Oregon Territorial Sea
Viewshed, Humility, and Spiritual Resources
Tom Bender * 21 February 2012

It was apparent at the Cannon Beach public input meeting for the Territorial Sea Plan Revision, that although the group acknowledged the need for mapping esthetic, viewshed, and spiritual dimensions of the Territorial Sea, that nothing had been done on such.

I am therefore submitting the attached maps showing Viewshed, Humility, and Spiritual Resource mapping of the Oregon Territorial Sea, to fill in these gaps.

I assert that these resources cover the entire Territorial Sea, and extend beyond it to at minimum 12 miles from shore, although visible areas extend farther, particularly from headlands and places such as the top of Neahkahnie Mtn.

Please note that all three of these beneficial resources are listed as Level 1 Resources, though most properly they should be listed as Most Competing Uses and Resources. They are not "competing", however. They are *compelling*. They are vital and irreplaceable resources and uses. They do not compete with or detract from other existing uses, but are irrevocably destroyed by virtually all proposed ocean energy developments.

The "Humility" resource has to do in particular with the night-time quality of the Oregon Coast and Territorial Sea. If there was no darkness, we could see no stars, and would have no sense of our origins as the ashes of extinct former stars, of dimensions of time, of the multitude of galaxies, stars, planets, and presumably life throughout our universe. It is a beautifully humbling experience, and one that is quickly destroyed with very little night-time light or flashing warning lights from celltowers, wind towers or ocean energy equipment. Sustainability of our culture requires new values, and humility is one of the core values. It is, indeed, the core value of the "Warrior" archetype. The Oregon Coast, and its abutting Territorial Sea and outer waters are a vital and scarce national and international resource for these dimensions of our lives in an otherwise over-industrialized world.

All three are resources and uses which are core to our entire coastal tourism and retirement economy. People come here from the city for peace and restoration, for non-industrialized surroundings, to actually see the night sky and stars. There is no need to quantify this. Their qualitative value overrides any "quantified" aspects of other uses. They are incomparable, irreplaceable, and not to be lost.

While with some resources such as ocean recreation, the intensity of numbers of people "using" an area may come into play, it is my opinion that for these resources they do not. Indeed, the numbers of people "using" these resources in an area may have an inverse relation to their value. To stand alone on the beach or a headland or a mountaintop, looking out over an unindustrialized ocean, has an incomparable

power and value. To be alone, one with the rest of creation, undistracted by industrialization, is a life-changing and life-guiding experience. And viewsheds extend alongshore as well as out to sea, so that there can be no separation into distinct "grids".

As a longtime coastal resident, architect, sustainable economist, and business owner in coastal vacation rentals; and as a person involved with the spiritual aspects of life in non-urbanized areas and cultures, I have extensive experience with these uses and resources. I have repeatedly won national and international awards involving these dimensions of sustainability, which I believe supports the basis of the mapping which I submit.

I thank you for all the work you and your groups have done on this plan revision, and ask that this submission be incorporated into the mapping and analysis on the project.

Warm regards,

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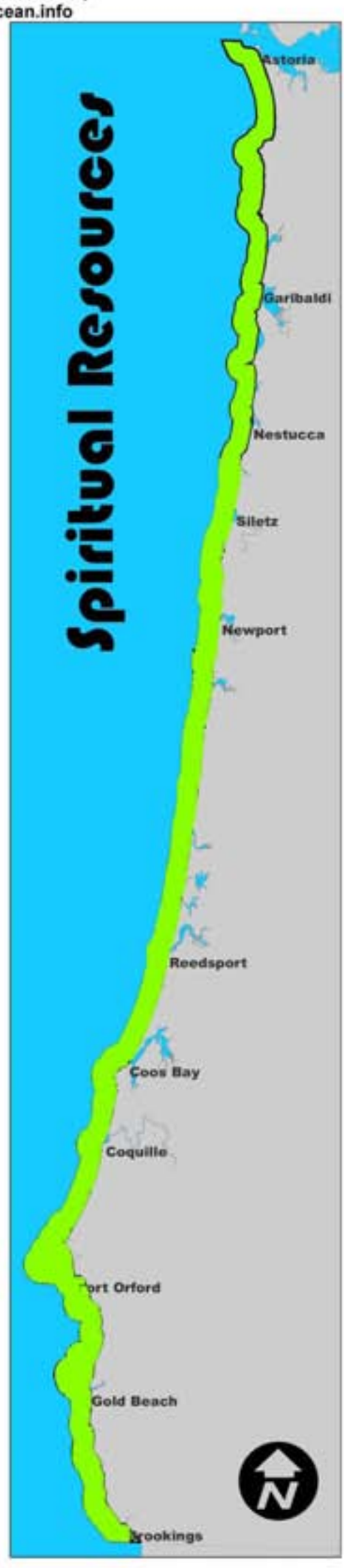
Goal 19 Resources

Questions? Contact Paul Klarin, DLCD (paul.klarin@state.or.us)
Electronic Copies available at http://www.OregonOcean.info



These maps represent compelling uses and resources of the Territorial Sea in 3 categories: High (Level 1), Moderate (Level 2), and Low (Level 3).

Level 1 Resources	Level 1 Resources	Level 1 Resources
Level 2 Resources	Level 2 Resources	Level 2 Resources
Level 3 Resources	Level 3 Resources	Level 3 Resources