gov/media/27631.

3.3.a. Identify management and knowledge gaps, and support targeted research, monitoring, and community science initiatives to inform adaptive, science-based conservation practices.

4. Public Visitation Objectives

4.1) Promote Inclusive Education and Interpretation: See Actions 15-21, 23-26, 28, 29, 31-36, and 46.

4.1.a. Provide accessible educational and interpretive opportunities that foster public understanding and appreciation of rocky habitats and their associated species.

4.1.b. Provide educational activities and opportunities for a diverse community and diverse user groups.

4.2) Encourage Stewardship Through Outreach: See Actions 3, 14-19, 21, 23, 25, 27-29, 31-33, 35-38, 46, and 47.

4.2.a. Enhance public awareness of rocky habitat stewardship practices, tidepool etiquette, and responsible behavior.

4.2.b. Interact with visitors through interpretation programs, tabling, junior ranger packets, and sharing outreach materials.

4.3) Increase Informed Visitation: See Actions 4, 16-24, 26, 28, 31, 32, 35, 36, 38, 42, 44, 45, 47, 50, and 52.

4.3.a. Ensure visitors are well-informed about site rules, regulations, and ecological sensitivities through clear, consistent messaging before and during their visit.

4.3.b. Translate all printed and digital materials about rocky habitats into Spanish and consider translating materials into other commonly spoken languages like Russian, Mandarin, or Vietnamese.

4.3.c. Coordinate messaging about Coquille Point Marine Garden and the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge with USFWS.

4.3.d. Coordinate messaging about Coquille Point Marine Garden with other community organizations that steward other Marine Gardens like Haystack Rock Marine Garden, Chapman Point Marine Garden, or Yaquina Head Marine Garden.

4.4) Minimize Visitor Impact: See Actions 5, 15-20, 22-24, 26, 36, 38, 39, 42-45, 47, and 48.

4.4.a. Implement strategies to reduce trampling, wildlife disturbance, and other physical impacts on sensitive habitats through education, signage, and controlled access where necessary (e.g. during harbor seal pupping season March - June).

4.5) Monitor Visitor Use: See Actions 9, 11, 14, 16, 26, 30, 37-39, 42-44, 51, 52.

4.5.a. Regularly assess visitation patterns and their impacts to guide adaptive management, ensuring long-term protection of site resources.

4.5.b. Document instances of wildlife or habitat disturbance, as appropriate.

5. Site Monitoring Objectives

5.1) Standardize Data Collection: See Actions 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 11, 15, 23, and 39.

5.1.a. Rely on established protocols with ongoing monitoring locally or elsewhere on the West Coast.

5.1.b. Use consistent data collection methods vetted by a science-based group such as the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

5.2) Practice Accessible and Inclusive Monitoring Efforts: See Actions 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 13-15, 23, 34, 46, and 50.

5.2.a. Provide engagement in community science and monitoring activities for a diverse community and diverse user groups.

5.2.b. Prioritize public safety during field research.

5.3) Prioritize Relevant Research Projects: See Actions 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12-14, and 46.

5.3.a. Contribute to the understanding of climate change resiliency.

6. Compliance Objectives

6.1) Encourage Regulatory Compliance: See Actions 7, 16, 18, 21, 36, 38, 40-45, 49, and 51.

6.1.a. State and Federal regulations are accessible and visible.

6.2) Prioritize Public Education: See Actions 9, 16-23, 25, 26, 28, 31-33, 35, 36, 38, and 40-49.

6.2.a. Prioritize education about tidepool etiquette (e.g. stay on sand or look don't touch).

6.3) Maintain Public Safety: See Actions 5, 37-44, and 48-52.

6.3.a. Prioritize public safety in site improvement efforts and on-site public programming.

6.3.b. Facilitate communication with enforcement agencies like OPRD, OSP, USFWS, or the Bandon Police so that enforcement officers are available when needed.

6.4) Support Informed Stewardship Programs: See Actions 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 24, 26, 30, 35, 36, 38-46, 48, 49, and 52.

6.4.a. Empower program staff, volunteers, and other visitors to evaluate the appropriate response to an unsafe event or violation.

6.4.b. Communicate documented instances of wildlife disturbance with the OPRD Bullards Beach Management Unit, USFWS Refuge Manager, or Oregon State Police Wildlife Division.

Recommended Implementation Actions List:

1	Engage tribes during the planning of community science and monitoring projects.
2	Inform Oregon Coast Trail hikers about sensitive areas like during harbor seal pupping season.
3	Participate in bioblitz(es) to measure site diversity on a regular basis.
4	Host educational seminars for community members to learn about ongoing updates or results of monitoring efforts. Topics could also include basic ecological theory to discuss resilience.
5	Guides leading a community science trip will follow beach safety recommendations.
6	Help develop, host, or find community science projects that collect data to inform management.
7	Develop community science monitoring protocols consistent with all designated Marine Reserves and Rocky Habitats.
8	Train community science volunteers to implement the protocols.
9	Strengthen relationships between commercial users of the area and those recreating. Examples could include hosting an event or creating a survey of all users.
10	Ensure datasets about research at Coquille Point held by state, federal, or research institutions is accessible to Tribes, researchers, and community groups.
11	Ensure data collected by community groups is accessible to the OCMP, ODFW, OPRD, and DSL. Oregon SeaSketch could be a potential data-sharing platform.
12	Consider adding ODFW monitoring sensors for Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia within the designation boundary.
13	Collaborate with educational institutions to develop future research projects based on community priorities.
14	Participate in quarterly meetings with programs that do community science projects to share data and ideas for research.
15	Establish consistent photo point locations where citizens can take repeatable photos and share them to a central database to document long-term change.
16	Translate all printed materials into Spanish. Make digital materials available in Spanish as well.
17	Provide species ID guides and resources that are easy for new naturalists to use and interpret.
18	Develop brochures that can be shared at the chamber of commerce, outdoor gear stores, and local hotels or vacation housing.
19	Make all plans, signs, and brochures available online.

20	Monitor and maintain the QR code on the “Critter Panel” interpretive sign. If sign needs maintenance, notify USFWS Refuge Manager and the OPRD Bullards Beach Park Manager.
21	Host public presentations for community and school groups, individuals and organizations about the marine environment and ocean literacy. Locations for presentations could include rotary clubs, schools, library, and guided tours for people with mobility challenges.
22	Increase availability of information about protected areas where visitors are already going to look (e.g. State Parks, ODFW Website, Curry County, etc.)
23	Partner with local schools to share education about tidepool etiquette and marine education. Organize school field trips to Coquille Point with a hands-on component (ex. Go tidepooling, have kids take pics & upload to iNaturalist, complete a CoastWatch survey).
24	Participate in the development of public education and interpretation standards common to all sites coastwide.
25	Develop a "virtual" field trip option to Coquille Point for non-coastal schools.
26	Provide volunteer steward presence at sites seasonally during daylight low-low tide periods.
27	Connect interpretation materials or events to sustainable seafood networks.
28	Consider participating in a species spotlight podcast series to highlight some of the most important indicators of healthy rocky habitats. Potential partner could include the Oregon Coast Visitor Association and Shoreline Education for Awareness.
29	Support tidepool education offsite to encourage marine education in urban areas and to minimize onsite visitation. Partners could include the Oregon Coast Aquarium, Portland Aquarium, Charleston Marine Life Center, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, and the Eugene Science Center.
30	Volunteer tidepool ambassadors monitor visitor use by collecting data like the number of visitors and dogs to the Marine Garden at low-tide.
31	Identify gaps in existing outreach materials to support the development of new materials.
32	Coordinate social media blasts about Marine Gardens or tidepool etiquette. Partners could include Oregon Coast Visitors Association, ODFW, OPRD, DLCD, North Coast Land Conservancy, Shoreline Education for Awareness, Yaquina Head Visitor Center, and Haystack Rock Awareness Program.
33	Table at large community events or festivals to spread awareness.
34	Contribute to an online platform where all volunteers and community scientists can share ideas digitally, for example a Facebook Group or Discord Channel.
35	Develop a hospitality packet that includes information about designated sites nearby and guidance for responsible tidepooling and safe recreation. It could be used in vacation rentals, hotels, bed and breakfasts, and short-term rentals.
36	Work with Oregon Coast Visitor Association to support their 'Coast Like a Local Campaign'.

37	Promote monthly beach cleanups. Partners could include SOLVE and Surfrider.
38	Acquire a tidepool ambassador hat or vest so that visitors know how to identify volunteers. Partners could include USFWS because USFWS volunteers wear vests at Coquille Point.
39	Track the number of participants at on-site events.
40	Support volunteers' comprehension of state and federal regulations that apply on the beach and within the Marine Garden by providing Appendix D and Appendix E of the Plan.
41	Direct recreational anglers to the current issue of the ODFW Sport Fishing Regulations booklet.
42	Increase the number of available enforcement officers who could respond to emergencies or violations on the beach. Support discussions between Coos County Sheriff, Bandon Police, OSP, USFWS, and OPRD so Patrol officers can respond at Coquille Point, if necessary.
43	Train tidepool ambassador volunteers on when and how to take action, if necessary, when a violation or emergency is witnessed. Share Appendix F with volunteers for reference.
44	Provide an overview of state and federal regulations at annual tidepool ambassador training for volunteers and seasonal staff. Reach out to State Agency staff at OPRD, ODFW, USFWS, or DLCD to find staff to provide this training.
45	Maintain an OPRD sign with the Marine Garden regulation signage.
46	Research a dedicated funding stream to support implementation of site goals and objectives.
47	Participate in media campaigns that promote etiquette like leave-no-trace.
48	Invite first responders to public workshops to speak on beach safety.
49	Invite OPRD Beach Rangers, an OSP Lieutenant, and other law enforcement officers to train volunteers and staff on how to properly engage with the public and respond to different scenarios.
50	Any programming on the beach must include a comprehensive safety briefing for participants.
51	Monitor climbing violations on Elephant Rock. An additional "no climbing/no disturbance" signage could be added to Elephant Rock if consistent climbing violations are reported overtime. Adding permanent signage on to the rock within the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge must have a reason that is compatible with the Wilderness Act.
52	Install parking lot/trail counter at the Coquille Point main parking lot. TRAFx is a service used at other parks in Oregon.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Management agencies like Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will ensure the long-term preservation of public visual access to the ocean and Coquille Point Islands. This includes maintaining open sightlines from established viewpoints along the Ocean Bluff Trail, and the Coquille Point parking lot. The City of Bandon Planning Department should discourage development that obstructs public beach access points.

Viewpoints from the headlands above Coquille Point Marine Garden are the most accessible option to enjoy the Marine Garden for people with mobility limitations. The Ocean Bluff Trail features a paved trail and benches with views of the offshore islands.

The Madison Avenue Trail is the only beach access point to Coquille Point Marine Garden without stairs. The trail to the beach is not paved and not easily accessible for people with mobility limitations. A trail improvement project like trail-widening and adding a ramp from Madison Avenue could be an opportunity for increasing access to the Coquille Point beachfront.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION

The protection of natural resources at Coquille Point is everyone's responsibility: visitors, community members, researchers, planners, and land managers alike. Organizations that host public programs—such as beach walks, field trips, or community events at Coquille Point—will carefully plan their activities to protect the environment and avoid disturbing wildlife or natural habitats. Examples of habitat disturbance are trampling, removing plants or shells from the beach, or handling animals.

