



# Oregon Coast OCEAN NEWS

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



Photo: Vasiliki Volkova, Unsplash

Oregon Coast Ocean News is here to provide you the most important Oregon Coast and climate stories and events as we move into summer in the time of coronavirus. We continue to highlight important work and research on the impacts of climate change on our coast and communities. We also provide many ways to stay connected to coastal conservation and stewardship.

With your help we can continue to build a more informed society as we face the many social and environmental crises facing Oregon and our nation. Something you would like to see in these newsletters? Send an email, [andrew@coastrange.org](mailto:andrew@coastrange.org).

Jim Carlson is CRA's coastal field staff. He can answer your questions and direct you in the right direction regarding coastal issues. Reach Jim at 503-801-5538, or [jim@coastrange.org](mailto:jim@coastrange.org).



# June 8 is World Oceans Day!

details below in the events section

## Ocean Issues News

Ocean warming, sea level rise, acidification, and other  
Oregon Coast news.

### [Land conservancy returns ancient cultural site to Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes](#) Tillamook County Pioneer, 5.20.20

Today, May 5, 2020, North Coast Land Conservancy transferred ownership of historical tribal lands at Neawanna Point Habitat Reserve — 18.6 acres of saltmarsh and Sitka spruce forest on the Necanicum Estuary at the north end of Seaside — to the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes. Known to the Clatsop people as Ne-ah-coxie, or “place of little pines,” the property is the first the tribes have owned since losing their lands due to non-native settlement more than 200 years ago.

### [Oregon State and partners to receive up to \\$300 million to lead NOAA institute on climate, ocean research](#)

Oregon State University, 5.20.20

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Oregon State University, the University of Washington and University of Alaska, Fairbanks will receive up to \$300 million to lead a new institute focused on climate, ocean and coastal challenges that demand collaboration and sharing of scientific resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chose the three universities to form the [Cooperative Institute for Climate, Ocean and Ecosystem Studies, or CICOES](#).



### [Study explores how Native Americans used sea otters](#)

**University of Oregon, 6.2.20**

University of Oregon scientists are probing archaeological evidence for how indigenous peoples used sea otters, and their findings could help Alaskans confront growing numbers of the mammals and Oregonians who want to reintroduce them on the coast.

### [Antarctic Ocean Reveals New Signs of Rapid Melt of Ancient Ice, Clues About Future Sea Level Rise](#)

**Inside Climate News, 5.28.20**

A study of seafloor ripples suggests that ice shelves can retreat six miles per year, a quantum increase over today's rates.

### [Lawsuit Challenges Federal Approval of Jordan Cove Natural Gas Project](#)

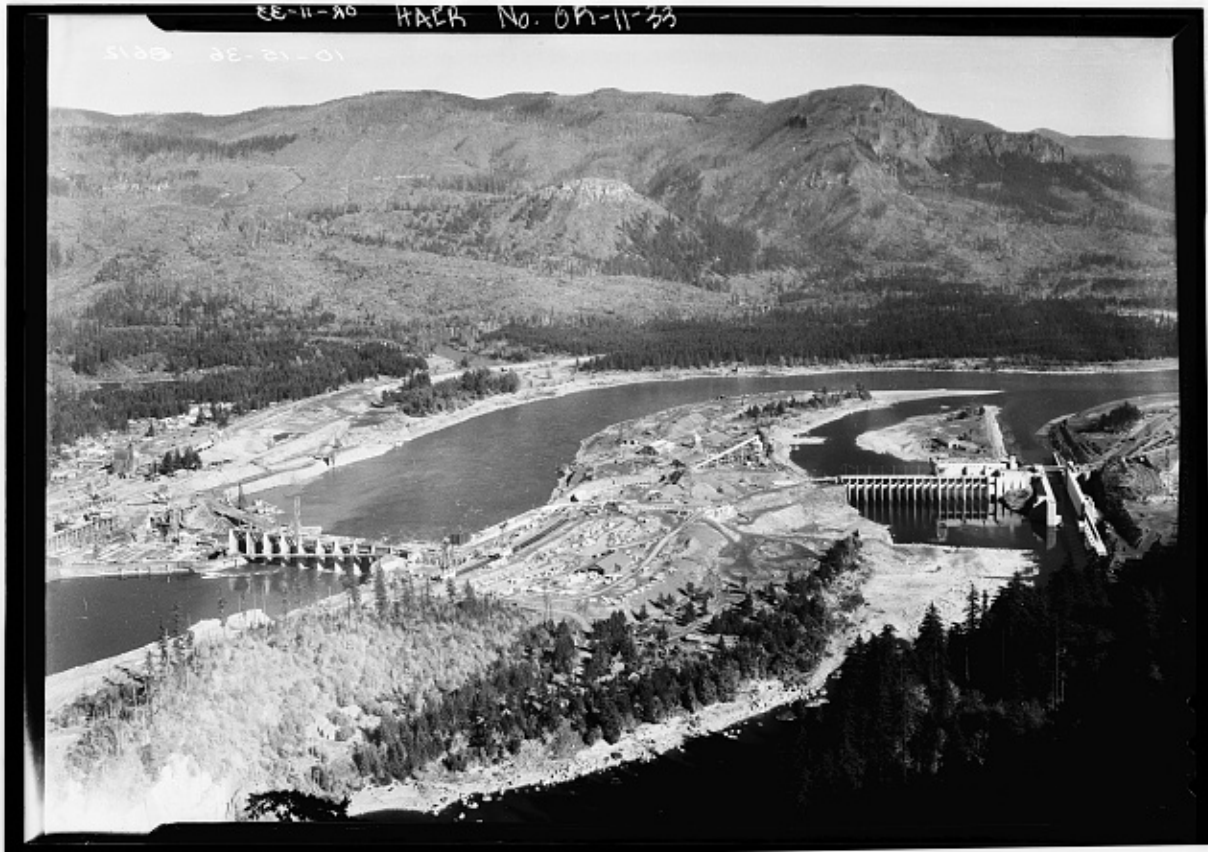
**Center for Biological Diversity, 5.28.20**

WASHINGTON— Conservation organizations filed a lawsuit Wednesday challenging the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's approval of the Jordan Cove LNG export terminal and Pacific Connector fracked gas pipeline. FERC's approval of Jordan Cove in March was conditioned on the project qualifying for critical permits from the state of Oregon. Three of those permits have already been denied or withdrawn.

### [Federal regulators uphold approval of Jordan Cove LNG project in Coos Bay, teeing up potential state lawsuit](#)

**The Oregonian, 5.22.20**

Federal regulators on Thursday denied requests from the state of Oregon, affected landowners, tribal, environmental and fisheries groups to reconsider its March approval of the proposed Jordan Cove liquefied natural gas export terminal in Coos Bay and its 230-mile feeder pipeline.



Bonneville Dam: photographer unknown, from Library of Congress, 1936

### [Washington State Makes Historic Decision to Protect Salmon from Rising Water Temperatures](#)

**Columbia Riverkeeper, 5.8.20**

Olympia, WA—In a game-changing decision for struggling Southern Resident orcas and endangered salmon, Washington state will exercise its authority—for the first time ever—



to require federal dam operators to keep the Columbia and Snake rivers cool enough for salmon survival.

### [Ocean Advisory Council Approves New Process for Protecting Special Places](#)

**Oregon Surfrider Foundation, 5.14.20**

Last week, Oregon's Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) unanimously approved a new process that allows for the public to put forth proposals to amend existing or add new protections to rocky habitats in Oregon's ocean. Through special designations known as Research Reserves, Marine Gardens and Marine Conservation Areas, the public will be able to create proposals using a newly developed online mapping and inventory tool.

### [5 Reasons to Protect Kelp, the West Coast's Powerhouse Marine Algae](#)

**Pew Charitable Trust, 5.27.20**

Undersea forests that sequester carbon, support fisheries, and protect shorelines are dying at alarming rates.

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## Oregon Marine Reserve News

From the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Marine Reserve Program. Visit their [website](#) to learn more.



Photo: Oregon Marine Reserves



Photo: Oregon Marine Reserves

### **Volunteer Diana Hollingshead: A Deep Commitment To Discoveries & Safety, 5.27.20**

Diana Hollingshead has scarcely received notice from the ODFW Marine Reserves Program that the scientific dive surveys she volunteers for are being postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic when she responds to our email requesting an interview to discuss her volunteer experiences with the program. "Absolutely," she replies enthusiastically, "If we can't be in the water, let's talk about diving!"

[Read More](#)

### **Photo Contest: Favorite Oregon Coast Experience, 5.27.20**

The ODFW Marine Reserves Program is hosting a photo contest over the next month to highlight some of the favorite photos you've taken over the years of the Oregon coast. The theme for this contest is your **Favorite Oregon Coast Experience**.

Please submit your entry by June 18, 2020. Visit the ODFW Marine Reserves Program [website](#) for details on how to submit photos.

[Read More](#)

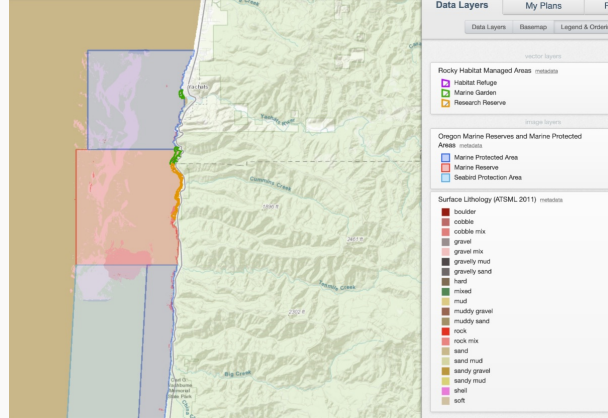
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## Interactive Resources

### [Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool](#)

This tool is intended to help users visualize Oregon's marine rocky habitat data, create data reports for specific rocky habitat areas, and facilitate site management designation proposals.

Initial open proposal period will begin mid-2020. Site designation proposals collected by this tool will be reviewed for potential incorporation into Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan: Part Three - [The Rocky Habitat Management Strategy](#). Proposing entities should read this document to determine the eligibility of a potential proposal. Additional information can be found on [OregonOcean.info](http://OregonOcean.info).



## Oregon Parks & Recreation Department

[#RecreateResponsibly to Protect Yourself, Others, and the Outdoors](#)

[Video: Prepare + Care at Oregon State Parks](#)

[Map: Oregon State Parks by status - open, reduced services & facilities, temporarily closed.](#)

## #RecreateResponsibly

### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Check the status of the place you want to visit. If it is closed, don't go. If it's crowded, have a Plan B.

### PLAN AHEAD

Prepare for facilities to be closed, pack lunch and bring essentials like hand sanitizer and a face covering.

### PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Adventure only with your immediate household. Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth and give others space. If you are sick, stay home.

### PLAY IT SAFE

Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce your risk of injury. Search and rescue operations and health care resources are both strained.

### STAY CLOSE TO HOME

This is not the time to travel long distances to recreate. Most places are only open for day use.

### LEAVE NO TRACE

Respect public lands and communities and take *all* your garbage with you.

5/18/20

## Coastal Conservation Trainings and Events

Learn about the many digital and in person events and opportunities on the Oregon Coast!

