

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.

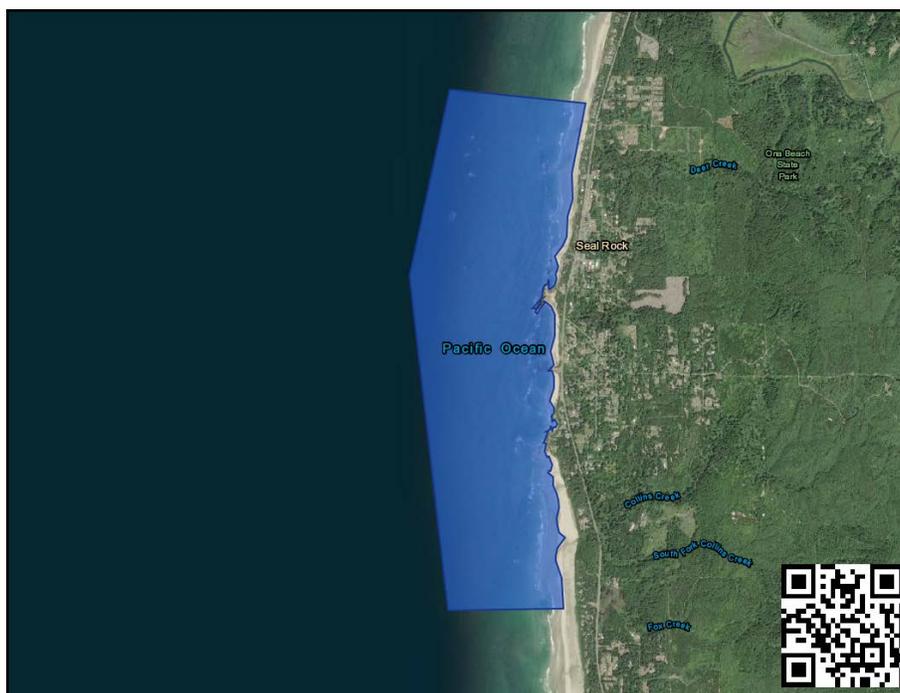
All proposals must be accompanied by a map and site report which may be generated under the "My Plans" tab on the Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool, or you can attach your own map to the proposal form. Interested parties should also review the [Rocky Habitat Management Strategy](#) to determine the eligibility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

Seal Rock Marine Conservation Area - <http://seasket.ch/i0YjJnF2H7>





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?

Meredith C Payne

Affiliation, agency, or organization (if applicable)

submitting as an individual

Phone Number

[none provided]

Email Address

m.payne@esri.com

Mailing Address

1512 Marion Road
Redlands, CA 92374

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?

The Seal Rock intertidal area is readily accessible to the public, making it particularly vulnerable to anthropogenic impacts to the delicate habitats found there. Education and oversight of tide pool usage and rocky pinniped and bird habitats and enforced take laws can hopefully mitigate dwindling diversity. This could be measured by periodic biodiversity and species count monitoring studies.

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.

The ease of access to Seal Rock, which is not currently protected, makes it a logical, low-hanging fruit choice for conservation. Furthermore, ease-of-access allows public interaction and potential education and outreach efforts that will have a broader impact for both the resident and tourist populations in the area.

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)

Seal Rock Marine Conservation Area

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.

western coastline of the town of Seal Rock, OR.

General Site Description

Sandy beach with large boulders that are awash to fully exposed at low tide, allowing walk up. The beach is backed by a bluff overlook and Hwy 101 just above. Vehicles often turn out to scenic overlooks above the beach and there is a public parking lot just north of the area and west of Hwy 101.



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.

Basic boundaries (in decimal degrees) are:

North: 44.5116 N, 124.0872 W

West: 44.5027 N, 124.0953 W

South: 44.4748 N, 124.0871 W

East: 44.5089 N, 124.0805 W

Site Access Information

How is this site commonly accessed?

The site is usually accessed by a steep staircase on the north end of the beach that descends from the public parking lot just west of Hwy 101.

What is your understanding of current management at this site?

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

I do not have knowledge of currently management at this site.

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.

Tidepooling, bird watching, marine mammal observation, rock climbing, general tourist sightseeing, beach walking and combing, agate collecting, picnicking, scenic drives.

