

Tides from 1B

current vulnerabilities to flooding. Even more important, they help us visualize and understand the coming impacts of sea level rise (such as flooding and erosion) to coastal communities. Anyone can participate by taking a photo during the peak period of a king tide, anywhere on the outer coast or along estuaries or lower

river valleys. Photos that show the highest stand of the tide with reference to a man-made structure or natural feature reveal the reach of the tide most clearly. Participants then submit their photos through the project website (www.oregonkingtides.net). The information gathered can help to guide land use regulations that can be an important

component in strategies to decrease tidal impacts to coastal infrastructure, such as appropriate oceanfront or riverine setbacks, moveable development, and storm-water management. Planning for coastal hazards and sea level rise impacts now will help to prevent haphazard management decisions in the future. To get a better view of the project, browse

the King Tides photo albums by season at www.flickr.com/photos/orkingtide/albums. You don't have to be a scientist to understand and help to document how sea level rise may impact places in our own communities. The Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP) is a networked program of coastal cities, counties, and state agencies working to pro-

tect Oregon's estuaries, shorelands, beaches and dunes, and ocean resources. CoastWatch, a project of the nonprofit Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, organizes hundreds of volunteers who adopt one-mile segments of the Oregon shoreline, monitoring these stretches of coast for both natural changes and human impacts. CoastWatch also orga-

nizes a number of citizen science projects, including the King Tides Project. For more information, contact Meg Reed, Coastal Shores Specialist with the OCMP program at 541-514-0091, by email at meg.reed@state.or.us; or Jesse Jones, CoastWatch Volunteer Coordinator, by calling 503-989-7244 or email him at jesse@oregonshores.org.

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