



PART THREE:

Rocky Shores Management Strategy

H. ROCKY SHORE MANAGEMENT AT CAPE ARAGO

Amendment of May 4, 2001

Note: The policies in this section were adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission May 4, 2001, and were thereby added to the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan. Management prescriptions for Cape Arago adopted in 1994 and listed in Part Three, Sections F and G, above, are superceded.

Background

In 1997, the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) heard testimony on the need to amend provisions of the Rocky Shores Management Strategy in the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan that pertain to intertidal areas of the Cape Arago headland. The OPAC established a community-based planning project in the Coos Bay area that was conducted during 1997-1998. The community working group presented its report and recommendations to OPAC in September, 1998. On June 4, 1999, the OPAC adopted the report and recommendations of the Cape Arago Working Group and now requests that the Land Conservation and Development Commission amend the Territorial Sea Plan as necessary to incorporate the specific recommendations.

The OPAC realizes that some re-formatting and organizing of Part Three, Rocky Shores Management Strategy, may be necessary because the Cape Arago Working Group considered the uses, resources, and management of the entire headland, a rocky shore “cell” that includes several sites. Its perspective and recommendations thus apply to the entire headland and are not limited to specific sites or areas as is the organization of Part Three.

OPAC staff suggests that this provides an opportunity to re-format the entire rocky shore section to reflect the organization of rocky shore sites into larger cells as shown on the maps in the Appendix of the Territorial Sea Plan, pp 225-226. Such re-formatting will set the stage for future amendments based on assessments of entire cells that encompass related sites, which the OPAC is actively considering, and can be accomplished without changing the existing substantive management requirements now contained in the officially adopted plan.

Amendments to Territorial Sea Plan

The Land Conservation and Development Commission amends the Rocky Shores Strategy (pp. 65-192) to incorporate the following management policies:

For the entire Cape Arago headland,

1. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department shall:

A.) identify, through signage and educational and promotional materials, the intertidal area around the entire headland, from Gregory Point to south of South Cove, as an **Intertidal Marine Protected Area**. This designation is for public awareness value only; it neither

creates nor requires new regulatory or enforcement authority. OPRD shall use this identity to promote responsible visitation and stewardship to intertidal areas.

B.) continue to prohibit collection or harvest of intertidal marine plants of the Cape Arago headland, except by special ODFW permit for educational or scientific purposes.

C.) continue to close the trail to North Cove during spring marine mammal pupping seasons as a precaution against human disturbance to harbor seal pups and to elephant seals and Steller sea lions.

D.) continue to work with the community and other agencies to protect the tidepools on Cape Arago from overuse by school groups and other visitors.

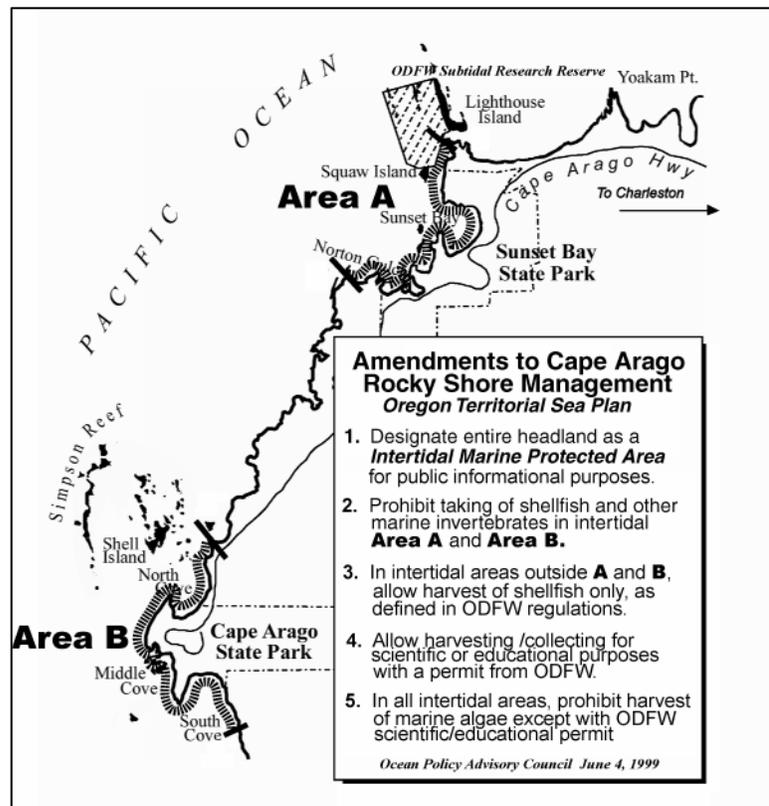
2. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife shall:

A.) adopt new regulations to prohibit the taking of all shellfish and marine invertebrates, except by scientific research and education permit, in two intertidal areas (see map): **Area A**, which extends from Squaw Island on the north side of Sunset Bay to the most westerly point along the south side of Norton Gulch area; and **Area B**, which extends from the point of land below the Simpson Reef overlook to the southerly extent of the present Research Reserve south of South Cove.

B.) retain current regulations in intertidal areas outside Area A and Area B that allow harvest of shellfish, defined in regulations as abalone, clams, Dungeness crab, red rock crab, mussels, piddocks, scallops, shrimp, and kelp worms **ONLY**, and prohibit the harvest of other marine invertebrates as defined.

C.) continue to issue permits for collecting intertidal marine invertebrates for scientific research and educational purposes for all areas of the headland.

D.) make improvements to its permit program, such as issuing a visible permit that is required to be displayed on-site.



Outline Map of the Cape Arago Headland
Showing Intertidal Management Areas and List of Key Recommendations