

MidCoast Watersheds Council Meeting 3 Sept 09

Greetings and Introductions: 19 folks present

Recorder's Report: no official actions taken at last meeting

Treasurer's Report: see handout

Education Program: Cristen Don Overview of Marine Reserves Process

Update-background. The Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) composition and tasks are legislatively mandated. The Governor's Executive Order regarding marine reserves was to establish a system of nine sites or fewer sites that are ecologically meaningful, avoid socio-economic hardship, reward collaboration.

PROCESS: In 2008 20 proposals were submitted for OPAC consideration representing 9 areas of the coast, reviewed by state agencies, state lands, land conservations and development, state parks, department of geology and mineral industries, ODFW, DEQ, etc. handed in evaluations to OPAC

OPAC made recommendations for 6 areas to move forward: 4 areas for further study and 2 area as pilot marine reserve sites for immediate designation whose planning was further along (near Port Orford, Otter Rock).

HB 3013 passed by the legislature this session directs certain agencies to implement recommendations; approved ODFW funding provides for some necessary marine reserve positions. \$2 M ODFW, \$1 Mil allocated state funds plus \$1 Mil placeholder for donations and grants that can be accepted from most any source. (Legislature has to approve outside funding source prior to agencies being able to receive any such funding and such funding needs to be consistent with implementing the approved Work Plan. Budget through June 30, 2011. Up to 8 new positions, Sea Grant outreach support

HB 3013 implements OPAC recommendations and designates the make up of community teams to help assure representation by all interested party. Map of the 6 areas from Port Orford in the S, N to Cape Falcon.

Pilot site: Redfish Rocks-south of Port Orford-west is protected area where Dungeness crab fishing and salmon toll is allowed (NPA). Want to protect near shore reef fish, sandy bottom so outside area fishing probably won't catch these fish. 3 miles offshore of rocks so about 5 miles from land.

Pilot site: Otter Rock shallow reef. North of Beverly Beach State Park, no extraction in this area. No fishing from shore, no extraction. Sandy beach clamming is allowed.

4 additional study sites:

Cape Falcon-further evaluation to refine the site by Oswald State Park

Cascade Head-North of Lincoln City-further evaluation

Cape Perpetua to Heceta Head (this include Yachats and smelt run area)

Port of Coos Bay to develop new proposal-Bandon to Reedsport

Next steps

ODFW has to create a work plan. Create the template to implement HB3013. Build in collaboration with engagement, transparent process

Designate and implement 2 pilot sites (09-11), rule making, develop monitoring plans, conduct baseline data and monitoring survey and develop management plans for each site. Evaluate if it turns out there is nothing there to manage-adaptive management

Further collaboration development and evaluation for 4 other areas (09-10)-establish community teams, biological and socio-economic assessments, work with community teams to refine and recommend sites (3 areas) develop new proposal (Cape Arago area)

Potential designation and implemented of additions from the 2 selected sites from the 4, (2011) July 2011 more sites might be designated, go through public rule making and will go through an implementation process for marine reserve sites

Work Plan Elements include

(P1- P7) Pilot sites: community teams, outreach, rulemaking, biological monitoring and baseline surveys, socio-economic monitoring and baseline surveys, management plan and report to legislature (progress report due Nov 30 2010)

(E1-E6) Evaluation and Proposal sites: community teams, outreach, biological assessments, social economic assessments, site recommendation/ proposal, report to legislature by 30 Nov 2010. Watersheds are listed in this area.

Discussions around fossils, agates: Public input in the process E4 and P5 input in social economic impact. Make sure what you know if made known to the folks collecting the data.

Interested in a local government process at the local level that could be utilized for the process.

Break

Technical Team Report: Took one action that needs Council attention. Recommend that council approves Alsea Stewardship Group, due Sept 1st. Management plan for the upland portions of the Starr Creek Preserve owned by The Wetlands Conservancy (and purchased by OWEB and USFWS dollars). Thinning of Douglas fir plantations, encourage diversity, leave saplings of other species, plantings of other species aimed at diversity-fruit for band tails-cascara and wild cherry, twinberry, 50 bird nesting boxes for a variety of species: wren to owls to wood ducks. Much of the match would come from NRC youth crews-monitoring, weed control, yellow flag iris control, etc. Small grant funds for riparian area treatments and stimulus funds for large wood placement-maybe small helicopter project for large wood in wetlands also match. Stewardship funds goes back to forest service available to these types of projects that meet Wyden criteria. Helps provide connectivity with Drift Creek Wilderness and the newly acquired Drift Creek Marsh. Rennie moved to approve, Corrina seconded the motion.

