



**OPAC TERRITORIAL SEA PLAN
ROCKY HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
ECOLA POINT & CHAPMAN POINT MCA - FURTHER EVALUATION WORKSHOP
SUMMARY**

April 29, 2022, 12:30 PM Pacific Time

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

The Ecola Point Marine Conservation Area & Chapman Point MCA Further Evaluation Workshop was an opportunity to discuss the rocky habitat proposal identified by OPAC for further evaluation. The workshop provided an opportunity for the entity who proposed the site to have discussions around and work through considerations identified in the Rocky Habitat Working Group proposal evaluation process. The workshop was structured to:

- Allow the proposer to present modifications of their site proposals to the management agencies
- To identify whether the site proposal as configured is a concern to management agencies who would be required to implement new rules or regulations.
- To help prepare proponents for the opportunity to present their proposals to the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) in 2022.

MEETING LOGISTICS

Date & Time: April 29, 2022, 12:30 PM – 5:00 PM Pacific Time

Location: Virtually via Zoom

Workshop Participants: Andy Lanier – DLCD, Michael Moses – DLCD, Laurel Hillmann – OPRD, Guy Rodrigue – OPRD, Chris Parkins – OPRD, Justin Parker – OPRD, Ben Cox – OPRD, Blake Helm, Shawn Stephensen – USFWS, Jesse Jones – Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition & Coastwatch, Pamela, Mickey, Angela Whitlock – North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition, Tabea - North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition, Joe Liebezeit – Portland Audubon & OPAC, Margaret Treadwell – Deb Atiyah - North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition,

Members of the Public: Jason Schmierhorn - Cannon Beach Police Chief & Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue, Pamela R., Sharon Heinrich – Cannon Beach resident, Kelly Ennis – Haystack Rock Awareness Program, Kristen Byance – Cape Falcon Marine Reserve Program, Nadia Gardner, Ali Burman – Portland Audubon, Kent Doughty – ASLC, Charlie Plybon – Oregon Surfrider, Joe Liebezeit, Peggy Joyce - OPAC

Meeting Video Link: <https://youtu.be/CJt-5hGDyK8>

Proposal Presentation: <https://youtu.be/CJt-5hGDyK8?t=2021>

Wrap-up summary of the discussion: <https://youtu.be/CJt-5hGDyK8?t=10591>

Public Comment: <https://youtu.be/CJt-5hGDyK8?t=770>, <https://youtu.be/CJt-5hGDyK8?t=11391>

PROPOSAL MODIFICATIONS:

The North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition agreed to several modifications of the original proposals. These were made in response to the initial Working Group Recommendations. The modifications to the proposal were made in the period between the finalization of the working group recommendations and the Further Evaluation Workshop. A brief summary of those modifications is provided below, most of which are also available in the Initial Recommendation and Response Documents for both proposals at [Ecola Point](#) and [Chapman Point](#):

- The Chapman Point proposal is being changed into a Marine Education Area (Marine Garden). This change is supported by the Haystack Rock Awareness Program, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition,

and the North Coast Land Conservancy's Marine Program at Cape Falcon, and Friends of Haystack Rock Awareness Program.

- The recommendations regarding fireworks and other wildlife disturbance have been removed from the proposal. New rules in Cannon Beach have banned fireworks in the City of Cannon Beach, and they are also prohibited on the beach via OPRD rules.
- The recommendation regarding access maintenance improvements (at Ecola Point) was clarified to apply to only trails from the parking lot down to the headland (specifically the unofficial trails).
- The recommendation for "No additional restrictions on off-leash dogs" ... was clarified, and the group was amenable to removing the restriction.
- No additional restrictions on subtidal invertebrate harvest – The group was amenable to removing the provision at Ecola Point. Changing the Chapman Point designation to a Marine Education Area would modify the site to conform to the harvest restrictions in that designation, and NOT include subtidal invertebrate harvest restrictions.
- The recommendations for boating and airspace closures were retracted, in favor of non-regulatory management measures (education) via interpretive programs.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

Note: This workshop was substantially different from the other workshops as two sites were discussed. The North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition views both sites as independent proposals, while acknowledging that the two area designations are designed to complement each other for the enhancement of stewardship and resource protection of the rocky habitats and the species. For the purposes of the notes, the considerations are separated into the outcomes and agreements for a particular site.