Programming goals and management strategies at Coquille Point Marine Garden will prioritize the protection of cultural resources. Cultural resources are resources that are vital to or the product of the perpetuation of traditional Indigenous practices, ceremonies, and lifeways. Examples of cultural resources at Coquille Point could include the first foods like shellfish and marine plants, animal remains, or traditional viewsheds.

Land managers and community groups should conduct a cultural resource assessment of the site in coordination with the Coquille Indian Tribe and other interested Coastal Tribes to identify the types of cultural resources present at the site. This assessment might reveal interventions necessary to safeguard the availability of cultural resources for tribal members.

PUBLIC VISITATION

Education and interpretation are one of the most essential tools for rocky habitat stewardship. For many visitors, the tidepools at Coquille Point are often their first experience with the Ocean or a tidepool. Interactions with visitors are essential for feeding visitor curiosity and expanding their knowledge about this extensive habitat.

Programming at Coquille Point should advance public appreciation of rocky habitats and raise awareness about best practices for viewing marine wildlife.

Education is the best way of addressing wildlife disturbance and compliance with site regulations. Staff and volunteers will share rules, regulations, and tidepool etiquette at Coquille Point through signs and oral interpretation.

Beach visitors and site stewards who witness wildlife or habitat disturbance should document the scenario and report it to the appropriate channel. Do not intervene during an instance of wildlife violation because it could be unsafe and cause more harm to do so. For violations needing an urgent response, see Appendix F for more details.

VIEWING MARINE LIFE

An essential element of site-based management for Marine Gardens is public education about how to responsibly visit rocky habitats. Public education about best practices for interacting with marine plants and wildlife can be accessible as signage, informational flyers, guided outings, and stewardship interactions.

Tidepool etiquette includes respecting the fragile marine ecosystem found in tidepool. Below is a list of recommended guidelines that the public should follow when visiting rocky habitats. Following these guidelines helps to keep visitors and wildlife safe. Many agencies and organizations have developed their own lists of visitor guidance in rocky habitats.

Tidepool Etiquette
Oregon Tidepools: https://oregontidepools.org/index.php/what-to-do/etiquette
Haystack Rock Awareness Program: https://www.haystackrockawareness.com/tidepool-etiquette
Oregon Coast Visitor Association: https://visittheoregoncoast.com/travel-guides/how-to/how-to-visit-oregons-coastal-tide-pools/ Coast Like a Local: https://visittheoregoncoast.com/coast-like-a-local/
Shoreline Education for Awareness: https://sea-edu.org/tidepool-information/
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife: https://oregonmarinereserves.com/content/uploads/2018/09/tidepooletiquette_odfw.pdf

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has recommendations for best practices for viewing marine mammals and sea turtles: Viewing Marine Life | NOAA Fisheries.

INFORMATION-SHARING

Visitors learn about Coquille Point from a variety of sources. Goals about information-sharing will focus on efforts to simplify and coordinate messaging about the Coquille Point Marine Garden. Information-sharing includes signage, information available on websites or maps, tidepool etiquette materials, safety info/tide charts, etc.

Community discussions suggested that many people in the community get their information from local radio and newspapers, as well as social media. Communications that use these pathways are a good way to reach local audiences and stakeholders. Community members identified local hubs where they seek or find information:

Local newspapers and magazines	Bandon Library
Oregon Institute for Marine Biology	Hatfield Marine Science Center
Local radio	Social media
Local churches	Local fishing organizations
Whale watching charters	Oregon Coast Aquarium

Communications will seek to be inclusive of a diverse audience. As part of the 2019-2023 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) conducted a statewide survey (Bergerson 2019). The highest percentage of Latino respondents said that friends/relatives/word-of-mouth and websites were the most important and most used information sources when seeking outdoor recreation information in Oregon.

SITE MONITORING

Coquille Point Marine Garden will function as a key location for scientists and community members to collaboratively monitor the effects of changing conditions on rocky habitats and intertidal zones. Monitoring these ecologically sensitive areas is crucial for effective management of the Marine Garden and of rocky habitats coastwide. Monitoring efforts should track indicator species.

Ocean acidification and hypoxia (OAH) monitoring should also be prioritized in accessible rocky habitats with guidance from the Oregon Coordinating Council on OAH. Researchers should monitor recent trends in upwelling events causing hypoxia.

emerging consequences of these events increasingly render marine environments uninhabitable for various species. Researchers at the Hatfield Marine Science Center, in collaboration with the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) and the Surfrider Foundation, are utilizing ocean acidification monitors to analyze trends and gain a deeper understanding of the impacts of these phenomena on vulnerable marine populations dependent on rocky habitats. Researchers have deployed ocean acidification monitors in many places along Oregon's coastline, but there is not currently one positioned near Coquille Point.

COMMUNITY SCIENCE

Community science is about working with communities to engage science in locally relevant problem-solving that addresses community priorities, values, and aspirations. Community science is a monitoring and research approach that empowers anyone, regardless of educational background, to collect and contribute data to research efforts. Community science projects at Coquille Point will build upon ongoing projects as well as emerging opportunities.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department facilitates an ongoing project on iNaturalist called the Oregon State Parks Coastal Species Inventory. Oregon State Parks Coastal Species Inventory · iNaturalist. Start adding observations today!

Learn More and Get Involved

Community members can get involved with one or more community science projects. Whether you are looking for a one-day educational family adventure or an ongoing commitment, there is something for everyone.

COASTWATCH

CoastWatch is a coastwide program initiated and managed by the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition. CoastWatch engages people in documenting Oregon’s sandy beaches and rocky shores for natural and human-caused changes, wildlife, and phenomena. Volunteers adopt a section of the Oregon coast to observe seasonally. The program offers education about shoreline ecology and natural history, with opportunities to contribute data to community science.

BLACK OYSTERCATCHER MONITORING

The Bird Alliance of Oregon organizes an ongoing community science project to monitor Black Oystercatchers nests coastwide. The Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) is a shorebird found in rocky habitats along the Oregon coast and elsewhere along the west coast of North America. The species’ global population is relatively small with a low reproductive rate. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2021,

Black Oystercatchers are a species of high conservation concern and may act as an indicator of intertidal ecosystem health.

The Bird Alliance of Oregon monitors the nesting and fledgling success for Black Oystercatchers along the Oregon coast. Researchers will use monitoring information as part of a regionwide effort in California and Oregon to assess Black Oystercatcher population viability and estimate impacts from human disturbance, predation, and other factors. They will use all collected data to inform the conservation and management of this species.

Get Involved with Black Oystercatcher Monitoring in Oregon

Join the Black Oystercatcher nest monitoring team. Learn more about this important community science project at the Bird Alliance of Oregon.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE NESTING SURVEYS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducts aerial surveys of breeding birds at seabird colonies along the Oregon coast. This project provides valuable data to both the Migratory Bird and National Wildlife Refuge programs within the USFWS, as both seek to understand and manage the many seabird species that are an integral part of the Pacific Northwest coast.

Observers enter nesting count data into the Oregon Seabird Colony Database, which helps identify the current distribution and abundance of Common Murres and cormorants at colonies on the Oregon coast. These counts are part of a large historical data set that goes back to the early 20th century.

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

The Coquille Point Marine Garden offers a unique opportunity to inform visitors about statewide marine conservation efforts and the value of those areas to the nearby communities.

For many coastal visitors, Oregon's beaches and tidepools are often their first experience of the ocean. Looking into a tidepool teaming with extraordinary lifeforms is like looking through a window into the ocean. Public marine education feeds visitor curiosity and gives visitors the tools necessary to ask questions. Education and interpretation are the best way to spread awareness about ocean systems and marine habitats.

An informed and aware public is critical to protecting rocky habitat resources and carrying out the goals and strategies of the Coquille Point Marine Garden Management Plan. It is essential for the continued ecological functioning and wellbeing of Oregon's rocky habitats that visitors interact responsibly in these areas. In many cases, education is the strongest tool to increase informed visitation habits and discourage disturbance.

Fostering a culture of marine resource stewardship will help protect the ecological, cultural, and economic resources of Oregon's rocky coastline. Targeted messaging is crucial, including information on ways that individuals and groups can act to positively affect these rocky habitats. Education can also greatly enhance the visitor experience.

Education and interpretation will be a collaborative effort among community groups to develop a comprehensive plan aimed at raising awareness of the Coquille Point Marine Garden. Education actions include the development of a K-12 education program, social media posts, published articles, signage, and possibly other physical/visual access points, volunteer stewardship, and on-site interpretive events.

The Shoreline Education for Awareness (SEA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting education and awareness of shoreline habitats and the wildlife found on the southern Oregon Coast. The Shoreline Education for Awareness organization will develop an educational program for volunteer wildlife interpreters in consultation with the City of Bandon and Coquille Indian Tribe officials. Educational programing will focus on marine education and safe wildlife viewing practices in Marine Gardens. Topics may include:

- Safe Wildlife Viewing Practices
- Tidepool Etiquette
- Seabirds at Coquille Point
- Harbor Seal Pup Etiquette

SCHOOL-AGE CURRICULUM

Coastal communities have a long-term goal for state investment in the development of a marine education curriculum focused on rocky habitat ecosystems that would be incorporated into the science standards for school-age children. Marine educators, local school-age educators, Coastal Tribal educators, and state agencies would collaboratively develop the K–12 education program to teach students about the ecology of rocky habitats.

Education should emphasize proper tidepool etiquette, measures to protect wildlife, and ecology of nearshore and subtidal habitats. Indigenous traditional uses of marine resources, both past and present, is an educational topic that is best informed through involvement of local Tribes. This collaborative effort will help ensure future generations have the knowledge and appreciation of these sites to help maintain and protect them. The goal is to have the curriculum designed by 2027.

Dive into Rocky Habitat Educational Resources	
Oregon Tidepools	Great resource for field trips and general visitors.
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Tidepools Are Alive! Brochure	Printable brochure with tidepool etiquette and an interpretive species guide. The map on the back is not up to date with new restrictions.
Oregon Coast Stem Hub	The Oregon Coast STEM Hub is a great resource for educators. They have a library of equipment for outdoor education (rain boots, microscopes, scales, ROV kits, etc.)
Oregon Sea Grant K-12 Science Curricula	Tidepool Tussle (Grades 6-8): https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/orsea-tidepool-tussle Check out the Oregon Sea Grant website for more resources and events for educators: https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/visitor-center/marine-education
Redfish Rocks Community Team	The Redfish Rocks Community Team has compiled a list of education resources.
Ocean Literacy Guide	Guide for all ages.
Charleston Marine Life Center	Online and onsite school programs.
Oregon Coast Aquarium Education Programs	Online and onsite school programs, youth camps, and marine education for all ages.
CoastWatch in the Schools	
Teachers Pay Teachers: Tidepool Unit Study	Downloadable tidepool curriculum for a variety of ages designed by an Oregon educator.

INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

Interpretive signs provide stories designed to stimulate visitors' interest while challenging their imaginations, and perhaps present new perspectives on familiar topics. Thematic signage content enables visitors to understand more clearly the messages of history, environment, or cultural significance of the rocky habitat within this Marine Garden.

