

8. Boiler Bay

Site description: 2.7 miles of intertidal habitat located about 2 miles north of Depoe Bay in Lincoln County, Oregon (Figure 16).



Designation: Boiler Bay was a research reserve before TSP publication, and the TSP designated it as such. The Boiler Bay Research Reserve includes “all rocky areas, tide pools, and sand beaches situated between extreme high tide and extreme low tide lying between a line projected due west from the mouth of Fogarty Creek, on the north, and a line projected due west from the westernmost tip of Government Point at Boiler Bay State Wayside on the south (ODFW Marine Zone Fishing Regulations, 2006).”

Access: Access is unchanged since the TSP was published and is still via a steep unimproved trail slightly to the north of the Boiler Bay State Scenic Viewpoint, approximately two miles north of Depoe Bay. Parking is extremely limited.

Ownership: DSL owns submerged and intertidal lands. OPRD owns the upland south of Boiler Bay. The USFWS owns offshore rocks above MHW that are not connected to land at high tide. OPRD owns a small section on the north end of the reserve (Fogarty Creek State Recreation Area). Most of the land next to the research reserve is privately owned.

Key Resources: In addition to rich natural resources (including a wide diversity of tidepool organisms), the area also is home to a historic cultural resource. In 1910, the *J. Marhoffer* exploded and sunk. Its boiler (the bay's namesake) is visible low tide.

Visitor Use: Visitors use the area to conduct scientific research, for educational activities, sport fishing from shore, and to explore tidepools. Areas within both Boiler Bay and to the south of Fogarty Creek are Oregon State University (PISCO) intertidal research sites. The small pull-off is not monitored by OPRD with a traffic counter. Table 10 lists allowed and prohibited uses.

Management: Boiler Bay is part of the Boiler Bay Intertidal Research Reserve. Without a scientific collection permit, the only species that may be harvested are abalone, clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops and shrimp. A permit is required to collect shellfish, and additional permit is required for abalone (ODFW fishing regulations). People collecting specimens for scientific and educational purposes need an ODFW permit. OPRD manages both Boiler Bay State Scenic Viewpoint to the south and Fogarty Creek State Recreation Area to the north as part of OPRD Region 1 and the Beverley Beach Management Unit.

Impact Concerns: Visitors use areas south of the rocky shoreline where harbor seals typically haul out. Aerial photographs show the haulout is near a private residence, so people may reach the haulout from there. Visitors trampling the area is a concern, especially because of the sites' status as a research reserve. Safety concerns about the

difficult, unofficial path down to the rocky shore continue. The parking area is small and difficult to get into and out of from U.S. Hwy. 101.

Management Objectives: The TSP objectives are to “maintain the ecological integrity of the site for long-term research projects; allow continued level of use that does not interfere with research objectives.”

