

## 1. North Jetty

This location is easy to find, just a few miles from town, and is popular enough to be busy on nice weekends. Although ocean conditions can be better here than at the South Jetty beach, the North Jetty is not as popular with surfers. It's not your most wild scenic stretch of Oregon's coast but it's nice and kept clean. Summer winds come from the Northwest so the North Jetty offers no protection from summer winds. However, it is often good during periods of south winds. Things to watch out for: the north jetty, driftwood, and other surfers.

***River surfing between the jetties is extremely dangerous and is not recommended.***

North Jetty of the Siuslaw River is located west of Florence, Oregon. Go to Rhododendron Drive or Hwy. 126 in Florence and head west following the north side of the Siuslaw River. You will turn left when you come to a sign for North Jetty. Look for the Harbor Vista County Park after you make this turn. It offers a great view of the North and South Jetty areas. When you arrive at the North Jetty parking lot, watch out for soft sand to avoid getting stuck. From US 101, turn on Rhododendron Drive. It heads west, then north following alongside the Siuslaw River to the ocean. Drive past Harbor Vista County Park, and watch for Jetty Road, which will take you out to the north jetty.

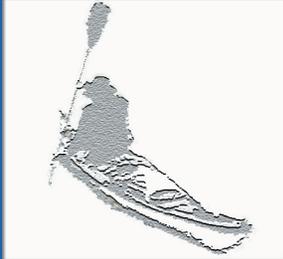
Paddle out near the jetty and catch a wave, body surf or just walk the jetty and view the magnificent Oregon Coastline. On a nice size day you will see a nice right breaking wave about 70 yards to the right of the jetty. The best peaks are here on nice sized days. It's a bit of a paddle but it can be rewarding.

## 2. South Jetty

At South Jetty, surfers, kayakers and other wave riders can be found year around. The South Jetty is located in the Siuslaw National Dunes Recreation Area. There is a use fee for park facilities.

Ocean surfing: According to locals the things to watch out for are: jetty rocks, driftwood, other surfers, and a piece of ship wreck about 75' from the south jetty that is near the low tide zone. At times it sticks out of the sand about 2'. On rare occasions Great White sharks have been reported to be in the area.

***River surfing between the jetties is extremely dangerous and is not recommended.***



South Jetty of the Siuslaw River is located just south and west of Florence, Oregon. On Hwy. 101, in the town of Florence, go south of the bridge over the Siuslaw River about 1/2 mile. Then turn west on South Jetty Road. You will enter the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. You need not pay to enter or pass through this area. The \$5.00 fee is only for use of Forest Service Facilities in this area. This excludes road end parking at the jetty. Go to the end of the paved road and continue on gravel to the jetty rocks. You can drive out on the jetty and park but there is no turn around if you drive very far out.

### **3. The Rock Dock at Lane County Park**

The Rock Dock at Lane County Park is said to be one of the best places for crabbing on the Siuslaw. Managed by Lane County parks, there is a fee for parking and use of the dock. This is a great kayak launch location. Located at the edge of the dunes next to the dock, the beach is a short walk from the parking area to the sandy beach. The shelter of the dunes helps protect from on shore winds and the lagoon provides easy access to the river.

### **4. Florence Oregon: Port of Siuslaw**

The Port of Siuslaw is located to the east end of Old Town Florence across from the commercial docks and the boardwalk. For information on the trail, weather, tide conditions and river safety, visit the Port Office.

### **5. Siuslaw River Bridge**

The Siuslaw River Bridge is a Bascule bridge that spans the Siuslaw River in Florence, Oregon. It was designed by Conde McCullough, built by the Mercer-Fraser Company of Eureka, California, and funded by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works. It opened in 1936.

### **6. Oregon State Parks**

Oregon State Parks owns a small parcel of property along the south shore just east of the Siuslaw River Bridge. Shoreline access is allowed at this location. Please stay close to the shore and do not trespass on neighbor's property. For the location of the site, this site is directly across from the Old Town Boardwalk.



## 7. Bender Landing: Lane County Parks

Bender Landing County Park is located at mile 3 on the North Fork Siuslaw River Road. The road starts at the confluence of the Siuslaw River and the North Fork of the Siuslaw River exhibiting a wide tidal flat, tuning into a meandering pastoral river.

Bender Landing offers a great view of the river, parking, restrooms and a boat ramp. The boat ramp provides easy access to the river for kayakers and canoeists. To the right of the concrete ramp there is a soft surface edge for entering your boats without impacting the hull. Please note that both motorized and non-motorized boaters use this area. Share the facilities and take turns using the boat ramp.

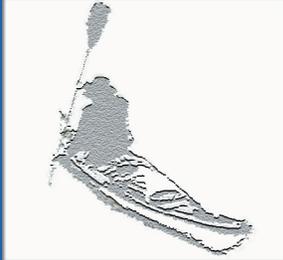
## 8. Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw

The Lower Siuslaw River and Estuary is rich with cultural resources and First Nations History. If you come across a cultural resource site please respect the sensitivity of the site by not disturbing the artifact. If you come into contact with a cultural resource sites or simply want more information on the First Nations History of the area please contact the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw.

