

Submitter: Lynn Herring

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3587

Dear Co-chair Helm, Co-chair Owens and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water,

I urge you to support HB 3587 (Rocky Habitat Stewardship Bill). Rocky habitats play an important role in bolstering marine biodiversity and supporting coastal economies. Oregon's rocky habitats, like Haystack Rock and Coquille Point, are biologically, culturally and economically important. They serve as habitat for millions of nesting birds like Tufted Puffins and Common Murre, marine mammals, fish and invertebrates and the ever-important kelp beds. The beautiful Oregon coast attracts millions of visitors helping support a 2-billion-dollar tourist industry. However, increasing climate impacts and human disturbance are threatening these very special places and their habitats. HB 3587 with a funding package of ~\$600K would provide needed agency coordination to manage these sites and a grants program to support community stewardship to ensure protection for rocky habitat sites.

For a modest investment we can ensure rocky habitats thrive.

In Stewardship of our critical coastal habitats,

Lynn Herring