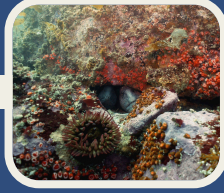


Support Oregon's Ocean

Fully invest in Oregon's Marine Reserves Program



The Marine Reserves Program was created over a decade ago and it has educated and engaged Oregonians about the wonders just off our coast, including how ever-changing ocean conditions affect our state. HB 4132 implements recommendations from a 10-year review conducted by Oregon State University. If implemented, HB 4132 would ensure our Marine Reserves Program is robust and enable us to better understand and find solutions to some of our ocean's biggest challenges.

In a nutshell, this bill helps shore up the Program by making it more effective in understanding how our changing ocean conditions are impacting coastal ecology, coastal communities and resilience, and our fishing industries.

HB 4132 is also poised to help our Marine Reserves Program better facilitate collaboration and conflict management with ocean users and stakeholders through more robust community engagement that prioritizes listening to these diverse voices - such as our federally-recognized tribes and fishing communities - in order to better inform policy decision-making.



MAINTAINING THE STANDARD: OCEAN CONSERVATION THE OREGON WAY

Since their implementation, the Marine Reserves have provided a living laboratory to investigate how we can best manage our ocean environment in the face of changing ocean conditions. It's our duty to ensure that **Oregon's only fully protected marine areas** remain effective at engaging and educating Oregonians about ocean conservation.

A DEEPER DIVE INTO HB 4132

What's in it? For relatively low cost (~\$1 million/biennium), HB 4132 provides support to build a state-of-the-art Marine Reserves Program. It will allow more robust monitoring, adaptive management, and **ocean resiliency in the face of a changing climate** to support biodiversity and our economically important fisheries.

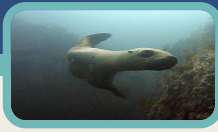
Who's it backed by? HB 4132 has broad bipartisan support from a growing number of legislators and is an Oregon Conservation Network Priority for a Healthy Oregon.



For more information, contact Representative Gomberg or Joe Liebezeit at jliebezeit@audubonportland.org

Oregon Marine Reserves: FAQ

Oregon's most successful ocean conservation program



WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL WITH OREGON'S MARINE RESERVES?

For over 10 years, Oregonians have come to enjoy many marine reserve successes and discoveries including their contribution to marine conservation, scientific breakthroughs, and the vitality of our coastal communities. **The system is Oregon's only ecosystem-based program focused on understanding ocean changes.**

WHY DO WE HAVE MARINE RESERVES AND PROTECTED AREAS?

Oregon's Marine Reserve System protects and conserves ocean life and habitats. They are living laboratories that promote scientific research and discovery to inform how we interact with and perceive these special marine areas.

WHAT ARE MARINE RESERVES AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS?

Reserves are areas within coastal waters dedicated to conservation and scientific research, where development and removal of marine life is prohibited. The Marine Protected Areas are located next to the reserves and have site-specific rules that allow some fishing activities and prohibit development.

WHERE ARE THEY?

Oregon is has 5 marine reserves and 9 adjacent marine protected areas. They were identified in collaboration with scientists, coastal community members, fishermen, and agencies to promote conservation and avoid negative impacts to coastal users.

HOW DO THEY IMPACT ME?

Marine reserves have significantly advanced our understanding of Oregon's marine environment, which allows us to better adapt to changing ocean conditions and other coastal threats. Over the last ten years, research has indicated that the Reserves have not negatively impacted the commercial fishing industry.

WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THEM?

The Reserves are managed by the Oregon Marine Reserves Program within the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and enforced by Oregon State Police.

WHAT MAKES THEM SUCCESSFUL?

The Reserves were designated through a collaborative process with scientists, managers, community members, recreational and commercial fishers to ensure that they are located in areas that represent the ecological diversity off Oregon's coast while avoiding significant economic or community impacts. Extensive research conducted over the past 10 years indicates that the reserves have fulfilled their mission to:

1. **Conserve marine habitats and biodiversity:** The Reserves directly protect fish, invertebrate, and their habitats. New research informs fisheries management and sheds light on species of concern like the sunflower seastar.
2. **Serve as scientific research sites:** Long-term research at 14 sites increases our understanding of changing ocean conditions to best tackle coastal hazards, ocean acidification and hypoxia, and other threats.
3. **Avoid adverse impacts to coastal communities and users:** Over \$750,000 has been provided in contracts to fishers over the past 10 years to help with research, boosting local economies.

OVER 10 YEARS OF SCIENCE AND LEARNING

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Marine Reserves Program has synthesized 10-years of marine reserves discovery into a report to help us better understand and enjoy the benefits of Oregon's Marine Reserve system. Read the synthesis at

<https://oregonmarinereserves.com/2022/02/24/synthesis-report/>

