

Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

Adopted 1994, Amended 2001

algae, marine: this term is used loosely in this plan to include all the so-called "seaweeds," especially of the intertidal area. Marine algae range in size from the simple microscopic blue-green algae and diatoms that float in the water to the many species of large brown and red algae that are so recognizable as "seaweed" in tide pools. Marine algae include several species of kelp but in Oregon the bull kelp, *Nereocystis luetkeana*, grows subtidally and has special legal status because of its value as a commercial raw material.

appropriate use: a term used to imply a balance between human use, or exploitation, of a natural resource, including its environment, and the ability of the resource to tolerate the use. For any given site or resource, managers must consider nature, sensitivity, durability, and regenerative capacity of the resource against the amount, kind, duration, and intensity of the use as well as the goals, objectives, and policies of the particular administrative or management authority including the Territorial Sea Plan.

biota: all organisms found in a specified area.

cell (rocky shore): a major shore feature with a predominant set of similar shore types. On the Oregon coast, there are two types of cells: littoral (sandy shore) cells where nearshore circulation is enclosed between headlands; rocky cells composed of headlands, capes and associated reefs or rocks.

coast: the area where land and sea meet and where the physiographic, hydrographic, oceanographic, and biological features and conditions of each strongly influence the other.

coastal biodiversity: at its simplest, a term meaning the diversity of life forms and 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" (Patrick, 1983, in Ray, 1988). 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;
- **genetic diversity**, which refers to the genetic variation that occurs among members of the same species; and
- **functional diversity**, which refers to the variety of biological processes or functions characteristic of a particular ecosystem. This may be the most important way of referring to biodiversity in a coastal management sense.

coastal biodiversity refers to the richness of variety and interactions of biological resources in the coastal zone, which is a transition zone or ecotone between the land and the sea. Coastal biodiversity therefore encompasses not only the range and multitude of sea creatures that live in the rocky intertidal zone, but also the varieties of seabirds and shorebirds, marine mammals, hundreds of species of fish, shellfish, invertebrates, marine algae or "seaweeds", plankton, and insects. More than that is the complexity of their interactions, evolved and adapted over the millenia to fit the dynamics of this transition environment.

coastal shorelands: those areas immediately adjacent to the ocean, all estuaries and associated wetlands, and all coastal lakes. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

coastal zone: the area lying between the Washington border on the north to the California border on the south, bounded on the west by the extent of the state's jurisdiction, and in the east by the crest of the coastal mountain

range, with the exception of : (a) The Umpqua River basin, where the coastal zone shall extend to Scottsburg; (b) The Rogue River basin, where the coastal zone shall extend to Agness; (c) The Columbia River basin, where the coastal zone shall extend to the downstream end of Puget Island. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals).

community: the full complement of plant and animal species living and interacting in a specified habitat. Or, a "distinct and recurring assemblage of plants and animals naturally associated with each other and with a particular physical environment" (Dethier). Like human communities, the exact composition of marine communities may vary for complex reasons: seasonal changes in light, temperature, or nutrients; water depth, which affects food, light, temperature, and pressure; meeting or mixing of different water masses with different temperatures, salinity, or nutrient levels; etc.

conserve: to manage in a manner which avoids wasteful or destructive uses and provides for future availability. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

conservation: the act of conserving the environment. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

conservation: 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 renewable resources over nonrenewable; 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 "...accommodat(ing) the needs for economic development while avoiding wasteful uses and maintaining future availability.

Continental Margin is a geographic feature, the submerged seaward extension of the continent land mass that extends from shore across the relatively level continental shelf and down the steeper continental slope to the deep ocean plain; Oregon's continental margin varies from approximately 58 km to 120 km (36-74 mi) wide and from shore to about 2 kilometers (1.24 mi) deep.

Continental Shelf is a geographic feature, the portion of the seafloor adjacent to the continent extending seaward of the coastline to a depth of 200 meters or beyond if the depth admits of exploitation; it includes seafloor areas under both state and federal jurisdiction

critical marine habitat: means one or more of the following land and water areas:

a.) areas designated as "critical habitat" in accordance with federal laws governing threatened and endangered species; OR

b.) areas designated in the Territorial Sea Plan as either:

1.) as needed for the survival of animal or plant species listed by state or federal laws as "threatened", "endangered", or "sensitive". Such areas might include special areas used for feeding, mating, breeding/spawning, nurseries, parental foraging, overwintering, or haul out or resting. This is not intended to limit the application of federal law regarding threatened and endangered species; OR