Three interpretive panels were put up at Coquille Point led by the Shoreline Education for Awareness, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Coquille Indian Tribe, and the illustrator Ram Papish. Maintenance of the interpretation panels in the parking lot will be the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service.

View the new interpretive signs online at Coquille Point here: Coquille Point Marine Garden – Shoreline Education for Awareness, Inc.

COLLABORATIONS

Staff from the Coquille Indian Tribe coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Shoreline Education for Awareness organization to develop a panel focused on indigenous interpretation of Coquille Point. The new sign is on the staircase landing halfway down the staircase at the main access point to Coquille Point.

The Indigenous interpretive panel focuses on indigenous interpretation and stewardship of rocky habitats with an emphasis on language revitalization, traditional knowledge, and harvest of cultural materials in rocky habitats. The interpretation balances public education about traditional lifeways and protecting traditional harvest of marine resources.

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MARINE EDUCATION

A wide range of legal standards exist for the design, alteration, construction, and maintenance of interpretive signs. This includes the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Standards, which ensure baseline access to public lands for the disability community. Planners must holistically consider the full spectrum of disability identities within the ADA and ABA frameworks to ensure that built environments accommodate the diverse experiences and needs of people with disabilities.

Access and enjoyment of Coquille Point matter to a diverse population. Interpretive signage will be bilingual (English and Spanish). Shoreline Education for Awareness, OPRD, and USFWS will strive to provide translated versions of English-only signs on their websites. Shoreline Education for Awareness will proactively recruit bilingual volunteers to support Spanish-language interpretive programming at Coquille Point.

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Oregon State Police (OSP) is the primary enforcement agency for violations and crimes on ocean shores including beaches and rocky habitats. Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) can respond to Oregon Administrative Rules violations on the beach and within state parks. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's officer based in Charleston can respond to marine mammal violations. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has an agreement with Bandon police so local police can respond to calls at Coquille Point.

The best way to avoid instances of rule violation or habitat disturbance is by following an education-first model that the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation practices. Education-first in this context means prioritizing public education about the marine ecosystem, followed by sharing information about rules, regulations, and tidepool etiquette, and relying on enforcement measures as a last resort.

Robust public education and interpretation programs are the State's greatest compliance tool to combat violations. By centering public education, nonprofit organizations, volunteers, and beach visitors can support compliance efforts. Individuals and groups that do not have enforcement authority can share information about tidepool etiquette, marine ecosystems, and general information about regulations to support public compliance within Marine Gardens.

Severe wildlife disturbance like poaching is a serious violation of state and federal law; see Appendix F for a list of whom to contact about an emergency, habitat law violation, or other scenarios on the beach.

Enforcement of rules and regulations on the ocean shore is the responsibility of Oregon State Police, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Beach Rangers, and some local police units. Volunteers should not engage directly with members of the public who appear to be committing a violation. If a concern arises within the Coquille Point Marine Garden, pause, collect information, and evaluate the appropriate response. See Appendix F for more information.

REGULATION SIGNAGE

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is developing regulation signage in coordination with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Land Conservation and Development. OPRD will post the regulation sign at the main Coquille Point beach access point either at the parking lot cluster board or the board located at the bottom of the staircase. The QR code on the regulation sign will go to a site page for Coquille Point Marine Garden housed on the Oregon Tidepools website with more information about site regulations and a Marine Garden boundary map.

View the draft sign from April 2024.

PLAN EVALUATION

Communities will have the opportunity to periodically update the Coquille Point Marine Garden Management Plan based on adaptive recommendations. Plan evaluators will assess the implementation of this management plan by answering three key questions:

1. Have managers implemented the recommended actions?
2. Are the site-based actions helping achieve the plan's goal and objectives?
3. What adaptive management measures can improve progress toward the goal and objectives?

The outcome of evaluation is to inform adaptive management of this plan. Adaptive management is a structured, iterative process of robust decision-making in the face of uncertainty, with an aim to reduce uncertainty over time via system monitoring (Holling 1978). Adaptive management allows for future improvements to both natural resource protection and enriching visitor experiences. An adaptive approach also allows management actions to be responsive to climate change resiliency, despite the high degree of uncertainty.

Program leaders at Coquille Point Marine Garden will incorporate the strategies and goals from this Management Plan into their program evaluations

CHAPTER 3: GUIDANCE ON TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

INDIGENOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF ROCKY HABITATS

(CHAPTER SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED UPON TRIBAL REVIEW)

Rocky habitats are ecosystems uniquely positioned between land and sea. These narrow habitats along the Pacific Coast have provided rich marine resources for thousands of years. Since time immemorial, Indigenous communities have lived around estuaries and bays, near marine resources found in rocky habitats, like clams, mussels, and seaweed that provide sustenance and materials for their families and culture.

Today, Coastal Tribes continue a meaningful connection with Ancestral Homelands between land and sea in rocky areas. These lands are locations for gathering first foods, ceremonies, traditional cultural practices, and are a part of coastal, indigenous identities. The health of these coastal lands is inextricably linked to the wellbeing of coastal indigenous communities, which is why indigenous communities and Tribes must be included in stewardship, monitoring, or restoration efforts that occur in rocky habitats.

The Coquille Point Marine Garden Plan cannot begin to appropriately summarize the rich lineage of tribal use of the coast and traditional lifeways related to abundant rocky habitats. Rocky habitat management strategies implemented at Coquille Point by the State of Oregon and members of the public should prioritize Tribal interests. Management strategies should be planned and conducted in coordination with appropriate Tribal Staff and Governments including:

- The Coquille Indian Tribe
- The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians
- The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde
- The Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians

Communities may contact the Legislative Commission on Indian Services to determine which Tribal nations have an interest in specific geographic areas in Oregon. Although all the Tribes listed above may have a connection to Coquille Point, the Coquille Indian Tribe has a particular interest in the site, as it lies within their Ancestral Homelands.

Interested community members should contact Tribal Nations directly to learn more about the individual cultural history surrounding these areas and to inquire about collaborations.

TRIBALLY SIGNIFICANT SPECIES

The cultural sensitivity of the following species should be prioritized when researching and managing these species and their habitats in the Ancestral Homelands of the Coquille Indian Tribe. The Coquille Indian Tribe has published a list of many culturally important marine, estuary, and upland species. This is not an exhaustive list. More information can be found here: Comprehensive Land Use Plan – Coquille Indian Tribe.

KEY THEMES TO CONSIDER WHEN ENGAGING WITH TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

The State of Oregon has a formal relationship to Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon and must follow legal requirements for Tribal Coordination. Although not legally obligated, community organizations working on rocky habitat stewardship are strongly encouraged to develop relationships with the local indigenous communities and Tribal Nations.

Below are some key themes and contexts to consider when reaching out to indigenous communities and Tribal Nations.

Respecting Tribal Sovereignty: Recognize and respect the sovereignty of Tribal governments. Unlike treaty rights, Tribal sovereignty was not bestowed on Tribes by the U.S. Government; tribes always possessed sovereignty rights and never gave them up. Tribal Nations have their own laws, regulations, and government structures.

Indigenous Data Sovereignty: Openly share data and findings about marine resources at Coquille Point with Tribal Governments. Respect Tribal Nation's right to protect and steward their own data about cultural and natural resources.

Tribally Significant Species

Marine and Estuary Plants:

- Eelgrass
- Giant kelp
- Bull Kelp
- Sea lettuce
- Surf grass

Marine and Estuary Animals:

- Shellfish (crab, snails, mussels, barnacles, abalone, dentalium)
- Rockfish (lingcod, sculpin, perch, greenling)
- Lamprey (all species)
- Flounder
- Eulachon
- Sea urchin
- Salmon (all species)
- Sea mammals
- Halibut
- Herring
- Chiton

Protecting Access to First Foods: Beaches and rocky shores provide essential habitats for fish, marine plants, and shellfish that have long supported the traditional sustenance and cultural practices of coastal Indigenous peoples. Marine Gardens generally prohibit the harvest of shellfish for non-tribal community members. Tribal members have the right to collect marine resources within the Coquille Point Marine Garden in accordance with Tribal laws and regulations.

Programming at Coquille Point should celebrate traditional cultural uses of the habitat and offer educational opportunities for all member of the public to learn about the indigenous significance of coastal environments. Shirod Younker of the Coquille Indian Tribe explains how, "Exercising [the] ancestral right to gather traditional food helps exercise what we call food sovereignty." *Coquille Indian Tribe First Foods: Clams*, Virtual Exhibit, Museum of Natural and Cultural History, 2020, https://vimeo.com/475247163.

Respecting Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Traditional ecological knowledge is the cumulative body of place-based knowledge and practices passed down through

generations within Indigenous communities, reflecting thousands of years of place-based wisdom. It is a powerful form of cultural teachings and ways of knowing.

Traditional ecological knowledge should be integrated into natural resource or area-based stewardship plans through respectful collaboration with Tribes. Implementation of traditional knowledge in natural resource management can result in increasing biodiversity, strengthening relationships between people and the natural environment, and fostering meaningful collaboration with Indigenous communities.

Including Tribal Voices in Interpretive Materials: Engage with Tribes to include Tribal voices and stories in rocky habitat interpretive materials. Include Tribes in planning for interpretive materials associated with Marine Gardens or rocky habitats early in the development and plan for enough time for meaningful engagement and review of materials by Tribes. Personnel should ensure that the Tribe has granted appropriate permission before any materials are published. Keep in mind that multiple Tribes may have an interest in Coquille Point, and each Tribe may have different perspectives and experiences associated with the area.

View the Ancestral Waters Coloring and Activity Book designed by the California MPA Collaborative Network and the North Coast Native Protectors in 2024. Ancestral Waters is an example of successful collaboration between nonprofits, state agencies, multiple Tribal Nations, and Indigenous voices to develop a powerful interpretive material.

Revitalizing Native Languages: Many Tribes and Indigenous communities are actively working to preserve native languages by reintroducing ancestral languages into common practice. Interpretive materials about rocky habitats present an opportunity to support native language revitalization efforts. For example, signs, brochures, tidepool species guides, website content, or other learning materials could include translations of common terms like “clams”, “sea star”, “rock”, “seal”, etc. in multiple native languages.

The Kalapuya Talking Stones are an example of an Indigenous interpretive display along the Willamette River in Eugene, Oregon that features fifteen basalt boulders carved with Yoncalla Kalapuya words and their English translation.

Learn more about coastal native languages:

- Miluk, Hanis, and Athabaskan Languages: Languages – Coquille Indian Tribe

- Hanis Coos, Miluk Coos, and the Sha'yuushtl'a uhl Quuiich Languages: Languages - Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
- Athabaskan: Language - Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Chinuk Wawa: Language - Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Takelma: Language – Cow Creek Education

Deepening Relationships: Building relationships with Tribal governments and communities is a long-term commitment that requires trust, respect, and consistency. One way to strengthen these relationships is by participating in public events hosted by local Tribes, such as Powwows or cultural gatherings, and by inviting Tribal representatives to community events. Reaching out to Tribal Education, Cultural, or Natural Resource departments can also open doors for meaningful dialogue and collaboration.

