

Depoe Bay Near Shore Action Team  
Regular Meeting - Thursday, April 19, 2012 - 6:00 PM  
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard, J. Grant, R. Hageman, J. O'Brien, M. Roberts, L. Robison  
ABSENT: T. Ray, G. Snyder  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Terry Thompson  
STAFF: none  
ODFW: none

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

#### Approval of March 15, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: O'Brien moved to approve the minutes as written. Hageman seconded the motion.  
VOTE: Motion passed  
AYES: Goddard, Grant, Hageman, O'Brien, Roberts, Robison

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Goddard asked Thompson to provide a report on the OPAC meeting at which the focus was the Territorial Sea Plan (TSP). Thompson said that community impacts were discussed, specifically how Depoe Bay is left without protection. Goddard said that while he was at the meeting, he ensured that they were aware of the letters the city has sent regarding concerns over the TSP, and he reiterated those concerns.

Goddard asked Hageman to report on the OCZMA meeting he'd attended. Hageman provided information from the meeting (copy attached to the original of these minutes). He learned of a meeting in Cannon Beach this week, the purpose was to learn how to hold local workshops for TSP review.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Goddard announced that ODFW is present to provide an update on the Otter Rock Marine Reserve. Cristen Don said this is the first report since completing baseline studies. The data is currently being compiled into monitoring reports which will be available later this spring. She reminded everyone that the definition of Marine Reserve came from OPAC, reserves are protected from all extractive activities except those necessary for monitoring or research for evaluation of the reserve. While the legislature ordered the establishment, study, monitoring and enforcement of reserves, OPAC (2008) published policy recommendations, including goals and objectives. These guide planning and implementation by ODFW. Marine Reserves (Goals) are meant to: conserve marine habitat biodiversity, provide a framework for research and monitoring, avoid significant adverse social and economic impacts to ocean users in coastal communities. ODFW is looking at a system of reserves, with these guidelines. The Otter Rock and Redfish Rocks have been established (effective January 1, 2012) and worked on for two years, completing baseline studies. ODFW will be beginning baseline studies (two years) this year at the three additional sites, Cape Falcon, Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua. Prohibitions at these sites will not take effect until baseline studies are completed. Specific studies are chosen for a reason- to evaluate species, habitat and biodiversity, and what the reserves are achieving. Impacts on communities, social and economic, are also being monitored. The monitoring is designed for the next ten years.

Melissa Murphy reported on the human dimensions monitoring efforts: The role is to produce work that informs the evaluation of marine reserves and management tools, collection of data, collaboration with stakeholders and other researchers. Capture socio-economic characterization of communities, including

charter and fishing boats to determine if the reserves cause financial, cultural or social burdens, any adverse effects. Understanding attitudes and perceptions, social and cultural connections for all users and non-market aspects such as view-sheds. Develop community profiles. To date the following have been done: baseline studies for the community profile for Depoe Bay; interviews conducted with commercial, charter and recreational fishermen and businesses, and observational surveys have been conducted of beach users. Based upon 2009 catch in the rocky habitat area of the Otter Rock Marine Reserve, the total economic impact is calculated to be \$1,500. Thompson noted that the Newport and Depoe Bay ports need to be separated, Depoe Bay's primary fishing economy is charter fishing, not commercial. Spatial use and habitat data was linked to evaluate economic consequences, especially the removal of fishing opportunities from the reserve areas. Public awareness of the reserves will be worked on, and impacts will be monitored over the next ten years. Thompson asked about calculating the added pressure on fishing grounds with the closure of reserve sites. Murphy said this can be accomplished with monitoring, can only estimate now. She noted that the information and data coming out of this process can be used by communities for many purposes, it is information that has never been available before. There was discussion regarding how to obtain more data from fishermen, charter and sport, which will be very important for the Cascade Head study. Without actual data, assumptions are applied based on limited information available. There may be a pilot project to work specifically with the charter fishing industry to obtain information. Depoe Bay's Community Profile will be available in a few weeks. Recreational fishing survey cards have been handed out since last October, the responses will be broken out by port, so Depoe Bay will know what recreational fishing means to the community.

Alix Laferriere reported on the ecological monitoring efforts. One goal is to determine if the reserves provide protection for formerly extracted species, and if there are any trends in the reserve system. Another is to determine if the reserve is providing habitat protection. They strive for a comprehensive assessment of the variety of ecosystems in the reserves. Before-after and inside-outside impact studies are conducted. Oregon is unique in that data is collected before closure, not always the case in other areas. Otter Rock is fairly challenging due to its shallowness, some equipment can't be used. Two comparison areas were chosen, Cape Foulweather/rocky reefs and Moolack/unconsolidated sediment. A rapid assessment was conducted in 2010, followed by a detailed assessment, which will continue in future years. Included are sea floor mapping; oceanographic assessment; measurements of temperature, salinity, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and light; visual/video surveys; fish and invertebrate counts; species identification; habitat classification; extractive survey sampling. Otter Rock is 75% bedrock, 15% boulder, 7% cobble and 3% sand. Fish surveys show there are more fish in the reserve than outside. Gail Hansen explained the algae research process. She noted that there are 112 species of seaweed and seagrass in Otter Rock and Foulweather, compared to 60 at Redfish Rocks. Thompson asked about contracts with local persons/companies, dollars being spent locally. Alix offered to provide that information. ODFW is now in the process of selecting comparison areas for Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua. Thompson said winter monitoring and marine mammal monitoring also need to be included. Alix said winter monitoring will happen in the future, ODFW doesn't monitor marine mammals, but would support a volunteer effort. Grant said the research completed could have been done without marine reserves, except for funding, and asked about sea urchins being included. Alix said sea urchin surveys will occur late spring, early summer or into September, depending on who gets the bid.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

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Chair Loren Goddard

Pery Murray, City Recorder (transcribed from audio tape)