

Oregon Rocky Habitat Management Strategy Site Designation Proposal Template

DISCLAIMER: All rocky habitat site designation proposals MUST be submitted online via the Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool (Oregon.SeaSketch.org). If you require assistance with proposal submission, please contact the Rocky Shores Coordinator, Michael Moses, at Michael.Moses@state.or.us.

All proposals must be accompanied by a map and site report which may be generated under the "My Plans" tab on the Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool, or you can attach your own map to the proposal form. Interested parties should also review the [Rocky Habitat Management Strategy](#) to determine the eligibility of possible site designations prior to submitting a designation proposal.

Entities in need of special accommodation should contact staff at the Oregon Coastal Management Program. Due to the depth of agency review, staff cannot guarantee when a proposal will be reviewed by OPAC or LCDC. Please note that a high volume of submissions may increase review timelines.

Have questions? Contact Andy Lanier (Andy.Lanier@state.or.us) or Michael Moses (Michael.Moses@state.or.us).

Proposed Site

Coquille Point Marine Garden/Education Area - <http://seasket.ch/y0qcqsyPHn>





Contact Information

Please fill out the following section with primary contact information for this proposal. Contact information will be used to provide proposal review updates and ask for questions relating to this proposal.

Name of Principle Contact

Who should be contacted with updates and questions regarding this proposal?

Bill Stenberg

Affiliation, agency, or organization (if applicable)

Shoreline Education for Awareness

Phone Number

503 593-5010

Email Address

billberg47@gmail.com

Mailing Address

720 Jackson Ave SW
Bandon, 97411

General Proposal Information & Rationale

To the best of your knowledge, fill out the following section with the general site identification and rationale information for your proposed designation.

Proposal Type

Proposals may outline desired additions, deletions, or alterations to rocky habitat site designations, as outlined in the Territorial Sea Plan: Part Three.

New Site Designation (addition)

Existing Site Removal (deletion)

Alteration to Existing Site

What type of rocky habitat designation are you proposing?

Marine Research Area

Marine Garden/Education Area

Marine Conservation Area

Proposal Rationale and Goals

Please describe the context for why this proposal is being brought forward. a) Please describe the site-specific goals for this proposal. b) What are the outcomes or metrics which could be measured to determine progress toward or achievement of these goals?

Coquille Point in Bandon Oregon, is under the authority of the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and is part of the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge. The sand from mean low tide to mean high tide is under the authority of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD). With few full-time staff, only occasional seasonal staff, volunteer assistance, and limited law enforcement presence, the USFWS and OPRD cannot adequately monitor public activities at Coquille Point.

These sea stacks provide seabird nesting habitat and harbor seal pupping sites, as well as being a scenic destination for tourism, yet is often without adequate supervision of human activity. As a Friends Group for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Shoreline Education for Awareness has accepted responsibility for this monitoring--especially during low tides--and provides around six people to fill an enormous amount of time.

Giving the classification of Marine Garden to Coquille Point (more specifically to the intertidal sand and rocks surrounding Elephant Rock, Middle Coquille Rock, and North Coquille Rock) will raise awareness and convey the message to all users that this is a special place. It is a place where visitors can witness from a reasonable distance the miracle of marine life; where visitors can see close up the beauty of the diverse and abundant life in the area's tide pools. It is a place that draws tens of thousands of visitors and provides them with memories and photos to thrill them forever.

It is also an area that is being "loved to death." In their excitement and carelessness, visitors can trample hundreds of tide pool creatures, chase birds from their nests, and cause female seals to abandon their pups on a regular basis.

There is the saying that a person can die from a thousand small cuts. An area of rocky habitat with all of its beauty and life can suffer the same slow death. Coquille Point's small cuts come as thoughtless visitors wade through tide pools, chase seals and pups off their haul-out rocks, and scare nesting birds from their eggs and chicks.

As a Marine Garden/Education Area, Coquille Point will help visitors learn about marine life and the wonders of nature. It will then also be clearly distinguished from being a "recreation area." As such, with proper signage and increased visualization of the rules of conduct, coupled with more volunteers and greater local buy-in to help protect the area, we can stop the activities that gradually destroy our marvelous rocky habitat.

Because it is impossible to be present to witness all the harmful human actions, most of what we know comes from anecdotal accounts of people on the beach. These include: dogs running loose harassing birds and seals; the careless climbers scrambling over rocks and crushing crustaceans; tide pool lovers splashing through tide pools filled with fragile creatures of incredible beauty; bird enthusiasts filled with intoxicating excitement scaring black oystercatchers off their nests by getting too close -- none intending any harm yet still disrupting the flora and fauna at Coquille Pt.

Measurements of success created by this designation as a Marine Garden are not easily determined by

examining the abundance of present species, because the populations are affected by more variables than the presence of humans. A better measurement would be how much effort is required to prevent illegal usage of the area.

