



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

**Netarts Bay**  
BCS number: 47-36

**Site description author(s)**

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**Site location (UTM)**

Datum: NAD83, Zone: 10, Easting: 425764, Northing: 5028190

**General description**

Netarts Bay is a marine dominated estuary in Tillamook County on the northern Oregon Coast. The extreme fluctuation of the tide makes this an ideal foraging area for crustaceans and other invertebrates due to the flux of nutrients between the tides, and the accessibility to the food sources during low tide.

**Boundaries and ownership**

*Boundaries:*

Netarts Bay is located on the Pacific coast of northern Oregon, bordered on the east by Whiskey Creek Rd. It is northeast from Cape Lookout State Park and at the south coastal edge in the town of Netarts.

*Ownership:*

Unknown

**Water levels**

The bay is tidally influenced. Fluctuations in water levels can be extreme based upon the tides or ocean/river flooding. The estuary comprises over 2,300 acres of water at high tide, and over 1,500 acres of exposed tideland at low tide (National Audubon Society 2010).

### 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>	Present	Present	Unknown
<b>Colonial Nesting Bird Group</b>	Present	Present	Unknown
<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	Unknown
Barrow's Goldeneye	Present	Unknown	Unknown
Black Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Black-crowned Night Heron	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Black-necked Stilt	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Bufflehead	Present	Present	Unknown
California Gull	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Caspian Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Clark's Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Common Loon	Unknown	Present	Unknown
Dusky Canada Goose	Present	Unknown	Unknown
Eared Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Forster's Tern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Franklin's Gull	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Great Blue Heron	Unknown	Present	Present
Greater Sandhill Crane	Unknown	Unknown	V. Rarely
Green Heron	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Least Bittern	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Lesser Sandhill Crane	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Long-billed Curlew	V. Rarely	Unknown	Present
Pied-billed Grebe	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Red-necked Grebe	Present	Unknown	Unknown
Snowy Egret	Present	Unknown	Unknown
Sora	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Upland Sandpiper	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Virginia Rail	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Western Grebe	Unknown	Present	Unknown
Western Snowy Plover	Present (beach)	v. Rarely (beach)	Unknown
White-faced Ibis	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Yellow Rail	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

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

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
Ground Based Aquatic Birds	Mudflats, Eelgrass	Unknown
Secretive Marsh Birds	Unknown	Unknown
Colonial Nesters	Coastal Salt Marsh	Unknown
Migrating Shorebirds	Mudflats	Unknown

### Access to Type 1 and Type 2 habitats

*Briefly describe challenging aspects of accessing bird habitat., e.g. the road to aspen lake has not been graded for many years, 4WD is recommended. Or access by boat only*  
Unknown

### 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

High Salt marsh acreage minimal

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

Unknown

### Past and current surveys

Yearly Christmas Bird Count

Wintering and breeding window surveys for snowy plover, noting other spp present

Wintering eagle counts and breeding season nest monitoring

Mid-winter waterfowl counts

Anecdotal observations at all times of year

### 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

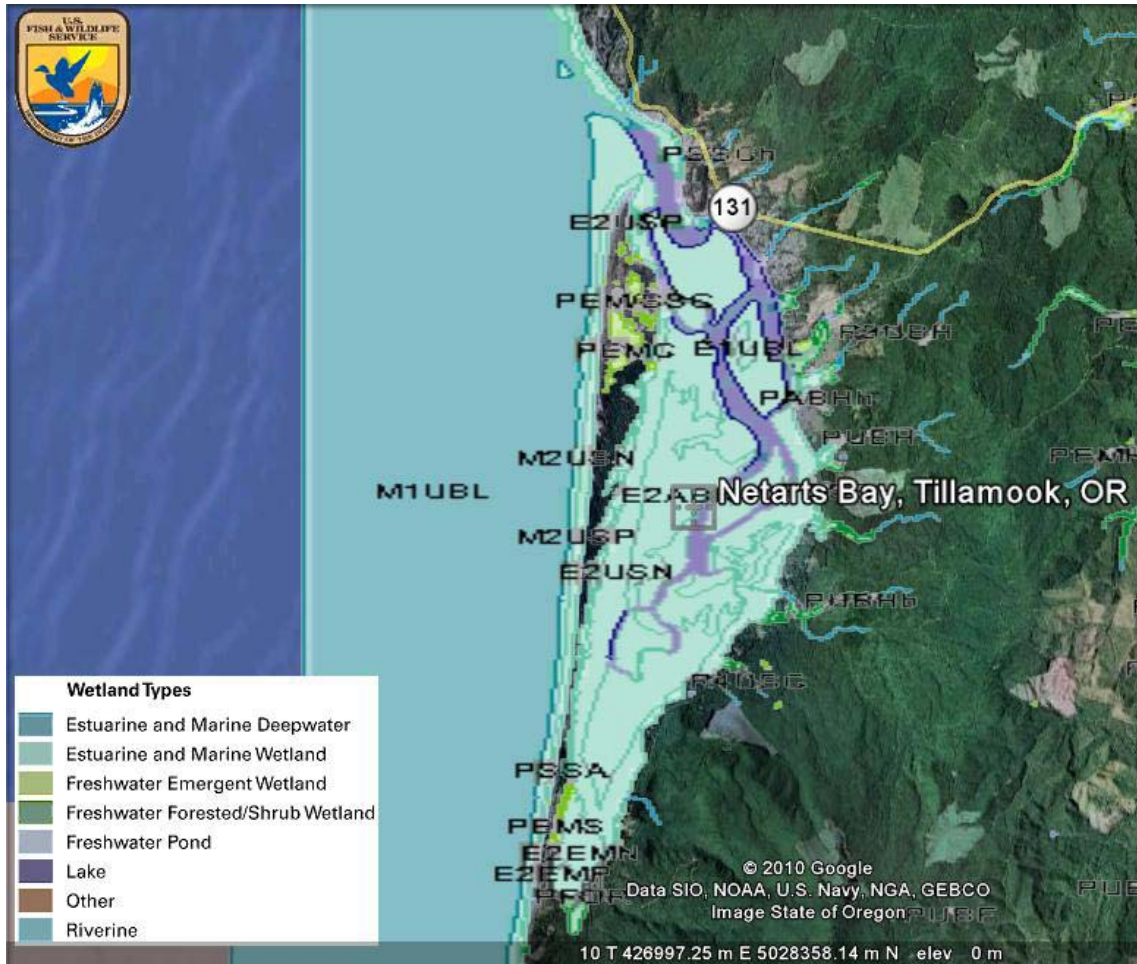
### Potential pilot studies

Unknown

## Literature cited

- Google, Inc. 2010. Netarts Bay. Google Earth (Version 5.1.3533.1731) [Software]. Available from <http://earth.google.com>. Accessed March 16, 2010.
- Google Map. 2010. Map of Netarts Bay, Oregon. <http://maps.google.com/>. Accessed March 16, 2010.
- National Audubon Society. 2010. Important Bird Areas in the U.S. Available at <http://audubonportland.org/bird/iba>. Accessed March 16, 2010.
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2010. National Wetlands Inventory website. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/>. Accessed March 16, 2010.

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



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

