



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Krisitn Gross

Date comment received:

January 23, 2026 04:53 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

hazypictures@protonmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I would like to see OPRD adopt no take off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge and other federally lands as well as prohibiting drone use in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas

People come to OR state parks to enjoy nature and drones are incredibly disruptive of this. I think drone use in ORSP should be very limited.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Mark Kille

Date comment received:

January 23, 2026 07:42 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

markakille@icloud.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I appreciate that State Park managers will now have tools to actually regulate drone use in state parks, with these new rules. And it's great that draft rules specifically prohibit drone use in Snowy Plover management areas.

However, this does not go far enough. The rules should prohibit drone use in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas as well.

Drones disturb birds and wildlife because they are perceived to be predators and have been shown to cause significant impacts to nesting birds. With this in mind, I urge OPRD to take a more precautionary approach to where and when it allows drone use. Oregon's newly updated State Wildlife Action Plan includes over 70 at-risk species of birds and mammals, many of which are known to be negatively impacted by drones.

I recommend OPRD adopt no take off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge and other federally lands designated to protect wildlife populations and habitats. Millions of Oregonians and out-of-state visitors enjoy Oregon's amazing state parks. The vast majority of visitors come to parks to enjoy beautiful landscapes, wildlife and quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. It is wrong to harm sensitive birds and other wildlife to entertain the tiny fraction of visitors who want to fly drones.

Thank you.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Angela Benton

Date comment received:

January 23, 2026 10:22 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

benton.amb@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

- Thank you for the work you are doing to adopt new drone rules. Drones disturb birds and wildlife, they are perceived to be predators and have been shown to cause significant impacts to nesting birds. I urge OPRD to take a precautionary approach to where and when it allows drone use.
- Drones also disturb humans. Having been buzzed by drones when walking on the beach as well as in local parks, I can attest that it is unpleasant to have the sights and sounds of nature disrupted by a nearby drone. I have also observed drones launched from the beach hovering near the windows of my home, which is an invasion of privacy.
- Only a small fraction of the millions of visitors to Oregon beaches and parks operate drones. **Their drone usage rights should not surpass the rights of the rest of us** to enjoy beautiful landscapes, wildlife and quiet time of everyday life. OPRD should only allow drone use in a small number of limited areas that are not visited by people seeking natural qualities of parks and beaches and that are not used by sensitive birds and other wildlife.
- Oregon's newly updated [**State Wildlife Action Plan**](#) includes over 70 at-risk species of birds and mammals, many of which are known to be negatively impacted by drones. This includes birds like the Black Oystercatcher, Brown Pelican, Caspian Tern, Peregrine Falcon and mammals including the Steller's Sea Lion.
- I appreciate State Parks draft rules specifically prohibiting drone use in Snowy Plover management areas. The rules should also **prohibit drone use in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas as well.**
- Additionally, OPRD should adopt no take off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge and other federally lands designated to protect wildlife populations and habitats. These federal lands are places of refuge for many at risk species, and need to be protected.

Thank you for the public comment opportunity.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Anne Buckley

Date comment received:

January 23, 2026 10:25 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

aebuckle@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

To ORPD:

- I am pleased to see that with the adoption of new rules, State Park managers will now have some tools to actually regulate drone use in state parks.
- Drones disturb birds and wildlife because they are perceived to be predators and have been shown to cause significant impacts to nesting birds. With this in mind, I urge OPRD to take a precautionary approach to where and when it allows drone use.
- Millions of Oregonians and out-of-state visitors enjoy Oregon's amazing state parks. **Only a small fraction of these users operate drones yet their noise and intrusion affect wildlife and scenic habitats.** The vast majority of visitors come to parks to enjoy beautiful landscapes, wildlife and quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. **OPRD should recognize this aspect of visitor use and only allow drone use in a small number of limited areas** that are not visited by people seeking natural qualities of the parks and that are not used by sensitive birds and other wildlife.
- Oregon's newly updated [**State Wildlife Action Plan**](#) includes over 70 at-risk species of birds

and mammals, many of which are known to be negatively impacted by drones. This includes birds like the Black Oystercatcher, Brown Pelican, Caspian Tern, Peregrine Falcon and mammals including the Harbor Seal and Steller's Sea Lion.

- It's great to see ORPD draft rules specifically prohibiting drone use in Snowy Plover management areas but more is needed. **The rules should prohibit drone use in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas as well.**

I urge OPRD adopt no take-off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge and other federally lands designated to protect wildlife populations and habitats.

Thank you,
Anne



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Douglas Wagner

Date comment received:

January 24, 2026 05:55 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

drwagner01@msn.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

THERE SHOULD BE NO ACCESS FOR DRONE ACTIVITY IN STATE PARKS. DRONES DISRUPT WILDLIFE, PARK VISITORS, AND THEIR CHARGES (HORSES, DOGS ETC.)

- 1) We know from experience that park those operating drones will not be able to follow the guidelines. Drones pose risk of injury to others on a variety of levels (scaring others, animals and if there is a malfunction, direct injury).
- 2) Harassment of others by drones is regulated by ORS 837.730 for private property, but there is no such recourse for public property harassment. The invasion of privacy, illegally capturing images of others, and the harassment of individuals, wildlife and other animals will lead to conflicts at the park.
- 3) Numerous studies have clearly shown that drones - their noise (which is foreign to animals and their rapid approach at various altitudes - is extremely threatening to animals and wildlife. Links to the articles are provided.
- 4) According to Dedrone, in 2023 there were over 1 million drone flight violations.
According to the MDPI research publication "Impact of Drone Disturbances on Wildlife" - published in April 2025, there are severe impacts of drones on wildlife ranging from increase in stress, heart rate and rapid evasive or herding behaviors.
According to a publication in the journal "Rangeland" - drones cause stress and evasive behavior in DOMESTIC horses even upon the sound of drone approaching and this could cause serious injury to horse and rider in State Parks.
[Dedrone's Drone Violation Database](#) [Impact of Drone Disturbances on Wildlife: A Review](#)
- 5) The number of clear violations of drone use on public lands is obvious from searches for lawsuits related to such activities. Everything from injury lawsuits, to privacy lawsuits, to

endangering wildlife lawsuits. Personally I have witnessed drone activity in Cannon Beach drive/scare away the return and nesting of puffins, in clear violation of established law for that protected area, but the staff on site were not able to control the violation or identify the perpetrator. The remote control of drones makes enforcement of regulations nearly (if not totally) impossible.

6) Nothing in the current proposed guidelines makes it a requirement for drone operators to have liability insurance, which has become a requirement in many states for drone owners, so there is little protection for those harassed or injured by drone activity in our State Parks.

Allowing drones in any State Park is unnecessary. We don't allow firearms - which are clearly dangerous to others, including wildlife - why would we allow drones which can be equally dangerous, invade the privacy of others, and harass and threaten wildlife and animals? There is no need for this incursion on public safety and public enjoyment of our public lands.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Darlene Raish

Date comment received:

January 24, 2026 10:22 PM

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

operators must have an approved permit. the number of drones per day should be limited.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Kerstin Koegler

Date comment received:

January 26, 2026 08:13 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

Kerstinyj@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

Good morning. We are frequent users of Oregon State Parks, both as campers and day users for hiking. We purchase annual passes and support Oregon Parks as long-term members of Oregon Parks Forever. As such, we vehemently oppose the use of any drone activity in any of Oregon's State Parks. Earlier this month we were at Shore Acres to view the King Tides and the presence of a drone spoiled the simple and quiet pleasure of nature by buzzing around. Allowing drones in any Oregon State Park violates the serene and healing environment of nature and makes it more difficult to escape the craziness of our modern world.

Best Regards ,

Kerstin Koegler
5035449100



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

k davis

Date comment received:

January 26, 2026 08:15 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

kimmardav@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I am opposed to allowing drones in our state parks. Drones disturb birds and wildlife and have a significant impact on nesting birds. Many create disturbing high pitched noises, which even humans with sensitive hearing find distressing. I urge OPRD to take a precautionary approach to where and when drone use is permitted, and in this case to put wildlife survival over the entertainment of humans.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Laurie Friedman

Date comment received:

January 27, 2026 06:39 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

tokku129@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I urge Oregon Parks and Recreation to ban ALL drone use in the near vicinity of ANY offshore islands used by nesting seabird colonies. An exception could be made for permitted scientific purposes.

Our coastal seabird populations are in decline, and extra care must be taken to help their survival.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Linda Reinhart

Date comment received:

January 27, 2026 07:16 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

peanutaba111@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I belong to an equestrian club and am not excited about having drones flying overhead while I am dealing with my horse. They are prey animals and do react to something they perceive as dangerous and could become dangerous to the handler! Also, I am out and about to enjoy the peace and quiet of the great outdoors and would not appreciate having to listen to drones flying overhead. They have a place for emergencies but keep them out of the parks



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Shadrach Wood

Date comment received:

January 27, 2026 10:55 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

shadrach.wood@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

Drones disturb birds and wildlife because they are perceived to be predators and have been shown to cause significant impacts to nesting birds. With this in mind, we urge OPRD to take a precautionary approach to where and when it allows drone use. The rules should prohibit drone use in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas. I endorse OPRD adopting no take off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuges, as well as other property that is designated to protect wildlife and their habitats. I do not feel drones are necessary to enjoy wild spaces - after all, we've been getting by without them just fine. Please consider making policy that protects wildlife from drones and other unnecessary human intervention.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Marina Richie

Date comment received:

January 28, 2026 02:38 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

marinarichie1@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I strongly support adopting new rules for state park managers to be effectively able to regulate drone use in state parks. I have personally witnessed drone users in state parks launching their drones over the protected seabird nesting islands just offshore on the Oregon coast. This must stop--it's hard to prevent drone use that is leading to the death of seabirds on the national wildlife refuge offshore but originating in a state park. With new rules, I hope to see this kind of violation never happen again.

Drones are scientifically proven to disturb birds and wildlife that see them as predators--and nesting birds are at highest risk. Where drone use is allowed, there must be many precautions to prevent this disruption--especially considering the sharp declines of many bird and wildlife species and their habitats. Oregon's State Wildlife Action plan identifies 70 species of wildlife that are disturbed by drones, including oystercatchers, pelicans, peregrine falcons, harbor seals, and steller sea lions.

