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World's Oceans

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February 1, 2012

Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee
900 Court St NE, S-407, Salem, OR, 97301

MEASURE: SB1510
EXHIBIT: 18
2012 SESSION S ENV. & NAT. RESOURCES
DATE: 2-2-12 PAGES: 4
SUBMITTED BY: Ben Enticknap

RE: Senate Bill 1510, Marine Reserves and Protected Areas

Dear Senator Dingfelder and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 1510 pertaining to Oregon's first network of marine reserves and protected areas in the Territorial Sea waters off our coast. Over the past ten years there have been many productive and open conversations throughout the state about the economic and ecological importance of maintaining the long-term health of Oregon's coastal and ocean ecosystems. Oceana has been engaged in many of those conversations including at the legislature, meetings of the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC), and at coastal community teams, which deliberated long and hard on the Cape Falcon, Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua sites included in this bill.

Oceana supports Senate Bill 1510. This legislation sets a clear path forward for the implementation of three new marine reserves and adjacent marine protected areas. Together these areas make a limited network of marine reserves and protected areas for the central and north Oregon coast. SB 1510 helps the state move forward closer to ecosystem-based management and closer to the long-term sustainability of a healthy ocean ecosystem.

Scientific studies of marine reserves around the world, in tropical and in temperate ecosystems, have demonstrated that marine reserves, on average, increase the biomass of animals and plants by 466%, increase the density of marine life by 166%, the body size of individual animals by 26%, and the species diversity by 21% (PISCO 2007). Furthermore, bigger, older fish produce exponentially more young, which can populate and replenish areas beyond the boundaries of the reserves. Networks of marine reserves, connected by ocean currents, can enhance the overall resilience of the nearshore marine ecosystem and help drive species diversity and productivity through ecological connectivity and dispersal. Simply put, these are proven tools to protect and sustain abundant and healthy populations of marine life.

The goal of this bill is to maintain the health and biodiversity of our coastal and ocean ecosystems, and those that depend on it. Each of the three marine reserve sites meets the minimum scientific guidelines recommended by the OPAC Scientific Technical Advisory

Committee. Together with existing protections at Otter Rock and Redfish Rocks, over nine percent of the Oregon coast would be in marine protected area status (6.16%) and marine reserve status (3.2%), ensuring lasting protection for some of Oregon's important ecological areas while leaving the vast majority of the coast open to existing uses. This bill is built on recommendations from diverse coastal community teams, OPAC, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). To us, Senate Bill 1510 is indication that Oregon is becoming a leader in a world desperate for good stewardship and searching for a path toward sustainable living.

The path to sustainable living includes vibrant fisheries and other human uses of our oceans. But it begins with a move to ecosystem-based management. Ecosystem-based management relies on sound science and precautionary approaches. Such approaches consist of identifying our ocean's important ecological areas and developing a network of protected areas, reserves and scientific monitoring.

While people and governments across the world struggle with the reality that we are a small planet with a rapidly growing population, we must find solutions that protect our environment and sustain our livelihoods. With increasing demands on our resources and large scale threats from global warming and ocean acidification, we need new and long-term conservation approaches. If we are to provide future generations with the bounty and economic opportunities that we have had, we must lead.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



