

OPAC Territorial Sea Plan Working Group

Rocky Habitat Management Strategy Amendment Process

Draft Meeting Summary

September 12, 2019 11:00AM – 4:00PM

Oregon Coast Aquarium – Gleason Room

2820 SE Ferry Slip Rd, Newport, OR 97365

Attendance

Working Group Participants: Deanna Caracciolo, Andy Lanier, Charlie Plybon, Dick Vander Schaaf, Dave Fox, Andrea Celentano, Walter Chuck, Shawn Stephensen (USFWS), Tom Calvanese, Laurel Hillmann, Kris Wall, Dave Lacey, ([see full membership and affiliations here](#))

Absent Working Group Members: Melissa Keyser, Bryn Hudson, Scott McMullen, Kerry Carlin-Morgan

Non-Working Group Attendees: Karen Driscoll (Otter Rock Marine Reserve); Margaret Minnick (Friends of Cape Falcon); Elizabeth Ruther (PEW Charitable Trust); Jena Carter (TNC & OPAC Chair); Joe Liebezeit (PDX Audubon)

Meeting Overview

This meeting of the Rocky Habitat Working Group was part of the second phase of the update to the Territorial Sea Plan - Part 3. The membership lists and meeting materials for both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 working groups are available at www.OregonOcean.info. Members representing harvest and tribal government interests are still at large and filling these seat is a priority to working group members.

During this meeting, the group was tasked with finalizing the last elements of non-regulatory management priorities within designations as well as addressing acceptable harvest species within Marine Research Areas (also referred to as the *short list*). Previously, the working group asked for input from ODFW on the short list, the decision then came back to the working group for discussion at the September 12 meeting. The group determined a flexible system where the proposing entity would include invertebrate harvest preference within the proposed site. These options include 1) exclude invertebrate harvest 2) allow for the short list of species to be harvested 3) allow for a subset of the short list species to be harvested.

The working group also discussed and edited the proposal review processes for the initial and maintenance phases. Overall, members came to consensus on these processes. As part of this discussion, the group determined the scope and contents of the working group proposal within the initial proposal process. The working group determined that the contents of their review and proposal packet will prioritize review of public proposals, and if time and capacity warrants, will expand to include additional site considerations. Members also decided that sites currently designated in the ODFW Sport Regulations Handbook will automatically be rolled over into the updated designation system.

Finally, the proposal review criteria and habitat classifications were reviewed and discussed. Due to some inconsistencies between the Phase 1 document priorities (i.e. - ecosystem based management) the group decided to re-work the criteria to remove the prioritization of habitats for proposal.

Edits made during this meeting will be reflected in the updated [Process Document](#)¹ once published. It should be noted that draft submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) policies were not addressed during this meeting and will be reviewed at the October 18, 2019 meeting.

¹ The Process Document is a living document that will be updated with working group progress between meetings. The date of the most recent update will be displayed in the file name and on the cover page.

Working Group Decision Points

- Designation management measures were finalized. Reimbursement
- Proposal processes for the initial and maintenance phases were finalized
- Proposals for Marine Research Areas will include a variable option for invertebrate harvest – 1) Allow harvest of “short list” of species currently seen in some Research Reserves. 2) Allow harvest of subset of short list. 3) No harvest of marine invertebrates.
- Currently designated sites will automatically be updated to the new system.
- The working group proposal will include recommended public proposals and if capacity allows will extend to analyze unimplemented recommended designations from the 1994 Rocky Shores Management Strategy.
- The working group decided not to disallow 1 site from having multiple designations, recognizing that although it’s difficult to identify a situation where this would be applicable, future circumstances and proposal justifications may require this flexibility.
- Each proposal may only encompass one area for designation, but may be connected to other proposals to build a network.

Next Steps

The Rocky Habitat Working Group will be meeting again for a regular length meeting on October 18, 2019 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Additional meeting information and an agenda are being drafted and will be uploaded to www.OregonOcean.info when complete. This meeting will focus on finalizing proposal questions and contents.

Public Comment

This meeting included 2 opportunities for public comment (beginning & end of agenda) to accommodate comments that may be beneficial for working group members to hear prior to discussions. Public comment protocol for working group meetings is [available here](#).

Beginning of Call

No public comment was given during the morning public comment period.

End of Meeting

- **Karen Driscoll** (Friends of Otter Rock)
 - What is the protocol for site proposals that alter existing designations that overlap Marine Reserves?
- **Elizabeth Ruther** (Pew)
 - Pew supports crafting rocky habitat policies that can be used in federal consistency evaluations.
 - It’s important to recognize the work done in the 1994 Rocky Shore management Strategy, specifically the 10 sites that were recommended for designation but never implemented. The current working group is in the appropriate position to implement these sites with relatively minimal work.
 - Agrees that extra consideration for sessile organisms is critical in regards to the “short list” of invertebrate species that may be harvested in a subset of Marine Research Areas –

- Addressing SAV in the Rocky habitat management Strategy is extremely important.
 - Pew supports the creation of SAV policies.
 - Is there anything the working group can do to clean up the coast wide regulations?
- **Joe Liebezeit** (PDX Audubon)
 - Excited that the working group will be creating its own suite of proposals using the web mapping tool.
 - Concerned that the working group will be primarily working through public proposals. The group shouldn't avoid or ignore a full analysis of coastwide site recommendations.
 - More clarification is needed on the future of 1994 recommended designations that were never implemented. This should also be open for public comment.
 - Allowing for networked proposals is important. Networked proposals should be submitted using a single proposal to avoid additional burden on the public.

Pre-Public Comment

- **Joe Liebezeit** (PDX Audubon) offered comments and edits to the draft Phase 2 Process Document on September 5, 2019. [This comment document is available here.](#)
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This meeting was recorded for notetaking purposes.