How does the proposed site improve upon or fill a gap in addressing objectives/policies that are not currently addressed by other designated sites or management measures?

Please address this question in relation to the following topics: a) Maintenance, protection, and restoration of habitats and natural communities. b) Allowing for the enjoyment and use of the area while protecting from degradation and loss. c) Preservation of public access. d) Consideration for the adaptation and resilience to climate change, ocean acidification, and hypoxia. e) Fostering stewardship and education of the area or coastwide.

This proposed site is intended to afford more protection of the flora and fauna while encouraging enjoyment of the designated area. The challenges brought about by ocean warming and acidification are significant for the life forms that live there, even in the absence of human activities. The need for protection of areas with rich biodiversity is critical. Being identified with a Marine Garden/Education Area designation conveys to visitors that this is a special area requiring restrained activity. Acting now to increase its status to a Marine Garden/Education Area will help to preserve these sea stacks for future generations.

Coquille Point is one of the most popular attractions in Bandon. There are three main sea stacks that make up Coquille Point: Elephant Rock, Middle Coquille Rock, and North Coquille Rock. Nowhere else on the Oregon coast will you find such a high density of prominent, scenic sea stacks, filled with tide pools, a seabird colony accessible to foot traffic, and a small nursery/haul out area for harbor seals, situated almost within the city limits of Bandon. With a populace of some 3300 people, Bandon receives a major portion of its revenue from tourism.

To get a feel for the human use of this area, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department conducted a vehicle axle count at the Face Rock Wayside overlook, located approximately ¼ miles south of Coquille Pt. From August 2019 to July 2020, OPRD estimated 343,000 vehicles drove into the Face Rock Wayside parking lot. (Note: visitation was limited due to COVID restrictions in the spring and summer of 2020.) To guesstimate human usage, the OPRD uses a formula that assumes there are 2.5 people per vehicle. Both Face Rock Wayside and Coquille Pt provide access to the beach from their parking lots. Restrictive human access would reduce harassment and destruction of habitats, but harsh enforcement would be upsetting to responsible users, and be counterproductive. The area is a rich resource for family outings and nature lovers. However, even well-intentioned visitors can cause harm. For example, in 2018, a gentleman found a harbor seal pup on the beach and decided it was abandoned. With all good intentions, he got a plastic tarp, moved the pup onto the tarp, and put the seal pup in the bed of his truck to take home and care for it.

Because there are not enough law enforcement personnel to monitor the entire Oregon coast, a Marine Garden/Education Area designation, with appropriate signage, will help to alert the public that these sea stacks are covered by special rules in regards to human behavior.

Proper signage will encourage people to examine the world around them, more closely and carefully. There is no substitute for hands-on experience, whether it's observing animals from a distance with binoculars or up close in a tide pool with a magnifying glass. The first step in getting people to care for



other life forms is to make people aware of them. The intent of a Marine Garden is not to restrict public access, but to encourage the proper use of the area.

A Marine Garden designation may attract more people to this area, but as long as proper etiquette is followed, there is room for people and other life forms to share this spot on the beach.

Site Information

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site.

Name of Proposed Site

What is the general site name of the area of your proposed location? (Example: Haystack Rock, Cannon Beach)

Coquille Point

Site Location

What is the specific location of your proposed site (if applicable)? Use common place names, latitude/longitude, and geographic references to identify the location of the site.

Elephant Rock, Middle Coquille Rock, North Coquille Rock. Latitude 43 degrees 7' 4.1" Longitude -124 degrees 26' 5.7" (Reference polygon in attachments.)

General Site Description

Area would encompass the three large sea stacks, plus air space above them up to 153 m, and approximately 100-meter radius around them.

Site Boundaries

Provide a written description of the intended boundaries and scope of the proposed area (e.g. intertidal area, subtidal area, depth contour, etc.) All proposals must include a map of the proposed site boundaries.

Contour depth chart and a map of the area with the area in the proposal denoted by a polygon area attached at end of proposal.

Site Access Information

How is this site commonly accessed?

This site is accessible on foot and by water vehicle.

What is your understanding of current management at this site?

This may include site ownership, management authorities, and other key stakeholders.

USFWS, ownership of land above mean high tide, management of migratory birds
US FAA, authority over aircraft overflight



US NOAA Fisheries, ocean fisheries management, marine mammals management excluding polar bears, walruses, sea otters
USCG, ocean navigation and safety, lead in oil spills
US EPA, enforcement of pollution laws and ocean dumping
ODEQ, management of water quality, pollution control, oil spill response
ODFW, regulates animal harvests and Marine Gardens
ODPR, regulates “dry sands” recreational use between mean high tide and the beach zone line
OR Division State Lands, ownership of seabed land from mean low tide to 3 miles (4.8km) offshore

Site Uses

*To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information **based on the current site management.***

Site Uses

Describe the current users and uses present at the site. Uses may encompass recreational, commercial, cultural, and scientific.

