

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 offer a great opportunity to support biodiversity, coastal economies, and increase resilience to a changing climate.

As an avid tide pooler and Oregon Coast local, rocky habitats are some of the best the state of Oregon has to offer. They provide an unprecedented view into unique ecosystems and a stunning array of species. These incredible habitats deserve protection and preservation so people can continue to enjoy this great gem of our state.

Oregon's rocky habitats, like Haystack Rock and Coquille Point, are iconic tourist destinations for millions of visitors. They are also incredibly important for millions of nesting birds, marine mammals, fish and invertebrates. Increasing climate impacts and human disturbance are threatening these special places. 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.

Now is the time to act to protect our coastal ecosystems. For a modest investment we can ensure rocky habitats can be conserved for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Mikalynn Amos

Some photos I've captured of rocky habitats in Oregon:







