



Ecola Point and Chapman Point Site
Management Plan Workshop Meeting
Summary

October 10th, 2024, 2:30pm-5:00pm

Located at Cannon Beach History Museum
*(Remote aspect of the meeting was cancelled
at the last minute because of poor
connection on location).*

Workshop Materials can be found in the
[Google Folder](#) or on the Oregon Ocean
Information website.

In-Person Participants

1. Eva Krukowski, DLCD
2. Andy Lanier, DLCD
3. Laurel Hillmann, OPRD
4. Ben Cox, OPRD
5. Brett Estes, DLCD
6. Justin Parker, ODFW
7. Jesse Jones, Oregon Shores
8. Lisa Habecker, Haystack Rock Awareness Program
9. Kelli Enis, Haystack Rock Awareness Program
10. Kaia Hazard, Surfrider Foundation
11. Mylasia Miklas, North Coast Land Conservancy
12. Lynette Villagomez, North Coast Land Conservancy
13. Angela Benton, Friends of Haystack Rock
14. Tabea Goossen, North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition, Interpreter
15. Michelle Schwegmann, North Coast Land Conservancy
16. Nadia Gardner, Conservation Consultation
17. Mickey Moritz, Friends of Haystack Rock, Planning Commission

Meeting Notes

Favorite features of the sites:

- Seasonality of the site
- Get away from the crowds
- Chitons
- Being there
- Geology of the coast told through rocks
- Being there in the mornings
- Walking at low tide
- Wildlife
- The quiet
- Incredible potential

Discussion Notes

Information Sharing

- Laurel gave information on the OPRD project for signage and format. She asked for notes and feedback
 - Draft regulation signage available for review [here](#)
 - [Comments on Ecola MCA Regulation sign](#)

Before you go:

- Tide times and elevation – how to understand and read a tide table – and specific for the site
 - What are tides
- Behavioral expectations for the site – no climbing, safety of people and pets
 - Climbing. People do not know they are not supposed to do it and safety info...for people and pets. A lot of pet and people rescues in the area.
- What to bring/wear – appropriate footwear, raingear, literature (field guides for learning about the area)
 - Have info about what field guides are available. Identification guides.
- How accessible is the site? Wheelchair or disabilities.
- Info on Marine Conservation Areas and what they are. Do we want to drive more people there?
- Provide information on how to experience the site without physically being there.
 - How do you tell people what is there without creating more traffic
- What's allowed/not allowed
- What's the best way to experience the site? Knowing why the site is valuable.
- Understanding accessibility of a site
- Seasonality of wildlife – when is wildlife present in the area
- How does this site fit in with the other conservation areas/efforts – USFWS islands, marine reserves, land and sea connection
 - Info on land sea connection. Details on geology.
 - How does this site fit in to the overall story of marine conservation? Marine reserves and conservation areas?
- This is NOT the secret spot...
- Think strategically about balancing information sharing versus promotion of visiting the site. Ecola point is very difficult to access. Chapman point is limited in the capacity for parking/visiting the site
- Educating the chambers of commerce regarding promotion of visitation vs. education about appropriate behavior
- Known as this is a secret spot with a place with few restrictions.
- These are delicate ecosystems...explain why and that human interaction impacts these areas.
- Where the information is placed is super important. Creating balance between information sharing and increasing traffic.

- Be sure that the place where information is shared won't create more traffic (considering both the site and signage)
- Known places where they are advertised? Chamber, People's Coast OCVA. Chapman Point is a surfing location so surfer media may advertise.

