

November 29, 2020

Hello,

I want to thank you for the effort you have been devoting to Coquille Point (CP) for the past 30 years, devoting time and talent to educating visitors to CP and especially to the rocks and tide pools around Elephant Rock, Coquille Rock, and North Coquille Rock. I understand that this area is rich in marine life all year round, and especially rich in the Spring and Summer when seals are having pups and birds are laying eggs. While the area is biologically rich and robust, I realize that it is also fragile. Visitors who are excited to walk in the midst of this beautiful marine habitat and can unintentionally harm the wild residents here and do immense damage to their reproductive efforts by walking and climbing in sensitive areas and letting their dogs run off leach. I have seen visitors walking in tide pools and climbing on rocks, crushing hundreds of living organisms. In the excitement of the moment, I've seen people approach a bird nest or letting their dogs chase other wildlife, scaring the adult from the nest and exposing the egg or the baby to predation from gulls, chasing mother seals from their pups or infringing upon seals hauled out on the beach trying to rest. Our beach in Bandon is a treasure to humans and marine life. I support you in your intention to have Coquille Point's Elephant Rock area protected and given a special designation by the State of Oregon as a Marine Garden. Etc. as you wish.

Sincerely,

Jeanine Rachau