Discussion: passed

Stacy (LSWCD) made a proposal to the stewardship group: fencing and planting near north and south fork of Yachats. MCWC will write a letter of support for this proposal.

Marine Debris removal: removing creosoted wood, railroad ties and other potentially hazardous debris from estuarine and tidewater areas. Proposal work started.

Proposal to build off-channel habitat alcoves in Bummer Creek near Alsea. Design work has been completed so this would be for this work next summer-2010. This summer was large log placement to create gravel. Channels would increase over-summer habitat. Tech team tour is 10th Sept. Meet at

Downtown Alsea by store at 10 am. Give review and tech team info for comments so that proposal will be the best possible.

Basin Planning Team Report: Siletz report is handout. Last Saturday they had a garbage cleanup. Removed 7 vehicle bodies. Coordination with multiple agencies. Had to be complete by Sept 1. 2 truck bodies still deeply embedded in bank and couldn't be removed. City passed a resolution not allowing the launching or removing of gas powered boats from Siletz boat ramp parks.

Yaquina Group: Debra has resigned. Looking for a replacement. MCWC held the field trip on the 22nd to visit the ODOT Hwy 20 project to look at progress and erosion control measures.

Salmon Drift Watershed Council: their largest project is Tamara Quays to clear the asphalt, dike removal, redid culvert, removed fill and graded to estuary level, log jams, reconnecting tidal channels, remove dam and rest of dike and make sure the water is moving. Oct field trip. Laura Brophy did surveys before work started, water quality at culvert. 5 Years of monitoring is funded. Some erosion control

Start on Sampson, Drift Creek Oct 3 and 4th helicopter large wood placement. Permit is still not issued. May spread straw on this day.

Barrier assessment: hire the fisher funds. Salmon River Basin is almost complete so going to ask OWEB if we can expand the area. Modified BLM standards used. GIS of culverts-photo of each culvert and assessment. 2 volunteers even data entry. One caught us up on water quality data entry. One might do culvert barrier assessment.

Other issues: Need to move office to a new site so looking for a place-- \$175 per month. We got desks and bookshelves from Garmins; Oct water quality monitoring grant application; Large wood placement for Bear Creek upper sections-Hancock property maybe; Morton Creek wood placement; Policy procedures review at Sept meeting

Alsea Watershed Council: Board meeting 2 things. Tom Shafer on 11th Sept at Waldport Sept 17th Ranger Station for grant writing workshop. Alsea Sept 17th in Waldport field trip with Siletz Tribe re fish rearing ponds. Working on Lobster Creek

Administrative Committee Report: reviewed the financial report and approved. Invite Alsea Watershed Council to next meeting. Need to advertise for a new Yaquina Basin Coordinator position. Annual report –consider making a 3 year contract. Nov 15th Annual Report deadline. Need to have MidCoast mentioned in media where involved. Recent articles about Natural Resource Crews ignored central role of MCWC (through Virginia's work). Education component included in each future grant.

Education Committee Report: OWEB Education and Outreach of \$40,000 in 2008-09 ended up with \$364,000 in kind by August 31st. This is 9.1 times the OWEB grant.

Coordinator's Report: on back of agenda. CAPIS climate change. No matter what you believe-we will need to address this in proposals-could impact large wood and culverts. Resiliency should be addressed. Protect the best and restore the rest. Look to remove future constraints. Storms are larger and stronger is the trend. 1.5-3 times increase in the last 30 years. Increased wave height is more significant than water level.

Announcements: Wayne DeMornay-OCCC ribbon cutting, salmon schooling posters--salmon sculptures will be auctioned.

Sam Adams Section of Hwy 20 cleanup Saturday Oct 10th -9-12

The Council wrote a letter of support for Siletz.

Adjourn 8:55 pm