



Oregon Coast

# OCEAN NEWS

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



Photo: Ben Nieves

Oregon Coast Ocean News is here to provide you the most important Oregon Coast and climate stories and events. 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.

Please consider [donating](#) to the Coast Range Association to help keep this important newsletter in your inbox. 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).

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## Ocean Issues News

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

[House Democrats unveil ambitious climate package, steering toward a net-zero economy by 2050](#)

**The Washington Post, 6.30.20**

"The nation's automakers would manufacture only electric cars. Utilities would have to stop producing pollution linked to climate change. And the federal government would double its investment in mass transit. All this and more was proposed by House Democrats on Tuesday under a plan aimed at bringing the U.S. economy's greenhouse gas emissions — including carbon dioxide and methane — to zero by 2050."

*The Coast Range Association will carefully assess the House plan in relation to the goals set out in HR-109 - the Green New Deal. Additionally, we await another major climate statement from the Biden campaign's Climate Commission, Co-Chaired by John Kerry and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. On Monday, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair, Peter Defazio, unveiled a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan with substantial climate goals. All policy packages need to be assessed in light of Oregon's marine and forested landscape.*

*The Coast Range Association is working within several policy networks to assess Oregon Oregon's forward climate strategy. Your [donation](#) today will allow us to play a leadership role in Oregon's progressive climate discussion.*



## **SOLVING THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

*The Congressional Action Plan for a Clean Energy Economy and a Healthy, Resilient, and Just America*

## ***READ THE ENTIRE REPORT***

[How a salt marsh could be a secret weapon against sea level rise in B.C.'s Fraser delta](#)

**The Narwhal, 6.29.20**

An often-underrated ecosystem supports millions of migratory birds, provides critical habitat for young salmon, absorbs carbon and plays an essential role in flood prevention. An ambitious project aims to draw on the power of the salt marsh, gradually raising its level to create a 'living dike'

[South Pole warmed three times the global rate in last 30 years: study](#)

**Reuters, 6.29.20**

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) - At the South Pole, considered the coldest point on Earth, temperatures are rising fast.

So fast, in fact, that Kyle Clem and other climate researchers began to worry and wonder whether human-driven climate change was playing a bigger role than expected in Antarctica.

Temperature data shows that the desolate region has warmed at three times the global warming rate over the last three decades up through 2018, the South Pole's hottest year on record, the researchers report in a study published Monday in Nature Climate Change. Looking at data from 20 weather stations across Antarctica, the South Pole warming rate was seven times higher than the overall average for the continent.

[The Black Climate Scientists and Scholars Changing the World](#)

**Green Matters, 6.9.20**

Environmentalism is intersectional — to effectively protect our planet and fight the climate crisis, we must also fight for the rights of marginalized groups around the world, especially those who are disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency. As young activist Leah Thomas puts it, “Intersectional environmentalism advocates for justice for people and the planet.”

### [But does cuteness count? A cost-benefit analysis of sea otters encourages Oregon return backers](#)

NW News Network, 6.18.20

A study of sea otter restoration in British Columbia is giving encouragement to a group that wants to bring sea otters back to the Oregon Coast. A research report in the June 12 issue of [the journal Science](#) found that the return of sea otters yields far more in ecological benefits and ecotourism dollars than in costs to commercial fisheries.

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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

### Human Dimensions Research: Greater Familiarity Leads to Greater Concern for the Ocean, 6.25.20

In 2016, ODFW conducted a visitor survey at various locations along the coast, from Cannon Beach down to Port Orford (check out the [report](#) and [infographic](#)). The main goals of the survey were to assess visitors' level of awareness about the ocean and concern for ocean issues, determine how awareness and concern varied among visitor groups, and understand how ODFW can better provide information to visitors.

[Read More](#)



### Diving Into Hook-and-Line Data, 6.25.20

Though ODFW spring hook-and-line surveys were cancelled, the ecological team has been busy analyzing data from previous sampling years. These [graphs](#) summarize the average biomass of fish throughout the years of sampling at Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua, which were established as marine reserves in 2014. The numbers on the graph show us the average weight of fish caught per person per hour spent fishing (biomass).

[Read More](#)



## Updates From the Field, 6.25.20

ODFW staff were excited to venture out into the intertidal this week to conduct Sea Star Wasting surveys at Otter Rock and Cascade Head. After a risk assessment and some adjustments to their field operations, staff felt they could safely resume these surveys during the COVID-19 pandemic at this time.

## Photo Winners:

### Favorite Oregon Coast Experience, 6.25.20

ODFW released the winners of their photo contest. Here we share some of our top picks. Visit their [website](#) and signup to their [newsletter](#) to see more of the winners.

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## Interactive Resources

### Video: [Cougar Trail - aka Old Scenic Hwy 101 - Experimental Forest](#)

Rarely caught on video moment, 4 Cougars seen parading up Old Scenic Hwy 101, near the Pacific Northwest Research Station in the Experimental Forest. Inspiring video credit: Matias Caicedo ~ 2020-06-22

### Podcast: [Black Lives and Blue Water](#)

Rising Tide Podcast #7 features artist and TV personality Danni Washington about the links between the Black Lives Matter movement, the ocean community including frontline communities of color, clean water, Gen Z, learning from a pandemic and more. The Rising Tide Ocean Podcast aims to give information, inspiration, and motivation to tackle the challenges our blue world faces.

