

December 28, 2020

Shoreline Education for Awareness PO Box 957 Bandon, Oregon 97411

To our friends at SEA:

As you know, the missions of our two organizations overlap significantly. Cape Arago Audubon Society's mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of the birds and natural environment of Coos County through education, field trips, and local restoration and conservation projects that enhance our community.

One project that we are especially interested in and are in full support of is SEA's effort to seek a Marine Garden designation for Coquille Point. Elephant Rock and many of the other rock formations at Coquille Point serve as the breeding ground for seals and seabirds. They are also home to a variety of unique plant life.

While we are proud to share all this natural environment with those coming to our coast, these visits can continue to wreak havoc with the very animal and plant life in that environment that make it so special. The urge of humans to climb results in the destruction and disturbing of life. Sadly, these acts are not intentional but simply result from lack of knowledge. The protection that SEA seeks and the education it intends to provide through this designation will be a major step to addressing this long-standing problem.

Cape Arago Audubon Society supports your proposal that Coquille Point be given a Marine Garden designation. Our volunteers stand ready to assist SEA in implementing that designation should it be received.

Sincerely,

Harv Schubothe

Harv Schubothe President, Cape Arago Audubon Society