Engaging Tribal staff early in the project development phase, inviting them to public meetings, and coordinating on outreach and messaging are all important steps. Above all, prioritize clear, respectful communication and focus on building authentic partnerships not only achieving specific outcomes.

The Oregon Coastal Management Program developed the Oregon Coastal Public Access Guide for Local Government Planners that includes a detailed chapter on Tribal Engagement Guidance. While written for local planners, the guide can also be helpful for organizations and other government agencies pursuing Tribal engagement.

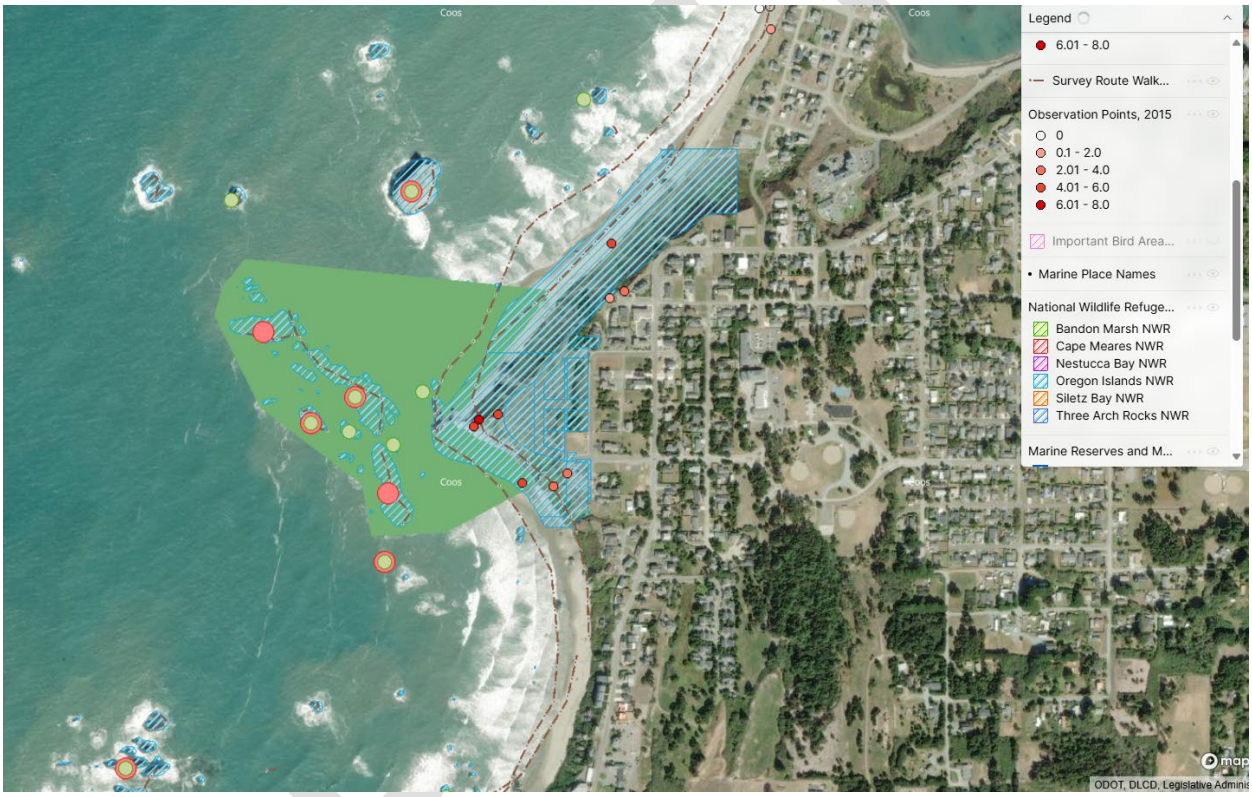
CONTACTING TRIBAL NATIONS

Recommendations and contact information are subject to change. To find up-to-date Tribal contact information for Tribal council members and key staff for all nine federally recognized Tribes visit the Legislative Commission on Indian Services website and click on the individual federally recognized Tribe name for a list of contacts and general information about that individual Tribal nation.

The rocky coastline which makes up Oregon's intertidal zone, is a dynamic and ecologically significant environment. The rocky intertidal and subtidal zones serve as a biodiversity hotspot by providing homes and breeding habitats for marine life like fish, seabirds, marine mammals, shellfish, invertebrates, and marine plants that have all become well adapted to the ever-changing landscape of the tides. These habitats also play an important role in breaking wave action and the movement of sand on the beach.

The offshore rocks and islands near Coquille Point support over 14 species of breeding seabirds and shorebirds. From 1990 to 2025 there were over 80 species of bird observations reported on eBird.org. See

Map 2: Seabird Observations at Coquille Point Rocks



The coastal economy in Oregon depends on a healthy marine ecosystem for industries like commercial fishing and shellfish harvesting, recreational fishing and foraging, and the tourism industry to thrive. Millions of visitors come to the Oregon Coast every year to enjoy the unique coastline and coastal communities. Protected areas like the Coquille Point Marine Garden will benefit local industries by strengthening local environmental integrity and supporting the growing biodiversity of marine resources for the surrounding region.

Coquille Point Marine Garden management objectives will strengthen the marine ecosystem and support local communities that depend on abundant ocean resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS

Rocky habitats, including subtidal and intertidal zones, are vulnerable to stressors like marine debris, habitat disturbance, pollution from both land and sea, and changing ocean conditions. These environmental stressors have various implications for the economic, environmental, and cultural value of rocky habitats in Oregon.

These unique habitats are subject to the growing risks associated with warming ocean temperatures, ocean acidification, and hypoxia. Oceans take on some of the worst impacts of climate change by absorbing 93% of excess heat in the atmosphere and 30% of carbon dioxide emissions (Juranek et al, The Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, 2024). Carbon dioxide emissions mixed with seawater produce carbonic acid, which decreases the pH level in the chemical make-up of the ocean. More acidified seawater, or ocean acidification, results in negative implications for all marine life but particularly for shell-forming species found in intertidal habitats.

In recent years, the Pacific Ocean has experienced record-breaking marine heatwaves and disease outbreaks that negatively affected key rocky habitat species like the Sunflower Sea Star (Prentice, et al, 2025). Marine heatwaves and disease outbreaks are causing abrupt changes in community structures and food webs. These environmental stressors result in changes in tide patterns and intensity, which in turn influence nutrient availability and oxygen levels. Similar marine heatwave events are likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

Some of the impacts of changing ocean conditions along rocky coastlines are:

- Ocean warming and marine heat waves.
- More frequent and increased intensity of storms.
- Loss of marine life and habitat.
- Sea-level rise.
- Sea ice melt.
- Change in ocean circulation.
- Hypoxia (low or depleted oxygen levels in seawater).
- Ocean acidification (more acidic seawater).
- Harmful algal blooms.
- Increased ocean stratification.

Research and monitoring efforts are necessary to understand the current state of ocean conditions related to intertidal habitats and to assess the extent of these long-term impacts. Research highlights the need to address these changing ocean conditions to protect the ecological, cultural, and economic value of Oregon’s intertidal zone (Meunier 2024, and Deluca 2025).

HABITAT RESILIENCE

While Oregon’s rocky habitats are negatively affected by compounding environmental stressors, these ecosystems are also inherently resilient to drastic conditions. Intertidal

species evolved to withstand the forceful impact of ocean waves, exposure to extreme wind speeds, and the shifting tides.

Research shows that intertidal communities in Oregon shifted in response to the marine heatwave and disease outbreak from 2014-2016 (Meunier 2024). Some invertebrate populations like Gooseneck Barnacles and California Mussels increased during this time because of the decline in predators like sea stars. Ochre Sea Star populations recovered after the marine heatwave and disease outbreak, but the same study also showed that sea stars may have lower resilience than other intertidal organisms.

Adaptive standards of protection for Oregon's marine resources are an important strategy to implement at Coquille Point Marine Garden as more data is available about potential impacts in the region. Learn more about current research and monitoring efforts in Chapter 2 and how to get involved.

Many State policies and initiatives are in place to learn more about changing ocean conditions. Learn more about Oregon regulations on Climate and Ocean Change Policy and Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia.

SEA LEVEL RISE

King Tide at Coquille Point beach access point, 2023, Oregon King Tides Project.

Sea level rise refers to the increase in the level of the world's oceans caused by many factors. The two major causes of global sea level rise are thermal expansion caused by warming ocean water and increased melting of land-based ice, like glaciers. Rising sea levels affect the Oregon Coast in a variety of ways like increased storm surge intensity, higher tide levels, and reduced river drainage during precipitation events.

The extent to which sea level rise will change the ecological structure of the rocky habitats in Oregon is unclear. Rising sea levels over time are likely to reduce the availability of low-lying islands and headlands, which could lead to habitat loss for seabirds and marine mammals. Other intertidal plants and animals are vulnerable to habitat loss because many organisms evolved with specialized adaptations to survive in specific intertidal zones (e.g. low tide zone, middle tide zone, high tide zone, splash zone).

The risk of sea level rise within the Coquille Point Marine Garden ranges from low to moderate depending on the severity of the water level increase. Low risk level could result in an 11-29% habitat loss while moderate risk could result in a 30-49% loss by 2100.

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

Understanding the distribution and abundance of marine resources is critical for any kind of natural resource management. At Coquille Point, it is important to consider key protected species and critical habitats when making management decisions.

Critical habitats, in this context, refer to specific areas within the coastal zone or Pacific Ocean occupied by the species that have physical or biological features essential to conservation of the species and that may require special management considerations or protection. Learn more about critical habitats.

Learn More About Essential Species and Habitats

Natural Resource Management	Essential Species and Critical Habitats
NOAA & USFWS: Endangered Species Act Threatened, Endangered, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species	Statewide species list from ODFW that includes state-listed status and federal-listed status.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: NOAA Fisheries Threatened and Endangered Species Critical Habitat	Critical Habitat Designation near Coquille Point Marine Garden: ▪ Leatherback sea turtle – Endangered ▪ Green sturgeon – Threatened ▪ Killer whale – Endangered
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species Active Critical Habitat Report	Critical Habitat Designations in Oregon: ▪ Marbled murrelet – Threatened ▪ Northern spotted owl – Threatened ▪ Pacific marten, coastal distinct population segment – Threatened ▪ Western snowy plover – State Listed Endangered

	No designated critical habitat for USFWS managed species specifically falls within the Marine Garden boundary.
NOAA Fisheries Pacific Fishery Management Council: West Coast Essential Fish Habitat	Essential Fish Habitats (EFH) near Coquille Point Marine Garden: ▪ Coho salmon – Threatened ▪ Chinook salmon – Candidate ▪ Groundfish EFH ▪ Coastal Pelagic Species EFH ▪ Highly Migratory Species EFH
NOAA Fisheries: Cetacean Biologically Important Areas	The nearshore around Coquille Point is a Biologically Important Area for Grey whale migration, feeding, and cow/calf rearing. ▪ Grey whale – State Listed Endangered
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society: Audubon Important Bird Areas	Coquille Point Headlands and Islands are home to thousands of seabirds. ▪ Bird Observations at Coquille Point Rocks ▪ Bird Observations at Coquille Point Headlands
NOAA's Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program: Deep-Sea Coral and Sponge Observations	Deep-sea coral and sponge observations made >3 nautical miles southwest of Coquille Point. ▪ Sea pen ▪ Sponge
Oregon Department of Agriculture: State Listed Coastal Plants	Threatened and endangered plants in Coos County: ▪ Pink sand verbena – Endangered ▪ Point Reyes bird's-beak – Endangered ▪ Seaside gilia – Endangered ▪ Silvery (sand dune) phacelia – Threatened ▪ Western lily – Endangered

The list of marine fish and invertebrate species that have been assessed as the 2026 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) is available on the Oregon State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) website.

