



Oregon Coordinated Aquatic Bird Monitoring:
Description of Important Aquatic Bird Site

Cape Arago State Park

BCS number: 47-5

****NOTE: We were unable to determine all necessary information for this site description. If you would like to contribute the needed information to this description, please contact the Klamath Bird Observatory at kbo@klamathbird.org.*

Site description author(s)

Daphne E. Swope, Research and Monitoring Team, Klamath Bird Observatory

Primary contact for this site

N/A

Site Location (UTM)

Datum: NAD 83, Zone: 10, Easting: 386570, Northing: 4795769.

General description

Cape Arago State Park is 54.4 acres (Bannan 2002). “[It is] located at the end of Cape Arago Highway about 15 miles southwest of Coos Bay” (OPRD n.d.). “Cape Arago is a 200-foot-high, partly forested promontory that juts out into the wild ocean surf” (Bannan 2002).

Boundaries and ownership

Boundaries:

“At road’s end, Cape Arago State Park is backed by high cliffs, forest, and a roadless area to the south ... [of] sandstone bluffs” (Bannan 2002).

Ownership:

State/State Park

Water levels

Cape Arago experiences two daily high (and two low) tides.

Focal species use and timing

Focal Group/Species	Wintering	Breeding	Migration
Secretive Marsh Bird Group	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Colonial Nesting Bird Group	Present ¹	Present ¹	Present ¹
Migrating Shorebird Group	Present ¹	Present ¹	Present ¹
Ground-based Waterbird Group	Present ¹	Present ¹	Present ¹
American Bittern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
American White Pelican	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Barrow's Goldeneye	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Black Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Black-crowned Night Heron	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Black-necked Stilt	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Bufflehead	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
California Gull	Unknown	Unknown	Present ²
Caspian Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Clark's Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Common Loon	Unknown	Unknown	Present ²
Dusky Canada Goose	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Eared Grebe	Present ³	Unknown	Unknown
Forster's Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Franklin's Gull	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Great Blue Heron	Present ³	Unknown	Present ²
Greater Sandhill Crane	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Green Heron	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Least Bittern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Lesser Sandhill Crane	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Long-billed Curlew	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Pied-billed Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Red-necked Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Snowy Egret	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Sora	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Upland Sandpiper	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Virginia Rail	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Western Grebe	Present ³	Unknown	Unknown
Western Snowy Plover	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
White-faced Ibis	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Yellow Rail	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

1. Contreras (1996).
2. Birdnotes (n.d.).
3. eBird (2009).

Location of Type 1 and 2 habitat within the site

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
Ground Based Aquatic Birds	Unknown	Unknown
Secretive Marsh Birds	Unknown	Unknown
Colonial Nesters	Unknown	Unknown
Migrating Shorebirds	Coastal Beach	Unknown

Access to Type 1 and Type 2 habitats

- The North Cove Trail is closed from March 1 – June 30 (OPRD n.d.).

Audibility/visibility of focal species

Describe any issues that would diminish the detectability of birds. e.g Secretive marsh birds are difficult to detect due to hwy noise

Unknown

Conservation issues

Increased use can result in increased human disturbance that may upset the fragile rocky shore ecosystem. Litter and garbage attract predators, increasing the mortality of some wildlife species (OPRD 2004).

Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed

The north cove of Cape Arago has been designated a habitat refuge, a necessary action to maintain a healthy local rocky shore ecosystem. These refuges ensure that the various representative areas of marine life in rocky shore areas are managed to protect natural habitat values associated with the area and to maintain a viable population of marine plants and animals (ORPD 2004).

Past and current surveys

Briefly describe past and or current surveys, and how completed. Refer to certain protocols/other documents or persons (list contact info) if survey specifics are unknown

Unknown

Potential survey methods

Description: (describe survey methods that are appropriate for your site and recommend the best means in which to complete them considering the limitations and history above. Include information on suggested standardized or specialized protocols)

Unknown

Selection bias: (Discuss the potential for selection bias when designing a survey in the future, especially when sub-sample of the site will be studied. Point out how bias could be introduced and recommend ways to prevent this)

Unknown

Measurement error and bias:

Unknown

Potential Pilot Studies

Unknown

Literature cited

Bannan, J.G. 2002. Oregon State Parks: A Complete Recreation Guide. Washington: The Mountaineers Books.

Birdnotes. n.d. Birdnotes.net website. Available at <http://www.birdnotes.net>. Accessed February 23, 2010.

Contreras, A. 1996. Wampole's 1957-1959 Annotated Checklist of birds of Coos Bay, Oregon. Journal of Oregon Ornithology 5:545-557.

eBird. 2010. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. Version 2. eBird, Ithaca, New York. Available at <http://www.ebird.org>. Accessed February 23, 2010.

Google Inc. 2010. Cape Arago State Park. Google Earth (Version 5.1.3533.1731) [Software]. Available from <http://earth.google.com>. Accessed February 06, 2010.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD). n.d. Cape Arago State Park. http://www.oregonstateparks.org/park_94.php. Accessed February 06, 2010.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (ORPD). 2004. Draft Ocean Shores Management Plan: Appendix A. http://www.prd.state.or.us/images/pdf/masterplans/osmp_hcp/040114_appendix_a_draft.pdf. Accessed February 06, 2010.

Figure 1: Google, Inc. (2010) Earth map of Cape Arago State Park showing the boundary in green.