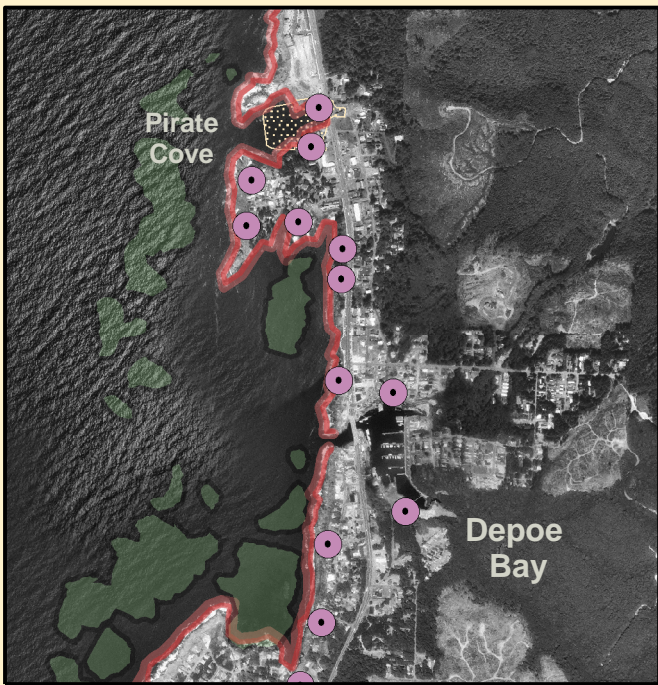
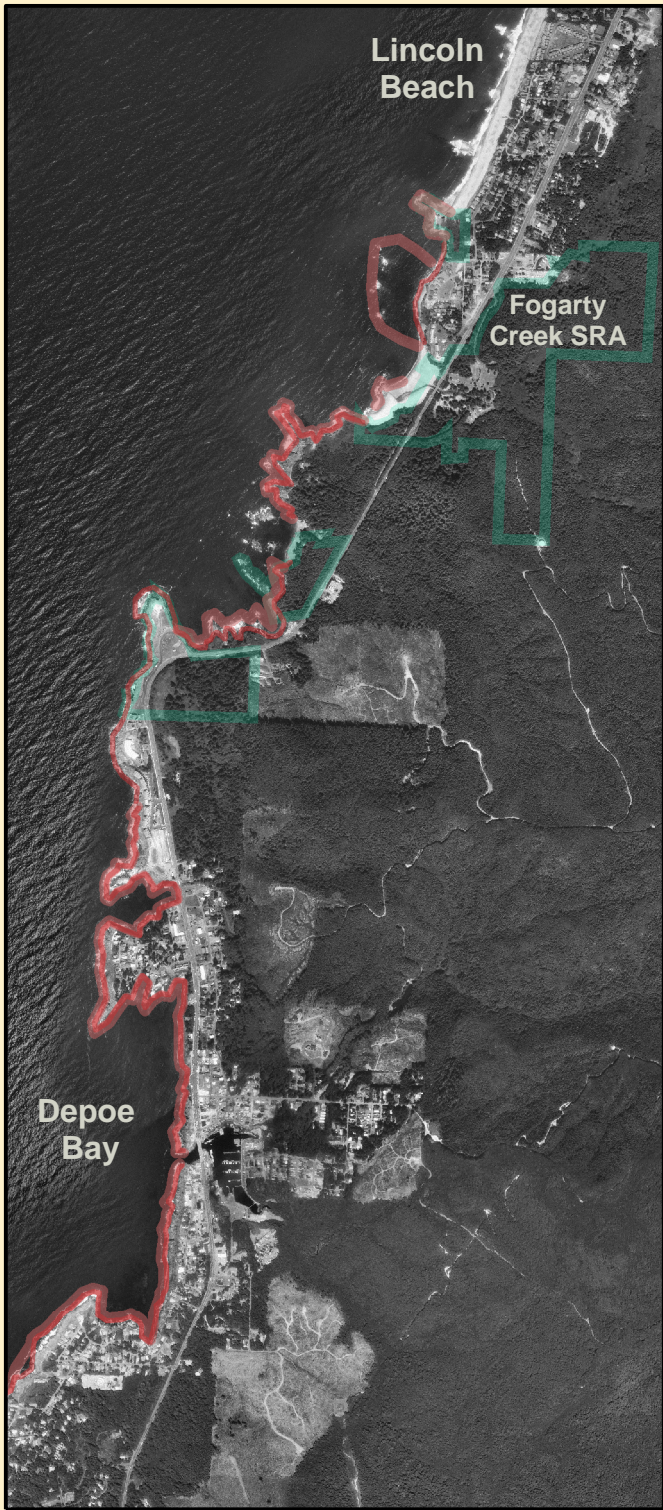
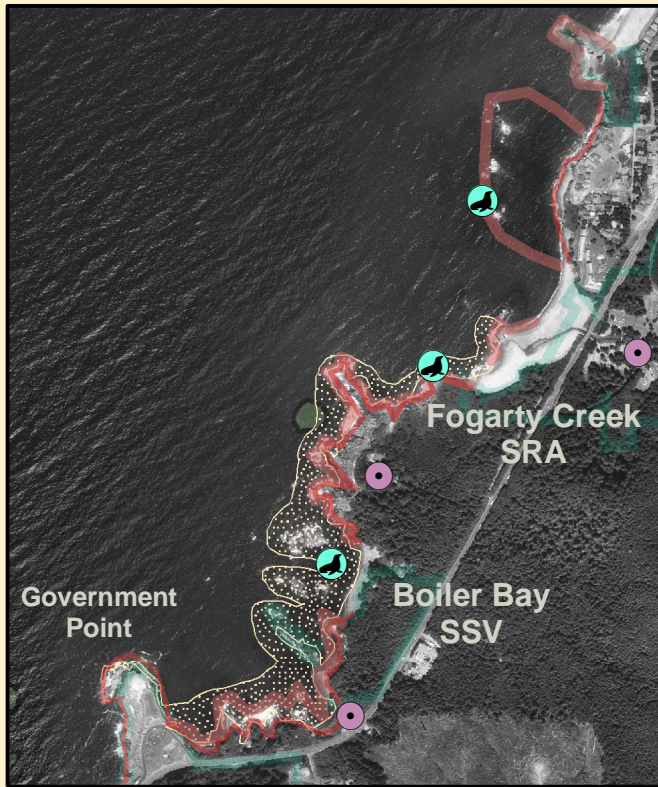
Management Prescriptions: The TSP prescriptions are to “continue current use and management (no collecting except through scientific/educational permit); in addition discourage improvement of existing trail to the site; direct school groups to other sites for general educational activities; prohibit harvest of intertidal algae (seaweeds) except by permit.”

