

A Citizen's Guide to the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan Rocky Shores Amendment

May 2018



Oregon

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Get Involved!

Send comments to TSP.comments@state.or.us

See the last page of this guide to learn more about ways to get involved in this update.

Visit www.OregonOcean.info for more information.

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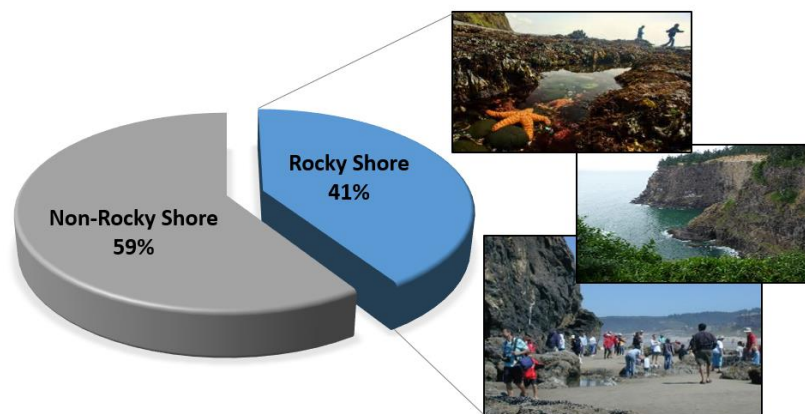
This guide offers a review of why and how we manage the rocky shores as a state, how the amendment process will be conducted, and what opportunities exist for citizens to participate. Involving the public in this management update directly aligns with Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 1: Citizen Involvement.

Managing Oregon's Rocky Shores: A Shared Responsibility

In fall 2017, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) will gather decision makers across the state to begin an amendment to the Rocky Shores Management Strategy (Part III) of the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan (TSP). The TSP acts as a coordinated vision for Oregon's ocean resources and guides the actions of state and federal agencies that are responsible for managing these resources in the public trust. The amended Strategy will incorporate new information regarding the natural resources and human uses in our rocky shore areas. The amended Strategy will also strive to use the best available science to balance the concerns, and values of Oregonians. This will be balanced with the state's goals for a resilient coastal ecosystem that can provide enduring opportunities for future generations.

Why are Rocky Shores important to Oregon?

Rocky shores account for approximately 41% of Oregon's 362 mile coastline and include headlands, tide pools, rocky beaches, and cliffs, as well as offshore rocks.¹ Oregon's rocky shores are a place of beauty and mystery, and they are where most people experience a glimpse of ocean life. In 2016, over 14



Oregon's rocky shores are used for by marine creatures and humans.

million visits² were recorded from people who came to peer in wonder into biologically rich tide pools or explore the monumental headlands shaped by eons of wind and waves. Rocky shore habitats harbor a wide variety of wildlife, including invertebrates (e.g., anemones, mussels, sea stars, and crabs), fish, vegetation (e.g., sea grasses and kelp), marine mammals, and a variety of seabirds. Some of these species are threatened or endangered with extinction.

¹ Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 1994. Oregon Rocky Shores Inventory

² Visitor count estimated based on 2016 OPRD parking lot count data within designated rocky shore areas.

We as Oregonians gain many benefits from our rocky shores, including economic, recreational, cultural, aesthetic, scientific, and spiritual benefits, as well as the benefits we garner from healthy, functioning rocky shore habitats. Among these benefits are risks that threaten our current balance. Oregon is already beginning to see climate change and ocean acidification affect marine and estuarine environments. As our population grows and changes, new pressures and preferences emerge for how these places are used. Increasing human exposure from tourism can threaten to love some of these areas to death through trampling or disturbance. Despite their seemingly durable appearance, it is important that we strive to ensure the resilience of our rocky shore environments for future generations.

Why Amend the Territorial Sea Plan for Oregon's Rocky Shores?

The TSP was first adopted in 1994 and provides detailed guidance to state and federal agencies to manage uses within the state's territorial sea, from shore to three nautical miles offshore. State ocean resources are governed by a tapestry of authorities at multiple government scales, and the TSP acts as a coordinating framework from which individual agencies institute regulations and management activities.



Rock formations off the coast of Bandon, OR

The current Rocky Shores Management Strategy was included as a chapter of the initial TSP. The Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) has the responsibility to periodically amend it over time as needs and conditions change, as new rocky shore site designations emerge, or as more detailed site studies and analyses improve our knowledge. Much has changed on the coast in the 23 years since plan adoption, including population changes in Oregon and along the coast, identification of new rocky shore sites not included in the original plan, new or changing uses of the shoreline, and a growing awareness of the anticipated effects associated with climate change. The OPAC has determined that it is time to assess and amend the Rocky Shores Management Strategy to reflect this new understanding and proactively manage Oregon's rocky shores for the conditions and needs of today and into the future.

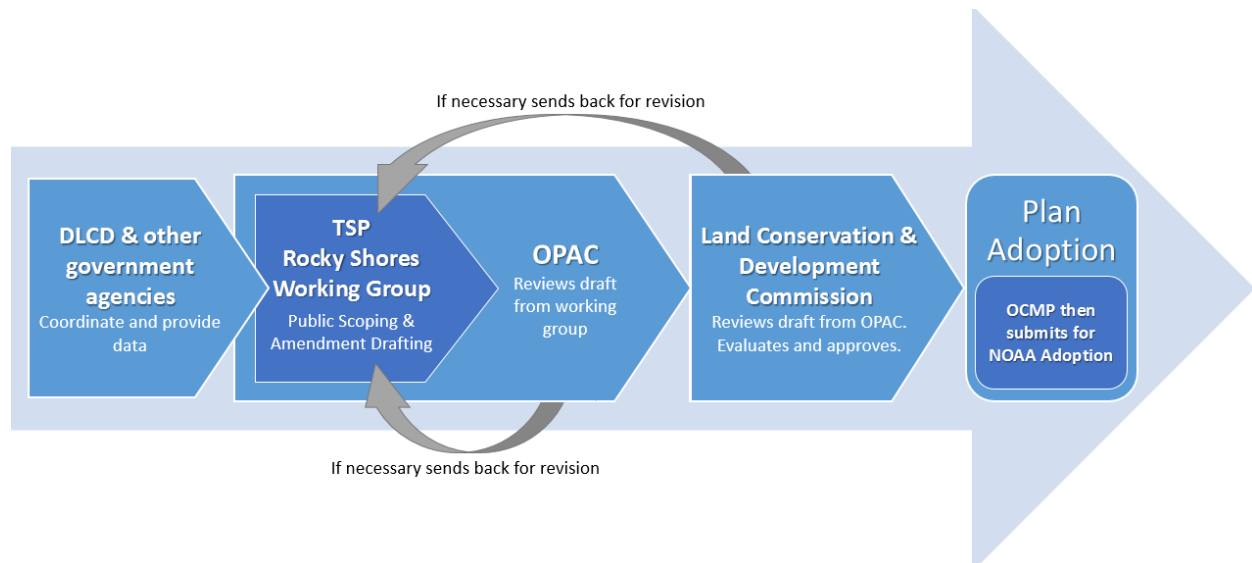


Oregon tide pools are home to a diversity of coastal creatures like sea stars and goose-neck barnacles

Who is involved in the Rocky Shores Strategy amendment?

Consistent with Statewide Planning Goal 1, citizens are invited to participate during all phases of the amendment process. The diagram below shows how parties will be involved.

The OPAC will use its Territorial Sea Plan Working Group, composed of OPAC members, agency representatives, and others with relevant expertise in rocky shores will evaluate the latest knowledge about the rocky shores system and generate recommendations for the plan amendment. DLCD is leading and coordinating this effort. The input and assistance from the general public, resource users, coastal communities, and other interested parties is integral to the process.