There is no commercial use at this time. The area intended for Marine Garden designation is used by local 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.

The USFWS monitors population trends of nesting marine birds on these sea stacks. Members and volunteers of Audubon, Shoreline Education for Awareness, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition’s Coast Watch program, SOLVE, and Washed Ashore assist with bird counts, marine mammal strandings, habitat protection, litter pickup, and habitat surveys.

Site Infrastructure

Please summarize existing site infrastructure. For example: large parking lot, public restrooms, 10-foot stairway leading to cobble beach, etc.

There are no manmade infrastructures in proposed MG/EA. There is a medium sized parking lot and stairway to beach about 300 m to the east.

Potential Future Site Uses

Please describe potential future site uses of the proposed site if there was no change to current site management. Much like current uses, future uses may encompass recreational, commercial, cultural, and scientific, as well as others not listed.

As the human population increases, there is the potential for more illegal human activity as more people will be on the beach, in the tidepools, and in the water. There would potentially be less use of this area by pinnipeds and birds due to the increased presence of humans. There would also be a change in the populations of fish, invertebrates, and flora as their habitats would be impacted by the increase in human foot traffic if there was no change to current site management.

Impacts on Site Uses

How will altering this site's management designation impact existing and potential future uses? Please outline the potential positive and negative impacts to current and future users as well as the degree of impact. How does the proposed site management balance the conservation of rocky habitat resources with human use?

There are several positive impacts that a Marine Garden designation would bring. With increased education of proper human etiquette for this area, these sea stacks will hopefully remain available and attractive to marine mammals and birds for resting and reproduction. The intent of this designation is to also lessen the destruction of habitats for fish, invertebrates, and algae. The continual existence of this diversity of life forms benefits the entire ecosystem of which humans are a part.

Most of the negative impacts on this area come from people who are unknowingly or uncaringly breaking the law. This designation will hopefully lead to a reduction in the need for more official law enforcement presence, reduction in the number of people who walk or climb on exposed rocks, reduction in potential mishaps, reduction in human induced sounds, reduction in incidents of uncontrolled loose dogs, and reduction in harassment of wildlife.

There will be no changes in the harvest regulations of fish. Invertebrate harvest will be limited to mussels for bait, and recreational harvest of algae will not be allowed. Current take of fish, invertebrates, and algae at Coquille Pt are unknown but usage appears negligible at this time. There are also sea stacks near Coquille Pt which allow for harvest of invertebrates and algae.

A Marine Garden balances the conservation of habitat resources with human usage because people will be encouraged to discover what is on site, and to do so with minimal disturbance to the habitat and lives of other species.

Key Natural Resources

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site.

Rocky Habitat Present

Please include as much information as possible on the specific types and composition of rocky habitat present at the site (e.g. rocky intertidal with extensive tidepools, adjacent rocky cliffs, and rocky subtidal).

Coquille Point is dominated by consolidated bedrock. The area surrounding the site is made up of consolidated bedrock, boulders, and sandy beach. The three main sea stacks are characterized as being steep with moderately uneven terrain, with level areas on top.

Rocky intertidal tidepools on the east and north sides of Elephant and Middle Coquille Rocks are easily accessible by people during low tides.

A rocky subtidal shelf on the east side of Elephant Rock allows human access through the "elephant's eyes" at low tide, to the west side of Elephant Rock.



The west sides of Coquille Pt are accessible by surfers, paddle boarders, and kayakers during calm seas. Though the sea stack sides are steep, with cracks and folds, some people illegally climb three to five meters off the ground.

Key Resources

Describe current rocky habitat resources present at the site. These may include, but are not limited to: kelp beds; pinniped haulout or pupping areas; seabird colonies; presence of threatened/endangered/protected species; intertidal diversity (invertebrates, marine plants, etc.).

The following are present:

Kelp beds provide habitat for larval forms of fish and invertebrates.

Major seabird colonies include common murres, Brandt's cormorants, pelagic cormorants, pigeon guillemots, black oystercatchers, and western gulls.

Birthing and haul out areas for harbor seals are limited and critical.

Tide pools are filled with assorted fish, invertebrates, and algae.

Flora and Fauna

List the animal and plant species you know exist at this site along with relative abundance.

The most recent study examining rocky intertidal communities on the Pacific Coast of North America, and Coquille Point in particular, was done in 2013, by MARINE, Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network, [pacificrockyintertidal.org](https://marine.ucsc.edu/sitepages/coquillepoint-bio.html). <https://marine.ucsc.edu/sitepages/coquillepoint-bio.html>. The relative abundance of a species in the proposed area or relative to its overall population is not known.