2.) "unique" (i.e. one of a kind in Oregon) habitat for scientific research or education within the Oregon territorial sea. (Territorial Sea Plan, Part Two)

develop: to bring about growth or availability; to construct or alter a structure, to conduct a mining operation, to make a physical change in the use or appearance of the land, to divide land into parcels, or to create or terminate rights to access. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

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. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

ecotone: a transition area between different habitats or environments; the Oregon coast is within an ecotone between the subarctic waters of the Gulf of Alaska and the subtropical waters of California and Mexico. Further, the

waters of Oregon's Territorial Sea are coastal waters, an ecotone between the oceanic habitat in waters over the continental margin and terrestrial habitats of Oregon's coastal watersheds and shoreline.

enhancement: improvement in condition; in natural resources management referring to objective tasks undertaken to improve the condition, numbers, or prospects for survival of populations, habitats, or ecosystems.

environment: where we, and all living things, live.

habitat: 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, and so on, marine organisms live in habitats which may be referred to at different scales. (see also "critical marine habitat", "important marine habitat")

headlands: bluffs, promontories or points of high shoreland jutting out into the ocean, generally sloping abruptly into the water. Oregon headlands are generally identified in the report on Visual Resource analysis of the Oregon Coastal Zone, OCCDC, 1974. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

important marine habitat: marine habitats that must be specifically considered when an inventory-and-effects evaluation is conducted pursuant to 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, rock reef areas and areas of important fish, shellfish and invertebrate concentration. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 19).

niche: the range of environmental variables (such as temperature, salinity, nutrients, etc.) within which a species can exist and reproduce. The preferred niche is the one in which the species performs best in the absence of competition or interference from extraneous factors. The realized niche is the one in which it actually comes to live in a particular environment.

Ocean Stewardship Area includes the state's territorial sea, the continental margin seaward to the bottom of the continental slope, and adjacent ocean areas where natural phenomena and human uses can directly affect uses and resources of Oregon's territorial sea.

organism: an individual living entity or life form.

Outer Continental Shelf is a jurisdictional area defined in the federal Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953 as all submerged lands lying seaward and outside the area of lands beneath navigable waters (state territorial seas), the subsoil and seabed of which appertain to the United States and are subject to its jurisdiction and control.

pollution: the violation or threatened violation of applicable state or federal environmental quality statutes, rules and standards. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

preserve: to save from change or loss and reserve for a special purpose. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

program: proposed or desired plan or course of proceedings or action. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

protect: save or shield from loss, destruction, or injury or for future intended use. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

population: a set of organisms belonging to the same species and occupying a clearly delimited space at the same time.

preservation: as used in the Oregon Ocean Resources Management Plan, means "that no adverse human-induced changes to a biological community or habitat should be allowed, and that human activities that could cause such changes need to be prohibited."

recreation: any experience voluntarily engaged in largely during leisure (discretionary time) from which the individual derives satisfaction. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

rocky shores: within the context of the Ocean Stewardship Area in the Oregon Ocean Resources Management Plan, 1990, include 1.) shoreline features of rocky cliffs, rocky intertidal areas with associated rocks; and 2.) offshore features of rocks, islands, and submerged reefs within Oregon's Territorial Sea. Offshore areas do not include deepwater features such as Heceta, Stonewall, Perpetua, or Coquille Banks that are in federal waters.

shoreline: the boundary between a body of water and the land, measured on tidal waters at mean higher high water, and on non-tidal waterways at the ordinary high-water mark. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

significance: for purposes of the required resource inventory and effects evaluation, involves context and intensity. Context will vary with the physical setting of the proposed action, and may involve interests at the local, regional, state, or federal level. Intensity refers to the severity of the effect; that is, the magnitude and duration of the effect. The intensity of an effect should be weighed along with the likelihood of its occurrence. An effect may be significant even when its chance of occurrence is not great, but when the resulting effect would be severe if it occurred. Significance does not lend itself to a formula or quantifiable test when used to describe natural resources (unlike statistical analyses where "significance" does lend itself to mathematical expression).

site: a specific geographic feature or location within a cell. They may be a rock or cluster of rocks, a particular cove or cliff, or other specific feature. These sites may also have a mix of rocky shore types and even have sandy or cobbled beaches when mapped at this scale.

species: a population or collection of populations of closely related and similar organisms capable of interbreeding freely with one another but not with members of other species under natural conditions.

submersible lands: lands lying between the line of ordinary (mean) high water and the line of ordinary (mean) low water. (ORS 274.005(8))

territorial sea: the ocean and seafloor area from mean low water seaward three nautical miles. (Oregon Statewide Planning Goals)

tidal submerged lands: lands lying below the line of mean low tide in the beds of all tidal waters within the boundaries of this state are heretofore or hereafter established. (ORS 274.705(7))