During

- Tidepool ambassadors – to intercept people visiting or walking north to Ecola
- Interpretation about site geology

After

- Social media – for people to follow and use to understand volunteer opportunity
 - Haystack Rock uses social media and other organizations where visitors can volunteer with.
 - Might be more relevant for Chapman than Ecola – should there be a connection between Haystack Rock and Chapman as the two local Marine Gardens?
- List of organizations involved in the stewardship can be placed on a website with information about the area.
- Opportunities for community science – and the researchers/labs who are doing work in the area.
 - Outreach or link to opportunities for community science
- Information on applicable non profits
- Stewardship opportunities – debris removal

Interpretation Goals and Education

Goals:

- Sensitivity of habitats and species that exist in that place and how humans impact them.
 - Humans are a part of the ecosystem
- Sustainable exploration – tidepool and beach etiquette
- Emphasis on the risks of climbing on the bluffs and rocks
- Dog management – specific to the areas and the risks for people, wildlife, and pets
- Identify the role of protected areas in climate resiliency (seastar and ocean warming example)
- Avoid disturbance of wildlife
- Drones – potential OPRD rules on UAS's for March 15 – Sept 15 (but that may be too short for nesting seabirds)
- Understanding OAH impacts – relate to the monitoring at Cape Falcon MR
- Be positive! Help people understand that they can have an impact (in a positive way) on the resources to inspire stewardship
- Understanding the tribal history and culture of the area

How to build capacity for program stewardship of the area?

- How to build capacity for program stewardship of the area?
- Grow programs that are already working in the geography of the sites.
- Letting people know what's there and available. Many of the programs are supported by the community
- Build an overarching network of interpretive efforts across the state, to leverage resources. This should be focused on paid positions. Year-round support is necessary to sustain volunteers at a site.
- For Ecola and Chapman sites - Weekends and holidays are the times it is most important to have someone onsite as compared to Haystack Rock
- Can there be shared volunteer hours? There are volunteers that want to do more, and some do not. Successful organizations are funded.... when there is an anchor when there is known funding. Some organizations are at the capacity based upon existing funding.
- Is there additional funding to create a core team for all these areas in the region? Assume all volunteers it will be random and perhaps lack of stability and cannibalizing other agency's volunteers.
- Majority of volunteers come from out of the area: 70% of volunteers at Haystack come from out of the area.
 - Chapman and Ecola are not like Haystack and have different volunteer needs. Focus volunteer efforts at Chapman and Ecola on weekends and long holidays.
 - Volunteers also develop ownership of areas. There is one main volunteer at Chapman and Ecola and she cannot handle more.
 - Challenges with staffing because of high cost-of-living expenses.
- State Parks are an important partner. Looking at OPRD budgets in next two biennium they are planning for reduced budgets.
- At Ecola most people go to the viewpoint. At Cape Perpetua, there is interpretation going down to the beach about beach and tidal areas. Have a greeter "welcome! Don't mess this place up".
- Plover host with OPRD may be a whole coastal host.
- Dawn at Fish and Wildlife Service to check on partnerships

Other notes:

- Sustainable exploration that goes beyond rules...such as etiquette. Tidepool and beach etiquette. How protected areas are engaged in coastal environmental conservation/preservation.
- Rescue- don't climb if you do stop. Visitor safety. Tidal safety. Dog management.
- Clarity about the rules versus etiquette: While a mussel may be taken but something on signs to suggest things stay in place. Do not disrupt wildlife – drones and dogs
- How these areas connect to environmental resiliency
- Ocean acidification information to show how things are changing
- Try to be positive...avoid going to a place full of negative signage. It's more impactful to have info on how someone could contribute to benefit the site.
- Cultural information...Tribal information; Lewis and Clark. Discussion about federally designated tribes versus undesignated.

Monitoring and Community Science

What's happening in the area?

- Black oystercatcher monitoring surveys
- Animal rescues occur/ tracking of events via CoastWatch
- Seastar monitoring (observations) for the MARINE program
- NOAA protocol Marine debris surveys
- PISCO also conducts surveys at the site
- Marine Mammals strandings – data entry through CoastWatch
- COASST seabird data surveys
- King Tide observations from Ecola
- NPS connection? Intertidal monitoring
- USFWS annual aerial & boat-based surveys
- Birds with food (OSU led)

What's an opportunity to grow observations?

