

Submitter: Bob Morrow  
On Behalf Of: Concerned Citizen  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3580

Dear Co-chair Helm, Co-chair Owens, and Committee Members,

I urge you to support HB 3580 and HB 3587 to protect Oregon's invaluable rocky habitats and eelgrass meadows—essential for biodiversity, coastal economies, and climate resilience.

Eelgrass meadows are biodiversity hotspots, carbon sinks, and vital nurseries for juvenile fish, yet they are declining. HB 3580 would establish a task force to set conservation targets through collaboration with agencies, Tribes, scientists, and communities—a critical step to prevent habitat loss before it's too late.

Oregon's rocky habitats, like Haystack Rock, Blacklock Point and Coquille Point, are not only iconic tourist destinations but also vital to nesting birds, marine mammals, and fisheries. Human disturbance and climate impacts threaten these ecosystems. HB 3587 strengthens agency coordination and creates a grant fund to help communities protect these areas while promoting responsible public enjoyment.

Now is the time to act. A modest investment today will ensure these ecosystems thrive for generations.

Sincerely,  
Bob Morrow  
Langlois, Oregon Resident and Shoreside Walker