The following is a list of the algae and invertebrate species sampled at Coquille Point, by MARINE, in 2013.

ALGAE:

Alaria marginata, Winged kelp

Egredia mensiesii, Feather boa kelp

Hedophyllum sessile, Sea cabbage

Mazzaella affinis, species of red seaweed

Mazzaella cordata/oregona/splendens, Splendid iridescent seaweed

Mazzaella parksii, Iridescent horn-of-plenty

Odonthalia floccose, Sea brush

Pelvetiopsis arborescens/hybrid/limitata, Dwarf rockweed

Ulvophyceae, class of green algae, including sea lettuce

INVERTEBRATES:

Anthopleura elegantissima, Aggregating anemone

Balanus glandula, Acorn barnacle

Mytilus californianus, California mussel

Semibalanus cariosus, Thatched barnacle

CHITONS

Cyanoplax spp

Katharina tunicata, Black Katy chiton

Mopalia spp

Tonicella spp



CRUSTACEANS

Hemigrapsus nudus, Purple shore crab
Idotea spp
Pachygrapsus crassipes, Striped shore crab
Pagurus hirsutiusculus, Hairy hermit crab
Petrolisthes spp
Pugettia product, Northern kelp crab

ECHINODERMS

Cucumaria/Pseudocnus spp
Leptasterias spp

LIMPETS

Lottia austrodigitalis/digitalis, Ribbed limpet
Lottia paradigitalis/stringatella, Checkered limpet
Lottia pelta, Shield limpet
Pisaster ochraceus, Ochre sea star

SNAILS

Lacuna spp
Littorina spp
Nucella canaliculata, Channeled dogwinkle
Nucella emarginata/ostrina, Emarginate dogwinkle
Nucella lamellosa, Frilled dogwinkle
Onchidella borealis, Sea slug

The following species of algae were collected on rocks at Coquille Point and identified by Dr. David Bilderback. These specimens are stored at the Oregon State University Herbarium in Corvallis OR.

Analipus japonicas, sea fir (07/16/2006)
Cryptosiphonia woodii, bleached brunette (01/21/2006)
Farlowia mollis, rock weed (06/03/2006)
Hildenbrandia occidentalis, rusty rock (04/01/2007)
Mastocarpus papillatus, Turkish washcloth (12/16/2005)
Mazzaella parksii, iridescent horn-of-plenty (04/10/2008)
Polysiphonia hendryi, red alga (04/10/2008)
Porphyra pseudolanceolata, rock weed (02/19/2006)
Prionitis lanceolata, red algae (01/21/2006)
Ulva (Enteromorpha) torta (01/21/2006)

The following species of algae were washed ashore at Coquille Pt and identified by Dave Bilderback. These specimens are stored at the Oregon State University Herbarium in Corvallis OR.

Ahnfeltiopsis gigartinoides, limu aki aki (07/12/2006)
Alaria marginata, winged kelp (07/05/2005)
Callophyllis crenulata, red sea fan (07/09/2006)
Callophyllis edentate (09/27/2006)
Callophyllis flabellulata, red sea fan (09/27/2006)
Callophyllis heanophylla, red sea fan (08/24/2006)
Callophyllis pinnata, red sea fan (09/27/2006)



Callophyllis stenophylla, red alga (09/27/2006)
Callophyllis violacea, red seaweed (08/24/2006)
Codium setchellii, smooth spongy cushion (07/05/2005)
Constantinea simplex, cup and saucer seaweed (07/05/2005)
Costaria costata, five-ribbed kelp (07/05/2005)
Cryptonemia borealis, red alga (08/24/2006)
Cryptonemia obovate (07/09/2006)
Cumagloia andersonii, hairy seaweed (07/09/2006)
Dilsea californica, leathery strap seaweed (08/24/2006)
Egregia menziesii, feather boa kelp (07/05/2005)
Erythrophyllum delesserioides, red sea-leaf (09/27/2006)
Grateloupia doryphora (09/27/2006)
Halymenia gardneri, red alga (08/24/2006)
Hollenbergia nigricans (10/30/2007)
Hymenena cuneifolia (08/24/2006)
Hymenena flabelligera, black-lined red seaweed (09/27/2006)
Isabbottia ovalifolia (09/27/2006)
Kallymeniopsis oblongifruca (09/27/2006)
Lessoniopsis littoralis, flat pompom kelp (07/05/2005)
Mazzaella flaccida (09/27/2006)
Mazzaella rosea (08/24/2006)
Mazzaella sanguinea (10/30/2007)
Mazzaella splendens, splendid iridescent seaweed (07/16/2006)
Mazzaella volans (07/05/2005)
Membranoptera dimorpha (07/09/2006)
Myriogramme variegata (10/30/2007)
Opuntiella californica, rock weed (10/30/2007)
Osmunda spectabilis, royal fern (07/09/2006)
Pneophyllum nicholsii (10/30/2007)
Polyneuropsis stolonifera (09/27/2006)
Postelsia palmaeformis, sea palm (07/05/2005)
Pugetia firma, red seaweed (09/27/2006)
Rhodymenia californica (10/30/2007)
Rhodymenia labata (10/30/2007)
Serraticardia macmillanii, rock weed (10/30/2007)
Smithora naiadum, red fringe (07/09/2006)
Soranthera ulvoides, studded sea balloons (07/05/2005)
Ulva intestinalis, green alga (07/16/2006)

