

Garibaldi Charters Deep Sea Fishing

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3/24/21

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

To Whom It May Concern:

As 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 Cape Lookout. In short, I am concerned that it may affect our access to safe anchorage, fishing, and diving areas within 200m of Cape Lookout.

While the proposal assures that the intention is not to exclude vessels from this area, there is no valid reason for the boundary to extend that far into the ocean. Waters are navigable almost right up to the wall of the cape, and it is used responsibly by recreational and commercial fisherman alike. The distance from ports both to the North and the South render Cape Lookout one of the lesser frequented sites for fishing and diving, but it is important to our fleet that we be able to access it nonetheless.

There has never (to my knowledge) been a documented case of a boater disturbing wildlife on or around Cape Lookout, and there is no need to put restrictions into place now that could possibly turn into a closure to boats at some time in the future (R14). Our ocean and our coastal home is being "designated" away from us one small piece at a time.

As admitted by the proposal and reinforced by many locals who actually use the area, the Rocky Shores portion of Cape Lookout is extremely difficult to access, period. This site does not need protection, and state agencies certainly do **not** need more on their plate and **more expenses** just so people can pat themselves on the back about Cape Lookout being an officially "protected" area. Please let it remain one of the truly wild and free places that adventurous Oregonians can access without countless rules, regulations, designations and management surrounding it. Please deny the proposal for an MCA designation of this site. Save the designation for a site that actually needs it.

As always, feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Tamara Mautner

Garibaldi Charters