



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Josh Hopkins

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 11:45 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

josh-21@live.com

**Location (if provided):** Grants Pass, OR

**Public comment:**

Hello,

I remember about 6 years ago the then park manager and park district manager presented this option to the Brookings City Council. The City Council at the time declined to do it and has been a continual issue ever since. I lived in Brookings at the time and we did not feel safe taking our children to Mill Beach due to the rampant camping that was occurring in finding all sorts of trash, feces, burnt foil, and needles. The campers also heavily damaged the vegetation with hatchets and machetes all of which is still within the Nearshore ocean environment. We moved away from Brookings but still visit several times a year and still do not go back to Mill Beach. The time of allowing the public to have free access to camp on the Oregon beaches is over, we have lost this right due to our inability to manage the negligence folks causing these problems, and it should be banned. ODOT/OSP also needs to clean up the right ways along the Oregon coast, the no overnight camping signs mean nothing without enforcement.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Deane Roppe

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 03:25 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

deaneror@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

This camping ban should have been initiated 35 years ago. City fathers were apprehensive about offending people with a ban. I know this because I discussed it with them many times over the last 40 years.

Please apply the no camping band to all Brookings City beaches as soon as possible. Countless heartaches and headaches could have been avoided had this been done at my urging in the past.

I have frequented that beach hundreds of times over the years and could tell you many various stories of questionable behavior from folks attempting to live on that beach. Not just camp, live. Trash, feces, unattended fires within the driftwood and fires in the driftwood areas in general have been a constant for that poor beach.

The ocean beaches south of Brookings along the harbor bench area should also carry that ban. If you don't ban camping on those southern beaches also, the problem will just shift down there. It is already a problem in that southern area and this will just drive all the folks that do their dirty deeds on the Brookings beaches to the harbor bench beach area. If not banned now we will be revisiting this issue.

Please heed my advice because I am talking from many years of experience in those areas. Thank you.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Linda Puzas

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 03:40 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

lpuzas@icloud.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

I wholeheartedly agree that Brookings should be added to the list of cities which prohibits overnight camping within its city limits. It is a safety and health issue. Brookings has wonderful, expertly maintained RV parks for those wishing overnight stays. Let's keep our town safe, clean and a pleasure to visit.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Judi Irving

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 05:40 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

3334judi@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Seal Rock, OR

**Public comment:**

I fully support this proposal. It works well in Newport, the city I am most familiar with. Thank you.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Debbie Jones

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 05:54 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

debsaving@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

I have been a resident of Brookings for 25 years. When my children were little, Mill Beach was one of our favorite "locals" beach to take the kids too.

Shortly after the City of Brookings expanded the parking lot and installed bathroom facilities vagrants started spending more time on Mill Beach. The plumbing to the public restrooms became so damaged due to drug paraphernalia (needles) being flushed that the bathrooms had to be shuttered.

I have not been back to Mill Beach since then, even though I live within walking distance because I am concerned about needles and human waste in the sand.

Although I am aware that drug using vagrants have been frequenting Mill Beach, I had NO IDEA that they have routinely been spending the night on Mill Beach, and there is no ordinance that prohibits this behavior.

PLEASE PASS AN ORDINANCE THAT PROHIBITS OVERNIGHT CAMPING ON MILL BEACH.

It is disgraceful that one of the City's public places has become "Skid Row on the Sand." The City of Brookings has an obligation to pass ordinances that INCREASE protections for the health and safety of its residents and DECREASE blight and misuse.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Blair Elliot

**Date comment received:**

September 3, 2024 07:55 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

bfireaspen@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

Yes please only allow camping in campgrounds or designated camping areas. I sorry, but allowing people to camp for months on a time is not right. This beautiful coast line is being ruined! Sanitation and garbage is a blight, unhealthy and an environmental problem. The homeless problem can not be solved by allowing people to camp anywhere they want. This goes for Harbour also.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Marc Lipman

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 07:24 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

siskiyous@outlook.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

Our coastline has become a home for transients in RV's and tents. These are not tourists, particularly the RV's, some have been here for years. People work all their lives to live here. When they leave, we are left with the mess to clean up. Please stop this nonsense



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

M J Basti

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 08:53 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

unicycledog2@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** , OR

**Public comment:**

I recommend Brookings Oregon coastal areas be added to the list prohibiting camping. Human waste and garbage buried in the sand or left behind are a major public health hazard.





# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Fred Hrusa

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 09:05 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

lonemtn@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

In my opinion this is straightforward. Urinating and defecating on the public beach is unacceptable. Without facilities and means to keep them clean, the beaches will become like our back roads-home to bums in every public place.

They're moving up the South Bank Rd these days, occupying every pullout- above where parking is now blocked further down.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

R. Kathryn Bernhardt

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 10:07 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

crowlady@aol.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

I support the ban on prohibiting overnight parking along the state-owned Boardman Scenic Corridor and other state owned scenic pullouts along Highway 101. These pullouts and parking areas offer gorgeous views and hiking trail entrances of our unparalleled coastline and are a major tourist attraction. The presence of campers, RV's, tents, along with their inevitable trash, sewage disposal, cooking fires and dogs is a detriment to the enjoyment of these spaces. If overnight camping is allowed, there is no proven means to prevent the campers from staying on as long as they wish. This last summer dozens of such campers have used the Rainbow Rock, Brookings Welcome Sign and other areas for weeks at a time. Currently Rainbow Rock pullout has cones deployed preventing even sightseers from stopping there. There are plenty of legitimate camping areas along the coast to accommodate those needing an overnight - or weeks long - stay. Public access areas should not be used as anyone's private campground.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Leah Warner

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 11:04 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

skyturtle92894@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings Harbor , OR

**Public comment:**

I understand the concern, but I would like to oppose this rule. Please do not make it illegal to camp on the beach in Brookings.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

K M

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 12:32 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

kathleen.mistry@yahoo.com

**Location (if provided):** Portland , OR

**Public comment:**

I agree that camping should be banned from the beach within city limits.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Bobbie Snead

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 12:54 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

bobbie.snead@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Keizer, OR

**Public comment:**

I am an Oregonian who loves to visit the beaches along the southern Oregon Coast. I frequently stay in Brookings to enjoy the nearby beaches. The spread of homeless folks camping on the beach, particularly at Mill Beach, has caused me to stop going there. I will take my tourist dollars and go elsewhere, where I can feel safe walking on the beach.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Brian Winkler

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 01:02 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

winkler1949@msn.com

**Location (if provided):** Medford , OR

**Public comment:**

Absolutely no "camping" (living on) a public beach should be allowed anywhere in Oregon with the exception of approved and sanctioned camping facilities. Ever! Maintaining public health and safety are paramount. No one, and I mean no one wants to see the filth and garbage left behind by the meth/heroin/fentanyl zombies that abuse the beautiful Oregon outdoors. If camping is allowed anywhere, say good bye to the Brookings tourism industry, expect the local economy to take a massive hit, and prepare for the inevitable lawsuits from needle sticks to kids (and adults) enjoying the beaches. Sometimes the answer is just NO.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Austin Cottam

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 02:50 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

kiester123@hotmail.com

**Location (if provided):** , OR

**Public comment:**

Hello, I would like to contribute to the possible camping ban in Southern Oregon. 1st I would point out there are rules to enforce, when enforced this will solve all of the current issues stated. There are few areas to camp on beaches already, banning one will lead to banning another, this will lead to further issues with over crowding. Rather than banning it altogether there needs to be ideas given on how to enforce the laws. Also what keeps these people off of other camping beaches? Will we let them ruin the tourist dollars at work and feeding Oregonian families?



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Alex Wardzala

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 03:06 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

flyingwench1@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings , OR

**Public comment:**

I wholeheartedly support a ban on beach camping in Brookings. It is often an eyesore, unsanitary, potentially a hazard, and definitely a source of clutter. Unlawful camping has desecrated sites dedicated to public enjoyment to the extent that has necessitated blocking shoulder access from the highway to beautiful Pacific vistas. Once again the law-abiding (and tax-paying) public are punished for the actions of the inconsiderate selfish few. Beach camping is yet another infringement of the rights of the lawful public and yet another, even more important, contribution to the damage of an already fragile environment.





# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Jeanette Rinde

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 03:38 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

jarinde45@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings , OR

**Public comment:**

I would not like to see people camping on our beaches, mainly because people do not respect nature. They interfere with the ocean inhabitants, birds seals, etc. Plus, nobody cleans up after themselves and our beaches will be trashed.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Hotel Whiskey

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 06:25 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

heather.rose.williams@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** , OR

**Public comment:**

"The Beach Bill declares that all "wet sand" within sixteen vertical feet of the low tide line belongs to the state of Oregon.<sup>[5]</sup> In addition, it recognizes public [easements](#) of all beach areas up to the line of vegetation, regardless of underlying property rights. The public has "free and uninterrupted use of the beaches," and property owners are required to seek state permits for building and other uses of the ocean shore.<sup>[6]</sup> While some parts of the beach remain privately owned, state and federal courts have upheld Oregon's right to regulate development of those lands and preserve public access.<sup>[1][7]</sup>" -Wikipedia



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Lisa Anderson

**Date comment received:**

September 4, 2024 07:04 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

islandmama25@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

I am a resident at Mill Beach. Please add Brookings to the list of cities where overnight camping is prohibited, within the city limits, along the ocean shore .

Thank you



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Jim Hauge

**Date comment received:**

September 5, 2024 12:10 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

jimrhauge@hotmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Salem , OR

**Public comment:**

I support the petition below to ban camping in the proposed area of Brookings beach due to negative impacts.

ORS 183.390 PETITION TO THE OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO PROTECT MILL BEACH IN CURRY COUNTY



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Brooklyn Ringer

**Date comment received:**

September 6, 2024 07:17 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

brooklyn\_ringer@yahoo.com

**Location (if provided):** Grants Pass, OR

**Public comment:**

No overnight camping unless it's a paid service that's closely monitored by park rangers.



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Matti Tuffey

**Date comment received:**

September 7, 2024 10:45 AM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

mrtuffey@ymail.com

**Location (if provided):** brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

In the past few years we have had homeless camps on the beach, near our home. We and a few neighbors had to clean up one of those "nests". It had gone on a long time. We found needles, personal belongings, coolers full of molded rotten food, tents, soaking wet sleeping bags and bedding. Once bedding and sleeping bags get wet, they weigh a lot more. If they get buried under sand, it's not easy to pull them up or move them. Finally, we got the help of Harris Beach State Park, who got in touch with the state beach security. They are very short staffed and cover a huge area. We dragged as much debris as we could up to the local street, days later someone from the parks came and hauled it away.

Since then as soon as we see a tent we call Harris Beach. Soon after that the tent will be gone. I appreciate the job they do for us, but I question if this is what they were trained to do. Clean up after homeless?



# Submit a public comment on a rule

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

**Commenter name (if provided):**

Kristine Smith

**Date comment received:**

September 7, 2024 07:40 PM

**Commenter email (if provided):**

kristinesmith80234@gmail.com

**Location (if provided):** Brookings, OR

**Public comment:**

I support this ban completely. I have just moved to Brookings and am so disappointed with the amount of trash and human waste I have noted on the beaches. I also do not feel safe walking early morning on any beach in the area due to the camping going on. Please put this ban into place!