



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.*

May 14, 2019

To: Land Conservation and Development Commission  
635 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Email: [amie.abbott@state.or.us](mailto:amie.abbott@state.or.us)

Re: Agenda Items 9 and 10, Amendments to the Territorial Sea Plan, Parts 3 and 5

Chair Lidz and Members of the Commission:

Over the last 30 years, The League of Women Voters has investigated, researched, written and talked about one of the richest resources Oregon possesses – its 362 mile coastline composed of headlands, tide pools, dunes, rocky beaches, islands and reefs.

In the League's first coastal study, *Energy, Ecology, Economics: Oregon Offshore Development Issues*, published in 1990, the focus was on offshore mining. Since then Oregon has placed a moratorium on offshore mining along the coastline and within its Territorial Sea, extending three nautical miles offshore.

In 2009 the League expanded on its original study to evaluate other issues impacting the coast, with particular emphasis on marine reserves and wave energy. This second coastal study published in 2012 – [Coastal and Nearshore Oregon: Using and Protecting Our Natural Resources](#) – focused on Oregon's coastline and coastal zone, areas that are of prime interest in Parts 3 and 5 of the Territorial Sea Plan.

It is from this knowledge base and involvement in land use issues impacting all Oregonians, that the League is committed to defending every grain of sand within Oregon's 362-mile coastline. This is an ecosystem of dynamic webs of living creatures who pre-date the footfall of homo sapiens, but who, ironically, will be done in by us unless there is a movement of steely political resolve to protect and defend all living creatures within this zone.

The Territorial Sea Plan is that call to action. In painstaking detail, it outlines and continues to morph into a guiding plan for the preservation and enhancement of Oregon's coastal necklace of jewels along its three mile wide watery corridor. It treads the fine line of preservation and public use while maintaining the ongoing scientific inquiry necessary to conserve a resource that is on the verge of global collapse. Countless hours of volunteer effort by non-profit groups, LCDC staff, and input from the general public went into thoughtful and deliberate revisions and updates of Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan.

Plans once written and published tend to fade into obsolescence if not continuously re-visited because the dynamic systems they document continue to be stressed and challenged by a rapidly changing atmosphere. That is why the League supports and endorses the amendments and draft language of the Territorial Sea Plan – Part Three, the Rocky Habitat Management Strategy, as well as the OPAC recommended amendments to Part Five governing the development of renewable energy facilities. The League supports these changes and urges the adoption of these updates as guidelines to preserve the future of our thriving and dynamic coastal seashores.

Thank you for this opportunity to give our voice to this important and continuing work. We urge your adoption of these amendments to the Territorial Sea Plan.



Norman Turrill  
LWVOR President



Peggy Joyce  
LWVOR Coastal Portfolio