



## Oregon Coast

# OCEAN NEWS

A monthly newsletter of ocean science, marine conservation and climate news.

Welcome to the Coast Range Association's *Oregon Coast Ocean News*. We are happy to share timely and relevant climate & ocean news & events impacting the lives of Oregon's Coastal residents.

To learn more and to get involved in our work, reach out to Jim Carlson, CRA's coastal field staff person. He works with the great network of organizations and agencies that support the nearshore marine reserve system. Reach Jim on the phone, 503-801-5538, or at his email at [jim@coastrange.org](mailto:jim@coastrange.org).



Stay informed on all of Coast Range Association's work by visiting our website at [www.coastrange.org](http://www.coastrange.org).

## Oregon Marine Reserve News



[Click](#) the video to watch.

Photo: Scott Groth and ODFW Marine Reserves Program

### A Prickly Problem with Sea Urchins - ODFW, 10.24.19

"Beneath the waves, once towering kelp beds are collapsing from an unprecedented perfect storm that has been brewing below the surface.



Photo: Kat Maloney and ODFW Marine Reserves Program

### Updates from the Field - ODFW, 10.24.19

ODFW scientists completed 3 days of hook and line surveys at Cape Falcon which included tagging over 40 fish in the marine reserve. Tagging fish helps us learn about

First, a massive epidemic wiped out sea stars, then a marine heatwave and El Niño, and now an explosion of sea urchins. This means bad news for kelp. The combination of abnormally warm water and a huge number of sea urchins have taken a toll on once healthy kelp beds.

Oregon has seen a 10,000% increase in sea urchin populations in recent years. Long term monitoring programs, such as with ODFW's Marine Reserves Program, provide researchers valuable information to determine the differences between seasonal fluctuations versus more substantial, longer-lasting changes."

[Read More](#)

fish movement, growth and post-release survival. ODFW scientists also collected Black Rockfish from outside the reserve for an OSU study on microplastics.

ODFW scientists completed 24 lander drops at Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve, and 5 lander drops at Otter Rock Marine Reserve.

ODFW scientists completed 14 SCUBA surveys at Redfish Rocks. They also collected some samples of algae at Otter Rock as part of an algal research project being conducted by Dr. Gayle Hansen.

ODFW scientists retrieved oceanographic equipment at Cascade Head and oceanographic sensors from Cape Falcon.

[Read More](#)

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## Ocean Issues News

### ocean warming, sea level rise, acidification and other Oregon Coast climate change news

- **Explanations of Neskowin Ghost Forest Wrong, Say Oregon Coast Geologists - Oregon Coast Beach Connection, 10.27.19**
  - "Those inimitable and freaky stumps of mystery on the north Oregon coast: the ghost forests of Neskowin. They're a lively point of discussion and publicity for a number of reasons, mainly because they're largely the only ones visible all year. They're also the subject of bad information and rumor." [Read More](#)
  - Roger Hart, author or definitive paper on Neskowin Ghost Forest, served as one of the first Coast Range Association Board of Directors in 1991.
- **Sea urchin population soars 10,000% in five years, devastating US coastline - The Guardian, 10.24.19**
  - "Voracious purple urchins in waters of California and Oregon pose threat to kelp forests and risk upending delicate ecosystems." [Read More](#)