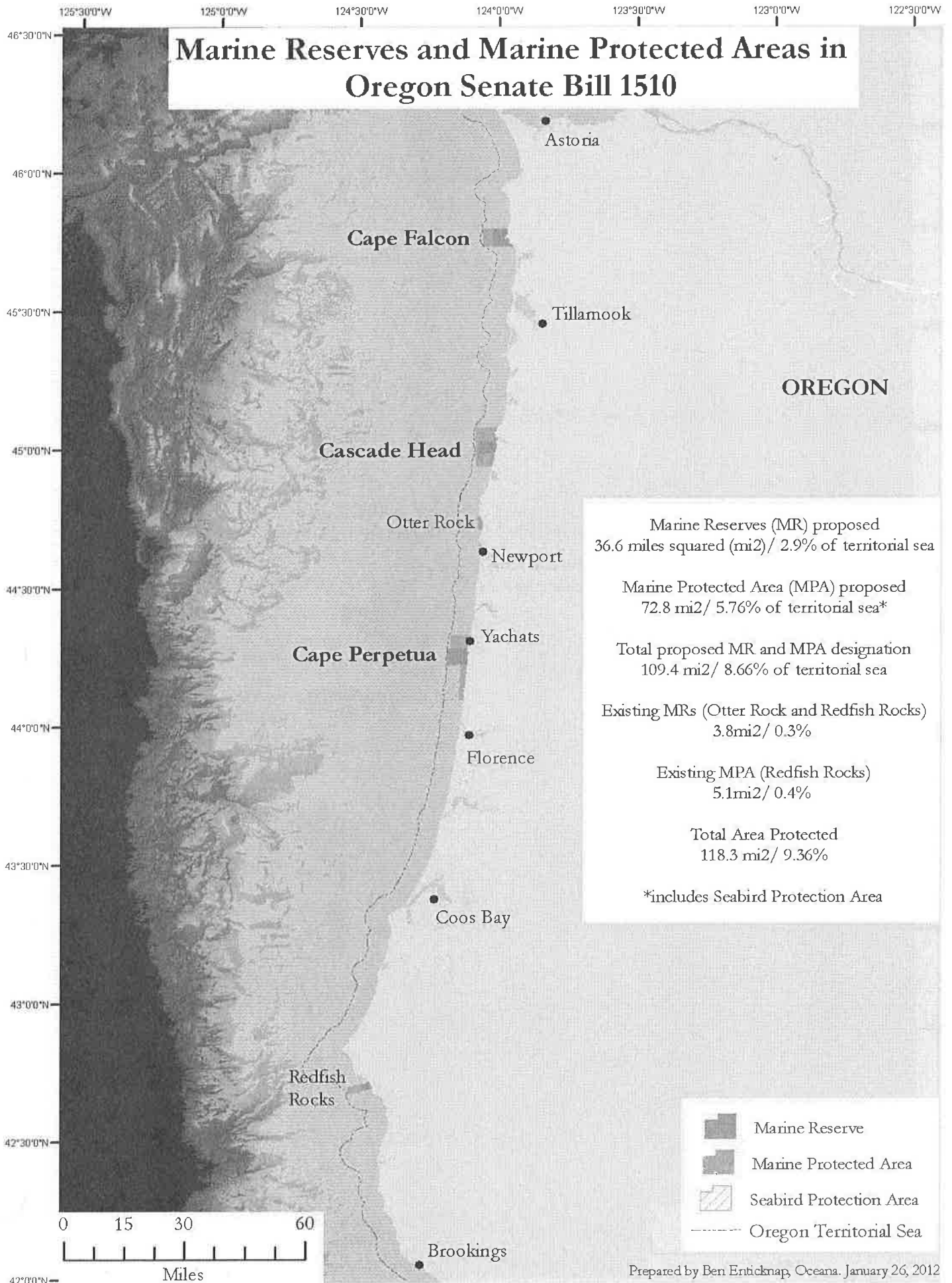
Ben Enticknap
Pacific Project Manager

Citation:

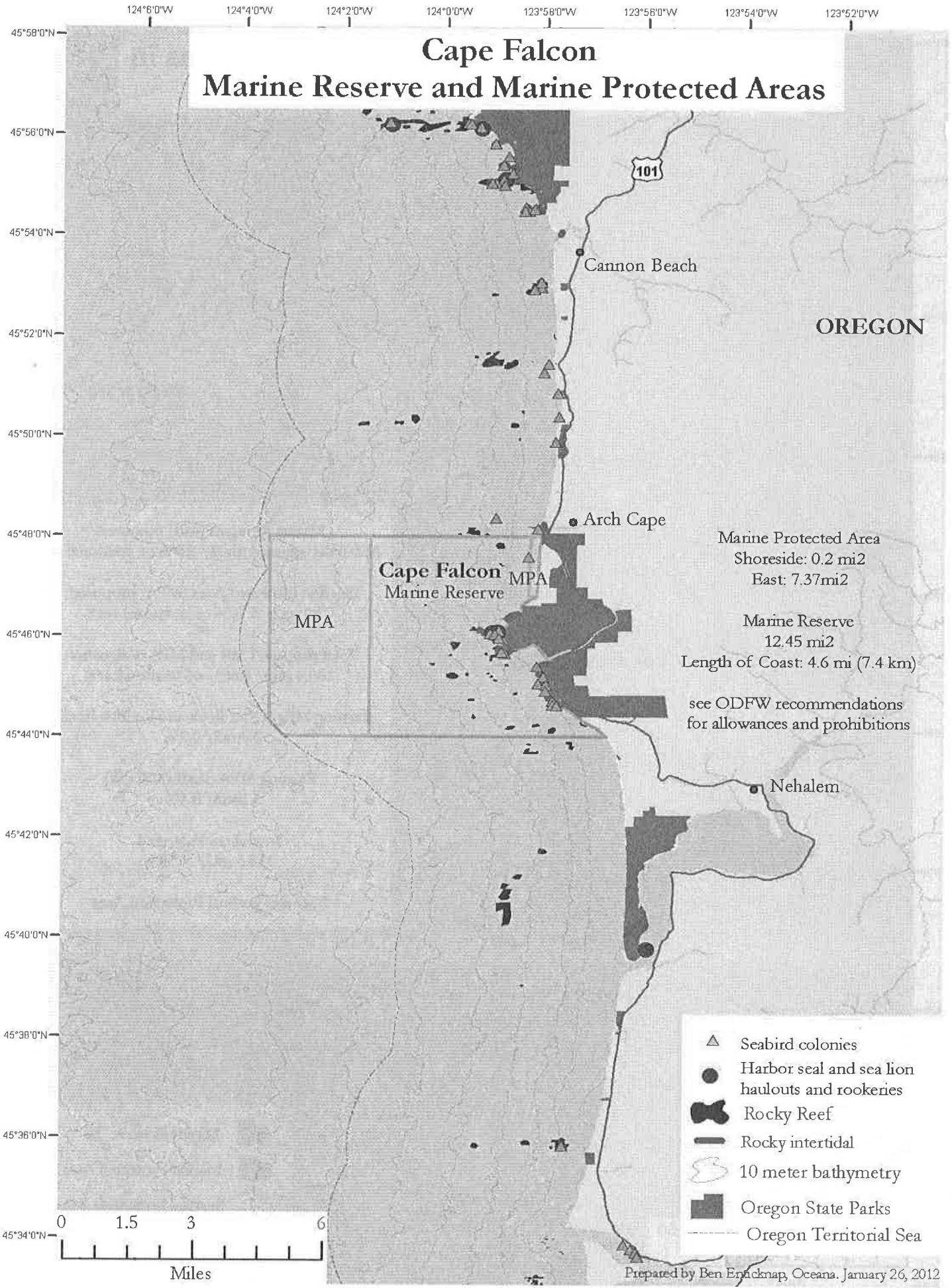
Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO). 2007. The Science of Marine Reserves (2nd Edition, United States Version). www.piscoweb.org. 22 pages.

Enclosures (4): Maps and analysis of marine protected areas and reserves in SB 1510.

Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas in Oregon Senate Bill 1510



Cape Falcon Marine Reserve and Marine Protected Areas



Marine Protected Area
Shoreside: 0.2 mi²
East: 7.37mi²

Marine Reserve
12.45 mi²
Length of Coast: 4.6 mi (7.4 km)

see ODFW recommendations
for allowances and prohibitions

- △ Seabird colonies
- Harbor seal and sea lion haulouts and rookeries
- Rocky Reef
- Rocky intertidal
- - - 10 meter bathymetry
- Oregon State Parks
- - - Oregon Territorial Sea

124°10'0"W 124°8'0"W 124°6'0"W 124°4'0"W 124°2'0"W 124°0'0"W 123°58'0"W 123°56'0"W 123°54'0"W

Cascade Head Marine Reserve and Marine Protected Areas

45°12'0"N
45°10'0"N
45°8'0"N
45°6'0"N
45°4'0"N
45°2'0"N
45°0'0"N
44°58'0"N
44°56'0"N
44°54'0"N
44°52'0"N
44°N

OREGON

101

Neskowin

Cascade Head
MPA

M
P
A

Marine Reserve

MPA

Salmon River

Marine Protected Area
North: 12.3 mi²
West: 1.3 mi²
South: 9.8 mi²

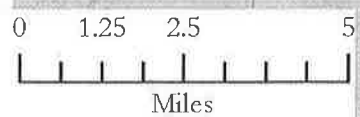
Marine Reserve
9.9 mi²
Length of Coast: 3.2 mi (5.1 km)

Lincoln City

see ODFW recommendations
for allowances and prohibitions

Siletz River
Estuary

- ▲ Seabird colonies
- Harbor seal and sea lion haulouts and rookeries
- Rocky Reef
- Canopy Kelp
- Rocky intertidal
- 10 meter bathymetry
- Oregon State Parks
- Oregon Territorial Sea



Depoe Bay

Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and Marine Protected Areas

