September 29, 2019

Cannon Beach City Council
City Hall / Foredune
163 E. Gower St.
Cannon Beach, OR  97110

Via Email:  dick@ci.cannon-beach.or.us

Re: Foredune Management Plan

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

In addition to the previous oral testimony and documents provided regarding the removal of European beach grass, Scotch broom and gorse, as well as the active management of such foredunes in California, Washington, Oregon and New Zealand, attached please find the following pictures taken last week at Nehalem Bay State Park, an Oregon State Park located approximately 15 miles south of Cannon Beach.
According to the Oregon State Parks Department (and echoed in the reports by Drs. Allen and Hacker), no one anticipated the long-term problems European beach grass would bring to native species when it was planted. The State of Oregon is now preparing to proactively manage various dune systems across the Oregon coast to provide a more vibrant and diverse environment for our native wildlife (and still providing protection from storm damage and flooding). It is evident not only in the pictures above, but also in the examples across the west coast that sand is being removed from the beach (the beach is getting thinner and narrower) and being accumulated onto ever heightening foredune systems.

In addition to replacing European beach grass with American beach grass, approving the proposed City of Cannon Beach Foredune Management Plan will provide responsible monitoring and management of the dune systems that will make great strides in restoring our wide beaches, providing protection against storm damage and flooding, providing a more diverse habitat for birds, animals (including razor clams) and plants, and continuing to support the beauty of our beach.

Thank you for your continued consideration,

Robbie Dodd
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Cannon Beach, OR 97110