From: Deborah Kropf
To: TSP comments
Subject: Cape Blanco MRA proposal support
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 12:41:31 PM

To whom it may concern~

I am writing to provide support for the Cape Blanco Marine Research Area proposal. The ongoing scientific research conducted at Cape Blanco and elsewhere along the Oregon coast is critical to understanding the current and future impacts of climate change on our marine and coastal areas.

Long term research in our vulnerable coastal habitats provides insight into critical ecosystems services provided by nearshore organisms.

Approval of this proposal, which includes closure of commercial and recreational fish harvest and subtidal invertebrate harvest in the MRA, provides a baseline research area for comparison between coastal habitats with diverse human uses. Ecological connectivity between subtidal and intertidal communities is well documented and these proposed restrictions are important to ensure the health of the subtidal communities at Cape Blanco. The Blanco MRA does not include a large amount of subtidal area according to the proposal boundaries, and local fishermen have indicated there would be no economic consequences for these restrictions.

Approval of this MRA shows that the state of Oregon is committed to collaborative and innovative solutions to marine-related research that benefit all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deb Kropf
Concerned Citizen
Salem, Oregon