



United States Department of the Interior

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



Wedding Policy

Congratulations! We are honored that you are considering hosting your special day on public lands at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area (YHONA). The following procedures apply to weddings at YHONA.

GENERAL

1. While it is not mandatory, a pre-application consultation is highly recommended. A pre-application consultation helps the BLM fully understand the nature and scope of the event proposal, and it gives an applicant the opportunity to ask and answer questions and to identify and develop suitable alternatives with regard to timing, location, and other factors. Please call 541-574-3100 to begin the consultation process.
2. Wedding parties must complete the Special Recreation Permit Application (Form 2930-1), pay estimated fees, and return any additional requested documents and receive an authorization from the Site Manager at least 14 days prior to the scheduled event. Approved events will be issued a special recreation permit (Form 2930-2).
3. Weddings must take place during regular site hours (sunrise to sunset).
4. There are six areas within YHONA where weddings may occur:

Lighthouse Viewing Deck (Note: One of the three pods must remain open to public use)

South Lawn of Lighthouse

Quarry Cove Overlook Platform

Quarry Cove Beach*

Cobble Beach*

Lower Level of Lighthouse (Note: Special events must take place outside of regularly scheduled lighthouse tour hours and are 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.

5. Weddings will be authorized on a first-come, first-served basis; subject to staff and site availability.

6. The number of participants is limited to no more than 30 people, including the wedding party, photographer, guests, officiants and any other persons related to the event.
7. Ceremonies must not exceed 45 minutes in duration to minimize disruption to the general public.
8. Issuance of a special recreation permit does not grant exclusive use of a site or area. Any public area where the wedding will occur will remain open for all visitors (except weddings under an assigned site fee in the lighthouse). BLM staff will assist in directing public visitors away from the ceremony. However, the wedding must not interfere with public access or disrupt the visitor experiences or traffic flow.
9. All vehicles associated with the event, including the wedding party and guests, are subject to the standard amenity fee (\$7/standard vehicle; passes accepted) for access to the site. If the wedding party would like provide access for their guests, they may purchase site passes up to three days in advance of the event and distribute directly to guests.
10. YHONA highly recommends planning for an alternate site as weather conditions are variable and natural cycles may impact wedding plans. Notable natural disruptions include kelp fly hatchings (July/August), high winds, heavy rain or variable tides.
11. Limited decorations may be allowed. Decorations may **NOT** be fastened to any historic structures. Any proposed decorations must be authorized in writing in the permit. Any approved decorations may be placed on-site within one hour of the beginning of the ceremony. Decorations must be removed within one hour of the conclusion of the ceremony.
12. Chairs are not provided by the BLM. Wedding parties must provide their own chairs and are requested to limit the use of chairs to accommodate persons needing assistance (such as a person with a disability or limited standing ability), or for a musician with an instrument requiring the use of a chair.
13. Electricity is not available; generators are prohibited.
14. 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.
15. Pets must be leashed at all times. Pets are not allowed west of the lighthouse parking lot (including inside the Lighthouse, or on the lawn or observation decks) nor in the Lower Quarry/Cobble Beach areas when wildlife is present.
16. "Showering" (throwing rice, bird seed, etc) of any kind is prohibited.
17. YHONA is closed to the discharge of firearms and other incendiary or explosive devices.

Gun salutes and fireworks are prohibited.

18. All trash, decorations, or other materials from the event must be removed within 30 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.

WEDDINGS IN THE HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSE

1. Weddings inside the lighthouse will only be authorized outside of regularly scheduled tour hours. The lighthouse operation hours vary throughout the year; contact Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area at 541-574-3100 to determine lighthouse availability.
2. Weddings inside the lighthouse are subject to an additional assigned site fee of \$210.00. However, because weddings are only scheduled outside of tour hours, there will be no public access to the area during the event.
3. Due to limited parking near the lighthouse, any ceremony occurring in or near the lighthouse is not guaranteed a place to park. Additional parking is available in the overflow parking lot located at the Interpretive Center, ¼ mile away by paved trail.
4. Food and/or beverages are prohibited in the lighthouse.
5. Only the lower level/rotunda of the lighthouse is available for weddings. The wedding party and guests are prohibited from entering the upper levels of the lighthouse.

FEES AND PAYMENT

Pre-payment of all estimated fees is due prior to the authorization of the permit. The Site Manager will assist in estimating the correct fees once an application has been received. Applicants may pay by check, cash or credit card (over-the-phone during regular business hours).

Checks are made payable to **USDI - BLM** and sent to:

BLM - Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area
Attention: Site Manager
750 Lighthouse Drive
Newport, OR 97365

Associated SRP Fees:

*\$105.00 Minimum Use Fee for Organized Group (non-refundable; up to 21 participants)
\$210.00 Assigned Use Fee (for weddings in lower level/rotunda of Lighthouse)
\$300.00 Security Deposit/Bond (refundable)

*Organized use (including special events such as weddings) on BLM-administered lands is subject to a fee of \$5 per person per day, with a minimum use fee of \$105 due in advance of the

permit authorization. The minimum use fee covers up to 21 participants. An additional \$5 fee per person will apply to wedding parties with 22-30 participants.

Additionally, all vehicles entering the site, including those participating in the event (wedding party/guests), are subject to the standard amenity fee for site entry.

Any violation of the permit or stipulations will result in forfeit the \$300.00 security deposit.

Note: Security Deposit/Bond refunds may take up to eight weeks for processing.

CANCELLATION

Weddings are authorized on a first-come, first-served basis, and sites are not double-booked for special events. Additionally, a BLM staff member must be assigned to your special event. Thus, changes in the administration of an SRP require advance notification.

Weddings 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 cancelations due to unavoidable natural causes must occur at least four (4) hours prior to the scheduled event. The applicant must contact the site at 541-574-3100.

Weddings cancelled for any other reason must give at least 14 days advance notice to request a refund. The minimum use fee, security deposit and assigned site fee (if applicable), less the cost of processing the permit, may be returned.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for a wedding at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, complete the attached Special Recreation Permit Form 2930-1 for a wedding at YHONA. Forms may be mailed to Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area 750 NW Lighthouse Drive Newport, OR 97365 or a signed electronic copy can be submitted to BLM_OR_SA_YHONA_Comments@blm.gov.

The Site Manager will review your application, estimate fees associated with the event and may request additional information, including acknowledgement of relevant stipulations. The estimated permit fees and security deposit must be received prior to final authorization. Please keep in mind that the average processing time for an SRP could take several weeks, and that weddings must be authorized at least 14 days prior to the event.