Territorial Sea Plan Working Group Workshop Public Comment

April 29, 2011 Port Orford, OR

#1

Gary Wickham, Port Orford resident, "My whole initial concept of wave energy in general, over the past five or ten years ago was really supportive, until I started looking at the details. If you are using buoys and arrays, slough off factors, that say nothing about unplanned events, I'm thinking earthquakes, can really mess those things up, as we can see from Japan. All those good intentions go right out the window. But I'm speaking right now in support of this whole process. You have done a great job and it's a great tool and I believe you have changed a couple fisherman's minds here today, but showing them [the data], they say 'hey, we're in pretty good shape.' With redfish rocks marine reserve, my whole mantra was 'involve fishermen' its about them, and have them show up to these things. One criticism of today's meeting, if you had given us two weeks lead time we would have filled this room. Another comment is that you mentioned getting the feds involved with this and sharing information and them coming aboard, and as we slash government and make a small government, that's the stuff we are killing and their ability to do those studies. This is our future, all alternative energies are our future, they have to be. But they have got to start somewhere. The first automobile was a buggy basically, it wasn't computer driven corvettes that we have today. And that's what is going to happen with the industry."

#2

Jeff Miles, commercial fishermen, "I'm really worried that down the road here when a decision has to get made, and it will get made, that small ports are really going to get stepped on. The lack of volume, size of boats and stuff like that means they are not going to show as valuable as bigger ports with bigger boats. I'm hoping that in the end, as far as the small boat fleets are concerned, those little areas that we have are probably more valuable than the bigger boat areas because we are so limited in where we can go. I'm afraid that we are going to get stepped on and that has to be considered. On paper, it's not going to look good."

Mike Lane, commercial fishermen, "I mostly want to speak about these concerns, and it's a concern for a lot of guys up and down the coast. One of the criteria we came up with when we asked the fleet to put our pennies on their economic value was that we would protect that information from the public, so that they would have some sense that they had not given up their best fishing spots. But now because the data has been watered down, we are losing the ability, by maintaining proprietary information, that we may not be able to protect it. Unless we go to each of the fishing groups and ask them to pull out the most valuable areas for each fishery and community. And create a process of elimination on the map of areas of high value, as areas that should not be used. And only that way, perhaps behind closed doors, can we do that. Because we have had people say that they will do everything possible to block the use of defined areas. In Cape Arago, we had one person who was on the committee that said he would go to court if we gave away information about his fishing spots. So we have to think about ways to get the areas of high value for each fishery and each community. Perhaps this can be accomplished by creating a 'shadow map', that is by identifying areas that are not fished. I do want to say that I really appreciate all the work that has gone into this from each of the departments. It makes be proud to be an Oregonian citizen to be a part of this democratic process. It's really commendable."