

# D.Rocky Habitat Site Management Designation Standards & Practices

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There are three types of site-based designations associated with the strategy: 1) Marine Research Area, 2) Marine Garden (Marine Education Area), and 3) Marine Conservation Area. The goals for each designation are outlined below, followed by a table of associated standards and management practices. See Appendix E for a map of the currently designated areas. Management designations require appropriate rationale prior to implementation.

## Marine Research Area

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Goal - Maintain the natural system to support scientific research and monitoring while maintaining ecological integrity.

Characterization - Relatively intact system that has, or may benefit from, scientific study and monitoring.

## Marine Garden (Marine Education Area)

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Goal - Protect rocky habitat resources to support public enjoyment, learning opportunities and maintain ecological integrity. These sites should be prioritized for providing enhanced education, enjoyment, public access, and resource awareness.

Characterization - High public visitation and educational potential.

Note - Oregon's Marine Gardens are high-use, high-visibility sites, with an established history of site-specific management as early as the 1960s. Consequently, the term 'Marine Garden' enjoys relatively broad recognition and is retained from the suite of recommended designations outlined in the 1994 Rocky Shores Management Strategy. In practice, these sites are intended to be managed as 'Marine Education Areas', consistent with the designation scheme delineated in this section.

## Marine Conservation Area

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Goal - Conserve the natural system to the highest degree possible by limiting adverse impacts to habitat and wildlife.

Characterization - Relatively intact system with high ecological value.

### Variable management based on site needs

This designation allows for different types of management prescriptions based on site conservation goals and needs.

## **Federal Designations**

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Management of federally designated sites, and the federal designations themselves cannot be altered through the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy, but the strategy recognizes these designations in order to provide a more consistent framework of coastal management areas. These areas include the Oregon Islands, Cape Meares, and Three Arch Rocks National Wildlife Refuges.

## **Tribal Nations Rights and Designations**

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Management of Tribal designations, harvest rights, or other Tribal Nation agreements with the state cannot be altered through the rocky habitat site designation proposal processes. Federally recognized Tribal Nations may have, or obtain, Consent Decrees or other intergovernmental agreements which outline separate rights or harvest regulations.

**Table 1 REGULATORY STANDARDS & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

	Marine Research Area	Marine Garden (Marine Education Area)	Marine Conservation Area
<b>Fish Harvest</b>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply.</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply.</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.</p>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply.</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No additional site-based fish harvest regulations. Coastwide Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply.</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.</p>	<p>Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories.</p> <p>Specific fish harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site.</p> <p>Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for <u>commercial</u>, <u>recreational</u>, <u>scientific</u> and <u>educational</u> fish harvest.</p>
<b>Invertebrate Harvest</b>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No take except at a subset of sites which allow species-specific harvest of clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops, and shrimp.</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.</p>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No take except for single mussels for bait.</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.</p>	<p>Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories.</p> <p>Specific invertebrate harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site.</p> <p>Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for <u>commercial</u>, <u>recreational</u>, <u>scientific</u> and <u>educational</u> invertebrate harvest.</p>
<b>Marine Aquatic Vegetation Harvest</b>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires authorization from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department or the Department of State Lands, which may be issued if the research does not impede the management goals of the Marine Research Area.</p>	<p><u>Commercial</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Recreational</u> – No take</p> <p><u>Scientific &amp; Educational</u> – Requires authorization from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department or the Department of State Lands, which may be issued if the research aligns to further the management goals of the Marine Garden.</p>	<p>Marine Conservation Areas with broad conservation goals may be proposed with regulations closing harvest in all categories.</p> <p>Specific marine aquatic vegetation harvest regulations will be established based on the proposed management goals of the site.</p> <p>Individual site management must include a clear justification for all proposed regulations for <u>recreational</u>, <u>scientific</u> and <u>educational</u> marine aquatic vegetation harvest.</p>

**Users should refer to individual site designation for a complete understanding of site regulations**

## NON-REGULATORY STANDARDS & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

	Marine Research Area	Marine Garden (Marine Education Area)	Marine Conservation Area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In regards to physical public access to areas:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Avoid enhancement of <u>future</u> physical public access on public lands to rocky habitats except in instances of safety concerns.</li> <li>○ Maintain but avoid enhancing capacity of <u>current</u> physical access.</li> <li>○ Enhance visual access to these sites.</li> <li>○ Prioritize access to these sites for low impact research.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• When possible, researchers in these areas should report project outcomes and metadata to the permitting agency for incorporation into a publicly accessible repository.</li> <li>• Other actions and practices that aid in reaching site goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase, enhance, and maintain visual and physical access on public lands to rocky habitats to be inclusive of diverse uses while prioritizing the protection of ecological and cultural resources<sup>19</sup>.</li> <li>• Encourage educational and interpretive programming that increases informed visitation to the site and minimizes impacts to site resources.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Educational programs should aim to reduce the impacts of trampling and wildlife disturbance, as well as monitor impacts of visitor use.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increase and enhance messaging around rules and regulations, and highlight general rocky habitat etiquette and stewardship.</li> <li>• Other actions and practices that aid in reaching site goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variable non-regulatory management practices are applicable in Marine Conservation Areas.</li> <li>• Individual site management must outline clear non-regulatory management mechanisms that aid in reaching the site goals.</li> </ul>

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<sup>19</sup> Resources vital to or the product of the perpetuation of traditional practices, ceremonies and lifeways.