Status of Prescriptions:

- Collecting of many species is allowed without a scientific permit including: abalone, clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops and shrimp.
- The volunteer trail has not been improved, although people continue to use it.
- “Oregon’s Rocky Intertidal Areas”, and OPRD brochure (an updated version of an out of print ODFW brochure), does not include Boiler Bay in its list of popular rocky shore sites.
- School groups have not been actively redirected to other sites
- OPRD does not officially prohibit recreational harvest of intertidal algae (seaweeds), however commercial intertidal harvest is not allowed. No signs at the site discourage harvesting.

Table 10. Allowed and prohibited activities at Boiler Bay Research Reserve

ALLOWED	PROHIBITED
General recreational activities (e.g., walking, tidepooling, bird watching)	General Park Regulations (e.g., dogs off leash, disturbance/collection of historic artifacts, hunting)
Collection (with appropriate permits and following ODFW regulations including limits) of abalone, clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops and shrimp.	Harvest of shellfish and other marine invertebrates with exceptions listed to the left
Scientific research and collection (by permit only)	Harassment of marine mammals pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act and any species protected by the Endangered Species Act
Environmental education/interpretation	Climbing on offshore rocks (exposed and not connected to the land at mean high tide)



-  Approx. Park Boundaries
-  Kelp Beds
-  Research Reserve
-  Rocky Intertidal
-  Beach Access
-  Marine Mammal Haulout
-  Seabirds

Fogarty Creek to Depoe Bay



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles



Created in ArcGIS 9 using ArcMap

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Recommendations for Boiler Bay State Scenic Viewpoint

Boiler Bay is home to rich and diverse intertidal habitat that has long been used for scientific research. There is no improved trail to the shore. Visitors use a dangerous, steep, unofficial trail. Recommendations for improving rocky shore management and compliance with the TSP at Boiler Bay include:

Natural Resources

- ❑ Although the TSP states that no collection should be allowed within Boiler Bay intertidal areas, ODFW regulations allow harvesters to collect species including mussels, clams and crabs. This collection contradicts OPAC's direction in the TSP and may interfere with long-term scientific research.
 - Consider encouraging ODFW to halt shellfish harvesting within research reserves.
 - Officially prohibit the collection (except for scientific research) of intertidal marine plants within this and all research reserves designated in the TSP.
 - Discourage DSL from issuing subtidal kelp lease permits offshore of the intertidal research reserve.

Operations and Maintenance

- ❑ Consider placing a trail counter at the base of the beach trail to document visitor use. This could be a temporary placement for a few seasons, and then the counter could be rotated out with another park.
- ❑ Provide no new access trails to shore level within the Boiler Bay Research Reserve.
- ❑ Discourage use of the unofficial (and dangerous) trail.
- ❑ Move the research reserve sign down the trail to discourage use. In its present position, the sign attracts visitors, making them aware of the unofficial trail.

