



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

**Yaquina Bay**  
BCS number: 47-40

*\*\*\*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](mailto:kbo@klamathbird.org).*

**Site description author(s)**

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**Primary contact for this site**

N/A

**Site location (UTM)**

Datum: NAD83, Zone: 10, Easting: 419017, Northing: 4940909

**General description**

“Yaquina Estuary is a drowned river valley. It consists of three general areas: a narrow mouth, embayments, and a narrow upstream channel. Tidal influence extends to about river mile 26 (Percy et al. 1974). It is one of the three Oregon estuaries classed for deep water development because of maintained jetties and a main channel dredged to deeper than 22 feet (Cortright et al. 1987:11); nevertheless, the Yaquina and the other two deep water estuaries (Columbia River and Coos Bay) are still important for birds. Newport is near the estuary mouth, and Toledo is at river mile 13. Tourism is important, and Yaquina Estuary is used recreationally for boating, fishing, crabbing, clamming, wildlife watching, and hunting [..... ] Most of the marinas and shipping are downstream of the embayments, and most of the area along the south sides of Idaho Flats and South Bay and most of King Slough is relatively undeveloped.” (Portland Audubon Society 2010)

**Boundaries and ownership**

*Boundaries:*

Yaquina Bay is located on the central Oregon coast in Lincoln County. The bay sits northeast of South Beach and southeast of Newport. Yaquina Bay Rd. runs along the northern shoreline of the bay, giving ample access to many viewing points. The bay is east of Hwy 101, but the outlet from the bay runs beneath the highway and out to the ocean.

*Ownership:*

Unknown

**Water levels**

According to predictions for 2010 tide levels at the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center (2009) Dock in Yaquina Bay, OR, daily tides vary in height from 10.1ft at morning high to tide to -2.6ft at evening low tide. The tide heights fall between this range depending on seasonality and time of day.

### Focal species use and timing

Please indicate Presence/Absence/Unknown for each species and section of annual cycle. If you feel like adding another guild or species that is important to the area and warrants more interest, indicate it in the blank spaces at the bottom.

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

Focal Species information collected from eBird species checklist data (2008-2010)

## Location of Type 1 and 2 habitat within the site

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
Ground Based Aquatic Birds	Estuarine wetlands and shorelines	Unknown
Secretive Marsh Birds	Nearby salt marshes and wetlands	Unknown
Colonial Nesters	Emergent vegetation and trees along shorelines	Unknown
Migrating Shorebirds	Shorelines and estuarine wetlands	Unknown

### Access to Type 1 and Type 2 habitats

The bay is very accessible whether by boat, by vehicle around the roads around the perimeter, or by foot from roads and docks.

### 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

Unknown

### Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed

Unknown

### 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

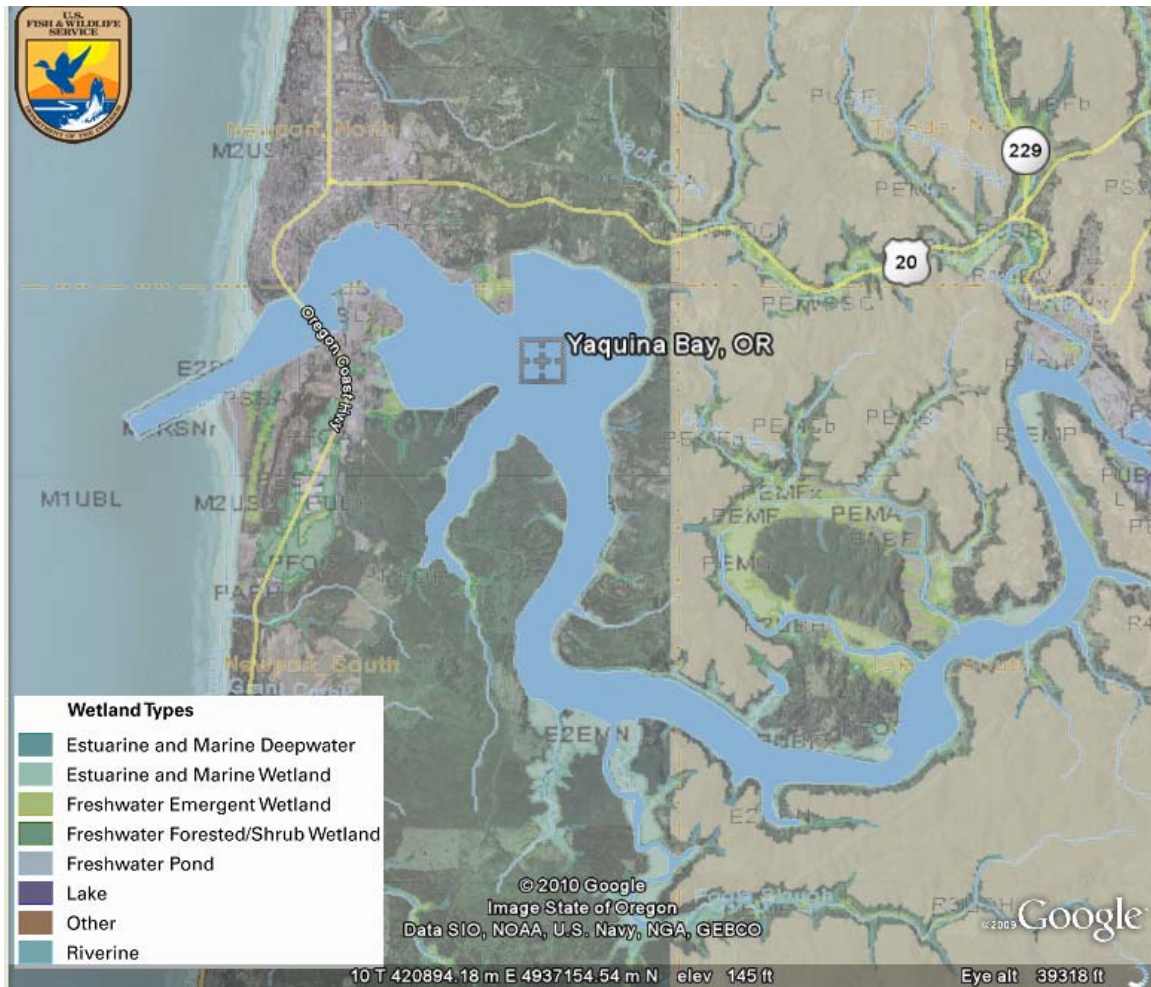
### Potential pilot studies

Unknown

## Literature cited

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**Figure 1:** Google Earth (2010) map of Yaquina Bay with the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (2010) layer.



**Figure 2:** Google Map (2010) road view of Yaquina Bay.