Please also be aware that federal and state laws prohibit intentional excavation of known or suspected cultural resources without an archaeological permit and require that we be notified immediately if resources are discovered, uncovered, or disturbed. 43 CFR 10 applies on tribal and federal lands, federal projects, federal agencies, as well as to federal actions and federally funded (directly or indirectly) projects. ORS 97.745 prohibits the willful removal, mutilation, defacing, injury, or destruction of any cairn, burial, human remains, funerary objects, or objects of cultural patrimony of any native Indian. ORS 358.920 prohibits excavation injury, destruction, or alteration of an archaeological site or object or removal of an archaeological object from public or private lands. 541.888.9577

## 9. Cox Island Nature Conservancy

This Island on Oregon's central coast supports eel grass, egret and muskrat habitats. It is an excellent example of an estuarine saltmarsh ecosystem. Located in the Siuslaw River, just seven river miles inland from the Pacific Ocean, much of this low elevation saltmarsh island is flooded daily at high tide. At low tide it is dissected by a maze of tidal channels, adjoined by expanses of mudflats.



### ***How to Prepare for Your Visit***

Due to extreme tidal fluctuations, special care is needed to ensure that boats are safely tied up and secured. Visit the preserve during low tide in the spring and summer. There are no official trails. Foot travel is difficult because small, but deep, tidal channels are often covered by vegetation. For more information, please see our Preserve Visitation Guidelines.

Access to Cox Island is by boat. There is a boat ramp at the Siuslaw marina three miles E of Florence on Highway 126, near the small town of Cushman. The island is one mile downstream from this point. The best places to land are on the northeast corner of the island, and near the old house on the north side.

### **10. South Slough**

South Slough is located just off the main channel of the river. You can see the entry to South Slough when looking to the southeast from Florence's Old Town Boardwalk. South Slough is an easy paddle from Old Town as it offers shelter from the winds and beautiful sunsets. You should take into account that afternoon winds and tides can be strong.

### **11. Bernhardt Creek**

This is a tributary along the south side of the Siuslaw River. This tributary is not navigable by boat due to a dike at the mouth of the creek. The Bernhardt Creek watershed is comprised primarily of private agricultural and forest lands and is an important remnant of the pioneer landscape of the area. There is currently NO public access.

### **12. Karnowsky Creek**

Karnowsky Creek is one of many small, complex tributaries that flow into the Siuslaw River Estuary, located a mere nine miles from the Pacific Ocean. These tributaries and the surrounding watershed comprise critical habitat centers for numerous terrestrial and aquatic species, including salmon, black bear, bobcat, elk, deer, and many birds. Karnowsky Creek also reveals the impact historical land uses and the dynamic effects nature can have on the ecology of an area.

The Siuslaw National Forest owns the Karnowsky Watershed valley. Access to the Siuslaw National Forest is through Private Land and Permission is needed before entering. Please contact the Siuslaw Watershed Council to arrange a visit. At this point the mouth of Karnowsky Creek is not navigable to non-motorized watercraft. As the breach in the dike expands navigability will increase.



### 13. Duncan Inlet

The submerged lands, tidelands, and lower salt marshes of the Siuslaw River from Duncan Inlet downstream to the mouth of the river play an important habitat role for wildlife and overall health of the river. The riverine islands and provide opportunities for viewing birds and other wildlife.

### 14. Tiernan

The Tiernan Boat Ramp is managed by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department. Located about six miles west of Mapleton on Highway 126 the river access is via the boat ramp. Parking is available at this site but facilities are limited.

This site is a great place to access the pastoral inner island portion of the river. You will have an opportunity to paddle around and through the estuarine islands, and view wildlife, wetlands, and natural beauty of the area.

### 15. Sweet Creek

A visit to Sweet Creek Falls is worth the side trip. Just on the east side of the Siuslaw River Bridge in Mapleton is Sweet Creek Road, paved, lightly traveled, and perfect for a bike ride up to 20 miles roundtrip.

If you want to hike, drive 10.2 miles to the Homestead Trailhead turnaround where a traveled path heads upstream past multiple waterfalls and through old Douglas firs.

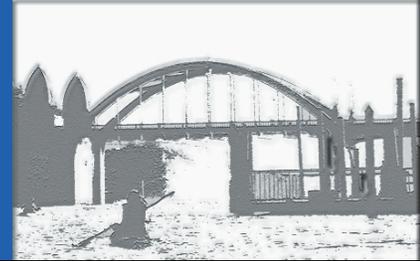
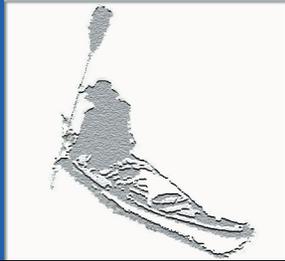
### 16. Mapleton

Mapleton is located about 15 miles up the Siuslaw River from Florence, at the head of the river's tidewater, Mapleton was thought to be named for its many big-leaf maples. Residents live along the river and in adjacent valleys, and the Mapleton Boat Ramp is a popular place during the salmon and steelhead runs. A handful of stores and shops are along Highway 126, the main east-west route between Florence and Eugene.

The Port of Siuslaw boat dock is a great put in location for kayaks and canoes. A small park at the top of the ramp provides a great place to stage equipment and boats while unloading equipment.

### 17. Knowles Creek

Knowles Creek is a tributary off the Siuslaw River located near Mapleton Oregon. There is camping located at Archie Knowles Camp Ground about two miles east of Mapleton along highway 126. This campground can fill up quickly in the summer so call for reservations. This campground is open through Labor Day.



## **18. To Lake Creek and Triangle Lake** *(Other Paddle Opportunities)*

The Lake Creek and Triangle Lake areas of Siuslaw River in Lane County offers both whitewater Kayaking and flat water canoeing. The Lake Creek to Tidewater Section is about 6.5 miles long and is rated by American Whitewater as a class II-III section. Beginners should probably stay away from this stretch unless they go with an experienced paddler.