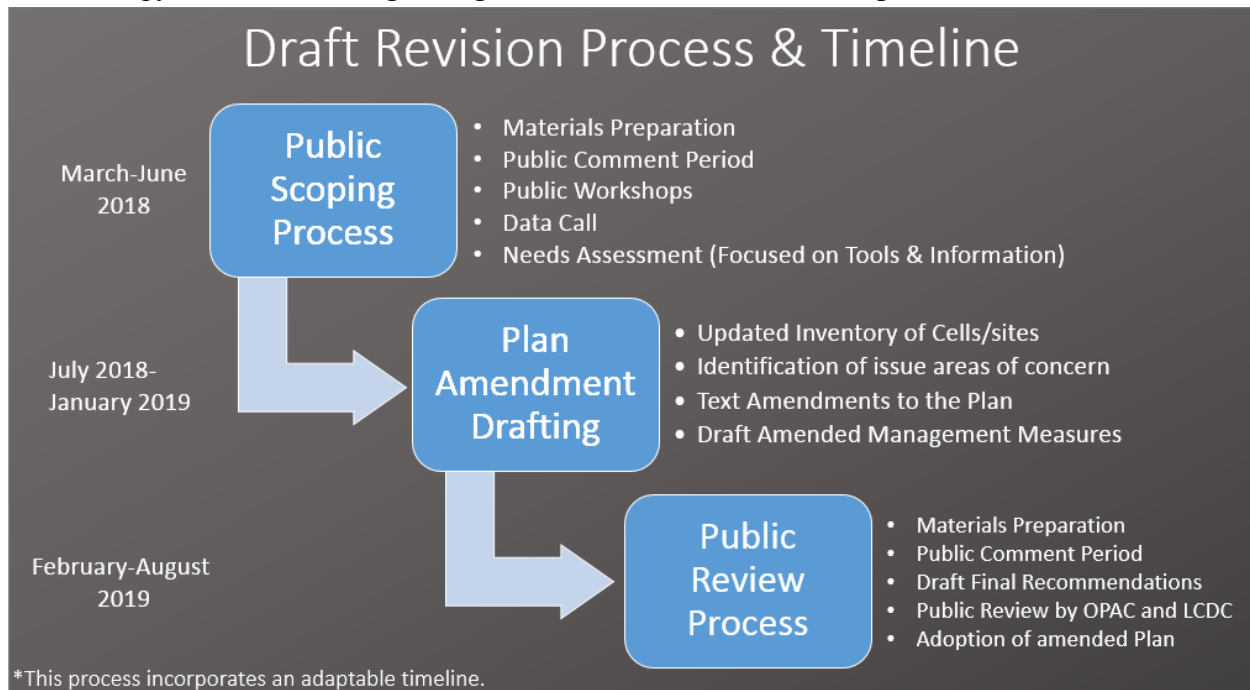


Graphic representation of the Territorial Sea Plan – Rocky Shore Strategy Update amendment process.

How will the Rocky Shores Strategy amendment be performed?

The Territorial Sea Plan Working Group will conduct a series of public meetings and updates to gather community input on all aspects of the update. These findings and recommendations will be presented to OPAC for consideration. OPAC will then finalize a draft plan amendment and submit it to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for public review and formal adoption. The process is expected to span from fall 2017 to early 2020.

The Strategy amendment is a public process that will occur in three phases, shown below.



Graphic representation of the Territorial Sea Plan – Rocky Shore Strategy Update amendment timeline and process.

The general activities of the Territorial Sea Plan Working Group will include the following:

1. Solicit public input via a survey focused on rocky shore users' needs, concerns, and observations related to rocky shore areas along the coast.
2. Establish an inventory of existing resources and uses based on the best available scientific information. Inventory information can include geological and biological characteristics, human usage statistics and concerns, and special protection needs. This information will be presented visually via spatial maps and conceptual models to determine linkages and interdependencies.
3. Identify uncertainties, data gaps, and information gathering opportunities.
4. Develop objectives for ecosystem-based management and public awareness building for rocky shores.
5. Generate planning and management alternatives to meet the identified objectives.
6. Develop performance measures for alternatives, relative to management objectives.
7. Develop risk management strategies and mitigation/response measures that can be applied as conditions change.

