

# The Land-Sea Connection

There's more to this amazing view than meets the eye. Beneath its rugged, beautiful surface, the Cape Perpetua area is a unique place where land and sea intersect and shape each other's existence.

Both environments are managed and protected in their natural state. Nutrients, water, and species are continually cycled between the two. This complex interaction creates and sustains a vast connecting web of terrestrial and marine species.

Hidden in the forest in and around the 804 trail is the threatened Marbled Murrelet. During breeding season, this seabird forages in the ocean and flies inland to nest in the forest, a behavior called a "split habitat strategy."

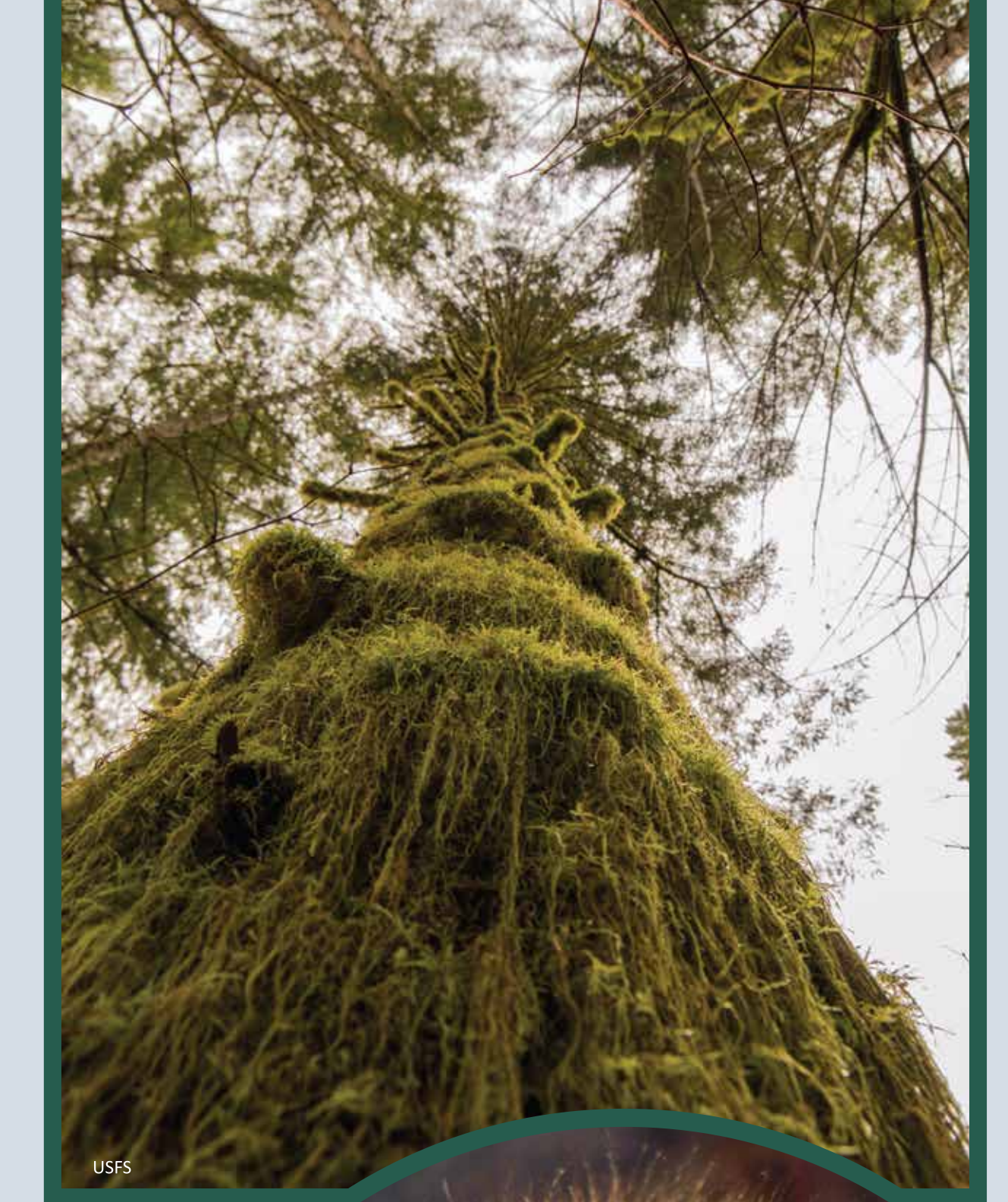
The Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and Protected Areas, along with the inland Audubon Important Bird Area, provide the largest combined reserve for Marbled Murrelets on the West Coast.

Cape Perpetua protects some of the last remaining older aged coastal forests, prime habitat for Marbled Murrelets.



During winter, the rare Marbled Murrelet stays on the open ocean.

Cape Perpetua is where rainforest, headland meadows, and the rocks of the tidal margin meet the sea.



In spring, the Marbled Murrelet lays its single egg on a mossy branch high in an older aged tree. It flies up to 50 miles back and forth to the sea to feed itself and its chick.

## Living Proof

The Marbled Murrelet is living proof of the vital connection between ocean and forest.

This endangered seabird depends on a healthy marine habitat for food and can only build its nest in increasingly rare older aged forests. The Cape Perpetua area provides this unique combination of ecosystems, and several nests have been observed here.

Engage in a world-wide species monitoring program and help document biodiversity by joining the Cape Perpetua BioBlitz Series using the iNaturalist app.

Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project: <https://www.oregonmurrelet.org>