

4. Cape Foulweather Proposal Area

Cape Foulweather's crescent of white sandy beaches and extensive cliffs stretching from Rocky Creek to Devils Punchbowl provide a stunning view. Captain Cook first spied the place in March of 1778 — his first glimpse of mainland North America. The Otter Crest region of Cape Foulweather is a favorite spot for picnicking, sight seeing, beach combing, tide pooling, bird watching, whale watching, angling and commercial urchin harvesting.



Cape Foulweather (Ben Nieves)

Prime habitat: Cape Foulweather boasts the greatest habitat diversity on this stretch of the north coast, including the most extensive canopy of kelp forest north of Cape Arago.

- Visitors can observe Steller sea lions raising young and a number of large and small seabird colonies including common murre, cormorants, gulls and the endangered brown pelican.
- Just below the water's surface an extensive canopy kelp forest thrives, providing the ideal habitat for urchins, sea stars, crabs, anemones, sea cucumbers, rockfish, surf perch and numerous other plants and animals.

Proposed protections: This site contains a **fully-protected marine reserve**.

- The proposed **marine reserve** site is relatively small (3.8 nautical miles down the coast, 3 nautical miles out to the Territorial Sea boundary), designed to minimize impact on commercial and recreational fishing and crabbing. Because of its location and key habitat features, Cape Foulweather is essential to the viability of the overall network.
- The **marine reserve** spans the north end of Whale Cove to the south end of Beverly Beach State Park, and out to the Territorial Sea boundary (three nautical miles). This site is located adjacent to the proposed Cascade Head/Whale Cove marine protected area.

The importance of a network

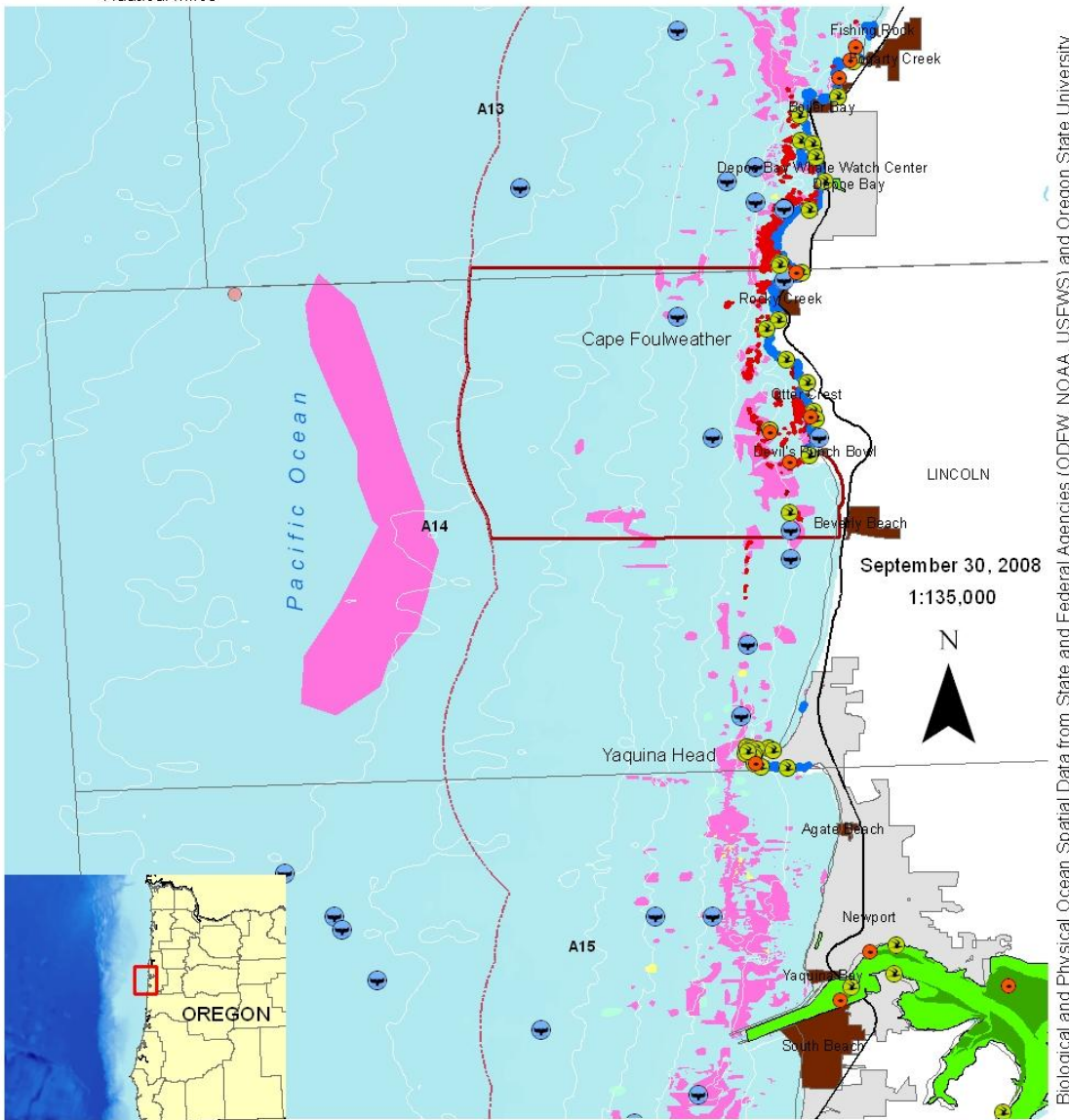
By providing a network of safe havens for marine life to feed and breed, marine reserves allow the ocean's natural productivity to restore the abundance of fish species and other marine life. Scientific research from existing marine reserves shows that a network of reserves and marine protected areas facilitates larval dispersal of aquatic species and makes them resilient. A network is necessary to protect a sample of all of Oregon's ocean habitats.

OPAC recommended that the Depot Bay Nearshore Action Team's Otter Rock nomination be the only portion of this entire proposed area that remains under consideration. OPAC further recommended that it be designated as a pilot project.



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Map 4



Biological and Physical Ocean Spatial Data from State and Federal Agencies (ODEW, NOAA, USFWS) and Oregon State University



One nautical mile = 1.1507 terrestrial miles.