

Hearing undercuts agency remodeling

By CATHERINE SIEGNER
Of the Emerald

If testimony in Eugene Monday could decide the issue, Pres. Carter's plan to reorganize the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Interior into a new Department of Natural Resources would be scrapped.

U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Oregon, chair of the Forest Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee, and Congressman Tony Coelho, D-Calif., conducted the hearing before a small audience in Harris Hall. Testimony was also given on H.R. 2799, which would establish a salvage timber set-aside program for small logging companies, and on herbicide use in the national forest system Weaver has already stated his opposition to the Carter proposal. "It seems to me a case of reorganization for reorganization sake," he said Monday. "I certainly know from experience that making something bigger and more centralized does not necessarily make it more efficient."

Carl Stoltenberg, dean of the OSU Forestry School, said he cannot see how the reorganization plan will result in better management of natural resources and reduction of red tape, as the Carter administration has claimed.

"Personally, I do not see how the red tape encountered in working with the Forest Service and BLM (the Bureau of Land Management) would be reduced by combining two huge agencies into an even larger monolith," he said.

Stoltenberg said he would have more confidence in the plan's improving natural resource management "if the current administration had a convincing track record of seeking better management in its other actions." He added that an understanding of such issues and efforts to resolve them "have not been evident

characteristics of recent White House policy."

Stanley R. Christensen, director of the National Association of Conservation Districts, said the NACD opposes the proposed reorganization because the "move would weaken the natural resource functions of the Department of Agriculture."

The Forest Service has a "proven track record in dealing with people on the local level," Christensen said. He added that the NACD favors a decentralized field-based organization to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Speaking on the set-aside legislation, Bob Lindsay, director of Industrial Relations for the Associated Oregon Loggers of Springfield, said his organization has worked for years to establish an effective salvage sales program to benefit the small logger and remove dead, down and insect-infected timber from the forests.

Lindsay said the Forest Service and the Small Business Administration have recently made it possible for a one-year trial period for a Special Salvage Timber Sales program.

He said the program does not "take away a slice of the timber pie upon which the mills depend. Rather, it is a program designed to increase the supply of raw material by harvesting and utilizing the dead and dying material that has been going to waste in our forests."

Bonnie Hill of Alsea told Weaver and Coelho of her experiences with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency when she was trying to establish a correlation between herbicide spraying and high miscarriage level in women living in the Alsea area.

Hill's efforts were partially responsible for the recent EPA emergency ban on the use of 2,4,5-T and Silvex.



Graphic by Tom Eitel

ESCAPE manual funded

By BERNARD SCHWARTZ
Of the Emerald

The Incidental Fee Committee decided to fund a contested ESCAPE training manual Monday night after a lengthy and often heated debate over whether ESCAPE is a course or a University program.

"It is a course," said IFC member Dusty Rhodes, and therefore the training manual is a text which ESCAPE tutors should pay for themselves," he added. "In no other course on this campus (do incidental fees) subsidize texts."

ESCAPE (every student caring about personalized education) faculty advisor Judy Sanders disagreed, calling ESCAPE "a viable leadership program" which develops a curriculum and produces a manual independent of the faculty.

If the IFC cut funds for the ESCAPE manual, then members would have to buy them from ESCAPE.

Sanders said charging money for the manual "would

bring it nearer a text" and destroy the whole involvement philosophy of ESCAPE.

IFC member Kevin Chambers agreed with Sanders, calling the ESCAPE program "a learning arm of ASUO."

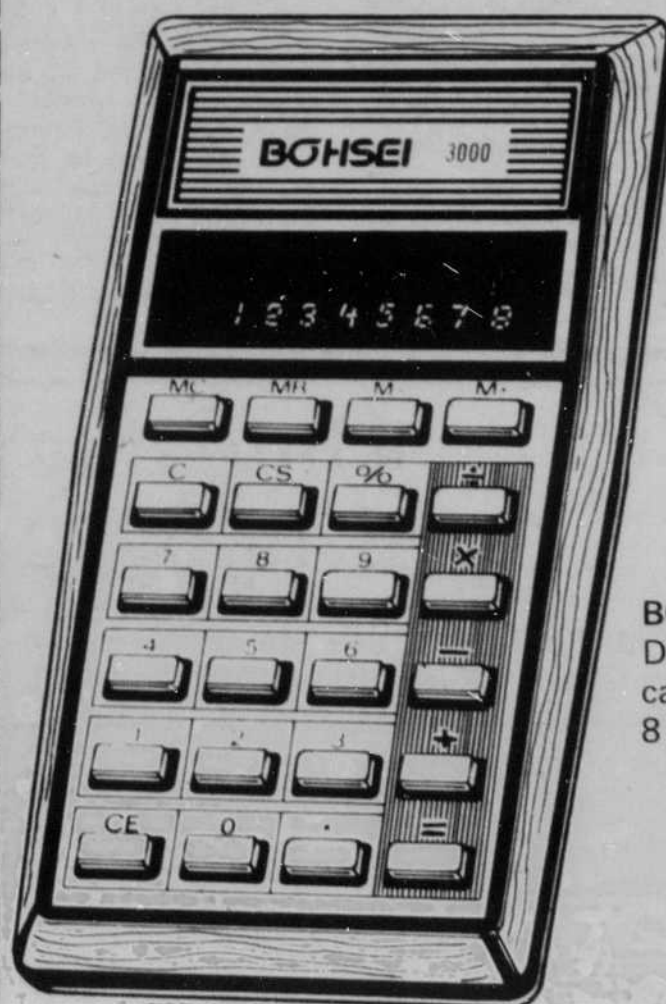
Rhodes countered, saying "the manual is undoubtedly a text because students involved get academic credit" that they don't get in other programs.

The IFC endorsed its April 5 decision to allocate \$3,331 to ESCAPE, including about \$1,000 for the manual.

In other business, the committee unanimously negated its April 9 decision, deciding to fund high school recruitment visits for the Asian American Student Union, Panhellenic and the Intrafraternity Council.

The committee also voted 6-0 to increase the Forensics budget from \$6,000 to \$7,000 and agreed by consensus to allocate \$10,135 to the Student Bar Association and \$3,470 to the Chinese Student Union.

IFC chairperson Janet Eggleston was absent from Monday's meeting.



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