

Proposal H – No New Marine Reserve/No New Marine Protected Area

Proposal Description

This proposal is for no new Marine Reserve and no new Marine Protected Area in the Cape Arago area.

Biological Characteristics

Please see biological characteristics in the other proposals.

Current Uses/Socio Economic Importance

The Cape Arago area is heavily used by a variety of constituents, including, but not limited to, recreational and commercial fishing or harvesting, research, and non-consumptive recreation, boating and tourism. Please see the current uses/socio economic importance sections from the other proposals.

Sampling of Committee Discussion Points¹

- The area for consideration by this Committee is only Cape Arago/Seven Devils – the area is too close to an active Port.
- There is no reasoning that supports increasing restrictions.
- Due to the geographical ocean bottom structure off of Coos Bay, a Marine Reserve off of Cape Arago would cause substantial economic and cultural harm.
- Cape Arago is the only substantial amount of rocky coast in this area. Siting a Marine Reserve will cause substantial economic harm and cultural harm.
- No current biological reason to create a Marine Reserve or Marine Protected Area.
- Already a highly regulated fisheries management structure within the State of Oregon.
- By having no Marine Reserve or no Marine Protected Area in this area there may be fisheries depletions in the future.
- A Marine Reserve off Cape Arago may cause overfishing of fisheries stocks in spite of excellent management by pushing more effort into other areas.
- Science of a Marine Reserve is unproven for the Oregon coast.
- There is a concern that if this community opts out of participation in the Marine Protected Area and Marine Reserve process by choosing no, interests external to this community could potentially lead the designation and siting process in our community.

¹ The sampling of Committee discussion points result from thoughts and opinions of various members based on their experience, local knowledge and concerns. Some of the discussion points may appear contradictory as a result of those divergent opinions.