

Submitter: Alenna Sebben

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 committee, I am writing to ask that you please support HB 3587, and our invaluable rocky habitats. These bills NOT ONLY offer a great opportunity to support biodiversity, coastal economies, and increase resilience to a changing climate, but are part of a necessary pivot to preserving the last vestiges of natural places which keep our system (Earth) going. It's a precarious time – in fact the pivot point may have been years ago. But here we are in the final hours of our ability to make a difference for life on Earth. What an exciting time!

Oregon's Rocky Habitats: Haystack Rock, Coquille Point, and others are iconic tourist destinations for millions of visitors. I like too go there, and I like to see life there around the rocks, tidepools, and in the sky. Can we work to keep that so we don't feel like we live on Mars? These places, not to mention, are incredibly important for millions of nesting birds, marine mammals, fish and invertebrates. We already know that increasing climate impacts and human disturbance are threatening these special places, let's do something about it please! HB 3587 would provide needed agency coordination to better protect these sites. It also would set up a grant fund for local communities to engage the public on best practices to enjoy these places while minimizing disturbance to sensitive wildlife and habitats.

Costs associated with these bills, if we do not pass them, will seem miniscule in comparison to what we will lose if we don't do anything. Let Elon make his fantasy life on another planet; we need to keep our life on Earth - cherish it, protect it, and know it is all we have (it is). Now is the time to act to protect our coastal ecosystems. This is a modest investment, and frankly, it's about the least we can do. Let's please pass these bills.

For the future,  
Alenna Sebben