

Wilderness bill adds acreage, Weaver predicts quick passage

By Brooks Dareff
Of the Emerald

Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield added some spawning areas and elk habitat to a wilderness bill that will probably go before — and pass — both the Senate and the House early next week, Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Eugene, said Tuesday.

"Sen. Hatfield and I agreed on an Oregon wilderness bill today. I asked the senator if we could save a couple more spawning areas," Weaver said, co-sponsor of a larger House Bill.

The changes include 8,000 acres in the Grassy Knob River area on the south coast, and the substitution of Glacier Monument area for the higher elevation Glacier area in Eastern Oregon's Blue Mountains.

Grassy Knob includes salmon spawning areas. Glacier Monument, profuse with Ponderosa Pine, provides habitat for elk.

With the adjustments, the Hatfield bill, which emerged from committee last week, now totals an unofficial 943,000 acres, with about 858,000 acres set aside for wilderness and another 85,000 for recreation and fisheries.

If passed, the bill would release the rest of Oregon's 3

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—Jim Weaver

million acres of federally owned roadless areas to development, though wilderness reviews would be required every 10 or 15 years.

Hatfield said Wednesday that he would send the bill directly to the Senate floor, rather than delay its becoming law by presenting it to a House-Senate conference committee.

The other co-sponsors of the 1.2 million acre House bill, Democratic Reps. Les AuCoin and Ron Wyden, both of Portland, endorsed the unadjusted Hatfield bill last Thursday.

Weaver predicted that the bill agreed on Tuesday would pass the Senate and the House all in one day early next week.

"So we have a bill," he said. "We did the best we could."

Andy Kerr, associate director of Oregon Natural Resources Council, said that while Hatfield's bill is expanded from last week's version, it is still too small.

"We're pleased the areas were added and changed, but the bill is too small to protect Oregon's wild elk, salmon and steelhead population," Kerr said, adding that ONRC would continue in the future to seek more piecemeal additions to the national wilderness system.

Native pow-wow returns to Mac Court

A project that began in the fall when the academic year started will culminate this weekend when the University's Native American Student Union hosts a pow-wow at McArthur Court Friday through Sunday.

Activities, which are free and open to the public, begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday with the Grand Entry, which features traditional dances, songs and Native Americans in colorful tribal costumes.

The event's organizer, Rosalynd Sampson, expects nearly 1,000 people to attend the 16th annual pow-wow, including Indian royalty and

respected elders.

The pow-wow is intended to give local residents "a colorful and memorable look at American culture," Sampson says.

Authentic Indian arts and crafts, as well as foods, will be on sale throughout the weekend, and the performances will be just as authentic.

The pow-wow will feature various dances, ranging from traditional to fancy and including children and adults.

For further information, contact NASU at 686-3723 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Two bills won't up phone costs

Prepare for another bill — people who lease their phones will receive two separate bills as of May 7.

As a result of the restructuring of AT&T in January, Pacific Northwest Bell will send one bill including charges for local telephone service and long distance, and AT&T will send another bill for equipment charges for leased telephones.

Previously, all charges were included together in monthly bills from PNB.

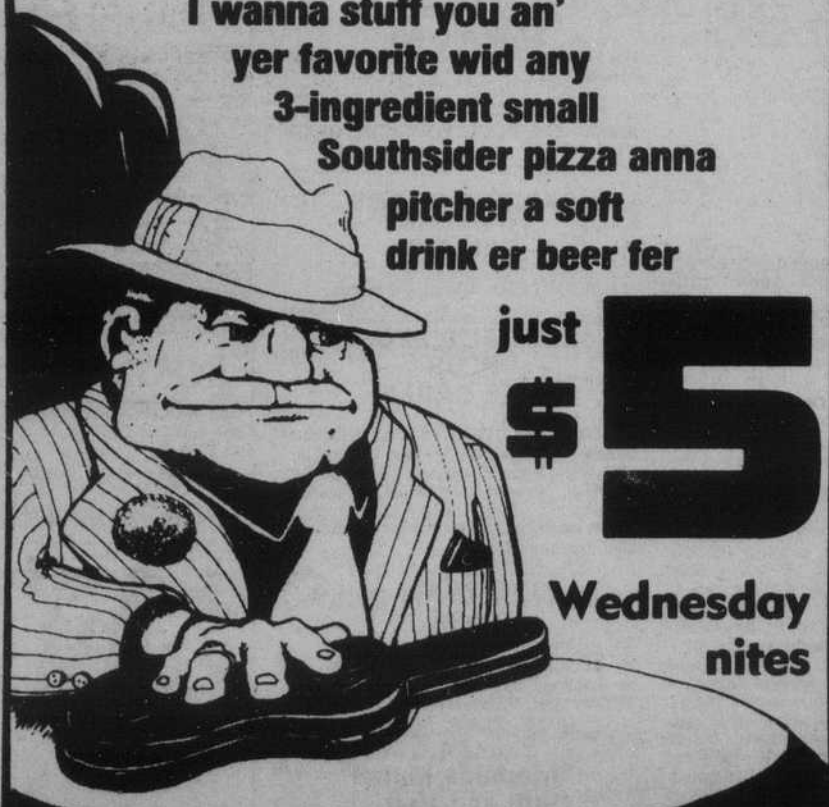
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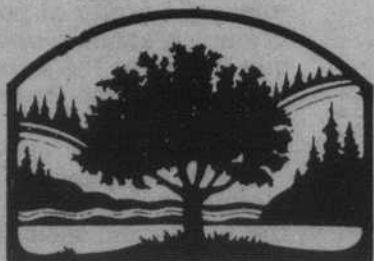
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