

Depoe Bay Near-Shore Action Team
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 18, 2007 – 6:00 pm
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard, R. Davilla, M. Fitzpatrick, L. Robison (arr 6:10 pm),
G. Snyder, V. Sovern Advisory Committee members: J. Brown, T. Thompson
ABSENT: J. O'Brien, B. Fasciano, M. Grover
STAFF: City Recorder P. Murray

Chairman Goddard called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:00 pm.

Approve Minutes: September 20, 2007 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Fitzpatrick moved to approve the minutes as written. Sovern seconded the motion.

Goddard said it was moved and seconded and called for discussion. Fitzpatrick commented on topics from the meeting, including communications with Dr. Chan.

VOTE: Motion passed.
AYES: Fitzpatrick, Goddard, Snyder, Sovern
ABSTAIN: Davilla

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Socio-Economic Study Goddard hopes to focus on the study in the next few months.

DVD Editing/Rewrite Editing continues with intentions to have a draft by the next meeting.

Letterhead/Logo Sovern reported that Mat Goddard has offered his assistance. Member titles are needed for inclusion on the letterhead.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter to Charter Operators/Commercial Fishermen Regarding MPA It was agreed to wait on this matter until O'Brien's return.

Patty Burke (ODFW) Q and A Session Burke provided a handout (copy attached to the original of these minutes) "Draft Policy Guidance for MRWG/STAC/OPAC Review", noting that the draft had been prepared by OPAC Marine Reserve Working Group (MRWG) for the nomination process. Difficulties include lack of log books and data, only 5% of the territorial sea is mapped and requests for acceleration of mapping remain unfulfilled, there exist few stock assessments of near shore species. ODFW views marine reserves as a tool in the tool box and the lack of information presents a great challenge. Staff will brief ODFW Commission at a workshop meeting in November, with roles being assigned: Division of State Lands (DSL) will do the siting and ODFW the regulations. ODFW has to come up with assessment methods of rocky reef species. A report will be compiled on the results of the telemetry project. The Legislature is looking at funding for mapping acceleration which could impact ODFW budget or it could be another entity. Marine Reserves are a long range tool, another tool could be rotating fishing closures. A combination of short term and long term solutions is probably the best answer, with funding being critical to any plan. The estimated time frame for monitoring a marine reserve would be at least ten years, based upon fish species life span. Thompson raised the question of

cost of enforcement, he'd estimate start-up at \$10 million, with \$4 million per year for operations. Burke said an option may be to establish sites within view of the shore. Discussion followed relating to assessments on yellow-eye (no improvement), and canary and black rockfish (doing better), fishing closures being continued with possible longer closures due to the step-down on the yellow-eye program being implemented. Gear restrictions may also be implemented. Ongoing research continues as funding allows, trawler surveys are not the correct way to collect data on yellow-eye, but there is no funding to establish an alternative method. At some point costs of data collection and assessment outweigh the benefits of fisheries. The definition of "Disturbance" (page 5) was discussed briefly (no-take reserve vs. limited activity MPA). "Social and Economic Objective" (page 2) was also discussed, with it being noted that the wording should be clarified, avoiding use of "wiggle" wording. Federal law allows use of the best available science and in the absence of data, prescribes a cautionary approach (basis of the Native Fish Policy). Goddard said that ODFW goals for sites would be helpful information to entities in nominating sites. ODFW is trying to inject fisheries management into the marine reserve process. The definition of habitat is being worked on the determine categories of habitat. The process is dynamic, and more changes are anticipated as OPAC continues to work on recommendations to the Governor. Burke closed by saying that ODFW will be heavily involved once finalized, they will use experiential data and appreciate the interface with groups like NSAT.

Terry Thompson Presentation and Q and A on Trawl Gear Thompson brought a DVD for viewing and discussed trawler fisheries, bottom trawlers do not concentrate, there are only 9 left in Newport, with only 1 operating year round. Those on the halibut grounds are shrimpers or mid-water fleet, which do not typically put their nets on the bottom. The DVD shows an excluder device on the net, aimed at canary rockfish. Thompson offered to bring more videos to future meetings. Burke said ODFW is analyzing data on the DVD relating to size, type and number of fish.

Member and Public Comments

Nancy Fitzpatrick reported on the October 1 Lewis and Clark Symposium on Wave Energy. Kevin Bannister spoke for local involvement including fishermen and an abbreviated version of the FERC process. Ocean Power Technology (OPT) settlement discussions are ongoing on the south coast with Reedsport farthest along. OPT's application proposes 14 buoys at 27 – 32 fathoms (crabbing grounds). Discussion followed on wave energy impacts on fisheries and wave energy potentials. The FINE draft includes information on trawlers (Mike Fitzpatrick provided a copy of the draft to Goddard).

Mike Fitzpatrick reported that he was asked by George Boller (OSU) to be involved in wave energy, regarding receptors and stressors, acoustics and electromagnetic effects. Baseline information, time and money are needed. Efforts are being made to gather scientific information to guide wave energy buoy placement and numbers. He will bring white paper back to FINE and NSAT in about a month.

Larry Stiedle, present in the audience, said the Oregon Coastal Conservation Coalition wants the entire area off Depoe Bay designated as a marine reserve. Snyder recommends follow-up on this information. Stiedle said if interested to call the Beacon tomorrow for name and number information. Robison asked Stiedle to do what he can to encourage fishermen's involvement through the Beacon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Loren Goddard, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder