From:	Sharon Birrel
To:	TSP comments
Subject:	Oregon Territorial Sea Plan - Rocky Habitat Management Strategy
Date:	Thursday, March 25, 2021 7:34:55 AM

Greetings,

I am writing today to ask the Rocky Habitat Working Group and Ocean Policy Advisory Council to do the following:

- Please work with site proposers to clarify any misrepresented information in the initial site proposal evaluation summaries that are currently available for the public to review as soon as possible and prior to the working groups re-evaluation of proposals after the 30-day comment period.
- 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.
- Please strongly consider the following proposals that have significant stakeholder and community support, expert input, and include clear long-term goals and objectives. Including: 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, now is time for follow through.
- In the future, 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 emerged.

As a native Oregonian, I grew up in a family of sportsmen and have fond memories of sport fishing out of Tillamook Bay. We enjoyed exploring Cape Lookout and the amazing variety of life residing in the habitat there. Since the 1960s I have explored the Oregon coast from Fort Stevens to Cape Blanco. With the benefit of observing the coast over time, it is clear to me that there are fewer birds, and fewer tide pool residents now than then. In part because of legislation that guarantees access to the coast by the public, I care about the health of these coastal ecosystems and urge you to maintain processes and procedures that are objective, present information accurately, and provide protection for these important habitats so that future generations may also experience the wondrous beauty and richness of the Oregon Coast.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Sharon Birrel