The following is a list of vascular plant species. The relative abundance of these species is unknown. (Personal communication with Dr. David Bilderback. Specimens were collected in 2011, and are stored at the Bandon National Wildlife Refuge office in Bandon OR.)

Armeria maritima ssp. Californica, Thrift or Sea-pink
Bromus hordeaceus, Soft cress
Cochlearia officinalis var. artica, Scurvy grass
Dudleya farinose, Live-forever, Powdery dudleya
Erigeron glaucus, Seaside erigeron or Seaside daisy

Festuca rubra, Red fescue
Hordeum depressum, Meadow barley
Lastenia maritima, Maritime goldfields
Plantago maritima var. *californica*, Seaside plantain
Romanzoffia tracyi, Tracy's mistmaiden
Sanicula arctopoides, Footsteps-of-spring
Sperularia rubra, Red sandspurry (non-native spp)
Trifolium wormskjoldii, Marsh clover

The following is a list of vertebrate species. The relative abundance is unknown.

MAMMALS

Callorhinus ursinus, Northern fur seal, occasional users of Coquille Pt. (Personal communication with Diane Bilderback, 11/10/20, one northern fur seal seen between 2010 and 2020.)
Eumetopias jubatus, Steller sea lion, possible users of Coquille Pt. (Personal communication with Diane Bilderback, 11/10/20, less than five Steller sea lions have been seen resting with California sea lions and harbor seals on the Kittens (sea stacks to the south of North Coquille Rock), and resting on a sea stack by Table Rock between 2010 and 2020.)
Mirounga angustirostris, Northern elephant seal, occasional users of Coquille Pt. (Personal communication with Diane Bilderback, 11/10/20, two northern elephant seals seen between 2010 and 2020.)
Phoca vitulina, harbor seal, up to 30 harbor seals have been seen on the beach and subtidal areas east of Elephant Rock during the pupping season of March, April, and May. (Personal communication with SEA volunteers patrolling Elephant Rock area during March, April, and May minus tides, 2017-2020.)
Zalophus californianus, California sea lion, occasional users of Coquille Pt. (Personal communication with Diane Bilderback, a juvenile was hauled out 02/10/20.)

BIRDS

Aechmophorus occidentalis, Western grebe, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 western grebe, 03/02/20
Arenaria melanocephala, Black turnstones, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 6 black turnstones, 02/14/18
Calidris alba, Sanderling, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 30 sanderlings, 08/26/20
Calidris alpina, Dunlins, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 4 dunlins, 05/04/17
Calidris mauri, Western sandpipers, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 80 western sandpipers, 04/27/19
Calidris virgata, Surfbird, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 20 surfbirds, 04/13/20
Cephus columba, Pigeon guillemot, USFWS 2008 survey, 16 adults
Cerorhinca monocerata, Rhinoceros auklet, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 4 rhinoceros auklets, 10/19/19
Falco peregrinus, Peregrine falcon, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 peregrine falcon, 08/21/20
Fratercula cirrhata, Tufted puffin, USFWS 2013 survey, 2 adults (From 1979 to 2019, the highest number of tufted puffins counted was in 1988, at 40 tufted puffins.)
Gavia immer, Common loon, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 2 common loons, 03/02/20
Gavia pacifica, Pacific loon, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 Pacific loon, 03/02/20
Gavia stellate, Red-throated loon, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 red-throated loon, 08/26/20
Haematopus bachmani, Black oystercatcher, USFWS 2016 survey, 6 adults



Haliaeetus leucocephalus, Bald eagle, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 bald eagle, 03/22/20
Histrionicus histrionicus, Harlequin duck, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 2 harlequin ducks, 03/01/20
Hydrobates leucorhous, Leach's storm-petrel, USFWS 1967 survey, 200 adults
Larus heermanni, Heermann's gull, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 6 Heermann's gulls, 08/11/20
Larus occidentalis, Western gull, USFWS 2019 survey, 238 adults
Larus argentatus, Herring gull, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 herring gull, 01/04/20
Limosa fedoa, Marbled godwit, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 4 marbled godwits, 09/11/19
Megaceryle alcyon, Belted kingfisher, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 belted kingfisher, 01/04/20
Melanitta deglandi, White-winged scoter, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 20 white-winged scoters, 01/04/20
Melanitta perspicillata, Surf scoter, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 9 surf scoters, 02/11/20
Mergus serrator, Red-breasted merganser, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 red-breasted merganser, 03/01/20
Numenius phaeopus, Whimbrel, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 20 whimbrels, 05/06/19
Pandion haliaetus, Osprey, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 osprey, 05/18/20
Pelecanus occidentalis, Brown pelican, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 3 brown pelicans, 08/26/20
Phalacrocorax auritus, Double-crested cormorant, USFWS 2003 survey, 2 adults
Phalacrocorax pelagicus, Pelagic cormorant, USFWS 2019 survey, 78 adults
Phalacrocorax penicillatus, Brandt's cormorant, USFWS 2019 survey, 298 adults (From 1979 to 2019, the highest number of Brandt's cormorants counted was in 2014, at 1,448 Brandt's cormorants.)
Podiceps grisegena, Red-necked grebe, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 1 red-necked grebe, 01/04/20
Ptychoramphus aleuticus, Cassin's auklet, USFWS 1967 survey, probable nesters
Tringa incana, Wandering tattler, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org sighting, 2 wandering tattlers, 08/17/19
Uria aalge, Common murre, USFWS 2019 survey, 17,933 adults (From 1979 to 2019, the highest number of common murrees counted was in 2014, at 43,354 common murrees.)

FISH

The following is a list of fish species commonly found in Oregon's rocky intertidal habitats. The relative abundance is unknown. (Guide to Oregon's Rocky Intertidal Habitats, 1997, and anecdotal information from local anglers.)

Cottidae Family, Sculpins

Gobiesox maeandricus, Northern clingfish

Hexagrammos spp, Greenlings

Liparis florum, Tidepool snailfish

Ophiodon elongatus, Lingcod

Pholidae Family, Gunnels

Stichaeidae Family, Pricklebacks

Sebastes spp., Rockfish



Unique Features

Does this site include any unique or special features in relation to the Oregon Coast? This may include high quality examples of rocky habitats, etc.

There are very few locations on the Oregon coast where you will find a high density of prominent, scenic sea stacks, with tide pools, a seabird colony accessible to foot traffic, and a small nursery/haul out area for harbor seals, situated near a coastal town. A person can easily access tide pools, beachcomb, and walk as close as 70 meters from hauled out seals and nesting marine birds.

Values and Resources

Please discuss site values and resources and how a change in designation will impact them.

Coquille Point is a year-round scenic attraction serving an important role in breaking wave action and the movement of sand on the beach. It provides breeding habitat for marine birds and harbor seals, and resting habitats for shorebirds, sea ducks, raptors, and pinnipeds. Found in its tidal and subtidal areas are a variety of fish, invertebrates, and algae.

A Marine Garden designation will help preserve this habitat by promoting proper human etiquette toward animals while enjoying this prime marine habitat.

Regulations & Enforcement

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site. Due to the complexity of site regulation and enforcement, this section will not be used to evaluate proposal completeness, but will be considered for the merit of this proposal. Agencies will address gaps where information is available.

Management Consideration

How was enforcement/compliance of management considered in the design of this site proposal? If possible, please estimate the cost to implement this change in site management.

Official USFWS and ODPR law enforcement is minimal due to a minimal number of personnel assigned to cover vast areas of the Oregon coast. USFWS volunteers help monitor Coquille Pt during the summer months. SEA volunteers provide an additional small presence during the spring and summer months.

Enforcement Changes

In comparison to current site management, what changes would be necessary to enforce the proposed management measures? This may include the addition or removal of infrastructure, personnel, etc. Include the estimated financial impact of the proposal. Some designations incorporate larger financial or programmatic support. Please identify any entities or funding sources that may be available to continually support this proposal. This information is not required for a proposal to be accepted, but review bodies would like to be informed of any support that is already in place or expected for the site.

SEA, in consultation with the City of Bandon and Coquille Indian Tribe officials, will develop an educational program for volunteer wildlife interpreters on proper etiquette in a Marine Garden. Volunteer interpreters would be assigned to patrol Coquille Point during low tides when human access



to habitat is likely. It is estimated that there will be very minimal financial impact with these changes. The plan includes some new signage as well as custom outerwear for volunteers to identify them as Wildlife Interpreters.

Needed Regulations

What regulations and enforcement would be necessary to implement this change in management? What regulatory changes at the proposed site would be needed at this site? Which state/federal agencies would be impacted by this change in site management?

