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Warner Creek ruling reinstated

Lori Bettineski
Oregon Daily Emerald

A federal magistrate's opinion that logging Warner Creek forest near Oakridge should be stopped until the U.S. Forest Service considers whether salvaging trees encourages arson has been reinstated.

The 42-page opinion issued Thursday in Eugene by U.S. Magistrate Tom Coffin replaces similar findings he temporarily rescinded in mid-April. The findings are advisory and will be passed on to U.S. District Judge Michael Hogan who will make the final decision on whether the burned area can be logged.

The U.S. Forest Service and Western Environmental Law Center, the two parties involved in the dispute, now have 10 days to submit briefs and any objections to Coffin's findings to Hogan.

Hogan will then make a final ruling on Coffin's recommendations and on the merits of a lawsuit by environmentalists that tries to halt logging in the 9,000

acre Warner Creek fire area.

Marianne Dugan, a Eugene lawyer representing the Western Environmental Law Center, said Coffin's decision to reinstate his original opinion is a positive step toward protecting the area from salvage logging.

"I'm relieved that Coffin reinstated his findings and that he made them a lot stronger," Dugan said. "It think it will go a long way in convincing Hogan to adopt the findings."

Coffin rescinded his original findings to gather more information from environmentalists about the likelihood of future arson. In his new findings, Coffin criticized the U.S. Forest Service for not considering future acts of arson as part of an environmental impact study before logging trees in the burned area.

Dugan said she was relieved that Hogan issued a temporary injunction last week that barred the Forest Service from awarding any timber contracts for logging Warner Creek until he can rule on the lawsuit.

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— MARIANNE DUGAN
Eugene lawyer

"It's a good stop," Dugan said. "This is a big relief in that they can't sell out from under us now."

The dispute over Warner Creek stems from the U.S. Forest Service's desire to log 9 million board feet of timber burned in the 1991 arson-caused fire. Conservationists, however, believe that allowing Warner Creek to be logged will set a precedent for future harvests and will encourage future acts of arson in other reserves.

Professor will present colloquium

Visiting professor Frances Jones-Sneed will present a colloquium titled "African American Women's Sense of Place in the American West" today from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Gerlinger Lounge.

Jones-Sneed, a Ph.D. professor of history at Washington State University, will also present "An Overview of African American Women in the American West"

May 16 from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in 231 Gilbert Hall. Both lectures are open to the public.

Jones-Sneed received her Ph.D. in history from the University of Missouri at Columbia, her master's degree in West African history from Northwestern University and her bachelor's degree in American history from Tougaloo College in Mississippi.

PLAN

Continued From Page 6

University planning. "The greatest and most important [part of the plan] is the retention and enhancement of nearby public land."

Committee member Dale Deason said, "The plan will be a success if 20 years from now I can go back, and it will still be the same. ... we have the opportunity to keep [the park] like it is — to preserve it."

Another committee member, Eric Zemper said, "A natural area is important for the community. [The plan] is something on paper that can be referred to in the future for people to follow."

Saltmarsh said she is excited about the implementation of the plan. "It's not a matter of designing a vision with the intent of spending money," she said. "The park will be maintained over the course of time."

The park hasn't been allocated any money, Bishow said. It will be maintained with existing monies from the cities' park and recreation budgets.

Bishow said landscape architecture students from the University may help with designs once the plan has been officially adopted.

"The plan holds a lot of possibilities for everyone," Saltmarsh said. "We're making something possible for everyone in the community to enjoy, not just [the committee members]."

For Saltmarsh, the park isn't just paths and park benches; it's a part of her life.

"I can't imagine not living close to the park," she said. "The park is a neighbor we all value."


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ET ALS

MEETINGS

Oregon Ballroom Dance Club will meet today at 5:30 p.m. in EMU Century Room D.

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Alliance youth group will meet today at 5 p.m. in the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. For more information, call 346-3360.

MISCELLANEOUS

Programs Finance Committee will read minutes tonight at 7 in EMU Cedar Room C. For more information, call 346-0623.

Pre-meds can pick up medical school applications in 164 Oregon Hall. For more information, call 346-3211.

Career Center will accept bid cards and resumes today through Wednesday in Room 244 Hendricks for interviews with the following organizations: UPS, Active Voice, Precision Cast Parts, Coffee People and Ferrellgas. For more information, call 346-3235.

Maxtek Components Inc. will have an informational meeting in EMU Century Room E today from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 346-3235.

Career Center will offer an office orientation today in Room 221 Hendricks from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Sign up will be available in Room 244 Hendricks. For more information, call 346-3235.

Oregon National Guard will be in the EMU today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 346-3235.



New 24 hr. Gold's Gym to Open in Downtown Eugene

A new 20,000 square foot Gold's Gym is set to open by the Summer of 1995. The new Gold's Gym at 3rd and Lawrence is part of the Whiteaker Neighborhood Refinement Plan, which is aimed to improve circulation and use of the area.

Gold's Gym will put new life into the historic Eugene Planing Mill Building which has been empty for several years. Two other businesses will be joining Gold's Gym in this endeavor. Evan's Chiropractic and Physical Therapy and Utopia Hair Salon for men and women.

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