The SWAP now includes the Oregon Nearshore Strategy. The Oregon Nearshore Strategy is a tool developed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Marine Resources Program to coordinate management efforts and support the long-term sustainability of nearshore resources in Oregon. Species in the Oregon Nearshore Strategy are found to have the greatest conservation needs in a broad social and ecological context. The Coquille Point Marine Garden management strategies should align with recommendations in the Oregon Nearshore Strategy.

Map 1: Coquille Point Marine Garden Boundary Map

Oregon SeaSketch, 2024, https://gis.lcd.state.or.us/server/rest/services/Framework/AdminBounds_TerritorialSeaPlan/MapServer

Map 2: Seabird Observations at Coquille Point Rocks

Oregon SeaSketch, 2024, https://gis.lcd.state.or.us/server/rest/services/Projects/OCMP_BlackOystercatcherSurvey_Audubon/MapServer

Map 3: Sea Level Rise Projections (50 cm, 100 cm, 150 cm)

Oregon SeaSketch, 2017, https://gis.lcd.state.or.us/server/rest/services/Projects/OCMP_SeaSketch_Physical/MapServer

Clinton, Pat and Lee II, Henry, 2016, Computing Risk to West Coast Intertidal Rocky Habitat due to Sea Level Rise using LiDAR Topobathy. ESRI Ocean GIS Forum, Redlands, California, November 01 - 03, 2016. https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_public_record_report.cfm?direntryid=331151

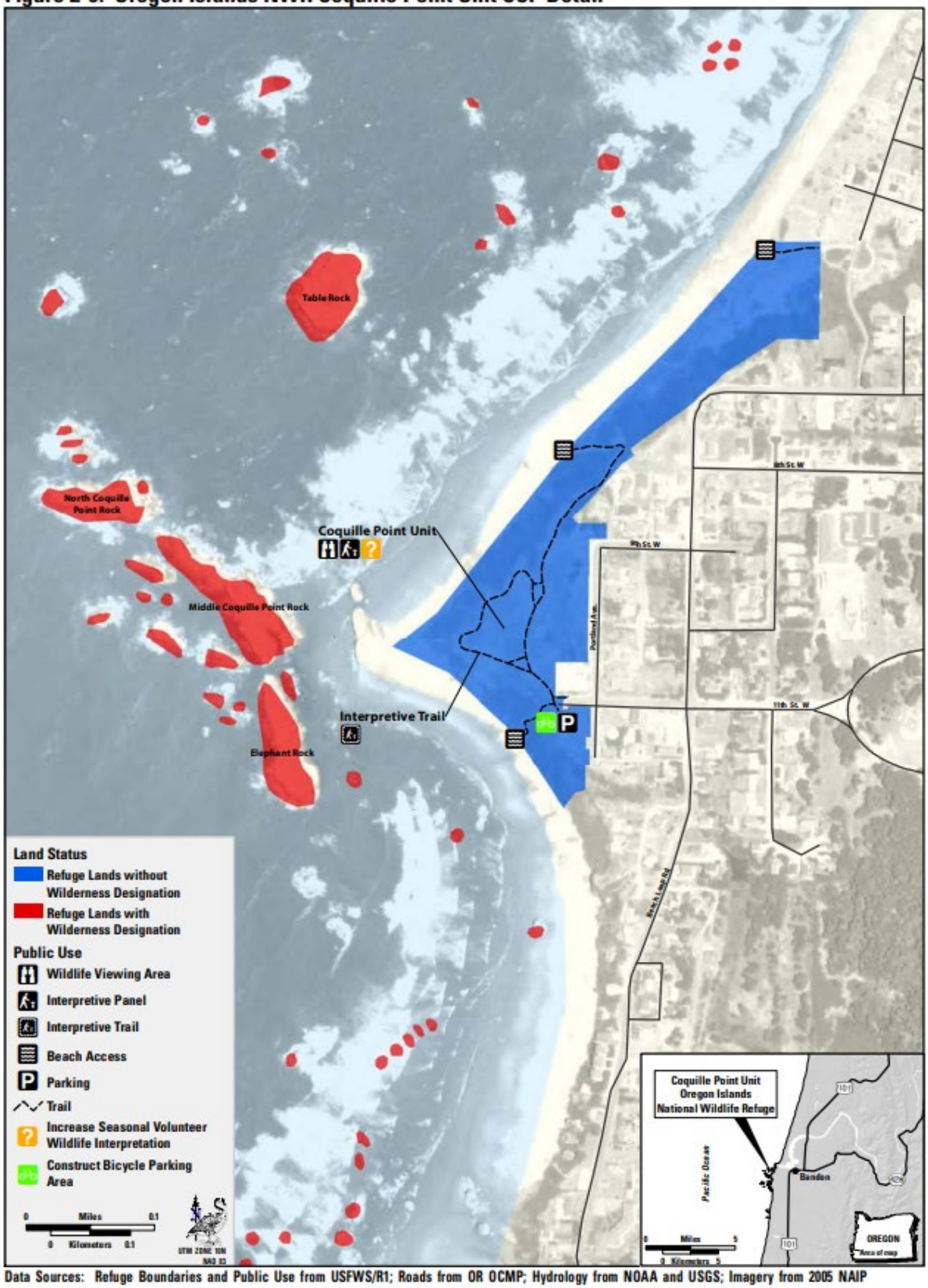
Map 4: City of Bandon Shore Access Sites Map

https://www.bandon-or.gov/media/24841

Map 5: Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge Coquille Point Unit CCP Detail

Oregon Islands, Three Arch Rocks, and Cape Meares National Wildlife Refuges Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Wilderness Stewardship Plan, USFWS, Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 2009, Page 2-13, https://ecos.fws.gov/ServCat/DownloadFile/1507.

Figure 2-6. Oregon Islands NWR Coquille Point Unit CCP Detail



Data Sources: Refuge Boundaries and Public Use from USFWS/R1; Roads from OR OCMP; Hydrology from NOAA and USGS; Imagery from 2005 NAIP

Table 1: Regulatory Standards & Management Practices

Table 1 REGULATORY STANDARDS & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES			
	Marine Research Area	**Marine Garden (Marine Education Area)**	**Marine Conservation Area**
Fish Harvest	Commercial – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply. Recreational – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply. Scientific & Educational – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.	Commercial – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply. Recreational – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply. Scientific & Educational – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.	Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories. Specific fish harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site. Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for commercial, recreational, scientific and educational fish harvest.
Invertebrate Harvest	Commercial – No take Recreational – No take except at a subset of sites which allow species-specific harvest of clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops, and shrimp. Scientific & Educational – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.	Commercial – No take Recreational – No take except for single mussels for bait. Scientific & Educational – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.	Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories. Specific invertebrate harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site. Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for commercial, recreational, scientific and educational invertebrate harvest.
Marine Aquatic Vegetation Harvest	Commercial – No take Recreational – No take Scientific & Educational – Requires authorization from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department or the Department of State Lands, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.	Commercial – No take Recreational – No take Scientific & Educational – Requires authorization from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department or the Department of State Lands, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.	Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories. Specific marine aquatic vegetation harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site. Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for recreational, scientific and educational marine aquatic vegetation harvest.

Users should refer to individual site designation for a complete understanding of site regulations

NON-REGULATORY STANDARDS & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES			
	Marine Research Area	**Marine Garden (Marine Education Area)**	**Marine Conservation Area**

	• In regards to physical public access to areas:
	  ○ Avoid enhancement of future physical public access on public lands to rocky habitats except in instances of safety concerns.
	  ○ Maintain but avoid enhancing capacity of current physical access.
	  ○ Enhance visual access to these sites.
	  ○ Prioritize access to these sites for low impact research.
	• When possible, researchers in these areas should report project outcomes and metadata to the permitting agency for incorporation into a publicly accessible repository.
	• Other actions and practices that aid in reaching site goals.
		• Increase, enhance, and maintain visual and physical access on public lands to rocky habitats to be inclusive of diverse uses while prioritizing the protection of ecological and cultural resources[19].
		• Encourage educational and interpretive programming that increases informed visitation to the site and minimizes impacts to site resources.
		  ○ Educational programs should aim to reduce the impacts of trampling and wildlife disturbance, as well as monitor impacts of visitor use.
		• Increase and enhance messaging around rules and regulations, and highlight general rocky habitat etiquette and stewardship.
		• Other actions and practices that aid in reaching site goals.
			• Variable non-regulatory management practices are applicable in Marine Conservation Areas.
			• Individual site management must outline clear non-regulatory management mechanisms that aid in reaching the site goals.

Users should refer to individual site designation for a complete understanding of site regulations

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A – SITE DESIGNATION SNAPSHOT

The Coquille Point Marine Garden boundary includes the intertidal habitat between a line perpendicular to the shore from the 8th Street beach access point and a line perpendicular to shore from the 11th Street Coquille Point beach access staircase.

Coquille Point Marine Garden is closed to the take of shellfish and other marine invertebrates except single mussels may be taken for bait while fishing in the area. Sport fishing is allowed in the Marine Garden. The collection of marine plants like kelp or seaweed from the ocean shore is not allowed within the site boundary, except by scientific research permit from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

The harvest of marine resources by members of Federally Recognized Tribal Nations are unaffected by the Coquille Point Marine Garden designation regulations. The new rules at the Coquille Point Marine Garden do not affect Consent Decrees, Co-Management Agreements, or other agreements between the State of Oregon and any Federally Recognized Tribe in Oregon. These rules do not change any state agency policy recognizing Tribal harvest rights in rocky habitat areas.

WORKSHOP SUMMARIES

The Coquille Point Marine Garden Site Management Plan Workshop summary from October 22nd, 2024 is available online.

The South Coast Rocky Habitat Workshop summary from July 29th, 2025 will be available online soon.

SITE PROPOSAL

On May 17th, 2021, the Ocean Policy Advisory Council approved, by consensus, the recommendation of the Coquille Point Marine Garden proposal, with identified considerations, to Land Conservation and Development Commission for potential adoption. On March 31st, 2022, the Land Conservation and Development Commission approved the Coquille Point Marine Garden designation. The original goals and management strategies from the proposal were the foundation of the Coquille Point Marine Garden Management Plan.