### Podcast: [Climate and Marine Disease](#)

Climate disruption is wreaking havoc on the oceans of the world and the creatures that live there, including sea stars and salmon. Kori Suzuki reports.

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## Coastal Conservation Trainings and Events





## Do you have a deep **appreciation** for the **ocean** and its **diverse marine inhabitants**?

If so, you are invited to volunteer with the CPMR Ambassador Program where you will learn and share with visitors about the many marine species that visit and live within the marine reserve and surrounding area.

### Cape Perpetua Collaborative

The Cape Perpetua Collaborative is looking for volunteers for the [Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve Ambassador Program](#) that will engage with visitors to the Cape Perpetua/Yachats area with stories of the local community and history, Oregon's marine conservation efforts and promote marine stewardship.

- This program aims to conduct visitor outreach during the **weekends, July - September**.
- Volunteers are asked to commit to **2 hours per week**, July - September. This can be flexible if you prefer to do 4 hours every other week.
- Volunteers will be provided a **virtual training (July 11, 9am-12pm)** held via zoom on the cultural, ecological and physical aspects of the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and surrounding area.
- **Interact, tell stories and converse with visitors:**
  - Elusive Marbled Murrelet
  - 804 trail adjacent to the Cape Perpetua Marine Protected Area
  - Creatures of the tidepool as well as tidepool etiquette (don't turn back on ocean, watch your step, current tides, etc..)
  - Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and its diverse marine inhabitants (long-live rockfish, sea stars, sea anemones, sea birds and more!).
  - Community science projects the Collaborative partners host in the area if they want to get more involved.
  - WHALES...if you are lucky, you will see a whale during your shift.



Do you feel **less stress** and more **at peace** when spending time **by the ocean**?

If so, you are invited to volunteer with the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve Ambassador Program and spend some time oceanside for a couple of hours per week where you will provide outreach on the marine reserve and surrounding area.

Learn More &  
Register

## Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve

### July 7 | [Graceful Giants: All About Gray Whales \(Webinar\)](#)

- 6:30 PM
- Did you know one of the longest mammal migrations in the world takes place just off the Oregon Coast twice a year? Or that Oregon is one of the best places in the US for land based whale watching? The Gray Whale is an Oregon feature many people do not know about. Join us to learn more about these incredible giants that grace the Oregon Coastline.

### July 20 - July 25 | [BioBlitz Week at Cape Falcon Marine Reserve](#)

- Join FCFMR online for a BioBlitz to catalog the life of the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve tidepools. A BioBlitz is an intensive survey of a defined area with the goal of identifying all the species to be found in that area at one time. It is a snapshot of biodiversity. This year, in order to responsibly comply with social distancing guidelines, we will be doing our BioBlitz with a "hybrid" approach, by providing instruction and resources online and then asking you to explore with your own household group, and record your observations in the iNaturalist app.

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## Portland Audubon

### July 16 | [15th Annual Marbled Murrelet Virtual Training](#)

- 7 PM
- Portland Audubon is offering one virtual presentation on the ecology of the Marbled Murrelet. Oregon State University ornithologist and Marbled Murrelet expert Kim Nelson and Paul Engelmeyer of Portland Audubon and manager of Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary will lead this event. The presentation will cover general murrelet ecology, importance of the Cape Perpetua IBA and marine reserves, updates on the Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project and the latest on murrelet conservation efforts in Oregon.



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## Oregon Chapters of Surfrider Foundation

### July 1 | [The Story of Plastic](#)

- 6 PM
- Join the Siuslaw Chapter of Surfrider Foundation and Siuslaw Watershed Council for a virtual screening of The Story of Plastic and a Q&A panel discussion at 6:00 pm. Tickets are by donation and benefit the Siuslaw Chapter of Surfrider Foundation's long running water quality monitoring program.

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## Elakha Alliance

### July 14 | Webinar: [What can we learn from past reintroductions to prepare us for an Oregon plan?](#)

- 6:00 PM
- Join webinar with Defenders of Wildlife staff from the PNW, along with Bob Bailey and John Goodell from the Elakha Alliance. This webinar will discuss sea otter reintroduction and recovery efforts across the Pacific region - and examine how these economic, social, and ecological outcomes can advise an Oregon effort.

Varius | [Summer Beach Cleanup Series](#)

- The Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup, originally scheduled for March 28, was postponed until volunteers could safely visit the coast. To address the challenges of keeping our beaches clean while maintaining social distancing SOLVE and AAA have teamed up to present a new opportunity to keep our coast clean, healthy and beautiful. "The Summer Beach Cleanup Series, presented by AAA" features all SOLVE beach cleanups on the beautiful Oregon coast occurring in July and August during the Summer of 2020. SOLVE invites you to either join an existing beach cleanup or plan your own.

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## Hatfield Marine Science Center

July 2 | [Assessing the Population-level Conservation Effects of Marine Protected Areas](#)

- 3:30 PM
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) cover 3-7% of the world's ocean, up from less than 1% in the year 2000, and international commitments call for 10%, 30%, and even 50% coverage. The premise underlying MPA expansion is that they conserve biodiversity, habitats, and fished populations.

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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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