Site Infrastructure

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

There is a large parking lot as well as scenic overlook turnouts, public restrooms, a steep stairway leading to the sandy beach.

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.

I do not have knowledge of future site uses.

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?

I have no information on how designation could impact potential future use. However, my analysis ensures that the boundaries of the proposed area are neither within current urban growth boundaries or important aquaculture sites.

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).

This region is significant habitat for tidepools, marine mammals, seabirds, and fish.

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.).

This area is coincident or very close to observed pinniped haulouts, important seabird colonies, critical fish habitat and has had invasive species noted there.

Flora and Fauna

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

The following is from the Biological Report generated by this App.

Marine Mammals

Name Species Haulout Count

Steller sea lions *Eumetopias jubatus* 2

Northern elephant seals *Mirounga angustirostris* 2

California sea lions *Zalophus californianus* 2

Pacific harbor seals *Phoca vitulina* 2

Key Species

Name

Fucus spp

Kornmannia spp



Monostroma spp
Mytilus californianus
Nucella canaliculata
Nucella emarginata
Nucella ostrina
Pelvetiopsis spp
Pollicipes polymerus
Ulva spp

Long Term Research Species - too many to list here.

Important Bird Colonies
Importance Number of Colonies
High 1
Medium 35
Low 19
Total 55

Bird Species Present
Name
Unidentified cormorant
Pelagic cormorant
Pigeon guillemot
Black oystercatcher
Tufted puffin
West./glaucous-winged gull

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.

This is one of the highest-quality, most easily accessed examples of rocky habitat on the Oregon Coast. It has tidepools, seabirds, marine mammals and interesting geology in abundance.

Values and Resources

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

Diminished health of tidepools and seabird colonies at Seal Rock have been recorded. Additionally, invasive species have been observed at this site. It is hoped that some manner of increased management and conservation can arrest those trends.

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.

It is assumed that existing proximal infrastructure, combined with ease-of-access to public and managers would constitute a comparatively reduced cost to implement management. Exact budgets have not been considered.

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.

Unknown.

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?

Take should be eliminated at the Seal Rock Site, encouraging tidepool habitats and seabird colonies to recover.

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?

unknown.

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.

Enhanced educational materials available in the parking lot area could raise awareness of the delicate ecosystems. Guided beach tours could also be an important outreach tool.

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.

I am unaware of existing support.

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.

[none provided]

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.

This proposal was not developed in collaboration with stakeholders.

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.

N/A

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).

Although some individuals reviewed this proposal, no real public outreach took place.

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?

I used to live in Waldport and work in Newport. This proposal incorporates my own local knowledge.

Scientific Knowledge

How does this proposal incorporate scientific knowledge?

Identification of Seal Rock was the result of a Spatial Analysis that is explained in the attached poster. Basically, I created a routine that examined the entirety of the Oregon coastline, identified rocky regions, eliminated regions that were too densely populated or had other commercial demands on the marine environment, and then prioritized areas with significant marine mammal haulouts, bird populations, fish habitat, and threats from observed invasive species.

Goals and Policies

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

The Seal Rock site supports the goals of raising awareness and educating the public about Oregon's Rocky Habitats while retaining public access. Furthermore, this proposal addresses the goal of monitoring and protecting important marine ecosystems and fostering their health by enforcing sustainable take practices.

Watershed Conditions

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

The town of Seal Rock lies immediately east of this site. This site is within 2 km of waterways that provide crucial routes for anadromous fish species.

Existing Protected Areas

Are there any other overlapping protected areas within the site?

None that are known to me.

Site Characteristics

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

Please see poster attached.

Additional Designation Rationale

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

This is one of the most easily accessed significant rocky habitat that does not currently enjoy protection.



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.

If time permits I intend to submit Otter Rock North as a proposed site. The same spatial analysis that was used to identify Seal Rock, also identified that region.

Additional Information

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

Please see poster attached. It explains how this area was identified through spatial analysis/modeling.

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.

[https://seasketch-uploads.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/cbd88547-39bb-458a-9801-9db0c29ddadb/Oregon Rocky Habitat Poster.pdf](https://seasketch-uploads.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/cbd88547-39bb-458a-9801-9db0c29ddadb/Oregon%20Rocky%20Habitat%20Poster.pdf)