



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area
750 Lighthouse Drive NW
Newport, OR 97365



ORGANIZED EVENT POLICY

Overview

We are honored that you are considering hosting your special day on public lands at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area (Yaquina Head).

Organized groups wishing to host an event at Yaquina Head must apply and be approved for a [BLM Special Recreation Permit](#) and pay all associated Special Recreation Fees. Events must take place during operating hours and may not exceed 30 minutes to minimize disruption to the public. The number of participants is limited to 30 people (15 inside the lighthouse). The Interpretive Center is not available for private use.

Allowable Events

- All special events must apply and be approved for a [Special Recreation Permit](#) and pay all associated Special Recreation Fees. Event approval is subject to staff and site availability.
- Events must take place during [regular site hours](#).
- Events must not exceed 30 minutes in duration to minimize disruption to the public.
- The number of participants is limited to no more than 30 people (15 inside lighthouse), including a wedding party, photographer, guests, officiates and any other persons related to the event.
- Issuance of a Special Recreation Permit does not grant exclusive use of a site or area. Any public area where the event will occur will remain open for all visitors (except events under an assigned site fee in the lighthouse). BLM staff will assist in directing public visitors away from the event. However, the event must not interfere with public access or disrupt the visitor experiences or traffic flow.
- There are six areas within Yaquina Head where events may occur:
 - Exterior Lighthouse Viewing Deck (Deck must remain open to public use)
 - South Lawn of Lighthouse
 - Quarry Cove Overlook Platform
 - Quarry Cove Beach*
 - Cobble Beach*

- Lower Level of Lighthouse (limited to 15 participants, must take place outside of regularly scheduled lighthouse tour hours, and subject to a \$210 assigned site fee)

* Marine wildlife is frequently present at Quarry Cove and Cobble Beach. Young seal pups are generally present on the beaches in May and June and are protected by federal law. During sensitive periods, the beach will be closed to all visitor use, including special events.

How to Apply for a Permit

- We recommend starting the permitting process at least six weeks prior to the event. The permit application must be submitted and associated fees paid at least 14 days prior to the event.
- Events will be authorized on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to staff, site availability, and the following Special Recreation Fees:
 - \$130.00 Minimum Use Fee (non-refundable; up to 18 participants; \$130 minimum or \$7.00 per person for groups larger than 18)
 - \$210.00 Assigned Use Fee (for weddings in lower level/rotunda of Lighthouse)
 - \$300.00 Security Deposit/Bond (refundable)
- While it is not mandatory, a pre-application consultation is highly recommended. Consultation helps the BLM fully understand the nature and scope of the event proposal and provides the applicant an opportunity to ask and answer questions. During consultation, potential issues can be identified, and suitable alternatives related to timing, location, and other factors can be discussed. To initiate consultation, email blm_or_no_yhona_comments@blm.gov with the following information:
 - Name of applicant and organization (if applicable)
 - Date and time of proposed event
 - Location of proposed event
 - Description of proposed event
 - Anticipated number of participants (maximum 30, 15 inside lighthouse)
 - Anticipated supplies and materials you would bring to event (e.g. decorations, chairs, first aid station, signs, etc.)
- Following consultation, complete and return the [BLM Special Recreation Permit Application](#) (Form 2930-1) and pay all associated Special Recreation Fees at least 14 days prior to the event.
- Approved events will be issued a Special Recreation Permit (Form 2930-2). A copy of the permit must be on hand during the event. Any violation of the permit or stipulations will result in forfeit of the \$300.00 security deposit.

Event Details – General

- All vehicles associated with the event, including permittees and guests, are subject to the [standard entry fees](#). If the permittee would like to provide access for guests, passes may be purchased no more than three days in advance of the event.
- Limited decorations may be allowed. Any proposed decorations must be authorized in writing in the permit. Any approved decorations may be placed on-site 60 minutes prior to the event and removed within 60 minutes of the conclusion of the event. Decorations may NOT be fastened to any historic structures.
- Chairs are not provided by the BLM. Permittees must provide their own chairs and are requested to limit use to accommodate persons needing assistance (such as a person with a disability), or for a musician with an instrument requiring the use of a chair.
- Electricity is not available; generators are prohibited.
- Any music or noise associated with the event must be at a low volume and must not cause inconvenience, annoyance or alarm to wildlife or the general public.
- Pets must be leashed at all times and are not allowed west of the lighthouse parking lot (including inside the Lighthouse, or on the lawn or observation deck) nor on beaches when marine mammals are present.
- “Showering” (throwing rice, bird seed, etc.) of any kind is prohibited.
- Yaquina Head is closed to the discharge of firearms and other incendiary or explosive devices as well as model planes, drones, and balloon releases. Gun salutes and fireworks are also prohibited.
- All trash, decorations, or other materials from the event must be removed within 60 minutes of the conclusion of the ceremony. The site must be returned to pre-event conditions. Event clean-up is the responsibility of the wedding party. Failure to remove items associated with the event will result in the forfeit of the security deposit.
- Yaquina Head highly recommends planning for an alternate site as coastal conditions are variable and may impact event plans. Notable natural disruptions include kelp flies (July through September), high winds, heavy rain, seals on beach, or variable tides.

Event Details – Historic Lighthouse

- Events inside the lighthouse will only be authorized outside of regularly scheduled tour hours, which vary throughout the year.
- Group size is limited to 15 total (permittees, guests, officiate, photographer, etc.) participants
- Events inside the lighthouse are subject to an additional assigned site fee of \$210.00. Events are scheduled outside of tour hours; there will be no public access to the Lighthouse during the permitted event.

- Due to limited parking near the Lighthouse, event parking may have to occur at the Interpretive Center parking lot, 1/3 mile away by paved trail.
- Food and/or beverages are prohibited in the Lighthouse.
- Only the lower level/rotunda of the Lighthouse is available for weddings. The permittees and guests are prohibited from entering the upper levels of the lighthouse.

Changes and Cancellations

- Because special events impact site staffing and operations, permit changes require advance notification.
- Events cancelled due to unavoidable and/or catastrophic natural causes including flooding, severe weather, or other similar natural events may be entitled to a full refund. Requests for cancellations due to unavoidable natural causes must occur at least four (4) hours prior to the scheduled event.
- Events cancelled for any other reason must receive a 14-day advance notice for a refund. The security deposit (\$300) and assigned site fee (if applicable), may be returned. The \$130 minimum use fee is non-refundable.

Contact Information

Special Recreation Permit Ranger

blm_or_no_yhona_comments@blm.gov

541-574-3100