Photo: L. Hillmann and Oregon Marine Reserves

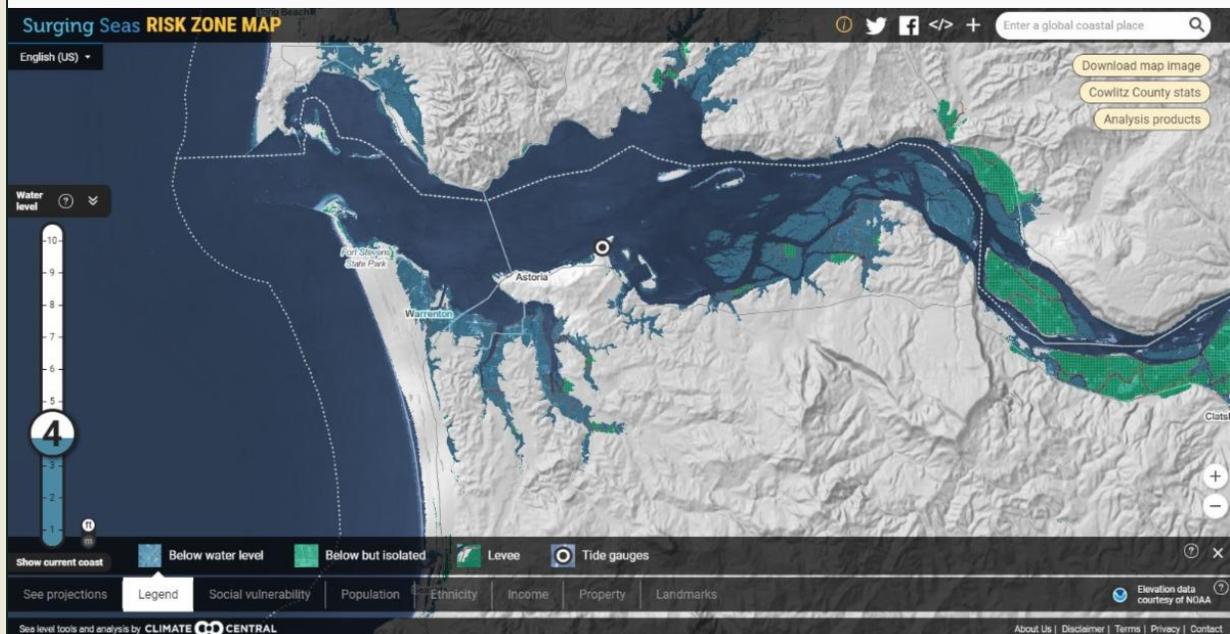
- **OSU research grants study Oregon coast climate issues - Curry Coastal Pilot, 10.22.19**
  - "Oregon U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, has announced that Oregon State University will receive grants totaling almost \$1.6 million from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to advance new climate-related research." [Read More](#)
- **Ocean acidification can cause mass extinctions, fossils reveal - The Guardian, 10.21.19**
  - "Ocean acidification can cause the mass extinction of marine life, fossil evidence from 66m years ago has revealed. A key impact of today's climate crisis is that seas are again getting more acidic, as they absorb carbon emissions from the burning of coal, oil and gas. Scientists said the latest research is a warning that humanity is risking potential "ecological collapse" in the oceans, which produce half the oxygen we breathe." [Read More](#)
- **Sea-level rise threatens 13 million Americans. Can FEMA help? - Grist, 10.09.19**
  - "Managed retreat — abandoning areas that become so threatened by sea-level rise that they are, for whatever reason, considered not worth saving — has been a far less popular idea than adaptation strategies like flood gates, levees, and pumps." [Read More](#)
- **Environment: Oregon looks at climate change-induced ocean threats - Curry Coastal Pilot, 10.06.19**
  - "Oregon has a new roadmap for addressing rising ocean acidification and hypoxia — two climate change induced conditions that could have widespread consequences for the state's ocean ecosystem and the economy." [Read More](#)
- **Climate change and the ocean: What the latest UN report means for the Oregon coast - The Oregonian, 09.25.19**

- "On Wednesday, the United Nations released an alarming report on global climate change, specifically how the build up of greenhouse gases is impacting the world's oceans and ice. Much of the warmth trapped in Earth's atmosphere by human-made carbon dioxide has been absorbed by the oceans and the impacts have been stark." [Read More](#)
- **A warming Puget Sound means dying bull kelp - The Columbian, 09.14.19**
  - "As Puget Sound temperatures increase, bull kelp struggles to stay alive. Between 2013 and 2018, researchers at the Washington Department of Natural Resources studied four bull kelp beds in south Puget Sound, comparing them with a bull kelp bed in the Tacoma Narrows. The group published their study in June. The results weren't reassuring." [Read More](#)
- **Avoiding whale entanglement: Oregon fishing regulations would ID nets, require cleanups - Statesman Journal, 07.23.19**
  - Oregon wildlife officials have proposed new regulations to avoid entangling whales in commercial fishing gear used by the state's Dungeness crab industry. [Read More](#)

## Interactive Tools & Videos

New [web-map](#) to help communities understand rising sea level:

- "Climate Central's Program on Sea Level Rise strives to provide accurate, clear and granular information about sea level rise and coastal flood hazards both locally and globally, today and tomorrow. Anchored in rigorous primary research, our work distinguishes itself by its user-friendly maps and tools, extensive datasets, and high-quality visual presentation. The program dedicates its efforts to helping citizens, communities, businesses, organizations, and governments at every level to understand the consequences of different carbon pathways and to navigate the shifting waters of our warming world."
- View the tool [here](#).