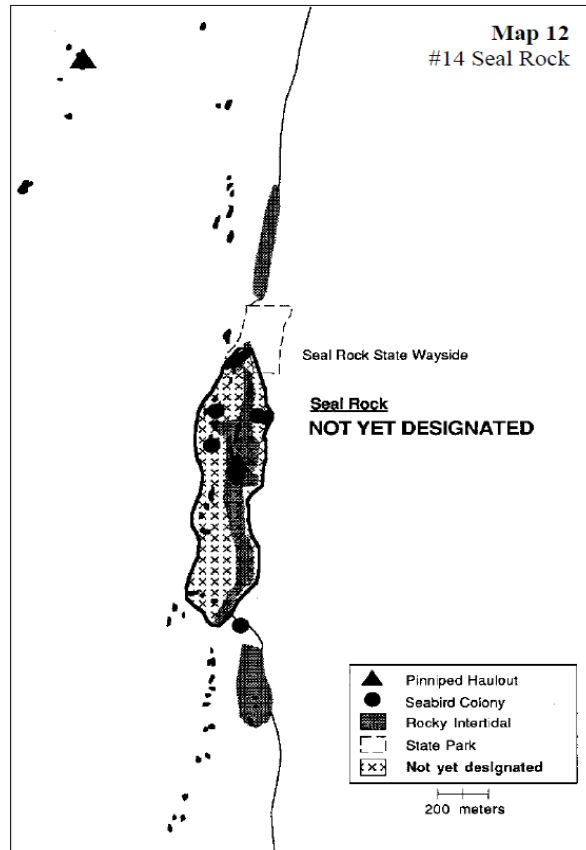
What does the Rocky Shores Strategy do?

The Rocky Shores Management Strategy provides an ecosystem-based planning framework for agencies to use in the management of rocky shore sites, uses, and resources, and it is one of several elements of Oregon's ocean-resources management program. The purpose of the strategy is to facilitate intergovernmental coordination and promote common understanding of ecological goals and appropriate uses of rocky shore areas. The strategy contains a combination of policy intentions (a goal and a set of policies and objectives), supported by scientific background information on rocky shore areas and resources and applied to on-the-ground sites and situations.

Elements of the strategy may include:

- An inventory of rocky shore resources;
- Designated special management areas such as intertidal marine gardens, habitat refuges, or research reserves, within which certain activities will be allowed, disallowed, or controlled via separate agency actions;
- Policy prescriptions that apply when agencies make program decisions, make or amend rules affecting ocean resources, approve resource-use permits and leases, manage property owned or controlled by agencies, or manage ocean resources;
- Recommendations and guidance for site management;
- Priority information and education needs; and
- Ongoing monitoring needs to determine whether the strategy is meeting its objectives and to watch for future change.

The strategy relies on authorities and programs of state and federal agencies to carry out activities in the field. The OPAC is not responsible for implementation of the Strategy.



Example Inventory Map for a Rocky Shore site

How can citizens be involved in the plan amendment?

There will be many opportunities for you to participate in this planning process and a variety of ways to submit your ideas, concerns, and responses about how the plan is being developed. All comments are welcome and will be useful in assisting OPAC, its Territorial Sea Plan Working Group, and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) in their deliberations regarding plan amendment proposals. The initial round of public comment closed April 30, 2018. Visit www.bit.ly/PublicSummary to review the materials and comments from this round of public scoping.

Although the initial round of public comment has closed there is always an opportunity for your voice to be heard-

1. Contact us directly

- Email TSP.comments@state.or.us with any general comments, or with information you want to submit about a particular location.
- Call DLCD at (503) 934-0072 or email us at Andy.Lanier@dlcd.state.or.us to ask questions or provide comments.

2. Go online

- <http://www.oregonocean.info> will be the primary resource for facilitation of the amendment process, where we post meeting schedules, locations, and information.
- For maps and information about specific rocky shore areas go to Oregon Marine Map at <http://oregonmarinemap.org/marinemap/> where you will find a wide variety of mapped information available for viewing and analysis.

Stay informed at www.OregonOcean.info