

**Minutes**  
Port of Siuslaw  
Board of Commissioners  
Florence Oregon Ocean Resources Coalition Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, 17 September 2009

Committee Chair Pazar called the regular meeting of the Port of Siuslaw FOORC Committee to order at 5:05 p.m. in the Port office conference room located at 1499 Bay Street, Florence, Lane County, Oregon.

**Attendance:** Committee: Al Pazar (Pazar), Larry Nixon (Nixon), Gunter Bahr (Bahr), Nola Xavier (Xavier), Melonie Rollin (Rollin), John Schaefer (Schaefer), Absent: Keith Tymchuk (Tymchuk). Commission: Bob Thorp. (Thorp); Staff: Port Manager Mark Freeman (Freeman), Recording Secretary Susy Lacer (Lacer). Audience: Kara Lincoln, Onno Husing (Husing) of OCZMA.

Pazar had everyone introduce themselves.

Since Husing was delayed in arriving, Pazar moved forward on the agenda.

**Minutes:** On the **MOTION** made by Xavier, seconded by Rollin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of July 16<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> 2009, as submitted.

**Old Business:** Members need to select alternates. Pazar noted a public at large alternate, Peggy Meyer, was appointed by the Commission. Nixon stated Ron Brean from Yachats would be his alternate. Rollin stated Paul Engelmeyer would be her alternate. Other representatives are to recommend an alternate which the Commission can then appoint.

Pazar mentioned the ODFW marine reserves meeting on HB3013 on 22 Sept in Newport. Nixon stated he planned to attend. **On the Motion, made by Xavier, seconded by Rollin, the Committee voted unanimously to appoint Nixon as the FOORC representative for the 22 Sept 2009 ODFW meeting.**

Pazar stated he and his fishing boat were recently contracted to do baseline data gathering for OWET for four days, studying different life stages of crab, rockfish and flatfish in the proposed marine reserve site, as well as 3 miles north and south of the site.

**Presentation:** Husing explained that Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association (OCZMA) is an extension of local governments, a nonprofit organization founded in 1976 (by Wilbur TERNYK). Husing stated he has served on OPAC (Ocean Policy Advisory Council) for 14 years and he congratulated the Port for forming this group.

Husing stated: he would be discussing mapping, or spatially explicit information, for ocean zoning, as part of the process of amending the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan. The result will be areas of ocean marked on a map that show which areas of ocean are available for different uses. The written portion of the Sea Plan is complete and in the process of being approved. Now they are in the process of gathering data sets to determine different use areas; data gathering will be ongoing for the next 1-2 years. Out of these data sets will come a zoning map for the ocean. Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is about sorting out conflicting uses.

Pazar asked if existing wave energy applications would be grandfathered in to the plan. Husing stated, in his opinion, that most applications in the works now with FERC will be up for grabs. Husing stated he believes the 30 acre site off Reedsport is likely to go forward.

Husing stated: The wave energy industry is still embryonic. He believes there will be an OPT (Ocean Power Technologies) wave buoy in the water, connected to the electric grid, by next summer. Preliminary permits with FERC are easy to get, cost nothing, and don't mean much. The NOI/PAD (notice of intent, pre-application documents) process, in contrast, costs money, takes actual work, and prepares for a full license application with FERC. There was no ocean plan when the Reedsport site was proposed and it showed that we need a plan. OPT is a viable company; many others that made preliminary permits are not. He expects a full blown license app soon from OPT for the Reedsport project. This project has support because everyone wants to see wave energy equipment in the water to begin gathering results. OPT has a test berth in Scotland now, and has done alternate power source work for the Navy. OPT is applying now for a 30 acre footprint. Their plan for 2011 is to add 9 buoys to the first one, in an array, all tethered together with shared anchors. Having a full array in the water will provide valuable information because an array will behave differently than a single buoy.

Pazar asked if OSU got the test site by Newport. Husing stated OSU had a small site near Yaquina (the Finavera project). Husing stated OSU plans to have a mobile test berth that can be used by clients to test equipment. Husing stated OSU has a \$5mil, 5 year grant for this purpose.

Husing stated: OPT agreed to work directly with fishermen on the Reedsport project. The state figured out that communities wanted to be involved in these ocean issues and created the ocean planning process. Existing FERC permits are probably null and void now, except for Reedsport because of its wide support and ease of connection to the grid with the old substation there.

