North Coast Residents c/o Margaret T. Minnick 1341 Miller Ln, Astoria OR 97103

Ocean Policy Advisory Council Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation & Development 635 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150 Salem, OR 97301-2540

April 28, 2020

RE: Territorial Sea Plan Part 3 - Rocky Habitat Management Strategy

## Dear OPAC Members:

As residents of Oregon's North Coast, we are writing to thank you and the Rocky Habitat Working Group for your extensive and detailed work on the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy Update. Protection of these sensitive habitats is crucial to maintain biodiversity, and recover it where it has degraded. The beauty of our coast and its wildlife makes the North Coast special, supporting quality of life and the tourism-based economy. We are excited that this important plan is being updated.

## We ask that you:

- Adopt the Strategy at your May 6, 2020 meeting and begin the initial community proposal and review period.
- Carry over to the new Rocky Habitat Management Strategy the recommended site designations from 1994 that were not implemented, including Tillamook Head, which was recommended to become a Habitat Refuge and was approved by OPAC and LCDC.
- Extend the initial community proposal and review period to at least 6 months after the Executive Order (20-12) is lifted on prohibition of non-essential social and recreational gatherings due to COVID-19.
- Form a separate expert team of relevant scientists and agency staff to develop a science-based recommendation for priority site designations to be reviewed during a formal public comment period and then presented to OPAC by the end of the extended initial site designation phase.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Margaret T. Minnick Astoria, OR

Ed Joyce Angela Reseland Jessica Jones Astoria, OR Seaside, OR Astoria, OR