

Submitter: Briana Goodwin

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB4132

I strongly urge you to support HB 4132 to strengthen Oregon's Marine Reserves Program.

I have a very long and positive history with Oregon's Marine Reserves, dating back to 2008 when the proposals were initially submitted. I also had the honor of forming and staffing the Redfish Rocks Community Team for my local Marine Reserve and Marine Protected Area near Port Orford. From talking to fishermen alongside ODFW staff about research contracts, to leading well attended community events and teaching students about marine reserves, I've seen the positive impact that the Redfish Rocks designation has had on my community. I was facilitating the Redfish Rocks Community Team Socioeconomic Working Group when Dave Lacey proposed his idea to create an ecotourism business that would offer tours of Redfish Rocks and now South Coast Tours is a thriving business offering unique services to my community.

ODFW's Marine Reserves Program has done an excellent job of involving community members in scientific monitoring and communicating those results back. Their data have expanded of what we know about our territorial sea. Connecting that natural science data with human dimensions research is imperative for understanding how our communities interact with and rely on the ocean. Ultimately, this information will lead to data that will help the State evaluate how emerging ocean uses might impact our coastal communities.

Please support HB 4132 so our coastal communities can continue benefiting from and enjoying our marine reserves and coastal managers can have valuable data to inform their decisions.