



# Oregon Coast OCEAN NEWS

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



Photo: Cascade Head by Eric Muhr



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All of us at the Coast Range Association send our well wishes as we move through the anticipation of the final months of 2020. This year has been unprecedented in many ways, but we continue to fight for action on climate change, working to ensure our communities and the Oregon Coast are prepared during these times of change. We ask that you forward this newsletter to your friends and family across Oregon. With your help we can build informed and engaged communities that act on behalf of our coast!

Have you been forwarded this newsletter? Click below in order to signup and get Oregon Coast Ocean News in your inbox once a month.

[Newsletter Signup](#)

# Ocean Issues News

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

## [King Tides on the way to Oregon Coast](#)

The News Guard, 11.4.20

Every year in early winter, tides on the Oregon Coast are higher than usual. These extreme high tides, commonly called "King Tides," occur at a few specific times during the year when the moon's orbit comes closest to the earth, the earth's orbit is closest to the sun, and the sun, moon and earth are in alignment, thereby increasing their gravitational influence on the tides.



## Sneaker Waves Possible Friday through Saturday on North Oregon & South Washington Beaches

### Safety Tips

- Stay back from the waves and never turn your back on the ocean!
- If you see someone swept into the sea do **not swim in after them.**  
**Call 911** and keep an eye on them until help arrive
- Observe the wave activity from a distance, watching for larger sets of waves, for 30 minutes before beginning any beach activity.



Waves can run up significantly farther on a beach than normal including over rocks and jetties, and drag beachgoers into the frigid water.



[www.weather.gov/portland](http://www.weather.gov/portland)



[@NWSPortland](https://twitter.com/NWSPortland)



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## [Will Oregon see sea otters again?](#)

OPB, 11.2.20

Today, there is a renewed interest in bringing sea otters back to the Oregon Coast, layered with the lingering failure of the past. Researchers now wonder if we've learned enough to make a second attempt.

## [Declining Marine Health Threatens Traditional Subsistence Fishing for Tribes](#)

South Seattle Emerald, 10.20.20

Melissa Watkinson recalls a time in the past when she could go crabbing at the end of the dock in the Puget Sound and catch a great deal of crab. She can't do that anymore. These days, she has to go on a boat into deeper waters to catch any.





Photo: Unsplash

### [Temperatures of deepest ocean rising quicker than previously thought](#)

**The Guardian, 10.14.20**

Even the pitch black, nearly freezing waters at the bottom of the ocean – far from where humans live and burn fossil fuels – are slowly warming, according to a study of a decade of hourly measurements.

### [NOAA awards Wild Salmon Center for Oregon coastal restoration jobs](#)

**Cannon Beach Gazette, 10.10.20**

Watershed restoration jobs on the Oregon Coast got a big boost this summer and fall as the NOAA Restoration Center awarded Wild Salmon Center (WSC) \$824,000 to support habitat restoration projects implemented through the Coast Coho Partnership (CCP). The partnership is a WSC-managed team of government agencies and nonprofit partners that works on the coast to recover Oregon's two Coast Coho populations.

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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

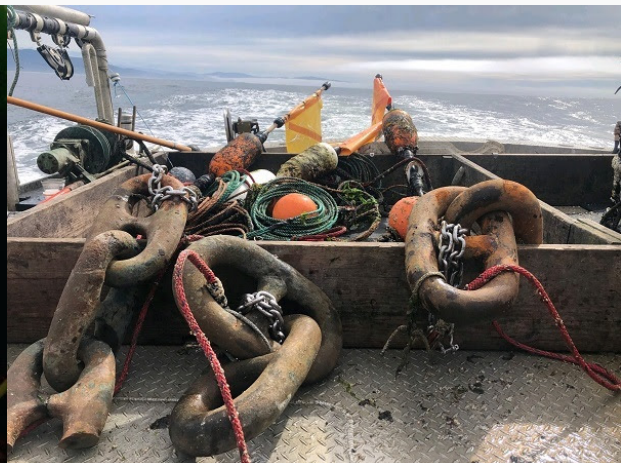


Photo: Oregon Marine Reserves

## A Splash of Video Lander Data, 10.29.20

One of the core tools that the ODFW Marine Reserves Program is using in long-term monitoring of marine reserves are 'video landers' – or drop video camera systems – which are lightweight and a relatively cost-effective method to survey rocky reefs in Oregon.

[Read More](#)

## Updates From the Field, 10.29.20

Thanks to the help of F/V The Lady Lee out of Garibaldi, this month ODFW successfully retrieved oceanographic equipment that had been in the water this summer at Cascade Head, Cape Falcon, and the Cape Meares Comparison Area collecting data on temperature, salinity and oxygen.

## Interactive Resources

### Video: [Wave Energy Testing](#)

Oregon State University, a member of the Pacific Marine Energy Center (<https://www.pmec.us>), is one of the nation's leaders in ocean wave energy research. Peek into the world-class facilities that enable early stage development of this technology.



### Education: [Oceanscape Network](#)

The Oregon Coast Aquarium's Oceanscape Network is an educational program for youth designed to inspire curiosity in science, nature, conservation and outdoor exploration while providing valuable classroom resources for educators.

