

Endangered Species Management Plans for Southern Resident Orcas

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SRO Key Points

- Population size = 73 orcas
 - J pod: 25; K pod: 15; L pod: 33
- Oregon Coast provides important habitat

 Main threats: Lack of prey, vessel & noise disturbance, contaminants



Land-owning agencies:

- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
- Oregon Department of State Lands (proprietary)





Endangered Species Management Plans

- Required elements:
 - State land covered by plan
 - Agency's role
 - Management actions
 - Monitoring & review
 - Description of plan development process
 - Relation to other ESMPs & recovery efforts
- Timeline: 18 24 mo
- Implementation subject to funding





Public Input Process



Stakeholder Meeting

Virtual - June 18, 2025 Oregon Orca Coalition



Public Meeting

Virtual - July 9, 2025 General public



Web Site

June 23 & July 23, 2025 Draft ESMPs



Communications

Ad-hoc with stakeholders as needed





Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife

- Role: Contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Current actions
 - Restore salmon habitat
 - Improve fish passage
 - Maintain hatchery production
 - Manage predation on salmonids
 - Fishery management measures
 - Reduce contaminants in waterways
 - Protect SRO from development impacts
 - Oil spill response
 - Continue core outreach & education





Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife

- Management actions: (cont'd)
 - New actions
 - Evaluate enhanced hatchery production
 - Address potential vessel disturbance
 - Implement new outreach & education activities
 - Partner with researchers to collect SRO data
- Inter-agency coordination
- *Public input into plan

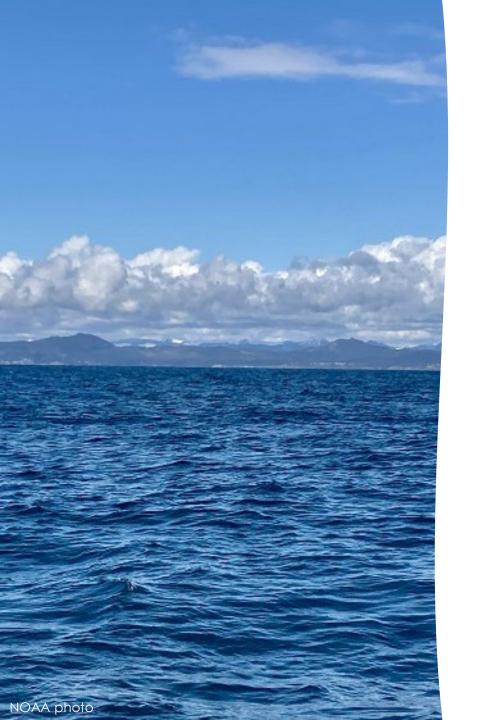




Oregon Parks & Recreation Dept

- Role: Take avoidance; contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Take avoidance:
 - Pre-project consultation and scoping as part of Oregon Territorial Sea Plan
 - Habitat and effects assessment
 - Contributing to conservation:
 - Beach management
 - Outreach and education





Oregon Dept of State Lands (Proprietary)

- Role: Contributing to conservation; take avoidance
- Management actions:
 - Administer leases & authorizations for projects in territorial sea
 - Lead the Joint Agency Review Team (JART)





Non-land-owning agencies:

- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
- Oregon State Marine Board
- Oregon State Police (Fish and Wildlife Division)
- Oregon Department of State Lands (non-proprietary)





Conservation Memoranda

- Required elements:
 - Programs covered
 - Agency's role
 - Management actions
 - Monitoring & review
 - Relation to other recovery efforts
- Timeline: None

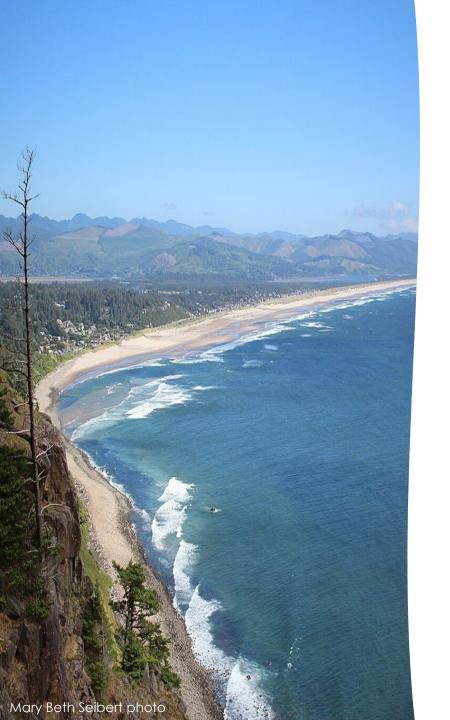




Oregon Dept of Environmental Quality

- Role: Contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Protect water quality for Chinook salmon and other aquatic life
 - Monitor & reduce contaminants; coordinate cleanup
 - Water quality management plans for fish passage improvement projects
 - Emergency response planning & coordination for oil spills





Oregon Dept of Land Conservation & Development

- Role: Contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Coordinate state agencies & policies on developments in territorial sea
 - Land use planning in marine & estuary environments
 - Outreach & education





Oregon State Marine Board

- Role: Contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Outreach & education to boaters & whale watching charters/guides
 - Implement potential regulatory framework for OR marine waters



Oregon State Police (Fish & Wildlife Division)

- Role: Take avoidance; contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Conduct marine patrols & respond to complaints
 - Enforce fishery regulations
 - Enforce environmental laws & regulations
 - Collaborate with state & federal agencies on SRO conservation



Oregon Dept of State Lands (Non-proprietary)

- Role: Contributing to conservation
- Management actions:
 - Removal-fill permitting





Options

Approve ESMPs submitted by the land-owning agencies

Modify ODFW ESMP and/or request change to OPRD/DSL ESMPs





Staff Recommendation

Approve ESMPs as submitted by ODFW, OPRD, and DSL



Questions?