Prohibited Discharges within Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary

Olympic Coast NMS

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary includes 3,188 square miles of marine waters off the rugged Olympic Peninsula coastline. The sanctuary extends 25 to 50 miles seaward, covering much of the continental shelf and several major submarine canyons. The sanctuary protects a productive upwelling zone, kelp and intertidal communities and the seafloor. There are also over two hundred documented shipwrecks. In addition, the vibrant contemporary communities of the Makah Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Hoh Tribe, and Quinault Nation have forged inseparable ties to the ocean environment.

Office of Law Enforcement

NOAA’s Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) protects marine wildlife and habitat by enforcing domestic laws and supporting international treaty requirements designed to ensure global resources are available for future generations. OLE special agents, enforcement officers, as well as investigative and mission support staff provide stakeholders with compliance assistance and education about the nation’s marine resource laws. OLE’s jurisdiction includes the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, from 3 to 200 miles off the U.S. coast, including 3 million square miles of open-ocean and more than 95,000 miles of coastline. This includes 14 marine sanctuaries and five marine national monuments.

Sewage and Graywater Discharges

PLAN AHEAD!
MANAGE SEWAGE WASTES PROPERLY IN NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES
It is illegal to discharge untreated sewage and graywater in Washington state waters. Use sewage pump-out or dump stations, or mobile pump-out services. Locations near your national marine sanctuary:

- Port of Port Angeles – (360) 457-4505
  - John Wayne Marina Fuel Dock
- Port of Grays Harbor - (360) 533-9528
  - Westport Marina - Float 20

REDUCE GRAYWATER DISCHARGES
Use a phosphate-free soap to minimize the impacts of graywater on the marine environment. Also, minimize discharge by doing dishes and showers on-shore whenever possible.

Bilge Water and Oily Discharges

OIL FROM YOUR BILGE IS BAD FOR THE OCEAN
It is illegal to discharge oily (dirty) bilge water. Keep engines well-tuned and check hoses and fittings regularly. Place an oil absorbent pad or pillow in your vessel’s bilge.

DO NOT ADD SOAP
Never use soap to disperse fuel and oil spills. It is harmful to the environment, and it is illegal in state waters. Avoid using bilge cleaners as they may get discharged overboard. Soaps foul pump-out equipment and render absorbent materials ineffective.

General Trash Discharges

STOW IT, DO NOT THROW IT!
Keep your trash on-board. Never throw cigarette butts, fishing line, or any other garbage into the ocean. Take advantage of shore-side facilities to recycle plastic, glass, metal, and paper. Avoid excess packaging.

To Report a Possible Violation

Please contact NOAA’s Office of Law Enforcement. Call (800) 853-1964 OR visit fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/enforcement

For More Information

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
olympiccoast.noaa.gov
Office of Law Enforcement
fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/enforcement

Photo: Matt McIntosh/NOAA