

# Timber industry says new plan is for the birds



**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Forest Service adopted a new plan to protect the northern spotted owl Wednesday, but the timber industry said it will cost too many jobs, and environmentalists said it is not strong enough to save the bird from extinction.

George Leonard, the service's associate chief, told *The Oregonian* the agency was implementing the strategy first offered in April 1990 by Forest Service biologist Jack Ward Thomas and a panel of government scientists.

Adoption of the plan comes in response to a federal court order that had shut down logging on all Northwest national forests with spotted owls, based on what the court called the Forest Service's violation of environmental laws.

Industry leaders said the Thomas plan is overly restrictive, banning logging across millions of acres of Northwest forests and cutting the region's annual timber harvests to about half the traditional level.

"We are extremely disappointed that

the Forest Service has placed the spotted owl before tens of thousands of Pacific Northwest families as well as affordable wood products for our nation's struggling economy," said John Hampton, chairman of the Northwest Forest Resource Council in Portland.

"The Forest Service turned its back on several viable alternatives that guaranteed the survival of the owl without devastating the timber-dependent communities of the Pacific Northwest," Hampton said.

Environmentalists argue the plan won't save the threatened bird because Thomas indicated it would work only if it was adopted uniformly across all federal lands in the region.

The Bureau of Land Management has rejected key components of the plan, opting instead for a strategy named after BLM Director Cy Jamison, which would minimize the logging reductions.

However, a federal appeals court on Wednesday halted timber sales in spotted owl habitat managed by the BLM, saying the sales cannot proceed until the agency gets proper approval of its owl protection plans.

"This is completely inadequate," said Nancy Green of The Wilderness Society Wednesday. "The solution has to be a package deal. That means it has to include BLM. Otherwise, this clearly can't stand on the grounds of being a credible plan for the owl."

In addition, Green said, "It's really not just the owl that is important here. It is the entire old-growth ecosystem."

"It will take far more than the Thomas plan to get adequate protection for the remaining ancient forests," Green said.

Eric Ruff, a spokesman for Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan, confirmed Wednesday that a formal plan was signed by Assistant Agriculture Secretary James Moseley.

Ruff said it was en route to U.S. District Judge William Dwyer of Seattle, who imposed the logging injunction more than a year ago and set March 5 as a deadline for the Forest Service to adopt a formal protection plan.

Dwyer had ruled the service failed to complete an environmental impact statement on its logging plans, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Dwyer cited a "remarkable series of violations of environmental laws ... a deliberate and systematic refusal by the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the laws protecting wildlife."

"This is not the doing of the scientists, foresters, rangers and others at the working levels of these agencies," the judge wrote. "It reflects decisions made by higher authorities in the executive branch of government."

Chris West of the Northwest Forestry Association in Portland said Wednesday that Dwyer should lift the injunction now that the Forest Service has adopted a protection plan.

The Forest Service issued its final environmental impact statement in January and said its preferred plan was the Thomas strategy. It estimated the plan would cost the Northwest about 20,700 timber jobs over a period of years.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which declared the remaining estimated 3,000 pairs of owls to be threatened in June 1990, has estimated the timber industry will lose about 30,000 jobs by 1995.

## Timber workers give Roberts flack

**GRANTS PASS (AP)** — Gov. Barbara Roberts scolded timber workers who want to recall her, telling a small group of demonstrators Wednesday that their real enemies are in the U.S. Interior Department.

"You may believe I'm your enemy," Roberts told a group of six people with picket signs

who confronted her at Grants Pass City Hall. "I've got to tell you it is the people who are delaying the decision who are your enemies. They are the ones making sure we don't cut timber."

The governor repeated her message at a Rotary Club speech, saying Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan and the

U.S. Bureau of Land Management have failed to follow the Endangered Species Act and delayed implementation of a spotted owl recovery plan.

Roberts was harshly criticized by the timber industry after she came out against the Endangered Species Act exemption BLM is seeking for 44 timber sales in Oregon.

## Adams picks Gardner as his ideal successor

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Sen. Brock Adams said today that Washington's popular Gov. Booth Gardner looks better as a prospective heir to his U.S. Senate seat than another likely Democratic candidate, former Rep. Mike Lowry.

"I think Gardner would be a very good candidate. He knows a lot about government and so on," the Washington Democrat told reporters after a Senate committee hearing.

"He certainly has been a winner. Lowry has lost two in a row. So I would say (Gardner) sure looks better at this point," Adams said.

Lowry unsuccessfully challenged former Sen. Dan Evans in a special election in 1983. He also lost a 1988 Senate bid against GOP Sen. Slade Gorton.

Adams abandoned his plans to seek a second Senate term on Sunday when *The Seattle Times* reported that eight women accuse him of sexual harassment and molestation. The women were not identified by name.

He had been considered politically vulnerable even before the *Times* report, because of a 1988 allegation of sexual assault, as well as lukewarm state Democratic Party support for him before the weekend bombshell.

So far, state Sen. Patty Murray of Seattle is the only Democrat to declare candidacy in the race. But Lowry has indicated he may enter the race, and Gardner said Monday he is considering a Senate bid.

A reporter suggested to Adams that the senator and Lowry had similar political philosophies.

"No, he's not," the senator shot back.

"I wouldn't consider him as someone I have much in common with," said Adams, a Democratic stalwart who served as transportation secretary in the Carter administration and a House member before his election to the Senate.

Adams said he is confident he would have beaten Lowry if they had faced off in the Democratic primary this year.

"He's had two races against open seats he has lost. Gardner has two wins. That is why I was certain I could win the race," Adams said.

Adams said he was not sure he would actively campaign for any Democratic candidate for his seat, saying he wants to wait and see who enters the race.

"I want a winner," Adams said. "I think it's very important we have somebody who can win races and speak up for the little people because I'm the last Democrat left in the Pacific Northwest."

Adams said it would be a mistake for party leaders to press him to resign his seat so Gardner could appoint a temporary replacement to serve out the rest of his term.

"If you put somebody in, you really hurt the people of the state," Adams said. "You'd have somebody in for a short period of time who doesn't know what they are doing, doesn't know all the bills up, doesn't know how to work legislation for some period of time. They'd have a terrible problem," he said.

# JANSPORT DAYS

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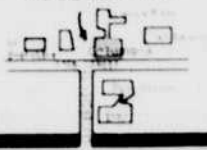
Lou Whittaker is an internationally known mountaineer, whose historic achievements include leading the first successful ascent of an American team to the top of 28,168 ft. Mount Kangchenjunga, in 1989.

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Kenneth Helphand is a professor of landscape at the University of Oregon

## VENUS

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Christmas.

Some of the members are lesbian, Koch said, which influences the group's political flavor and makes them fairly open about issues.

"We're pretty out there," she said. "But I wouldn't describe us as activists. I'd describe us as active."

But Koch said that not all of the group's music has a message.

"Some of it is pure silliness," she said. "We're a lot of fun. Everybody who comes to see us has a really good time."

Venus Envy will perform in the Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane County Fairgrounds March 7 from 8 to 11:30 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show costs \$8 to \$10 on a sliding scale.