- Nearshore water quality?
- Effects of the Columbia River Plume on these sites
- E-bird submittals
- iNaturalist observations (bio-blitzes for species observations)
- Human tracking – visitor numbers and distance travelled (where's home), intercepts & tracking of disturbance events
- Tabea - Black oyster catchers in this area. 70 pairs 10 nests six fail. Wildlife center animal rescue.
 - Areas to grow at Ecola and Chapman: Sea star monitoring and OR Shores. Connection with other reporting for other agencies.
- How is disturbance tracked? Happens immediately but logs them and does CoastWatch reports sometimes
- Jessie - Sea star monitoring but just for MARINE. PISCO was out there too. More observations rather than monitoring. Observational survey that people can do. Several are doing that. Marine debris survey site but there was a slide that happened in that area. NOAA protocol on those debris surveys. Some marine mammals in the area and can report on Coastwatch. Huge fan of COASST program not hard to see reporting data. Not aware of King Tide reporting.
- Is there reporting done at the Marine Reserve which would be beneficial here? There are 10 surveys at Marine Reserve. Ocean chemistry is being done by ODFW at Cape Mears...could they come up here? There are microclimates at heads and influence of Columbia River affects.
- Bioblitz using inaturalist is easy to operate
- NPS surveys at Ecola. Lewis and Clark National Historic Park

- Human dimension tracking. Visitor numbers to start. Languages one might want to track. Intercepts for disturbance events
- All these groups pull data in their own space but there is nothing where it is all pulled together.
- Crab tracking.
- Go beyond community science...OSU scientists.
- OCOIN spatial database – from nearshore research task force. Geographers draw box of area of study.
- Birds with food. OSU. What are birds bringing back to the next.
- Arch Cape - sea level rise. Find out sand dynamics at Chapman Point

Enforcement and Compliance

- OSP has primary jurisdiction – has agreements with OPRD, decision is with dispatcher
- If urgent response is needed, OSP will send support more quickly
- Be sure to share the context
- Cannon Beach Police have an agreement with OPRD to respond on beach but not required to respond
- Developing relationships with local officers can help to streamline response
- Involve Fire Dep. and Cannon Beach Police Chief
- Can lifeguards support these kinds of
- Cannon Beach CERT
- Rules violations need to be handled by agency
- Volunteers should be tracking behavior rather than enforcing rules violations
- Uniform for volunteers and CERT teams
- Having signage is important to help encourage/remind compliance
- How to make rules very clear
- Intentional conversations that happen annually to update community partners about any changes or updates – help mitigate turnover
- Being a good witness
- Electronic monitoring to observe pattern of behaviors/violations
- Enforcement about new rules is different from bird disturbance
- How to monitor/enforce rules in-between Chapman and Ecola
- Wildlife refuge and State and local police are enforcement agencies...for these areas there is question, if the State has ceded response to Cannon Beach.
- Oregon State Police has primary responsibility of ocean shores.
- OPRD has an agreement with Cannon Beach is empowered (but not required) to do what OSP has enforcement capabilities. But we not sure how it is working now.
- County has ability to help but not many 4 wheel drive vehicle.
- Let the dispatcher know if someone is unsafe for urgent response.
- 4th of July is high priority issues.

- Develop relationship with new police chief in Cannon Beach. Hope to have conversations with the fire chief and police chief.
- Could life guards assist now that they are part of fire department? CERT team is in Cannon Beach could participate in enforcement.
 - Life guards may not be the person to send for a rule violation. What is training for a CERT team to engage?
- Prefer this to be reframed as compliance and enforcement.
- Educate before it becomes an enforcement action.
- Be a good witness to situations.
- Calling in a report for an illegal take is more likely to have a follow up. So, get information maybe rather than initiate a concern with the person.
- Cameras a possibility?

Public Comment

None

Final Questions

Can you camp? Not when adjacent to a state park. But in between is a possibility unless prohibited by others. In this case there was an agreement with County to address the situation.

Ideas for future discussions from anonymous workshop feedback surveys:

- Future workshopping on volunteer programming/management
- More info about what enforcement infractions we are most concerned about