



Oregon

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TO: TSPAC

FROM: Andy Lanier, Laurel Hillmann

CC: File

RE: TSPAC Visual Resources Subcommittee Meeting Report 5/23/12

The first meeting of the TSPAC Visual Resources Subcommittee was held from 8:00AM – 10:00AM through a GotoMeeting online conference. The meeting was recorded and a digital audio file of the meeting is available from the department. The meeting attendees are listed included: Members(7 of 9): David Allen, Bob Eder, Peter Huhtala, Bob Lurie, Rick Williams and David Yamamoto. Absent for this meeting were members: Gus Gates and Susan Allen. Members of the public: Dave Lacey.

The Meeting included the following topics:

- ❖ Review of the groups charge:
 - discuss or clarify any of the objectives.
- ❖ Presentation on the Visual Impact Assessment Methods (Laurel Hillmann, OPRD).
- ❖ Update on staff training (Laurel, Andy)
 - National Park Service training event.
 - National Association of Environmental Professionals Symposium on Visual Resource Inventory Assessment methods.
- ❖ The group reviewed the viewpoints in the inventory to be conducted by OPRD (Andy Lanier).
 - Looked at maps of the viewpoints present within coastal State Parks.
 - Discussion of assistance to local governments for conducting the inventory
 - The addition of staff at DLCD who will work with city and county offices to conduct the visual resource inventory assessments (VRIA).
- ❖ Discuss and Review proposed criteria for additional inventory locations which will need to be conducted by local governments (w/ DLCD assistance).
- ❖ Discussed review of inventory Assessment values. What kind of public input should occur? Noted the need to get/desire to get local input.
- ❖ Discussion of the permit review stage with the JART.
 - We discussed the level of review once it gets to JART. JART evaluation of whether simulations and intended development meet the standard associated with

the nearby associated visual classes. We noted that we need to expand on the line item about aesthetics in the Part 5 language. We also noted we wanted to get local input on who will be involved in JART review from this perspective (viewsheds). Some combination of planning staff and local elected officials (e.g., county commissioners). Who should be the position within local/city/county to be on JART to review visual resource assessment. Noted we would get OCZMA input on this topic.

There were two important main points of agreement reached by the subcommittee. The first was that upon staff recommendation, with support from the rest of the group, that the OPAC adopted methods for conducting the VRIA's will be used in the near future (this summer) completion of the scenic resources evaluation. The second was that the group understood the idea that VRIA methods are primarily used in the protection of scenic resources for the benefit of the public, and that private property concerns related to impacts of MRE development would be accommodated only through their adjacency to viewsheds assessed on publicly accessible sites.

Several follow up actions were decided upon by the group:

1. DLCD will hire a temporary employee to help work with local governments (cities and counties) to conduct the visual resource inventories. That employee will be trained by OPRD and DLCD staff in the use of the adopted VRIA methods.
2. Agency staff would provide a presentation at the next OCZMA meeting to go over the use of VRIA procedures to assess viewsheds and plan for any potential impacts to the scenic resources.
3. Decided to try for a next meeting the first full week of June. Andy to do a doodle soon.
 - a. Our next subcommittee meeting would potentially include an in-person gathering that would include two components, a field component where the group would conduct an assessment of a viewshed (at 1 or 2 locations); and an online meeting that would follow the field assessment.
4. Prior to the next subcommittee meeting and before contacting local governments, the agency staff will prepare a set of additional (draft) sites for inclusion in the VRIA surveys.
5. Find out about contacts for federal or other state/county properties
 - a. City of Brookings
 - b. USFWS – Coquille Point
 - c. USFS
 - d. BLM