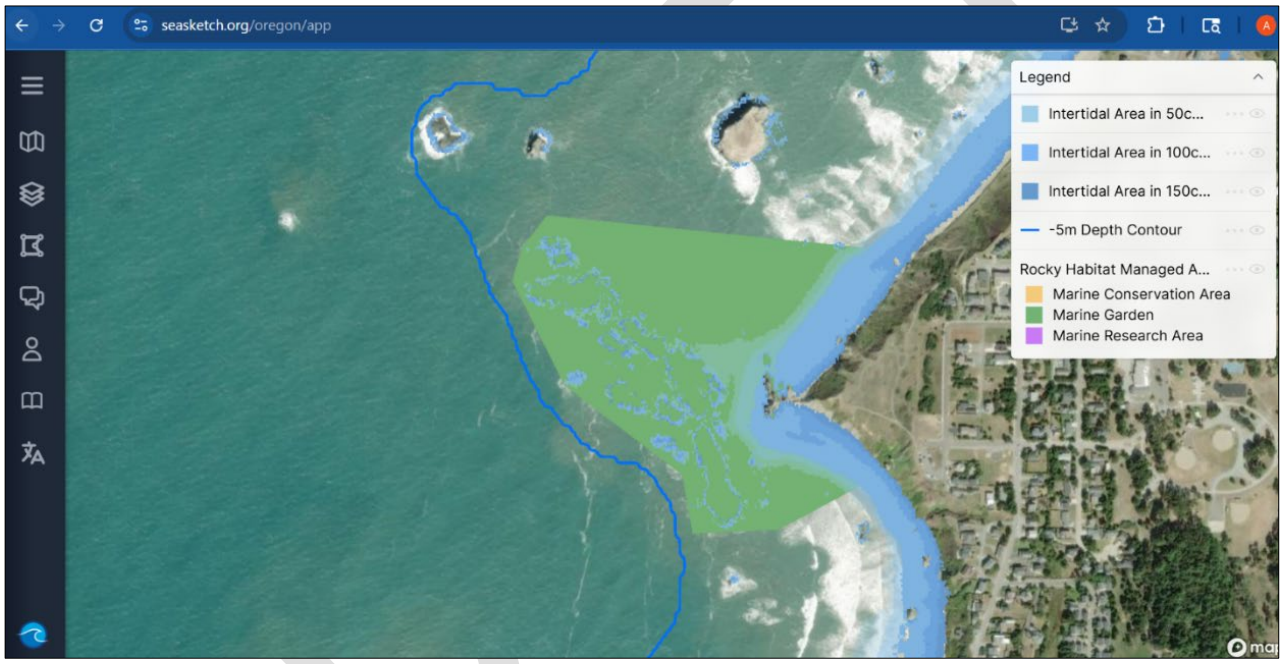
Read the original proposal by the Shoreline Education for Awareness in 2020.

APPENDIX B SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS

The Sea Level Calculator is a tool developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management that produces location-specific scenarios for sea level and flooding. The Sea Level Calculator uses projection scenarios to help communities and planners make informed decisions about adaptive coastal management. The scenario projections range from low to extreme water levels (mean sea level) by the year 2100.

Oregon SeaSketch is an online mapping tool that facilitates participatory marine spatial planning processes based on relevant science, observations, and public information. Map 2 shows the risk to intertidal areas under three different sea level rise projections: 50 cm, 100 cm, and 150 cm.

Map 3: Sea Level Rise Projections (50 cm, 100 cm, 150 cm)



Sea Level Rise

Sea level rise is predicted to cause the following changes in the intertidal habitat within this designated area.

Sea Level Rise Scenario	Remaining Intertidal Habitat (in Acres)*
0.5 Meters	11.1
1 Meter	8
1.5 Meters	5.1

* due to the fact that future intertidal areas may be above present-day MHW, this analysis is based on intertidal area contained in the unclipped site polygon.

Sea Level Rise Risk

Nearby sites have the following estimated risk from sea level rise (slr) of 0.5, 1.0, and 1.5 meters.

Name	SLR 0.5m	SLR 1.0m	SLR 1.5m
Coquille Point and Rocks	Low	Low	Moderate

Ranges for Estimated SLR Risk Levels:

Minor. Increase or Less than 10% Loss

Low. 11-29% Loss

Moderate. 30-49% Loss

High. More than 50% Loss

SeaSketch Reporting Tool, Generated June 2025.

The risk of sea level rise within the Coquille Point Marine Garden ranges from low to moderate depending on the severity of the water level increase. Currently, there are approximately 16 acres of intertidal habitat in the Marine Garden. The 0.5-meter (1.6 feet) sea level rise scenario projects that Coquille Point Marine Garden could lose up to 5 acres of intertidal habitat by 2100. The more severe scenario of 1.5-meters (4.9 feet) of sea level rise could result in the loss of 11 acres of intertidal habitat by 2100. Low risk level could result in an 11-29% habitat loss whereas moderate risk could result in a 30-49% loss by 2100.

Researchers must conduct more studies on potential habitat impacts to accurately project the ecosystem implications at Coquille Point.

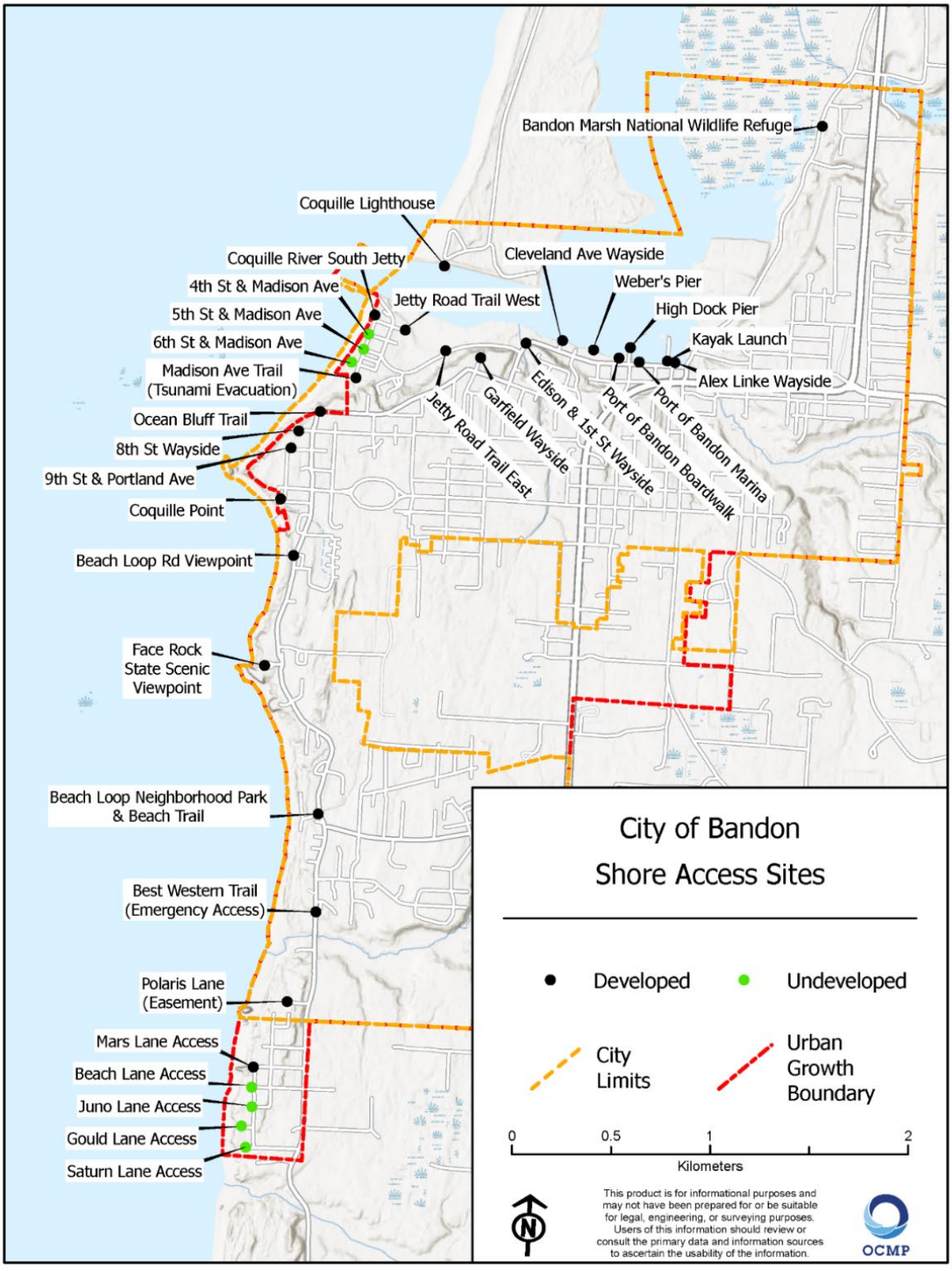
APPENDIX C – PUBLIC ACCESS

There are two main public beach access points near Coquille Point Marine Garden: Coquille Point parking lot managed by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the 8th Street wayside with a trail managed by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. From North to South all public beach access points to the Marine Garden are as follows.

Coquille Point Public Access Sites	
Name	**Description**
Madison Ave. Trail 	At the end of Madison Avenue, there is a paved Tsunami evacuation route that leads South, uphill to 7th St. SW. To the West, there is an unpaved walking trail that leads to the beach north of Coquille Point. No parking in the Cul-de-sac. The trail to the beach does not have stairs. The Madison Ave. evacuation route is a steep walking trail connecting the Bandon South Jetty to the Ocean Bluff Trail.
Ocean Bluff Trail	There is a trailhead for Ocean Bluff Trail at the intersection of 7th St. SW and Beach Loop Rd. The walking trail continues off the street along the bluff and out to Coquille Point. No parking is available at this beach access trailhead. The trail to the beach has stairs.
8th St. Wayside	Road-end parking area with benches and access to Ocean Bluff Trail. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service manages the paved trail and stairs down to the beach from 8th St. Limited parking is available. There are public benches with views of Coquille Point.
9th St. & Portland Ave.	9th St. SW ends and turns into Portland Ave. SW. Street parking is available along Portland Ave. SW with walking trail access to the Ocean Bluff Trail.
Coquille Point 	The main access point to Coquille Point is the parking lot located at 11th St. SW and Portland Ave. SW. The headland, parking lot, and trailhead are part of the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The main staircase leads to Coquille Point and Bandon beach. Interpretive signs and regulation signs are located at the parking lot, staircase landing, and the base of the staircase. The trailhead at the top of the staircase connects to the Ocean Bluff Trail, which features more interpretive signs, a marine debris sculpture, and benches.
Beach Loop Rd. Viewpoint	Viewpoint with no beach access. Roadside parking area with expansive ocean view and views of Coquille Point rocks and islands. Near Jennie St and Beach Loop Rd.
Face Rock State Scenic Viewpoint 	The main access point to Face Rock is south of Coquille Point. The Face Rock Wayside contains a parking lot, stairs to the beach, restrooms, and picnic tables. Oregon Parks & Recreation Department manages the Day Use Area.

Note: Ocean Bluff Trail is also called the Coquille Point Trail. Visit the Oregon Shores Explorer tool to view the coastal access inventory for the whole coast.

Map 4: Bandon Beach Access Points



APPENDIX D- STATE REGULATIONS

All current state and local regulations relevant to the Territorial Sea and beaches apply to Coquille Point. In addition, there are specific regulations that apply within the Marine Garden boundary at Coquille Point. The following is not an exhaustive list of all applicable State regulations.

