



# A DEEPER DIVE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### WHAT IS A MARINE RESERVE?

Marine reserves are areas in our coastal waters dedicated to conservation and scientific research. All removal of marine life is prohibited, as is ocean development.

### AND A MARINE PROTECTED AREA?

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are adjacent to the marine reserves. Ocean development is still prohibited, but some fishing activities are allowed. Please see the specific rules for each site.

### WHERE ARE THEY?

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) oversees five marine reserve sites off the Oregon coast, all within 3 nautical miles from shore. The Cape Falcon, Cascade Head, Otter Rock, Cape Perpetua, and Redfish Rocks sites are each named after local natural landmarks.

### HOW WERE THE LOCATIONS CHOSEN?

Local communities worked with state officials to site these reserves in areas that would provide ecological benefits while also avoiding significant negative impacts to ocean users and our coastal communities (following EO 08-07).

### WHY DO WE HAVE MARINE RESERVES?

Oregon created marine reserves to conserve marine habitats and biodiversity. They are also living laboratories for us to learn about Oregon's nearshore ocean environment and the effects that protections (no fishing and conservation) have, over time, on the environment. This research is helping inform how we can best manage our coastal waters into the future.

### IS IT OKAY IF I WALK ON THE BEACH?

Yes. Marine reserves and MPAs are open to all non-extractive recreational activities including SCUBA diving, surfing, tidepool exploration, and viewing wildlife.

### CAN I STILL COLLECT SHELLS AND AGATES IN THESE AREAS?

You may collect small non-living souvenirs but please leave behind the wildlife and plants for others to enjoy.

### HOW DO I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Call the ODFW Newport office: (541) 867-4741

### HOW DO I REPORT VIOLATIONS?

Call Oregon State Police: 1-800-452-7888

Photos by: Scott Groth, Oregon Coast Aquarium (2), Lois Miller, and ODFW