### Data: [Global Temperature](#)

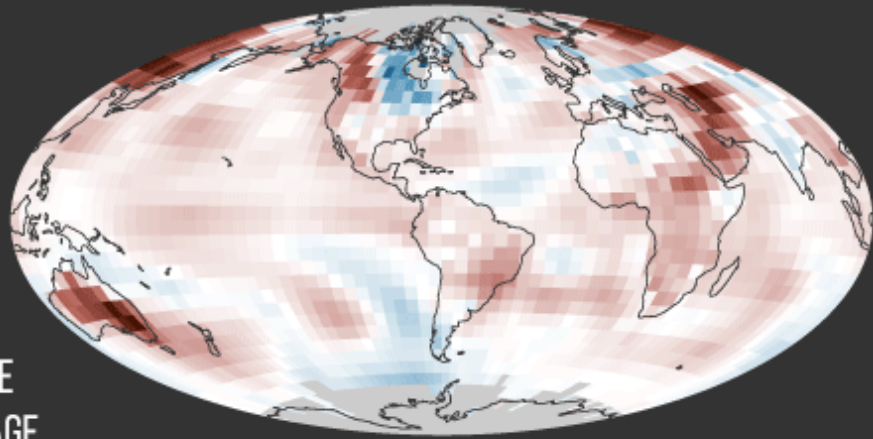
Given the size and tremendous heat capacity of the global oceans, it takes a massive amount of heat energy to raise Earth's average yearly surface temperature even a small amount. The 2-degree increase in global average surface temperature that has occurred since the pre-industrial era (1880-1900) might seem small, but it means a significant increase in accumulated heat. That extra heat is driving regional and seasonal temperature extremes, reducing snow cover and sea ice, intensifying heavy rainfall, and changing habitat ranges for plants and animals—expanding some and shrinking others.



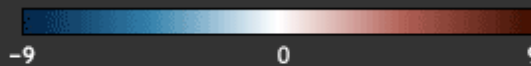
2<sup>ND</sup>  
WARMEST YEAR  
ON RECORD

2019

2.07°F (1.15°C) ABOVE  
PRE-INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE  
(1880-1900)



Difference from average temperature (°F)



NOAA Climate.gov, NCEI

**Video: [Blue Heart Chronicles - Episode 3: "Wild Fire" a Poem by Duncan Berry](#)**

The "Story of Life As Told By Water" is also about what happens when there's an absence of water in a place known for its rainfall and fertile forests...when it becomes tinder dry and bursts into flames.



**Research: [Total ecosystem carbon stocks at the marine-terrestrial interface: Blue carbon of the Pacific Northwest Coast, United States](#)**

The coastal ecosystems of temperate North America provide a variety of ecosystem services including high rates of carbon sequestration. Yet, little data exist for the carbon stocks of major tidal wetland types in the Pacific Northwest, United States. We quantified the total ecosystem carbon stocks (TECS) in seagrass, emergent marshes, and forested tidal wetlands, occurring along increasing elevation and decreasing salinity gradients.

**Research: [Fishermen Investigating Seasonal Hypoxia](#)**

Wind-driven coastal upwelling resulting in hypoxia, or low oxygen episodes have become a frequent phenomenon along the US West Coast. These events affect marine life and fisheries but their timing and location are difficult to track or predict.

## Coastal Conservation Trainings and Events

# CAPE PERPETUA

—COLLABORATIVE—

November 19 | [8th Annual Cape Perpetua Land-Sea Symposium](#)

- 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- The [Cape Perpetua Land-Sea Symposium](#) is a community event aimed at promoting local stewardship efforts and raising awareness about current research being conducted within the Cape Perpetua nearshore and adjacent watersheds. This year's event will kick off with a welcome from Representative David Gombert & Senator Arnie Roblan. In addition, we have a great agenda lined up tying in nature's influence on human well-being and connectivity. [Register today!](#)



November 10 | [Under the Cover of Darkness: Tracking Oregon's Marbled Murrelets](#)

- 5:30 pm
- During this presentation, Lindsay will provide an overview of the research being conducted by the Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project. Researchers on the project have captured and radio-tagged murrelets over three years, so far, to investigate their forest nesting habits and at-sea movements along the coast of Oregon.

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## Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve & Surfrider Foundation Oregon Chapters

November 17 | [North Coast Ocean Trivia](#)

- Join Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve, Wildlife Center of the North Coast, and Surfrider Foundation for a fun night of virtual ocean trivia! The top three teams will be awarded fantastic prizes. So make sure you have some cold drinks ready, some scratch paper at hand, and a team name prepared and we'll see you on Zoom!

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## Oregon Shores CoastWatch

November 12 | [Presentation on \(King\) Tides](#)

- 6 pm
- This year's King Tides Project, through which volunteer photographers trace the reach of the highest tides of the year, is getting underway. The first of three high-tide sequences this winter which will be the focus of the project arrives Nov. 15-17. For more information, see their [website](#) article.
- The first round of the 2020-2021 King Tides Project, through which volunteer photographers document the highest tides of the year, takes place Nov. 15-17, 2020. (The other high tide series which will be the focus of the project occur Dec. 13-15 and January 11-13, 2021.)

November 16 | [Webinar on Rocky Shore Ecology](#)

- 6 pm
- CoastWatch is working to keep Oregonians informed about the current process through which citizens and communities can propose higher levels of protection for key rocky intertidal and subtidal areas through Oregon's new Rocky Habitat Management Strategy. As part of this effort, CoastWatch is offering a series of webinars providing basic background information about the Oregon coast's rocky shore habitats.

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**Support the Coast Range Association's Coastal Program**



## Communities and the Living Ocean

From Astoria to Gold Beach, coastal communities are connected with the ocean through history and livelihood. We have studied this connection and use the knowledge gained to help make the coast a better place to live. The CRA Coastal Program works ...

[Read more](#)  
[coastrange.org](http://coastrange.org)

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