

February 02, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Dingfelder
Chairs Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources 900 Court St. NE, H-484
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB1510

Dear Chair Dingfelder and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Alexis Howell-Kubler, and I'm a biology high school teacher. As a teacher and parent, I am very concerned about the state we leave our ocean resources for future generations. I support SB 1510, designating marine reserve sites at Cape Falcon, Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua.

Such a system of marine reserves is a very good option for creating a sustainable seafood industry that will last into the future. The Cape Falcon, Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua marine reserves each meet the minimum scientific guidelines recommended by Oregon's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee. Studies of marine reserves in other areas around the globe, including temperate ecosystems with conditions similar to those off Oregon, have demonstrated that reserves increase biodiversity, fish size, and abundance.

I'm a Katrina survivor, and have seen firsthand the value of protected coastal waters, which enabled the Gulf Coast to provide for itself after the hurricane. And as a Navy wife, I've traveled around the world and seen a lot of coastal areas, and the critical nature of well protected fisheries to the community.

Finally, as a parent, I want my children to be able to enjoy the ocean and shoreline the same way we do now for years to come.

As a public resource, so all Oregonians share responsibility for managing Oregon's Territorial Sea wisely for present and future generations. This legislation provides for a short and long-term plan for effectively creating and adaptively managing marine protected areas and reserves by considering the needs of the local community and the whole state—the ocean users, the businesses and organizations that depend on a healthy ocean, and the plants and animals that live in and around our waters.

Sincerely,

Alexis Howell-Kubler,
4526 NE Oregon St.
Portland, OR 97213

CC. Jackie Dingfelder
CC. Alissa Keny-Guyer