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Submitted Photo

Members of the North Coast State Forest Coalition and a professor from Portland State University contend that parts of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Homesteader timber sale is more valuable as a conservation area.

## State probing energy tax credit sales

Records sought on privately brokered sales

By HILLARY BORRUD  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Secretary of State's office has launched an inquiry into the state Department of Energy's handling of tax credit sales.

The extent of the investigation is unclear, but a senior auditor from the Secretary of State's office recently requested more than 70 pages of records on privately brokered sales of Oregon business energy tax credits from 2013.

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## Timber sales profit, perturb local community

Conservationists want older trees spared

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

As they wound their way through the forest roads in the eastern reaches of Clatsop County last week, regional foresters Ty Williams and Dan Goody pointed out the ages and makeup of timber stands.

They and the Oregon Department of Forestry are tasked with managing 137,000 acres of the Clatsop State Forest for the social, economic, and environmental benefit of Oregonians.

Goody, the Astoria district forester, proudly mentioned that the forest in Clatsop County is the most productive in the state, with trees that grow up to 3 feet a year. The Astoria district of the forest-



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Regional foresters Ty Williams, left, and Dan Goody, right, walk through a modified clearcut area near the Homesteader area.

ry department shoots for 74 million board feet of timber sales, all while 30 percent of the forest is set aside for long-term complex forest conditions, terrestrial anchors and wildlife habitat.

On July 1, the forestry board approved 74 million board feet of

proposed timber sales for the Astoria district's 2015-16 operations plan. The sales span more than 2,400 of Clatsop State Forest's 137,000 acres, and are worth an estimated \$23.2 million to Clatsop County.

But one of the sales has local

conservation group North Coast State Forest Coalition up in arms.

### Homesteader

Homesteader is comprised of about 250 acres southeast of Jewell School in the Buster Creek Basin, which feeds into the Nehalem River.

The proposed timber sales by the forestry department include one 48-acre parcel for a partial cut, and four other parcels totaling 211 acres planned for a modified clearcut, in which a small number of trees — the department shoots for five to seven per acre, Williams said — are left for stream buffers, wildlife areas and biological diversity. The coalition is primarily interested in one of the four potential clearcuts it contends includes rare and ecologically valuable old growth trees.

"Logging the Homesteader sale areas will see the clearcutting of old-growth and advanced mid-seral forests," said a report from the

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## Highway 420 opens dispensary at long last

Seaside business to consider recreational sales

By KATHERINE LACAZE  
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — After several years of perseverance, Highway 420 this month became Seaside's first officially licensed medical marijuana dispensary, potentially opening the door for recreational sales in October.

"We won," said Steve Geiger, who co-owns the business with his wife, Evee. "We won for the patients, and the patients are now benefiting."

The couple moved to the area in 2012, when they tried opening a shop but relocated twice because of complaints from neighbors. At that point, Geiger said, they just wanted to have a glass shop.

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## Trademark downtown corner will have eatery

Commercial and 12th was home to Clemente's

By DERRICK DePLEGGE  
The Daily Astorian

One of downtown Astoria's trademark corners will soon have a restaurant again.

Jim Defeo, of Astoria Coffee House and Bistro and Cargo, intends to open Carruthers at Commercial and 12th streets by around Thanksgiving.

The restaurant will take its name from the Carruthers Building, the 1920s-era space that spans the corner.

"We're going to have it in the period of when the build-

ing was built — more of that elevated style," said Defeo, who purchased the space.

He said the city is ripe for more restaurant options for both locals and tourists.

Commercial is the main thoroughfare downtown, while 12th is the site of the Astoria Sunday Market. The historic Liberty Theater is across from the Carruthers Building.

For the past seven years, the space was home to Clemente's, which moved this year to the end of 14th Street along the Astoria Riverwalk. Previous tenants included Valley Bronze, a sculpture gallery.

Bill Lind and Virginia Laughery owned the property for 14 years.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

The Carruthers Building on Commercial and 12th streets. Jim Defeo plans to open a new restaurant later this year where Clemente's used to be.

"We are delighted that when it came time to sell the building that we found a local person who has the good

of downtown Astoria as one of his goals," Lind said of Defeo, who relocated from Portland in 2006. "We also

value that he appreciates the residential community that lives upstairs."

Next week, the corner space will host a pop-up art show with Imogen Gallery that will feature the work of Greek painter Christos Koutsouras.

A preview party is set for the evening of Aug. 7. Both Imogen on 11th Street and the Commercial and 12th space will display the painter's art during the Second Saturday Art Walk on Aug. 8. The artwork will be up at Commercial and 12th for the month of August.

"It's such a beautiful space," Teri Sund, Imogen's owner, said of Commercial and 12th. "It's, to me, crying for artwork."



**2015 CLATSOP COUNTY FAIR**  
thru **AUGUST 1**  
Fair hours **10am-9pm**  
Carnival hours **Noon-9pm**

**FRIDAY IS LUM'S AUTO CENTER APPRECIATION DAY**  
Military personnel, fire fighters, police & teachers and their families admitted for \$1 each  
For more information go to [www.clatsopfairgrounds.com](http://www.clatsopfairgrounds.com)

