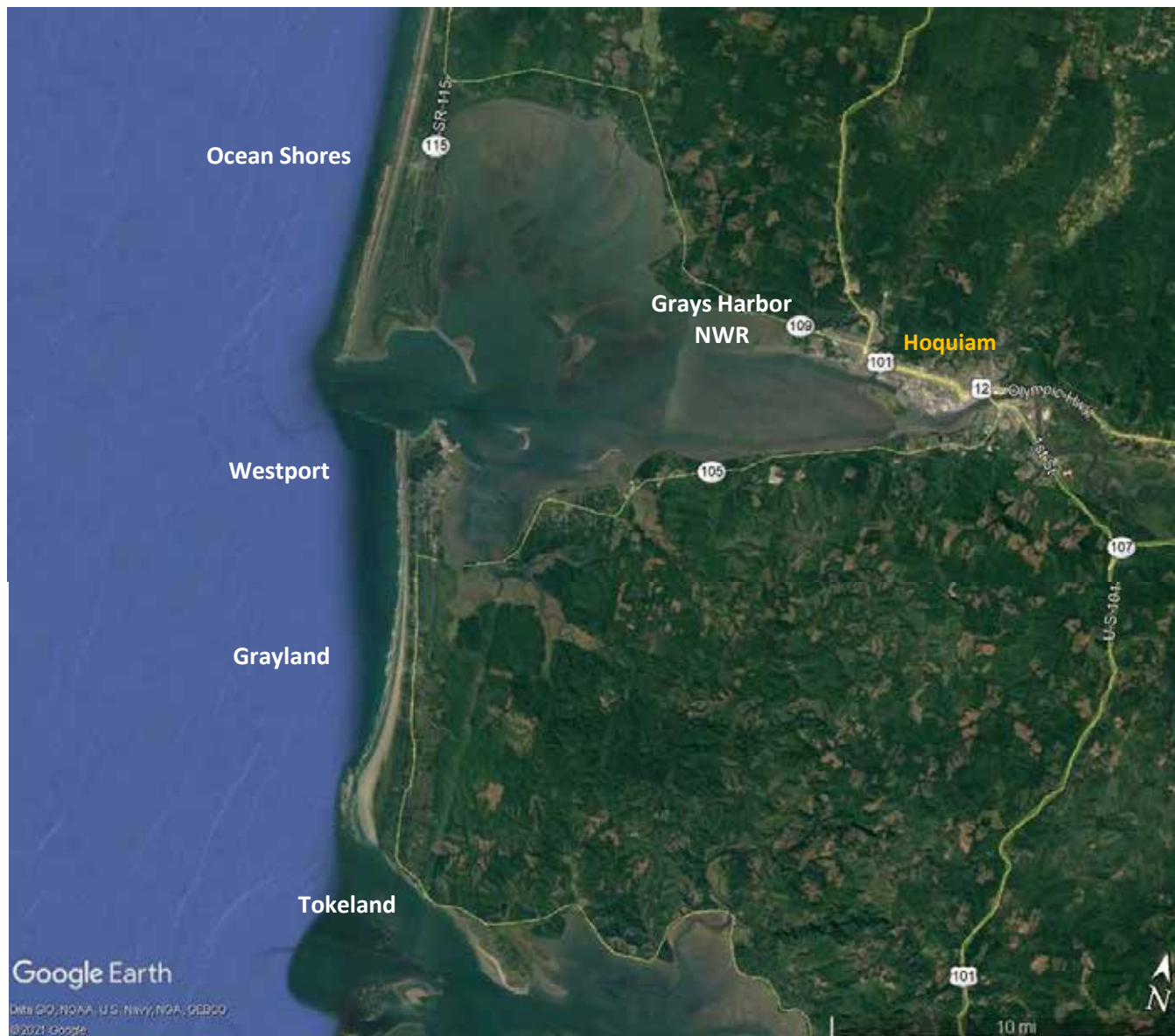


Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival

Birding Sites Around Grays Harbor



Grays Harbor is a prime area for viewing shorebirds and other waterbirds during the spring migration with easy access to look in the harbor and along the front beach. [Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge](#) in Hoquiam is ideal for seeing hundreds of thousands of shorebirds from the Sandpiper Trail as shorebirds move in and out of the tidal mudflat around high tide.

If you travel to [Ocean Shores](#) you can make your way down the peninsula using beach accesses until you reach the southern tip (jetty) where a diversity of bird species can be seen. From Hoquiam, travel west on WA-105 and you will begin your own migration with stopover areas to view a diversity of shorebirds, pelagic birds, waterfowl, and even raptors from [Westport](#) to [Grayland](#) and further south to [Tokeland](#). Click on the links included here and you will find directions and information on other bird viewing sites around Grays Harbor. You won't be disappointed at the amazing assemblage of waterbirds as they move northward to their breeding grounds or stick around to breed, like the snowy plovers!

Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival Shorebird Viewing Sites South of Grays Harbor



Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival Birding Sites in Tokeland, WA



1 – Viewing Areas: Look for pullout areas along WA-105 as you approach Tokeland so you can get out and scan the waterline and look for shorebirds or further out to view seabirds. The best tide for this Tokeland area is low tide when the tidal mudflat is exposed.

2 – Intersection WA-105 and Tokeland Road: At mile marker 18.6, turn right onto Tokeland Road. This is the only road going down the peninsula. If there is safe and legal parking available near the intersection, it's worth getting out of the vehicle and checking the coastline for shorebirds and other waterbirds. Otherwise, continue into the town of Tokeland.

3 – Graveyard Spit is located within the housing area and has limited parking along the road. While traveling south on Tokeland Road, you will arrive at an intersection with Kindred Avenue. Continue straight and the road turns into Fisher Avenue. Fisher Avenue ends at 7th Avenue and park along the rocks. If it's crowded, you can continue on to the Marina and return on your way out.

4 – Tokeland Marina: From Tokeland Road you will either turn towards the left onto Kindred Avenue or if you're coming from Graveyard Spit, you'll continue on 7th Avenue and turn right onto Kindred Avenue. Kindred will take you to the end where Tokeland Marina is located. There are restrooms, coffee, and seafood available at Nelson Crab Inc. Take a walk around and view shorebirds and other waterbirds from different angles but be attentive to private lands.

Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival

Birding Sites in Tokeland, WA

Graveyard Spit



Limited parking at Graveyard Spit



The sand spit and sediment swales that front this area creates a calm bay that is ideal for shorebirds needing to forage and rest with as little energy expense as possible. This one of the best sites for shorebirds especially at low tide with the tidal flats are exposed.

Birds observed: Most of the shorebirds can be seen at this site, including: dowitchers, black-bellied plover, least and Western sandpipers, ruddy turnstones, and more. Keep a look out for long-billed curlews and greater yellowlegs. At the Tokeland Marina, keep an eye out for willets, marbled godwits and grebes, cormorants, waterfowl, and loons on the bay side.



Tokeland Marina



Marinas can be great places to see a diversity of waterbirds: shorebirds, wading birds, seabirds, waterfowl and likely some marine mammals like seals and sea lions. The best time for shorebird viewing is when the water is low and foraging habitat is available. Other tide levels may reveal waterfowl (sea ducks), loons, gulls, and raptors.