



FAQ

Rocky Habitat Site Designation Initial Proposal Process

June 2020

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Managing Oregon's Rocky Coast

This document contains frequently asked questions (FAQs) and concerns surrounding the Initial Proposal Process for Oregon's coastal rocky habitat site management designations. If you do not see an answer to your question please email Michael.Moses@state.or.us for assistance.

What are coastal rocky habitats?

Rocky habitats consist of naturally rocky coastal areas including headlands, tidepools, rocky beaches, and cliffs, as well as offshore rocks. Jetties, other manmade features, and sandy beaches are not included as rocky habitats in the state's Rocky Habitat Management Strategy.



What is changing?

Management of individual rocky sites is outlined in the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy, which is currently undergoing an update. As part of the update, a new process has been developed which provides a pathway for interested members of the public to propose changes to management designations at rocky habitat sites. This may include *addition of new sites, deletion of old sites, or alterations to existing sites.*

Why update the Strategy?

The plan was first adopted in 1994, with little alteration since. Some of the information used to create site management recommendations is now outdated, or additional ecological and human use data is now available. Using this up-to-date information, management agencies and the public can now better support and sustain rocky habitat and their resources.



What's so special about rocky habitats?

Rocky habitats make up 41% of Oregon's 362-mile coastline. These rocky shores are both culturally and biologically important, attracting millions of visits annually from beachgoers hoping to catch a glimpse of ocean life.



Learn More!

Learn more about the process and Oregon's rocky habitats by visiting www.OregonOcean.info/RockyShores

What can be designated?

Coastal and nearshore areas that are predominantly rocky habitat including rocky intertidal zones, rocky upland, and offshore rocks and reefs. Refer to Section B. of the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy for classifications and definitions, and Appendix F. for a table of current rocky habitat site designations.

Who can submit proposals?

The State of Oregon invites all individuals, organizations, and governments to participate in this process so that all voices are heard! Collaborations and engagement with local community partners are highly encouraged. This initial process is an effort to gain understanding of community needs and refine the site management designation process for the future.

What is the submission timeline?

The Initial Proposal Process will be open June 1 to December 31, 2020. Upon submission, proposals will be reviewed by a panel of specialists who will choose which proposals to recommend to the Ocean Policy Advisory Panel for adoption. See Section E. of the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy for a step-by-step outline of the process.



START YOUR PROPOSAL

Visualize marine geospatial data, draw up plans, discuss and share files, collaborate with partners, and craft and submit proposals at:

<http://Oregon.SeaSketch.org>

What designations can sites receive?

Rocky habitat sites are eligible for one of three management designations: Marine Research Area, Marine Garden/Education Area, and Marine Conservation Area (below). Goals, regulations, and management practices differ for each designation category. Refer to Section D. of the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy for additional information.

Site-Based Management Designation Categories

Marine Research
Area

Marine Garden
(Marine Education
Area)

Marine
Conservation
Area

How do I submit a proposal?

Proposals may be crafted and submitted online using the new Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool (<http://Oregon.SeaSketch.org>). The Tool contains a wealth of relevant information meant to inform and assist with development of proposals, and a proposal template to facilitate ease of submission. There is also a discussion forum where users can communicate with one another to exchange ideas, collaborate on projects, and share plans and other documents.

Is this the same thing as Marine Reserves?

No. The process to update rocky habitat site management is the result of collaboration between community and government partners to initiate a much-needed update to Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan. This collaborative process focuses on adaptive management to maintain a balance between site use and natural resource protection.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any additional questions or comments regarding the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy update or Initial Proposal Process, please contact:

Email: Michael.Moses@state.or.us

Phone: (503) 934-0623

www.OregonOcean.info/RockyShores