

Garibaldi Charters Deep Sea Fishing

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Public Comment on proposals to be reviewed by Rocky Shores Working Group

To Whom It May Concern:

As a fisherman, a third generation charter captain and co-owner of Garibaldi Charters, I'd like to express my reservations about the proposal to create a Marine Conservation Area around Chapman Point and Ecola Point.

Let me start by saying that I appreciate very much the outreach from the agency proposing this area. They contacted me multiple times to talk through the boundaries and ask if those would impact our fleet's fishing areas. They also asked for contact information of other possibly affected fishermen and crabbers. I respect that outreach and thank them for it.

As discussed with the agency proposing these MCAs, the proposed designation would not impact access to our current normal fishing grounds. I still do not support it. I do not support a Rocky Shores proposal that requires a 500' buffer for vessels, when it is meant to protect the shore and the tidal zone. There is already a law in place that prevents boaters (and people in general) from harassing wildlife. In the proposal itself, it is noted that fishing in this area is infrequent both from land and sea, and that there is no discernable impact from fishing. If there is no impact, there should be no need to restrict the area around these rocks.

It should also be noted that while "no change to harvest" is requested in this proposal, banning people from climbing or walking on the rocks would very likely impact the few shore fishermen who use this area. If you can't access it, you can't fish it.

As an Oregonian born and raised on the North Coast, I appreciate that people are concerned about over-use in certain areas. However, I support more signage and education via volunteer programs, not more laws and restrictions. Please don't take our coast away from us one rock at a time by piling on needless restrictions and designations.

As always, feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Tamara Mautner

Garibaldi Charters