OAR: Oregon Administrative Rules; ORS: Oregon Revised Statutes

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LAND

The Department of State Land has jurisdiction of the submerged and submersible land within the Territorial Sea. Rules regarding the Coquille Point Marine Garden can be found in Chapter 141 Division 142.

General Provisions: OAR 141-142-0020

> The department will only grant an authorization or a removal-fill permit for a regulated removal-fill activity if the use, or removal, fill or alteration of material is necessary to study, monitor, evaluate, enforce or protect or otherwise further the studying, monitoring, enforcement and protection of the marine reserve, marine garden, marine conservation area, marine protected area, marine research area, or seabird protection area.

Coquille Point Marine Garden Boundary: OAR 141-142-0155

> All state-owned submerged and submersible land in the intertidal area between a line perpendicular to the shore from the 8th St. beach access point and a line perpendicular to shore from the Coquille Point beach access staircase is within the Coquille Point Marine Garden.

Learn more about DSL Removal Fill Permits.

OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is both a landowner of Oregon State Parks and manager of the ocean shore recreation area. The ocean shore is the land between the extreme low tide line and the statutory vegetation line or headland. Rules regarding the Coquille Point Marine Garden can be found in Chapter 736 Division 21.

Cultural, Historic, Natural and Wildlife Resources: OAR 736-021-0090

> A person may not pick, cut, mutilate, trim, uproot, remove or attempt to take or possess any living or non-living plants or seaweeds in areas designated for Rocky Habitat Site Management (Marine Research Areas, Marine Gardens (Marine Education Areas), and Marine Conservation Areas) under Oregon Territorial Sea Plan Part Three unless specifically allowed under management goals for the designated site or authorized under Section (3).

> Section (3): A person who is an enrolled member of an Indian Tribe as defined in ORS 97.740 may collect natural products as part of their traditional cultural heritage or as authorized in any agreement between an Indian Tribe and the department, in accordance with procedures established by the department and in state rules. Upon request by a park employee, a person collecting natural products under this section must present tribal enrollment identification.

Learn more about OPRD Scientific Research Permits.

Drone Usage on beaches and in State Parks: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is in a rulemaking process to update State rules about take-off and landing regulations related to recreational drone usage. Follow the rulemaking process in 2025 and 2026 to learn about the proposed OPRD rules.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) manages fish and wildlife in their habitats. Within rocky habitats this primarily includes marine invertebrates, shellfish, fish, and birds within the intertidal habitat, beach, and tidepools.

Sport fishing regulations that apply to fish, shellfish, and marine invertebrates can be found in Chapter 635 Division 11 and Division 39. Rules that apply more specifically to Coquille Point Marine Garden can be found in the current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations.

> No take of shellfish and other invertebrates except single mussels may be taken (for bait). Site boundary: Intertidal between a line perpendicular to shore from the 8th Street beach access point and a line perpendicular to shore from the Coquille Point beach access staircase. (Coquille Point MG Inset 14, Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations, 2025, page 87).

Commercial harvest regulations that apply to commercial shellfish and marine invertebrate fisheries can be found in Chapter 635 Division 5. Information about commercial harvest regulations within marine managed areas can be found in OAR 635-005-0260.

For more information on shellfish regulations and licenses, visit the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations booklet is available online and updated annually. Most outdoor gear stores offer a free hard copy of the booklet. Always check the Oregon Department of Agriculture Shellfish Safety page for recreational shellfish biotoxin closures in your region before taking.

APPENDIX E – FEDERAL REGULATIONS

There are several Federal Regulations that are relevant to the Coquille Point Marine Garden including policies that apply to protected species, critical habitats, airspace, and federally protected land. The following is not an exhaustive list of all applicable Federal regulations.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) owns and manages the headlands at Coquille Point and the offshore rocks and islands within and adjacent to the Marine Garden. All offshore rocks and islands above the mean high tide line are a part of the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and are designated as Wilderness. The Coquille Point headlands are a part of the Oregon Islands NWF but do not have a Wilderness Designation.

Within the Coquille Point Marine Garden boundary, there are three large rocks (North Coquille Point Rock, Middle Coquille Point Rock, and Elephant Rock) and many smaller rocks that fall under the jurisdiction of the USFWS. The federal regulations associated with the National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Designation supersede the state regulations associated with the Marine Garden designation.

Boaters should keep a 500-foot buffer zone around rocks and islands to prevent wildlife disturbance and damage to vessels. Pilots must always maintain a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above offshore rocks and islands.

Oregon Islands, Three Arch Rocks, and Cape Meares National Wildlife Refuges Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Wilderness Stewardship Plan, USFWS, Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 2009, (https://ecos.fws.gov/ServCat/DownloadFile/1507).

Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Seabirds
Visit the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters and learn more about this work.
Explore a map of the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge.
Download the Pacific Northwest Seabirds Brochure.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has enforcement authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The USFWS is also jointly responsible for enforcing the

Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

All activities within the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge that require review, permits and clearances will undergo appropriate review and obtain necessary permits or clearances as needed. Examples of activities requiring review are Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 7 endangered species consultation, and a 401-water quality permit.

Learn more about the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Learn more about the Endangered Species Act.

Learn more about the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) has multiple offices that have a role in coastal and rocky habitat management in Oregon. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service or (NMFS), oversees fisheries management and is jointly responsible for implementing the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) with the USFWS.

The Office for Coastal Management (OCM) implements the National Coastal Zone Management Program, providing federal consistency authority. Additionally, the Office of Response and Restoration coordinates the Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) oversees Oregon's airspace and requires all recreational and non-recreational drone users to be licensed to fly legally in the United States. The FAA prohibits recreational use of unmanned aircraft at the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge and in any congressionally designated Wilderness or Primitive Area. Learn more about recreational drone usage:

- FAA has information about flying drones legally: Unmanned Aircraft Systems.
- OPRD developed a list of Recreational Drone Best Practices.
- USFWS: Tips for Responsible Drone Use.
- NOAA Fisheries: Viewing Marine Life from the Air.

APPENDIX F – ENFORCEMENT CONTACT LIST

Urgent Response Contact List

For rapid responses please use the contact information below depending on the circumstances.

Situation	Phone Number	More Information
Emergencies or Life-Threatening Situations	Dial 911	Connects to a local emergency dispatch center.
Non-Emergency Assistance Report a Wildlife or Habitat Law Violation	Dial ***OSP** or *677 from your mobile phone or dial **1-(800)-452-7888** Southern Command Center (SCC): (800) 442-2068	Connects to one of Oregon State Police Command Centers. Fish & Wildlife Division OSP.FWD@osp.oregon.gov; TIP@osp.oregon.gov
Report a Stranded or Injured Marine Animal	West Coast Hotline: (866) 767-6114 OSU Marine Mammal Stranding Network: (541) 270-6830	NOAA Fisheries Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program Oregon Marine Mammal Stranding Network Fill out an online form to report the stranding of a marine mammal or sea turtle.
Report an Entangled Whale	West Coast Hotline: (877) SOS-WHALE; (877) 767-9425	National Marine Mammal Entanglement Response Networks

Non-Urgent Contact List

Other contacts for general information about enforcement not for emergencies or rapid response.

Division/Position	Agency	Contact Information
Lieutenant, Fish & Wildlife Division	Oregon State Police - Fish and Wildlife Division	Office: (503) 378-3720 3565 Trelstad Ave SE Salem, OR 97317
Park Manager, Bullards Beach Management Unit	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department	Park Office: (541) 347-2209 56487 Bullards Beach Rd Bandon, OR 97411
Refuge Manager, Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex	Office: (541) 347-1470 Headquarters: (541) 867-4550 Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, 83673 N. Bank Ln, Bandon, OR 97411
Marine Resources Program	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - Marine Resources Program	Office: (541) 867-4741 Marine Resources Main Office, 2040 SE Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365

APPENDIX G – OUTREACH MATERIALS EXAMPLE USFWS POSTER

[Help Protect Marine Wildlife Poster]

Messaging for observing boating and recreational guidelines:

- Stay back. Studies have shown that seabirds and marine mammals may flee their colonies when closely approached by humans. Please do not approach rocks and islands closer than 500 feet, in boats or on foot. Aircraft are requested to always maintain a minimum of 2,000 feet above the rocks and islands.
- Use Caution. Approach and depart areas near rocks and islands cautiously. Minimize noise and abrupt movements.
- Observe. Take a few moments to observe the birds and mammals. If you see animals bobbing their heads, making alarm calls, or departing from the colony, you are too close and should move away immediately.
- Conditions Change. Don't assume a safe operating distance one day will be the same as the next, even at the same site. Be cautious and observant every time out.
- Wildlife Harassment is Against the Law. Federal and State laws prohibit harassment of seabirds and marine mammals. Violators will be cited. Help protect Oregon's wildlife by reporting suspected violators to the Refuge Manager (541) 867-4550.

APPENDIX H – RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS TABLE

See table below on pages 49-58.

Coquille Point Marine Garden
Recommended Implementation Action Matrix

#	Implementation Action	1. Tribal Coordination Objectives		2. Public Access Objectives		3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives			4. Public Visitation Objectives					5. Monitoring Objectives			6. Compliance Objectives			
		1.1 Preserve Cultural Resources	1.2 Include Tribes in Resource Monitoring	2.1 Maintain Visual Access	2.2 Enhance Inclusive Physical Access	3.1 Protect Ecological Resources	3.2 Minimize Wildlife/Habitat Disturbance	3.3 Advance Research and Adaptive Management	4.1 Promote Inclusive Education and Interpretation	4.2 Encourage Stewardship Through Outreach	4.3 Increase Informed Visitation	4.4 Minimize Visitor Impact	4.5 Monitor Visitor Use	5.1 Standardize Data Collection	5.2 Practice Accessible and Inclusive Monitoring Efforts	5.3 Prioritize Relevant Research Projects	6.1 Encourage Regulatory Compliance	6.2 Prioritize Public Education	6.3 Maintain Public Safety	6.4 Support Informed Stewardship Programs
1	Engage tribes during the planning of community science and monitoring projects.	x	x											x	x	x				
2	Inform Oregon Coast Trail hikers about sensitive areas like during harbor seal pupping season.					x	x													
3	Participate in bioblitz(es) to measure site diversity on a regular basis.					x		x		x				x	x	x				
4	Host educational seminars for community members to learn about ongoing updates or results of monitoring efforts. Topics could also include basic ecological theory to discuss resilience.		x			x		x			x			x	x	x				
5	Guides leading a community science trip will follow beach safety recommendations.											x			x				x	
6	Help develop, host, or find community science projects that collect data to inform management.		x			x		x						x	x	x				

#	Implementation Action	1. Tribal Coordination Objectives		2. Public Access Objectives		3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives			4. Public Visitation Objectives					5. Monitoring Objectives			6. Compliance Objectives			
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7	Develop community science monitoring protocols consistent with all designated Marine Reserves and Rocky Habitats.		x											x		x	x			
8	Train community science volunteers to implement the protocols.		x					x						x						
9	Strengthen relationships between commercial users of the area and those recreating. Examples could include hosting an event or creating a survey of all users.				x			x					x		x	x		x		
10	Ensure datasets about research at Coquille Point held by state, federal, or research institutions is accessible to Tribes, researchers, and community groups.	x	x																	
11	Ensure data collected by community groups is accessible to the OCMP, ODFW, OPRD, and DSL. Oregon SeaSketch could be a potential data-sharing platform.		x										x	x	x					

