

RESOLUTION 2009-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORFORD, ENDORSING THE CONCEPT OF A PORT ORFORD COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AREA AND SETTING FORTH THE OBJECTIVES OF A COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AREA

WHEREAS the marine ecosystem adjacent to Port Orford encompasses outstanding biodiversity and nearshore habitats, and represents a vital ecological, economic, social, cultural, and recreational resource for the community; and

WHEREAS many Port Orford residents and businesses depend directly on local fisheries, including groundfish, crab, salmon, tuna, blackcod, and halibut for their livelihood; and

WHEREAS state and federal fisheries management alone do not always produce optimal outcomes (from both an economic and a conservation perspective) for Port Orford commercial fishermen and the community at large; and

WHEREAS marine ecosystems in Oregon are increasingly threatened by pollution, habitat degradation, energy development, and other impacts; and

WHEREAS the *goal* of the Port Orford Community Stewardship Area is a sustainable fishery and marine ecosystem that provides optimal economic, ecological, and social benefits to the Port Orford community; and

WHEREAS the *principles* of the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team (POORT) are to empower fleet members and other citizens with information and to support inclusive, bottom-up efforts related to management, science, and marketing; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy in its 2004 Report to Congress advocates for a “bottom-up” approach that consists of broad voluntary participation, as part of a national policy framework,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Port Orford, by virtue of the authority vested in this body by the City Charter and the State of Oregon, does hereby endorse the concept of a *Port Orford Community Stewardship Area* that encompasses the community’s traditional fishing grounds and proximate watersheds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Port Orford pledges its support for advancing the following objectives of the Port Orford Community Stewardship Area:

- Enhancing scientific understanding of the Port Orford nearshore marine ecosystem through research & monitoring
- Maintaining fishing access and a diversity of harvest opportunities for local fishermen
- Protecting key habitats and stock sustainability through an area-based management approach that may include a properly funded and actively managed marine reserve and/or marine protected area
- Promoting watershed stewardship through education, partnership building, water quality monitoring, and local government planning
- Supporting economic development opportunities including branding & marketing of local seafood and establishment of a nearshore research institute.
- Engaging citizens in the bottom-up stewardship of their coast and ocean.

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Port Orford and effective this 21st day of August, 2008.

SIGNED by the Mayor of Port Orford this _____ day of August 2008.

Jim Auburn, Mayor
City of Port Orford, OR, Curry County

ATTEST:

Beverley Manes, City Recorder
City of Port Orford, OR, Curry County