Drones are roperated only by a small percentage of the millions of visitors to Oregon's state parks. OPRD needs to recognize that the vast majority are there without drones--and want a peaceful experience. Drone use should be very limited to small areas. There are plenty of places outside of state parks for drone users to operate.

While the draft rules are prohibiting drone use in snowy plover management areas (thank you!), they should be extended to prohibit drone use specifically in all Rocky Habitat Management Areas, Marine Reserves, and Marine Protected Areas.

Finally, to prevent drone incursions on protected national wildlife refuges, there should be no

take off and landing rules within a half mile buffer.

Thank you-- Marina Richie, Bend, Oregon



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Date comment received:

January 28, 2026 06:50 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

sgtone@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

susan tone

Date comment received:

January 28, 2026 06:59 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

susantone@nehalemnet.net

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

I oppose all use of drones in Oregon State Parks and on State Park lands. Drone use for scientific research or project monitoring IF overseen and verified by State Park or associated agencies could be allowed as long as the nesting seasons of shore & sea birds are NOT disturbed.

There is no legitimate argument for allowing the general public to fly drones for recreational purposes on any State Park lands. It is disruptive to other visitors, poses a hazard to wildlife and humans, and cannot be controlled by the limited resources of Oregon State Parks enforcement rangers or other employees. I personally have been harassed by a low flying drone while beach walking. Give these drone hobbyists an inch and they will take a mile and fly their toys right into your face.

Please prohibit all drone use on State Parks Lands.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Michael Noack

Date comment received:

January 28, 2026 09:24 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

Rfoxcreek@peak.org

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

Good Day,

I would like to thank the State Parks for the opportunity to describe my personal experiences regarding drones on state beaches.

With the constant increase of visitors to the coast, comes more and more drones. Unfortunately many drone owners are not responsible users. How does the state regulate their usage? Possible educational outreach? Possibly closing parks and beaches to drone take-off and landings? Where will drones be allowed?

Determining appropriate designated drone take-off and landing areas “should” minimize wildlife, cultural, and recreational impacts. Additionally, a final map of designated take-off and landing locations should be included on the State Parks website. It will be necessary to install closure signage to help with enforcement. Is the State Parks thinking of hiring Beach Rangers to patrol parks and beaches?

Areas approved for drone use should include rules that protect wildlife:

- No drone take-offs or landing to occur within 100m of any observed birds and/or known nesting locations or from seal/sea lion haul out and pupping areas.

- Drone take-off and landings should be discontinued if repeated wildlife disturbance events occur in the same location.

All areas should be periodically reviewed for inclusion or removal as designated drone take-off and landing areas based on the best available science as wildlife usage and other factors can change over time.

The State Parks should include strong enforcement mechanisms in final rules.

Before I close I would like to include one of my personal experiences as I mentioned in my opening sentence. I live in Seal Rock and I've often noticed infractions of beach rules. There is a person who uses a rake to draw mandalas in the low tide wet sand. That wouldn't be such a problem except she dominates the beach, while allowing her dog to run loose chasing birds, bothering other dogs on leash, and also their owners. Then recently there have been drones photographing her work. The drones have also disturbed birds on the beach and rocks.

Thank you,
Michael Noack
Seal Rock, O



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

April Atwood

Date comment received:

January 29, 2026 07:18 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

hissrattlesnap@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

- I appreciate that, with the adoption of new rules, State Park managers will now have tools to actually regulate drone use in state parks.
- Millions of Oregonians and out-of-state visitors enjoy Oregon's amazing state parks. **Only a small fraction of these users operate drones yet their noise and intrusion affect wildlife and scenic habitats.** The vast majority of visitors come to parks to enjoy beautiful landscapes, wildlife and quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. **OPRD should recognize this aspect of visitor use and only allow drone use in a small number of limited areas** that are not visited by people seeking natural qualities of the parks and that are not used by sensitive birds and other wildlife.
- **I recommend OPRD adopt no take off and landing rules in a 0.5mi buffer in OPRD managed land adjacent to all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge and other federally lands** designated to protect wildlife populations and habitats.



Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Rick Jay

Date comment received:

January 30, 2026 12:10 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

rdjdlg@gmail.com

Location (if provided): {city}, {state}

Public comment:

Hello,

I believe there has been a serious error in the wording for the proposed rules regarding The Take-off and Landing of Drones in Oregon State Parks.

The idea is probably to maintain the peace and quiet of the Parks by prohibiting loud, buzzing, motorized drones. These usually have 4 or more small rotor blades, turning at a high RPM creating a loud buzzing sound. They are flown remotely, sometimes even beyond the sight of the operator or pilot.

Please simply insert the word “motorized” into the new rule language. As written, without the word “motorized” you will ban the flying of kites, balloons, model gliders, Frisbees, and other forms of silent flying objects.

Please amend the Rule by inserting the word “MOTORIZED” in the definition of “Drone” to solve this obvious problem!

Sincerely,

Rick Jay
Annual Oregon State Park visitor.