#	Implementation Action	1. Tribal Coordination Objectives		2. Public Access Objectives		3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives			4. Public Visitation Objectives					5. Monitoring Objectives			6. Compliance Objectives			
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12	Consider adding ODFW monitoring sensors for Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia within the designation boundary.							x								x				
13	Collaborate with educational institutions to develop future research projects based on community priorities.		x					x							x	x				
15	Establish consistent photo point locations where citizens can take repeatable photos and share them to a central database to document long-term change.	x	x	x	x				x	x		x		x	x					
16	Translate all printed materials into Spanish. Make digital materials available in Spanish as well.				x		x		x	x	x	x	x				x	x		x
17	Provide species ID guides and resources.						x		x	x	x	x						x		
18	Develop brochures that can be shared at the chamber of commerce, outdoor gear stores, and local hotels or vacation housing.						x		x	x	x	x					x	x		x
19	Make all plans, signs, and brochures available online.								x	x	x	x						x		x

#	Implementation Action	1. Tribal Coordination Objectives		2. Public Access Objectives		3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives			4. Public Visitation Objectives					5. Monitoring Objectives			6. Compliance Objectives			
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20	Monitor and maintain the QR code on the “Critter Panel”. If sign needs maintenance, notify USFWS or OPRD.				x				x		x	x						x		
21	Host public presentations for community and school groups, individuals and organizations about the marine environment and ocean literacy. Locations for presentations could include rotary clubs, schools, libraries, and guided tours for people with mobility challenges.								x	x	x						x	x		x
22	Increase availability of information about protected areas where visitors are already going to look (e.g. State Parks, ODFW Website, Curry County, etc.)										x	x						x		
23	Partner with local schools to share education about tidepool etiquette and marine education. Organize school field trips to Coquille Point with a hands-on component (ex. tidepooling, complete a CoastWatch survey).				x			x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x		

#	Implementation Action	1. Tribal Coordination Objectives		2. Public Access Objectives		3. Natural Resource Conservation Objectives			4. Public Visitation Objectives					5. Monitoring Objectives			6. Compliance Objectives			
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24	Participate in the development of public education and interpretation standards common to all sites coastwide.								x		x	x								x
25	Develop a "virtual" field trip option to Coquille Point for non-coastal schools.								x	x								x		
26	Provide volunteer steward presence at sites seasonally during daylight low-low tide periods.								x		x	x	x					x		x
27	Connect interpretation materials or events to sustainable seafood networks.	x				x	x	x		x										
28	Consider participating in a species spotlight podcast series to highlight some of the most important indicators of healthy rocky habitats. Potential partners could include the Oregon Coast Visitor Association and Shoreline Education for Awareness.								x	x	x							x		
29	Support tidepool education offsite to encourage marine education in urban areas and to minimize onsite visitation. Partners could include the Oregon Coast Aquarium, Portland Aquarium,				x				x	x										

	Charleston Marine Life Center, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, and the Eugene Science Center.																		
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30	Volunteer tidepool ambassadors monitor visitor use by collecting data like the number of visitors and dogs to the Marine Garden at low tide.												x						x
31	Identify gaps in existing outreach materials to support the development of new materials.								x	x	x							x	
32	Coordinate social media blasts about Marine Gardens or tidepool etiquette. Including Oregon Coast Visitors Association, ODFW, OPRD, DLCD, North Coast Land Conservancy, Shoreline Education for Awareness, Yaquina Head Visitor Center, and HRAP.								x	x	x							x	
33	Table at large community events or festivals to spread awareness.								x	x								x	
34	Contribute to an online platform where all volunteers and community scientists can share ideas digitally, for								x						x				

	example a Facebook Group or Discord Channel.																		
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35	Develop a hospitality packet that includes information about designated sites nearby and guidance for responsible tidepooling and safe recreation.								x	x	x							x		x
36	Work with Oregon Coast Visitor Association to support their 'Coast Like a Local Campaign'.								x	x	x	x					x	x		x
37	Promote monthly beach cleanups. Partners could include SOLVE and Surfrider.			x	x	x	x			x			x						x	
38	Acquire a tidepool ambassador hat or vest so that visitors know how to identify volunteers. Partners could include USFWS because USFWS volunteers wear vests at Coquille Point.									x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x
39	Track the number of participants at on-site events.							x				x	x	x					x	x
40	Support volunteers' comprehension of state and federal regulations that apply on the beach and within the Marine Garden by providing Appendix D and Appendix E of the Plan.																x	x	x	x

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41	Direct recreational anglers and crabbers to the current issue of the ODFW Sport Fishing Regulations.																x	x	x	x
42	Increase the number of available enforcement officers who could respond to emergencies or violations on the beach. Support discussions between Coos County Sheriff, Bandon Police, OSP, USFWS, and OPRD so Patrol officers can respond at Coquille Point, if necessary.					x	x				x	x	x				x	x	x	x
43	Train tidepool ambassador volunteers to recognize when action is needed and how to respond appropriately in cases of violations or emergencies. Share Appendix F with volunteers for reference.						x					x	x				x	x	x	x
44	Provide an overview of state and federal regulations at annual tidepool ambassador training for volunteers and seasonal staff. Reach out to State Agency staff at OPRD, ODFW,										x	x	x				x	x	x	x

	USFWS, or DLCD to find staff to provide this training.																		
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45	Maintain an OPRD sign with the Marine Garden regulation signage.										x	x					x	x		x
46	Research a dedicated funding stream to support implementation of site goals.							x	x	x					x	x		x		x
47	Participate in media campaigns that promote etiquette like leave-no-trace.				x		x			x	x	x						x		
48	Invite first responders to public workshops to speak on beach safety.											x						x	x	x
49	Invite OPRD Beach Rangers, an OSP Lieutenant, and other law enforcement officers to train volunteers and staff on how to properly engage with the public and respond to different scenarios.																x	x	x	x
50	Any programming on the beach must include a comprehensive safety briefing for participants.						x				x				x			x	x	

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51	Monitor climbing violations on Elephant Rock. USFWS could put up a “no climbing/no disturbance” sign on Elephant Rock if there are consistent climbing violations overtime. Adding permanent signage on to the rock within the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge must have a reason that is compatible with the Wilderness Act.												x				x		x	
52	Install parking lot/trail counter at the Coquille Point main parking lot. TRAFx is a service used at other parks in Oregon.				x							x	x						x	x

GLOSSARY

Adaptive management: Adaptive management is a structured, iterative process of robust decision-making in the face of uncertainty, with an aim to reduce uncertainty over time via system monitoring.

Biodiversity: The diversity of lifeforms and biotic communities that occur in the coastal zone, including nearshore ocean waters. Diversity is a concept that means "variety or multiformity, a condition of being different in character and quality."25 There is no single way to define, measure, or evaluate diversity of life; rather there are at least four interrelated ways:

- Species diversity, which refers to the variety and abundance of species in an ecosystem.
- Ecological diversity, which refers to the variety of types of biological communities found on Earth.

Conservation: To manage in a manner which avoids wasteful or destructive uses and provides for future availability. A principle of action guiding Oregon's ocean resources management, which seeks to protect the integrity of marine ecosystems while giving priority to the protection and wise use of living marine resources; as used in the Oregon Ocean Resources Management Plan, the act of conservation means "that the integrity, diversity, stability, complexity, and the productivity of marine biological communities and their habitats are maintained or, where necessary, restored" and "accommodating the needs for economic development while avoiding wasteful uses and maintaining future availability."

Cultural Areas: Archaeological sites and landscape features of cultural interest. This includes landscape features that are:

- Integral to a tribe's history, legends, traditions, and stories.
- Traditionally used for wayfinding.
- Traditionally used for gathering first foods and materials.
- Integral to ongoing tribal cultural practices.
- Traditional trails.
- Sites that support traditions of a culturally identified group.

Cultural Resources: Resources vital to or the product of the perpetuation of traditional practices, ceremonies, and lifeways.

Data Sovereignty: The right of a nation to govern the collection, ownership, and application of its own data.

Ecosystem: The living and non-living components of the environment which interact or function together, including plant and animal organisms, the physical environment, and the energy systems in which they exist. All the components of an ecosystem are interrelated.

Extreme high-water line: The highest elevation reached by the sea as recorded by a tide gauge during a given period.

Extreme low-water line: The lowest elevation reached by the sea as recorded by a tide gauge during a given period.

Habitat: The portion of the environment in which an organism, species, or community lives. Just as humans live in houses, within neighborhoods, within a town or geographic area, within a certain region, etc., marine organisms live in habitats which may be referred to at different scales.

Holistic: Referring to an interconnected system rather than by its individual parts.

Important Marine Habitats: Marine habitats that must be specifically considered when an inventory-and-effects evaluation is conducted following Goal 19, including but not limited to: habitat necessary for the survival and conservation of Oregon renewable resources (e.g. areas for spawning, rearing, or feeding), kelp and other algae beds, seagrass beds, seafloor gravel beds, rocky reef areas and areas of important fish, shellfish and invertebrate concentration.

Indicator Species: A species that is relatively common. A species that occurs frequently enough to be monitored and respond to certain actions or represent the desired condition.

Rocky Habitat: Consists of outcrops or deposits of the above-described material either along the shoreline or in submerged areas. The individual rock structures or fragments within a rocky habitat area are often interspersed with gravel or sediment and overlain with biogenic habitat features. This creates a complex mix of substrate characteristics that all contribute to the form and function of the rocky habitat. Thus, rocky habitat can have non-rock (sand, gravel, biological) components. These habitats are variously referred to as rocky reefs, rocky banks, rocky beaches, rocky intertidal areas, rocky subtidal areas, boulder fields, rocky debris fields, benches, rock pavement, sea stacks, wash rocks, pinnacles, and many other names.

Oregon's rocky habitats are grouped into three major classifications based on proximity to shore, jurisdictional boundaries, and ecological zone. Within these main classifications many other sub-classifications may be present including rocky intertidal and subtidal, cliffs, tidepools,

Rocky Shoreline: All rocky habitat between the statutory vegetation line described in ORS 390.770 and extreme low water (encompasses cliffs, tidepools, and rocky intertidal). These areas may be reached by foot from shore (regardless of hazard or convenience).

Rocky Upland: Rocky habitat area between the statutory vegetation line and extreme high-water line. In unvegetated areas, this is delineated at the 16-foot elevation contour.

Rocky Intertidal: Rocky habitat area between extreme high-water line and extreme low-water line.

Submerged Rocky Habitat: All rocky habitat below extreme low water, out to the deepest limits of the territorial sea. This area includes submerged rocky reefs, shallow rocky subtidal, and other submerged rocky habitats.

Offshore Rocks and Islands: Any rock or landform within the territorial sea separated from the mainland at mean high water which remains above the surface of the sea at mean high water.

Territorial Sea: The ocean and seafloor area from mean lower low water seaward three nautical miles.

Vegetation line: Statutory line of established upland shore vegetation and as described in ORS 390.770.

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