

Depoe Bay Near-Shore Action Team
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2007 – 6:00 pm
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard, R. Davilla, M. Fitzpatrick, J. O'Brien, M. Grover, L. Robison (arrived during video presentation), V. Sovern (arrived during video presentation)

ABSENT: B. Fasciano

STAFF: Recording Secretary Nancy Fitzpatrick (volunteer)

Chairman Goddard called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:06 pm. Goddard told of John Rose passing, spoke to his community involvement and called for a moment of silence in his memory.

Approve Minutes: January 18, 2007 Regular Meeting

MOTION: O'Brien moved to approve the January 18, 2007 meeting minutes as written.
Davilla seconded the motion.

Goddard said it is moved and seconded and called for discussion. There was none.

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: Davilla, Fitzpatrick, Goddard, Grover, O'Brien

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tabled until the March 15, 2007 regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Sea Grant Stakeholder Priorities

Need to set time for meeting next week to provide answer to Julie Barr on priorities. Special NSAT meeting is scheduled for February 21st at 6:00 p.m. Fitzpatrick will not be able to attend, but will provide input to Goddard.

Paul Engelmeyer (OPAC and TMNAS), Mark Hixon, Ph.D (OSU) Presentation

Engelmeyer explained he is the statewide representative on OPAC and also is associated with the bird program. The video "Common Ground- Oregon Ocean" regarding marine reserves was shown. Discussion followed on how NSAT can fit into the planning process. Hixon, Chair of Federal Marine Protected Advisory Board, suggested comparing areas that are similar and have different management in place to study those areas. The small reserves along the west coast that have been established do show increased fish. Concerns include pollution where waters are closed (such as bays), ocean warming, shifting in species and distribution, and changes in upwelling cycles. Marine reserves can help in that when there is a relatively intact system with unexploited fisheries, they tend to survive these changes better. Hixon has access to peer-reviewed literature and certain patterns emerge, marine reserves are an unutilized tool. Discussion occurred on public perceptions due to media information. Hixon noted that it is the scientists' responsibility to report information accurately and require the media to quote the

information accurately, while information is conveyed carefully there is no control when the media takes over. Engelmeyer spoke to the lack of species stock assessments and lack of funding to conduct these assessments. Funding is being sought to map the ocean floor. Ocean zoning is an upcoming issue that reveals the importance of being involved in the process and being aware of the nearshore.

A representative from Surfrider Organization, present in the audience, said the Port Orford Ocean Resources Team (POORT) has developed a marine stewardship area. POORT endorses the stakeholder process, as a powerful tool to have in place as policies bring marine reserves, wave energy farms and the like to the ocean. Engelmeyer said OPAC met in Port Orford and was provided a presentation by POORT. POORT has many partners and would be willing to work with NSAT. He discussed how to identify ecologically significant areas and develop plans to protect them. Area management and community based strategies are happening and can be addressed at NSAT meetings. He shared the “Breeding Origins of Bird Species Foraging in the CA Current System off Oregon” poster which shows birds that are offshore Oregon, encouraging charter boat operators to share information about these birds. Birds are drawn to highly productive areas, including estuaries. John Meyer, COMPASS, said part of his job is to connect science and communities’ questions pertaining to the ocean.

Discussion followed regarding involvement in the process of establishing marine reserves, ocean dependency issues, economic impacts and the importance of diversification. Engelmeyer offered to send website information related to the poster and suggested Roy Lowe’s USFW presentation on ocean islands. Hixon encouraged NSAT to connect with POORT, noting that POORT is seeking endorsement from the Governor’s office.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Loren Goddard, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder