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To: TSPComments@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on Crook Point, Blacklock Point and Coquille Point designation
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:36:21 PM

I strongly support the findings and conclusions of the rocky shores habitat working group for the Crook Point/ Mack Arch and Blacklock Point and Coquille Point designations.

I am very familiar with these areas and share the working groups comments that it is unlikely that a long term, effective volunteer effort for education is viable at Crook Point or Blacklock Point and thus a special designation will only highlight the area and encourage increased visitation that will have a negative impact on coastal resources.

I am particularly concerned about increasing the visibility of Crook Point, an area that I know well having conducted research there in the 1980's. Saddle Rock, a nesting seabird colony and therefore subject to human disturbance, is accessible by climbing the rock at low tide. A single unauthorized human intrusion has the potential to disrupt that year's nesting season. The adjacent mainland cliffs, part of the USFWS refuge also not open to the public, consist of a fragile coastal plant community on easily erodible soil. The service is currently undertaking extensive restoration of these plant communities and any increased visitation is likely to impede their efforts.

I strongly support the designation of an education area at Coquille Point. I have provided docent training for the SEA volunteers over the past ~20 years so I am familiar with their activities in this area. They are well prepared to continue to provide education and stewardship actions. The USFWS has also invested in the upland region here by building trails and educational signage appropriate for support of the education designation.

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