



OREGON SEA GRANT

Our Vision

Thriving coastal communities and ecosystems in Oregon

Our Mission

Oregon Sea Grant is a catalyst that promotes discovery, understanding, and resilience for Oregon coastal communities and ecosystems.

Our Values

Community: By working with and being in and a part of communities of place and practice statewide, OSG fosters a culture of engagement to enhance the quality of life in our coastal communities. We build strong partnerships within our organization and with others. We listen carefully and respond to the needs of our internal and external partners, stakeholders, and the public. We recognize that we create more value by working with others on our endeavors than working independently.

Worth of Individuals: OSG believes that the people inside and outside the organization, and their perspectives, matter. We respect individual differences, and recognize that diversity is part of our strength in a team approach to address challenging issues. We respect that people are a valuable resource, and we believe they deserve an empowering, supportive, and caring environment.

Fairness and Integrity: OSG strives for equity in our decision-making, in our treatment of one another, and in our engagement with communities we serve. Our commitment to scientific integrity, respectful partnerships, and non-advocacy enables open dialogue. Our reputation as a source of high-quality, science-based information is central to our leadership in promoting discovery, knowledge sharing, consensus building and the integration of effort in the coastal arena.

Innovation: OSG values and encourages creativity in all that we do and support, while valuing known and successful approaches. We strive to maintain scientific excellence and innovation. We constantly seek to improve our service and to enhance the quality of life in coastal communities. We value dynamic, inventive and flexible approaches to meeting the needs of people in changing natural and social environments as well as in the conduct and communication of research, education, and engagement.

Our Thematic Areas

Ecological, social, and economic aspects of coastal development

This thematic area is focused on the multiple facets of coastal development, such as development of places, communities, and industries. Often, development is examined from an economic perspective, with only minimal consideration of the ecological or social aspects.

GOAL: *We seek to bring together the ecological, social, and economic aspects of coastal development so activities or investments can be examined holistically, and one component, such as economics, is not valued to the exclusion or detriment of the others.*

This is particularly important for an area like the Oregon coast, which has tremendous natural resources and strong community networks, but struggles with promoting and supporting growth in the region.



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Adaptation to acute or chronic coastal hazards

Understanding acute and chronic coastal hazards is critical to developing adaptation strategies.

GOAL: *We seek to understand and promote adaptation strategies for acute coastal hazards, such as a tsunami threat, and chronic conditions, including impacts from climate change and ocean acidification.*

GOAL: *We seek to support implementation of coastal hazard adaptation strategies, such as are community and visitor tsunami preparation activities or ecological or technological approaches to mitigating ocean acidification.*

These threats challenge the resilience of not only Oregon's coastal communities and the visitors who come to enjoy the coast, but also the coastal ecosystem and its abundant natural resources.

Human and natural dimensions of coastal and marine fisheries

Integrating the human and the natural dimensions of fisheries is imperative in the face of challenges such as increased regulation and changing environmental conditions.

GOAL: *We seek to support the health and resilience of wild-caught fisheries and the communities that support them.*

GOAL: *We seek to understand and address the natural and social ramifications of growing areas such as aquaculture and competing space and use pressures.*

OSG's role in coastal and marine fisheries has evolved over time, thus the need for continued innovative and integrative approaches to addressing human and natural dimensions of coastal and marine fisheries.

Cultural beliefs, learning, and valuation of coastal and marine issues

Often there are gaps in the complex interface between science, knowledge, and practice in addressing coastal and marine issues.

GOAL: *We seek to understand and apply why, what, and how individuals and communities perceive and make decisions about coastal and marine topics and issues.*

Understanding communities of place and practice, their beliefs and valuation, and why certain decisions are made will support the development of strategies to address some of the challenges noted in the other thematic areas, such as acute and chronic hazards, coastal development, and evolving fisheries needs and issues.

Criteria

- ✓ How does this advance the vision and mission in ways that are consistent with our values?
- ✓ How does it align with the OSG thematic areas?
- ✓ How does this address stakeholder issues?
- ✓ What are the opportunities to integrate discovery, learning and engagement?
- ✓ How can OSG uniquely contribute to or add significant value to this? In other words, are we the best fit? Will this be unaddressed without OSG involvement?
- ✓ How will we know when our catalytic role is complete?
- ✓ What capacity do we have or lack in order to pursue this? How is this worth making a commitment to develop or deploy the capacity and/or end existing activities or programs?