June 8 | [World Oceans Day webinar on Turning the Tide](#)

- 10 AM
- Please join Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici for a World Oceans Day webinar. As Co-Chair of the House Oceans Caucus and Congressional Estuary Caucus, Congresswoman Bonamici knows that our ocean is an economic force. Unfortunately, our coastal communities are struggling to recover from the economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. Congress will be considering recovery legislation in the coming months, and the Congresswoman will continue fighting for efforts that protect the health of our ocean and create good-paying jobs, like investing in coastal restoration and resilience projects, strengthening ocean research and monitoring, and providing direct support for commercial fisheries.

June 8 | [World Oceans Day Event - Oregon State University Science Pub](#)

- 6 PM
- The United Nations celebrates World Oceans Day every year on 8 June. The groundswell grows each year, as countries and communities use this day to celebrate all the ocean gives us. This year's theme is "Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean." We invite you to join us on Monday, June 8 at 6:00 PM for a special OSU Science Pub World Oceans Day Virtual Event.

June 6, 13 | [Virtual Seabird Colony Monitor Training](#)

- 10 AM

- Portland Audubon is hosting two online trainings this June for seabird colony monitoring at Cape Falcon & Cape Perpetua Marine Reserves. These presentations will cover the biology and life history of seabirds in the Pacific Northwest, ocean conservation issues and details of how we monitor the birds.



Cape Perpetua - Photo: Oregon Marine Reserves Program

#### June 8 | [Webinar: Marine Reserves and CoastWatch](#)

- 11 AM
- CoastWatch mile adopters monitor the entire Oregon shoreline, but the program pays special attention to the shores of Oregon's five marine reserves, concentrating citizen science efforts there and seeking to build public awareness of and support for these protected areas through hands-on stewardship.

#### June 10 | [Marine Debris Survey Training](#)

- 10 AM
- One of the locations at which CoastWatch conducts our marine debris survey is Fort Stevens State Park, just south of the Columbia's South Jetty. More volunteers are needed to fill out the team, headed by Oregon Shores board member Ed Joyce, which handles the monthly survey at this site. We seek to organize a large enough team that some members can be there every month, without any one person having to be there each time.

#### June 15 | [Beachgrass Survey Webinar](#)

- 11 AM
- CoastWatch is collaborating with Oregon State University (OSU) scientists to launch a citizen science survey that will seek to track the spread of a new hybrid beachgrass. The Oregon coast's landscape has been heavily affected by two introduced species of beachgrass. Now they have hybridized, to unknown effect.

#### June 17 | [Rocky Habitat Webinar](#)

- 6 PM
- In June, the CoastWatch webinar series is focusing on the state's new Rocky Habitat Management Strategy and the "site designation" process that is just beginning.

#### June 18 | ['Story of Plastic' Showing](#)

- 7:30 PM
- CoastWatch is joining forces with the North Coast Chapter of Surfrider Foundation and Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve to sponsor a free online showing of the film "The Story of Plastic" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 18. The screening will be

followed by a Q&A panel discussion.

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## Hatfield Marine Science Center

June 18 | [HMSC Research Seminar-Decadal changes in habitat suitability for Pacific cod larvae in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska](#)

- 3:30 PM
- **Speaker:** Mary Hunsicker (NWFSC) and Ben Laurel (AFSC), NOAA
- **Topic:** Decadal changes in habitat suitability for Pacific cod larvae in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska
- Recent warming trends have generated increased interest in the phenology of marine primary productivity.

June 25 | [HMSC Science on Tap- Walking the Docks, Virtually](#)

- 6 PM
- **Speaker:** Angee Doerr, Extension Marine Fisheries Specialist, Oregon Sea Grant
- **Topic:** Walking the Docks, Virtually
- Commercial fishing is at the heart, culturally and geographically, of Newport, OR. You can feel the excitement in the air when Dungeness crab season starts, and many people have their favorite spots to go out and catch their own clams, crabs, and salmon.

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## THANK YOU

Thank you for reading CRA's monthly newsletter ***Ocean News***. Our marine and coastal partners work hard conserving Oregon's coastal beauty and resources. Please consider a donation to help us continue to amplify their great work.

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