Pazar asked if the Coos Bay site is as likely to go forward as Reedsport. Husing stated a full application for that project might be viewed favorably, but since the wave energy process is defined now for Oregon, OPT would have to follow the new criteria. Husing stated fishing ground mapping has been done successfully to the south of Florence and is being worked on to the north of Florence. Husing showed an example of an Ecotrust map from California. Husing explained that Ecotrust sits down with a volunteer from the fishing industry with a map (the interview is confidential and all individual data is kept confidential) and notes where the uses are. Husing stated the finished map only shows aggregate use, not individual results.

Xavier stated ocean zoning is similar to land zoning and that often something begins to happen in a specific area, then the first use that exists there becomes the zone for that area. Xavier stated if zoning happened in a perfect world, the zoning would be in place before there was any use there. Xavier stated the more uses in place before zoning/mapping is done, the more difficult it will be to get the best use, because it's very difficult to get people or businesses to move when they are already in place. Xavier stated this mapping/zoning process can't happen too soon. Husing stated he believes there is still 1-2 years available to get the process complete.

Husing stated: OPT did the state a favor by pushing this process forward. OCZMA was instrumental in getting funding for Ecotrust to do this mapping and the first mapping occurred in Coos Bay. Ecotrust completed 130 use interviews in Coos Bay. Those results are not available to the public yet. Ecotrust actually owns the individual fishing data so that it will be shielded from public records laws that apply to government entities. The SOORC group worked directly with Ecotrust in Coos Bay and they are working on what results to release and when. The local resource group (FOORC in our case) gets to control how the results of our local maps are released.

Pazar noted that for the Coos Bay mapping, some fishermen refused to participate, then were dismayed to see their fishing grounds weren't represented in the results, so they opted to participate in the mapping.

Husing stated: It is a balancing act to release enough info to provide data for ocean planning, without violating individual fishing information. The methodology used by Ecotrust is very effective. Results of the interviews are peer reviewed by other fishermen to catch any anomalies. The GIS program faithfully produces the results of the interviews, whatever info is given. The draw for fishermen to participate in the mapping is to do this to protect their fishing grounds from other potential ocean uses. The resultant map will show areas of hi use. In our case, FOORC/SFA would own the results and would decide how to release the info. He suggests not showing specific hotspots on the public maps, just square off those areas and shade the entire area as hi use. Resultant overlays of all different existing uses will show the areas still available for industry use. Development sites may end up beyond the 3 mile state limit, in federal waters instead. Goal 19 in the state plan protects the fishing industry use areas from 0-3 miles. In the past this goal has not been used because there wasn't any development pressure, but now there is. FOORC can provide the input to show the high use areas off our coast. We will have to show actual use areas, not just show non-use (open) areas. Many groups have a vested interest in these ocean areas, including environmental, fishing, wave energy, and coastal communities.

Husing stated: Over 3 miles out, the 2005 federal energy policy act (Mineral Management Service, MMS) applies. This act has to prevent interference with existing uses, so if Oregon can get maps in place we will have protected our use areas and the continental shelf area. The Ecotrust mapping project is gaining international attention now. Funding is in place now to pay for Ecotrust mapping and he would like to complete mapping with FINE (Fishermen Involved in Natural Energy), NSAT (Near Shore Action Team) and FOORC now. The state has informational requirements that will require that some of the mapping information be shared, but the info can be generalized to protect confidentiality. The time is perfect to take advantage of this mapping process. In addition to fishing use, we also need to consider other issues, such as view shed.

Pazar stated he believes the Florence community is ready to move forward with mapping and he thanked Husing for his presentation. Pazar mentioned the ODFW log book mapping and side scan mapping which FOORC will also be able to make use of. Pazar stated he would contact Bud Saulsgiver and SFA to move the process forward. Husing suggested Pazar or Freeman make contact to bring Ecotrust to Florence. Husing stated the Ecotrust personnel make the interview process very easy for fishermen, then they provide a proof for the fisherman to review. Husing stated Ecotrust needs representation of at least 50% of the local fishing effort to be statistically

significant. Husing stated Ecotrust has been including any fishermen and charter fishermen who are interested in being interviewed.

**New Business:** Xavier suggested deferring remaining agenda items until next month, because of the time. Pazar agreed. Rollin noted she had brought some information for Committee members on marine reserves.

**Adjourn:** Pazar adjourned the meeting at 6:44pm.

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Chair