Chapman Point Site Discussion:

The discussion was centered on the following considerations (which were recommendations for implementation of this site):

- **No additional restrictions on climbing/walking on intertidal and offshore rocks, off-leash dogs, fireworks, subtidal invertebrate harvest, invertebrate harvest in the sandy beach area**

Due to the significant efforts of the proposal team with the community in Cannon Beach and their supporting organizations to emphasize outreach, education, and proactive stewardship they are retracting the restrictions for climbing on the rocks and for requiring dogs to be leashed.

The proposal team provided an update on the issue of prohibiting fireworks, where the City of Cannon Beach implemented a new law that bans fireworks within the city limits. As fireworks are already prohibited from State Parks property (including the beach), and the new law was enacted at the local government level, there is no need to keep the recommendation related to fireworks in the proposal.

The proposal team also agreed to removal of the subtidal harvest restrictions associated with the Chapman Point Marine Education Area. Harvest of invertebrates in the intertidal will be limited to single mussels for bait, consistent with other Marine Education Area (Marine Garden) rules. The agencies did not have any concerns associated with keeping that recommended regulation, as harvest in sandy areas could occur away from the marine garden.

- **No regulatory buffers (500 ft. buffer for boats, 2000 ft. buffer for airplanes, drones, kites)**

The proposal team acknowledged that there is a need for further investigation about the concerns associated with disturbance to wildlife from motorized boats. Workshop participants highlighted the lack of data available to inform the need for a boating closure. The proposal team has retracted this

recommendation, while recognizing the need for further study. For any future proposal to close the site to motorized vessels, an assessment by the Marine Board would be required for consideration.

The group discussed the ongoing OPRD rulemaking effort focused on the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS – which includes drones) in State Parks, for which there are proposed regulations in specially designated rocky habitat areas. The proposal team has agreed to retract the recommendations related to airplanes and UAS's (drones), along with the prohibition on kites.

- **Reconciliation of boundaries with respect to the statutory vegetation line (SVL)**

The proposal team concurred with the working group recommendation and will accept the landward proposal boundary to be placed at the Mean High-Water line. The Proposal Team is proposing to add a goal to our stewardship program to monitor human activity in the subtidal for any potential disturbance impacts.

Ecola Point Site Discussion:

The discussion was centered on the following considerations (which were recommendations for implementation of this site):

- **No additional restrictions on climbing/walking on intertidal and offshore rocks, off-leash dogs, fireworks, access maintenance improvements, subtidal invertebrate harvest**

The summary points provided in the Chapman Point Site discussion apply to Ecola Point as well.

The proposal team has retracted the proposed restrictions on climbing on the rocks, dog leashes, fireworks, subtidal invertebrate harvest, and clarified their recommendation on trail maintenance to only apply to the unofficial (pirate) trails from the parking lot down to the point at Ecola Head.

- **No regulatory buffers (500 ft. buffer for boats, 2000 ft. buffer for airplanes, drones, kites)**

The summary points provided in the Chapman Point Site discussion apply to Ecola Point as well.

The proposal team has retracted the recommended restrictions for boating and airspace closures (airplanes, UAS's, and kites).

- **Reconciliation of boundaries with respect to the statutory vegetation line (SVL)**

The proposal team concurred with the working group recommendation and will accept the landward proposal boundary to be placed at the Mean High-Water line. The Proposal Team is proposing to add a goal to the stewardship program to monitor human activity in the subtidal for any potential disturbance impacts.

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