

Additional Recommendations¹

1. Review and evaluation

ODFW will conduct a review of the site² one year after prohibitions go into effect to reevaluate the sideboards set in EO 08-07 and ORS 196.540, based on new data collected during baseline studies and the first year of prohibitions. Adaptive management may be needed (e.g., boundary adjustments, prohibitions, mitigation) if new data provide compelling evidence to ODFW that the assumptions made during a site's design were not correct relative to the socioeconomic and ecological sideboards.

ODFW will also review site implementation five years after baseline studies are conducted and harvest prohibitions take effect. The review should focus on progress of implementation, including: the site management plan, ecological and socioeconomic monitoring programs, compliance and enforcement of the site, and community engagement in implementation.

There will also be an evaluation of the site and limited-system of reserves after sites have been in place for a minimum of 10-15 years to determine their effectiveness as a management tool for Oregon's nearshore marine resources. This period will allow time for adequate ecological and socioeconomic data to be collected and for ecological responses to begin being detected.

The reviews and evaluation should include consultation and collaboration with the local marine reserve community team. ODFW will consult with STAC³ as necessary to review and evaluate marine reserve sites and for adaptive management considerations.

Any adaptive management considerations should require consultation with, and general support from, the community team. Consensus should be sought through the community team prior to any alteration of site boundaries or prohibitions/allowances within the site. If consensus cannot be reached, it should be clearly stated to the appropriate regulatory entity considering changes and all parties will have the opportunity to voice their positions individually to the appropriate board or commission.

No new marine reserve sites will be considered in the territorial sea (beyond the six areas currently under consideration in HB3013) north of Cape Blanco during the 10-15 year evaluation time period.

2. Commitment to funding

The State will pursue funding to meet the enforcement, research, monitoring, and outreach needs for implementing marine reserves. A portion of ODFW's marine reserve implementation budget is to be used to support coastal communities. If funding cannot be secured over the long term, agencies responsible for managing the marine reserves shall make recommendations to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Legislative Assembly and initiate actions to scale down or suspend fisheries prohibitions in the marine reserves accordingly (based on HB3013).

¹ Based on input from marine reserve community teams and OPAC.

² Site: includes the marine reserve and any complementary MPAs.

³ The role of STAC in relationship to ODFW is not clear at this point, therefore references to STAC may refer to consultation with other outside scientists.

If funding is sought and secured from non-state sources, these funds should only be used to implement activities consistent with the State's process to evaluate and enforce marine reserves in Oregon, consistent with the State's priorities and direction. The State's priorities and direction should be developed in consultation with community teams and stakeholders, and spending should include a biennial review by community teams and stakeholders to ensure consistency with these priorities and direction. An independent review should be considered by the Legislature as necessary to avoid real or perceived drift from fiscal or policy direction.

3. Community engagement in implementation

Local communities of place and interest will be actively engaged in implementing the marine reserve site, including establishment of an ongoing local marine reserve community team. The community team should assist ODFW in developing and implementing a site management plan. While individual marine reserve sites will have a specific community team, ODFW will facilitate the communication and information sharing between community teams. ODFW and the community team should commit to providing opportunities for community members to participate in planning and oversight activities, monitoring and research, outreach and education, and compliance and enforcement activities including the use, as appropriate, of local commercial and charter vessels in site monitoring and research.

4. Monitoring and research of sites and comparison areas

Ecological and socioeconomic monitoring and research will be designed and conducted to help understand if and how the site, or system of sites, meets the sideboards established in EO 08-07, the OPAC marine reserve goal and objectives, and any site specific goals established. Sufficient baseline data should be collected at the site and comparison areas prior to harvest prohibitions taking effect. We anticipate this will require two years or as deemed appropriate by the experimental design of the monitoring program. ODFW will consult with STAC and other scientists as appropriate when developing and reviewing monitoring plans and methods. The studies should continue over time, with monitoring and research reports made available to the community team and the public, and included in the review and evaluation processes as recommended in item one above. One of the first research priorities includes gathering data on the distribution and abundance of constraining rockfish species. This research should begin during the baseline data phase of implementation.

Data collected throughout this process will be applied not only to evaluate marine reserves but also improve our general understanding of the nearshore ecosystem (biological and human dimension), advancing our ability to sustainably use and steward these resources in an ecosystem-based context.

5. Mitigation

The State will implement steps to help mitigate significant effects of the reserves on impacted users. The need for mitigation should be informed by current information and data collected on net socioeconomic effects during the baseline period prior to prohibitions taking effect. As identified above, gathering data on the distribution and abundance of yelloweye and canary rockfish in areas where these species currently constrain fisheries may help provide more flexibility and opportunity in federal and state managed fisheries. The State should also promote research to develop additional methods for fishing that reduce bycatch and discard mortality.