There are no changes to “regulations or enforcement” in the initial designation of Coquille Pt as a Marine Garden. There are two changes to the “management” of the site that we hope will encourage better behavior by visitors: 1) new signage highlighting the area as a Marine Garden and clearly defining for the public what is expected of them as they enjoy the life and the geography of this small area, and 2) a cadre of trained community members who will volunteer to be “Wildlife Interpreters” during low tides in order to enhance visitor enjoyment through education and to explain the expectations of their behavior while in this critical rocky habitat. The two agencies who have regulatory authority in this area are USFWS and OPRD, and SEA will collaborate and communicate closely with both.

Improvements to Management

How does the proposed site improve upon or fill gaps in addressing objectives/policies that are not currently addressed by coastwide regulations or management?

The intent of acquiring from the State the designation of Marine Garden/Education Area for this portion of Coquille Point is to elevate the expectation of visitors that this is a special status area requiring restraint by visitors in order to protect the wildlife that lives here. It is expected that the “proper etiquette” for visitors to use will be clearly spelled out and communicated via signage and trained wildlife interpreters.

Non-Regulatory Management Mechanisms

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site.

Management Mechanisms

What non-regulatory mechanisms are required at this site in order to meet the goals of the proposed designation? These may include, but are not limited to, public access management, on-site enhancement, and educational intercepts.

Permanent signs will be posted at two access points: 8th Street and 11th Street. Being considered are signs posted on Elephant Rock, requiring permission from the USFWS. In addition to having portable signs, trained volunteers from the community serving as “wildlife interpreters” will be present at low tides during times of heavy human traffic in the spring and summer months to supplement ODPR and USFWS personnel.



Support for Management Mechanisms

How do you propose to support these mechanisms? Some designations incorporate larger financial or programmatic support. Please identify any entities or funding sources that may be available to continually support this proposal. This information is not required for a proposal to be accepted, but review bodies would like to be informed of any support that is already in place or expected for the site.

Other than the cost of signage and printing, no financial increases are planned. The major mechanism for the healthy management of this area will come from the wildlife interpreters who will be present during low tide hours to educate and, if needed, notify law enforcement authorities.

Stakeholder Engagement

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site.

Letters of Support

Before submitting your proposal, please attach any materials or letters of support gathered as part of the development of this proposal. You may include meeting resources, campaign materials, etc.

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Stakeholder Collaboration

Describe the steps taken to develop this proposal in collaboration with stakeholders. a) Please describe the community support and opposition for this proposal. b) Please list the communities, organizations, and groups that have worked to develop and support this proposal, as well as those in opposition of the proposal.

We presented our proposal to the City of Bandon's Planning Commission and City Council. The presentation to the Planning Commission, which took 15 minutes, was followed by 10 minutes of questions. Several of the commissioners expressed enthusiastic support for this proposal. We received a letter of support from the Commission manager, Dana Nichols, as well. The City Council presentation resulted in fewer questions because they had the chance to watch the video of the Planning Commission prior to the Council meeting. Once again, support for the proposal was given by several of the Council members. No opposition was offered. Mayor Mary Schamehorn and City Manager Dan Chandler also wrote letters of support which are attached.

Collaboration in developing this proposal includes Portland Audubon, the Pew Charitable Trust, the South Coast Rocky Habitats Team, the Rocky Habitats Partners group, and the Coquille Indian Tribe. Due to the restrictions of activity created by the Covid-19 pandemic, we have not been able to be a visible

presence with our proposal on the streets and in the Farmer's Market as we would like to have been. However, the feedback we have received from those mentioned whom we have spoken with has been overwhelmingly positive. The rocks and tidepools in our proposed area are a constant source of awe and curiosity for those who live in Bandon as much as they are to those from other communities who visit. The vast majority of visitors cherish what they find here.

Feedback from Stakeholders

List and explain both positive and negative opinions received regarding this proposal. While preparing this proposal and conducting stakeholder outreach, describe the main comments of support and issues of concerns voiced regarding this proposed change in site management/designation.

The vast majority of people with whom we have been in conversation are enthusiastic supporters. They understand very well the destructive behavior that happens in the area in front of Elephant Rock, Middle Coquille Rock, and North Coquille Rock. Every year we hear or witness the behavior described earlier in this proposal: indiscriminate climbing on rocks and in tidepools and harassment of birds and seals, and destructive loose dog and drone harassment. Every year we have gotten questions from local residents why SEA volunteers are not doing MORE to protect the area. With this proposal for a Marine Garden designation, we are taking a huge step forward toward doing MORE.

While we have had no opposition to the proposal, some concerns have been expressed. Some fear that there might be tighter restrictions imposed by the State in the years following the Marine Garden implementation. Concern has been expressed that some on the "Beach Patrol" volunteer team that will be on site for low tides could become "harsh" in their efforts to restrain visitors from invasion of the habitat. Great care will be taken to prevent this from happening.

Since the only regulation change will be the prohibition of the recreational harvest of algae, we have not come across any strong opposition to this proposal. We believe that the key to protecting the area beyond designating it a Marine Garden will be the team of volunteers who will be on site to educate visitors about what they are seeing and caution them when exploring this sanctuary.