Other

- ❑ Redirect school groups to safer, non-research reserve areas.
- ❑ Incorporate the TSP management objective and prescriptions into master plans, interpretive plans and natural resource management plans.



Boiler Bay intertidal

9. Pirate Cove

Site description: Pirate Cove is located just to the south of Government Point, approximately one mile north of Depoe Bay in Lincoln County, Oregon (Figure 16).



Designation: The TSP designates Pirate Cove a research reserve and it is currently designated as such by ODFW. The research reserve encompasses “all areas in Pirate Cove below extreme high tide east of a line drawn across the mouth of the cove, as defined by points at 44°49’05.0” N. Latitude, 124°04’02.01” W Longitude (point A) and 44°49.08.8” N Latitude, 124°04’03.6” W Longitude (Point B) (ODFW Marine Zone Fishing Regulations, 2006).”

Access: The rocky shoreline is only accessible via private property.

Ownership: DSL owns the submerged and intertidal lands. The upland is privately owned.

Key Resources: No new seabird has been published since the 1988 USFWS data, which was used to write the TSP resource section. The TSP lists relatively undisturbed rocky intertidal habitats, seabird colonies including pigeon guillemots and western gulls, a harbor seals pupping and haulout area and some of the only offshore kelp beds north of Cape Arago as key resources (Figure 17).

Visitor Use: The upland is entirely privately owned. Because the area is a subtidal research reserve, a scientific research permit is required to collect intertidal shellfish and invertebrates. Uses noted in the TSP include scientific research, SCUBA diving, and commercial urchin harvest. These uses have not been confirmed, although, intertidal urchin harvest would be illegal. Table 11 lists allowed and prohibited uses.

Management: The upland is entirely under private ownership. OPRD manages the Ocean Shore Recreation Area.

Impact Concerns: The TSP does not mention any concerns. Since the bay’s upland is privately owned, the use of the site is low and unlikely to increase. If local residents frequent the site, disturbance to marine mammals and seabirds may occur, especially if new access is provided in the future.

Management Objectives: The TSP objective is “to maintain the ecological integrity of the site for long-term research projects; allow continued level of use that does not interfere with research objectives.” Although it is not known whether the ecological integrity of the site has been maintained, it is likely the case due to low use. It is not known whether long-term research projects occur at this site. It is not one of Oregon State University’s (PISCO) intertidal monitoring sites.

Management Prescriptions: The TSP prescriptions allow all existing uses except they prohibit: all commercial and recreational harvesting of invertebrates, including red

urchins (unless specifically allowed through an agreement between the ODFW and the harvest industry); harvest of intertidal and subtidal algae (seaweeds); scientific or research collecting of intertidal invertebrates and algae without a scientific permit.

Status of Prescriptions:

- All commercial and recreational invertebrate harvest is prohibited
- Except for commercial activities, there is no official prohibition of intertidal and subtidal algae collection, although OPRD discourages such collection within ODFW specially managed areas, including all research reserves (except by scientific permit).
- People must have ODFW permits to collect intertidal invertebrates for scientific or research use. ODFW staff has indicated that no permits are required for scientific collection of algae.
- Scientific collection of intertidal algae is allowed by permit from OPRD, however, this is not well known and few permit applications are received each year.

Table 11. Allowed and prohibited uses at Pirate Cove Research Reserve

ALLOWED	PROHIBITED
General recreational activities (e.g., walking, tidepooling, bird watching)	Ocean Shore Recreation Area Prohibited Activities*
Scientific research and take (by permit only)	Harvest of shellfish and other marine invertebrates
Environmental education/interpretation	Harassment of marine mammals pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act and any species protected by the Endangered Species Act
	Climbing on offshore rocks (exposed and not connected to the land at mean high tide)

*1.) Fires in driftwood piles, dunes or near beach grass, 2.) Commercial activities without a permit, 3.) Motor vehicles where posted, 4.) Construction, removal of rock, sand, logs or marine algae without a permit, 5.) Trespassing or digging on sand cliffs

