From:	April Atwood
To:	TSP comments
Subject:	Update of the Draft Rocky Habitat Management Strategy
Date:	Wednesday, April 7, 2021 8:00:09 PM

I would like to ask the Rocky Habitat Working Group and the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to consider the following to protect coastal rocky habitats:

- please do not evaluate proposals based on funding or the capacity of agencies' programmatic support for implementation. The proposals were meant to help shape long-term efforts and goals to improve site management. The rocky habitat plan clearly states that proposals cannot be rejected based on funding or capacity concerns.

I would like to recommend strong consideration for 8 of the 12 proposals that have gotten significant stakeholder and community support, expert input, and include clear long-term goals and objectives. This includes: Ecola Point MCA, Chapman Point MCA, Cape Lookout MCA, Cape Foulweather MCA, Coquille Point MG, Blacklock Point MCA, Cape Blanco MRA, and Crook Point/Mack Reef MCA. Six of these sites were recommended for designation in the original 1994 Rocky Habitat Management Strategy, so now is the time for the state to follow through.

In the future, I would like to recommend that DLCD use an objective evaluation rubric that is similar to other state agency frameworks. DLCD staff can take ideas from other state or federal agency public proposal processes. Objective evaluation processes are essential to any state-run public proposal process and would minimize much of the politicization of the process that has that has emerged.

- sincerely,
April Atwood