Public Outreach

List and describe engagement opportunities where the public has had the opportunity to learn about and/or comment on this proposal (e.g. conferences, meetings, tabling events).

Public outreach has been done in a variety of ways as described above. We presented our proposal to the City of Bandon's Planning Commission and City Council.

Emails with a one-page attachment were sent to business owners and others identified as city leaders, resulting in additional letters of support. (The one-pager flyer along with two others is found in the attachments section at the bottom of this form.) A one-pager written to residents of Bandon is being mailed as an insert with the City Utility bill that will be mailed out in January, 2021.

We met with several leaders of the Coquille Indian Tribe to review the basics of our proposal and received statements of support from them. They have volunteered to help us design signs and to implement the subsequent volunteer teams that will educate and monitor public usage of the Marine Garden during low tides from March through July.



Additional Information

To the best of your knowledge, please provide the following information on your proposed rocky habitat site.

Local Knowledge

How does this proposal incorporate local knowledge?

Local knowledge of SEA members documents activities taking place at this site involving legal and illegal human activities, such as bird watching, beachcombing, frequency of human visitors, harvest of resources, pet dogs harassing wildlife, operation of drones, climbing rocks, building campfires, picnicking, photography, paddle boarding, fishing, and setting off fireworks.

Scientific Knowledge

How does this proposal incorporate scientific knowledge?

Information on the flora and fauna at Coquille Pt was gathered from MARINE and USFWS reports, and Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ebird.org lists. Furthermore, Dr. David Bilderback's collection of vascular and nonvascular plants are stored at the Oregon State University Herbarium in Corvallis OR, and the Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge office.

Goals and Policies

Which goals and policies in the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy does this proposal address, and how?

This proposal addresses the main goal of the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy, and that is to protect the ecological resources and biodiversity of Coquille Pt by encouraging lawful, appropriate human activities through education and outreach.

A Marine Garden designation will attract the attention of residents and nonresidents of Bandon. It will serve to boost the tourism revenue for Bandon, and assists the local SEA organization in recruiting Wildlife Interpreters to encourage appropriate human use of Oregon's rocky habitats and increase the public's stewardship of an ecosystem. Coquille Pt's scenic value will be enhanced by a more appreciative public.

In these times of human expansion, climate change, and global warming, flora and fauna data at Coquille Pt, collected by MARINE, the USFWS, and Cornell's citizen science ebird.org website, provides information to link the past with the future. Having a Marine Garden designation will help to limit the degradation and harassment linked with human activities.

The designation of Coquille Pt as a Marine Garden encourages the continued coordination and cooperation between the assorted local, state, federal, and tribal governing bodies by getting them to focus on the entirety of this area versus only the segment they have management over.

Watershed Conditions

What land or watershed activities/conditions exist adjacent to this site?



On the headland to the east of Coquille Pt is a privately owned Bandon Beach Motel, which is seeking renovation and expansion. Coquille Pt definitely serves as an attraction to their clientele from a scenic as well as wildlife viewing perspective.

The adjacent headlands belong to the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge. The OR Department of Parks and Recreation regulates the “dry sands” between mean high tide and the beach zone line, for recreational use.

Existing Protected Areas

Are there any other overlapping protected areas within the site?

The sea stacks above mean high tide are part of the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Site Characteristics

Please include descriptions of other characteristics of the site or adjacent area.

Coquille Pt is accessed by entering the Bandon city limits and taking Beach Loop Drive off Hwy 101. There are two other parking overlooks allowing the public to access the beach with the city limits, one about ¼ mile north and the other about ¼ south of Coquille Pt

Additional Designation Rationale

Please describe any other reasons you think this site warrants a change in designation.

Despite the lack of species abundance data for Coquille Pt, a change in designation is important because for a species to propagate, there needs to be available habitat. For nine months of the year, Coquille Pt casts an illusion of being almost unoccupied and therefore available for whatever whims money can buy. However, Coquille Pt is never unoccupied. Coquille Pt provides habitat above and below the water line throughout the year, and needs to be available for the flora and fauna that are coping with climate change, global warming and human population growth, just as we are. A Marine Garden designation will draw more attention to Coquille Pt and hopefully allow it to retain its value to the ecosystem into the future.

Other Proposals

Should this proposal be evaluated in conjunction with other proposals your entity has submitted? The merit of all proposals are evaluated independently unless otherwise indicated by the proposing entity. Review bodies reserve the right to also evaluate proposals spatially in relation to one another.

No. There are no other proposals to my knowledge.

Additional Information

What other information would you like to include about this site or your proposal?

None.



Additional Materials

If there are any additional documents, materials, etc. that you feel may be relevant or pertinent to your proposal, please attach them here.

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