Checklist for sunset sequence

1. EOS 5D Mark III camera set to local time
2. Battery with >50% charge
3. 32GB or larger CF Compact Flash memory card
4. Canon EF 70-300 mm 1:4-5.6 L IS telephoto zoom lens
5. Lens tripod mount
6. Manfrodo 3021BPPRO tripod and mounting shoe
7. Vello ShutterBoss II timed shutter release

Settings and setup to capture images for sunset sequence photos:

1. Make sure the battery has >80% charge. This shoot can use up to 10% of battery capacity.
2. Use the 70-300 mm telephoto zoom set to 300 mm with the lens hood attached. Remove lens cap. **Clean the UV filter**.
3. Use the CF (card 1) to allow for a good burst near the end for as many exposures of green flash as possible. Its burst maximum is 40 frames while the SD card is 17 frames.
4. Set to **slow** (three frames per second) **burst rate**.
5. Set mode to aperture priority at **F 11**.
6. Set **ISO** to **100**.
7. Set **White Balance** to **sunlight**. 
8. Set exposure compensation to **-1 F-stop** to minimize overexposure at the final phases.
9. Set up with a minimally extended tripod. On the bluff facing the ocean set up on an unoccupied picnic table to clear the chain-link fence. Level the tripod and the camera platform with the built-in levels.
10. Plug the ShutterBoss II release cable into the remote release socket on the left side of the camera and keep it slack to avoid disturbing the camera during the entire sequence.
11. Begin final setup no later than two full sun diameters above the horizon. That is less than five minutes before first contact.
12. Use live view mode to set up. Switch **off** live view to shoot the sequence as live view slows the maximum rate and does not allow burst.
13. Use manual to focus on the horizon. Use the magnify feature in live view to get a clean, sharp horizon line. Leave on **manual focus** to avoid auto-focus delay during the sequence shoot.
14. Set to **IS** (Image Stabilization) **off**.
15. Adjust the frame to put the horizon level and at the lower third of the frame. Put the sun in the left 1/3 of the frame to allow for its northward movement during the up to ten minutes of the sequence. Final cropping will be done post-processing.
16. **Tighten** the **knobs** on the tripod once the settings are done to avoid slippage.
17. Set the ShutterBoss II to shoot a frame every second, no limit. Make some test shots, timed, and overriding at 3 frames a second.
18. Start with the sun one diameter above the horizon. Shoot once a second until the sun is almost gone and then hold down the shutter release for three frames a second. With CF card a 40-frame burst can be captured in continuous mode for six seconds. Capture a green flash at the last before the sun is gone, if possible. Continue to shoot one frame a second for several minutes after the sun has set.
19. When finished, return the camera to previous settings using the above list.