

# PROTECTING OREGON'S ICONIC ROCKY HABITATS



## Why protect rocky habitats?





Oregon's rocky habitats are **biologically, culturally and economically important**. They support a wealth of marine life including nesting seabirds, marine mammals, kelp beds, and myriad fish and invertebrate species. Rocky habitats attract millions of visitors enjoying recreational activities from tidepooling to fishing helping support a 2+ billion dollar tourism industry. Rocky habitats support our commercial fisheries too.

Rocky habitats are increasingly vulnerable to disturbance and climate change impacts. With the adoption of the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy (RHMS) the time is right to invest in balanced protection and responsible use of our iconic coastal rocky habitats.

**Current agency and community capacity is insufficient to fully implement the RHMS.** For a small investment we can ensure these habitats thrive.



## How to support Rocky Habitats

-  Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) needs a full-time permanent Rocky Habitat Coordinator
-  250K matching grant fund so community groups can conduct non-regulatory outreach and stewardship activities at rocky habitat sites.
-  DLCD needs support for a 0.5 FTE Grants Program Administrator to implement the matching grant fund
-  Full package deal amounts to a **~650K biennium request**. For this small amount we can ensure Oregon's iconic rocky habitats enjoy a balance of protection and responsible recreational use by the public.



## New Rocky Habitat Sites

Oregon recently designated **eight new rocky habitat sites** along the Oregon Coast based on a recommendation from the Ocean Policy Advisory Council. This was done through the updated Rocky Habitat Management Strategy. **These new designations strengthen the protection of key habitats and marine life while guiding responsible recreational use.**

**Newly designated sites:** Ecola Point, Chapman Point, Cape Lookout, Fogarty Creek, Cape Foulweather, Coquille Point, Blacklock Point and Cape Blanco.



### Rocky Habitat Site Designations

- Marine Garden: focus on education
- Marine Research Area: focus on scientific research
- Marine Conservation Area: focus on conservation

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