## Film - Netarts Bay, OR – Ocean acidification

- Wonder how ocean acidification is impacting Oregon coast businesses? Watch this informative film [here](#) to learn more.
  - Film by Impact [Media Lab](#) and produced by the [American Association for the Advancement of Science \(AAAS\)](#)



## Upcoming Events & Activities from CRA & Partners

### Cape Perpetua Events:

- **November 2** | Save the Oregon Dunes
  - Saturday, 11am - 12pm
  - Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
  - Cape Perpetua Speakers Series
  - [Facebook](#)
- **Nov. 6, Dec. 5** | Cape Cove Beach: Marine Debris Monitoring on the Oregon Coast
  - Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
  - [Facebook](#)
- **November 9** | Grab the Bull (Kelp) by the Horns
  - Saturday, 11am - 12pm
  - Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
  - Cape Perpetua Speakers Series
  - [Facebook](#)

# 7th Annual CAPE PERPETUA LAND-SEA SYMPOSIUM

An Evening of Stewardship, Science, Culture and Fun on  
the CENTRAL OREGON COAST and CAPE PERPETUA MARINE RESERVE

Thursday, November 21 | 5:00pm - 8:30pm

Location: Yachats Commons

Tickets: [tinyurl.com/land-sea-2019](http://tinyurl.com/land-sea-2019)



## KEYNOTE: BRUCE MENGE

Distinguished Professor, Wayne and Gladys Valley Endowed  
Professor of Marine Biology

**PISCO: Insights into Coastal Ecosystem Dynamics  
and Conservation Biology**

**5:00pm Welcome** with Representative Caddy McKeown

*Additional presentations will include topics such as Oregon State Park visitor demographics, rocky shores update, marbled murrelet, black oystercatcher abundance survey, sea otter extinction and gray whale health.*

Presentations will be followed by  
drinks, appetizers, social and poster session.

**FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC & ALL AGES!**



Flyer: Cape Perpetua Collaborative

- **November 21** | Cape Perpetua Annual Land-Sea Symposium
  - Thursday, 5pm
  - Yachats Commons
  - View the Full Agenda [here](#)
  - [Eventbrite](#) | [Facebook](#)
- **November 23** | Ocean Ecology
  - Saturday, 11am - 12pm
  - Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
  - Cape Perpetua Speakers Series
  - [Facebook](#)
- **December 7** | Forest Ecology

- Saturday, 11am - 12pm
- Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
- Cape Perpetua Speakers Series
- [Facebook](#)

## Cape Falcon Events

- **December 11 | Life on the Rocks: Oregon's Rocky Shore Habitats**
  - Wednesday, 7pm - 9pm
  - Cannon Beach Library
  - [Facebook](#)
- **December 12 | Life on the Rocks: Oregon's Rocky Shore Habitats**
  - Thursday, 7pm - 9pm
  - Pine Grove Community House, Manzanita
  - [Facebook](#)
- **February 19 | Oregon's Black Oystercatchers: Revealing its mysteries to help protect a species of conservation concern**
  - Wednesday, 6pm
  - Seaside Library
  - Necanicum Watershed Council "Listening to the Land" Lecture Series

## Oregon King Tides | Photo Project

- November 25-27, 2019
- January 10-12, 2020
- February 8-10, 2020
  - [Facebook](#)

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you for taking the time to read CRA's monthly newsletter *Ocean News*. This newsletter is supported by the Lazar Foundation and private donors. We appreciate all of our marine and coastal partners who work hard conserving Oregon's coastal beauty and resources. This newsletter's goal is to amplify their voices and great work.

Please consider making a [financial donation](#) to the Coast Range Association's work to recruit and organize supporters and develop conservation leaders. Your donation will support CRA's work to broaden the marine conservation message to include climate change impacts, ocean management, and the land-sea connection.

[DONATE](#)

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