

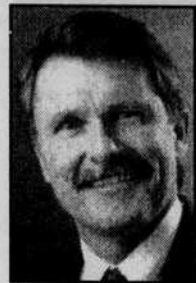
Agreement would protect streams

■ **PLAN:** Groups hope to get funding from other sources because of the voters' rejection of Measure 38

By Brad Cain
The Associated Press

SALEM — An agreement to seek the Oregon Legislature's approval to spend up to \$40 million to protect streams from livestock damage and pollution was announced Monday by Gov. John Kitzhaber.

The plan culminates three months of talks among Kitzhaber, agriculture representatives and environmentalists.



KITZHABER

Kitzhaber said that in view of the financial squeeze brought on by the Measure 47 property tax limit, money for the streams program likely would not come from the state's general fund.

A 1-cent deposit on beverage containers or an increase in vehicle registration fees have been mentioned as possible money sources.

Kitzhaber fended off questions about which source he is looking at, saying that he would announce his proposals to pay for the streams program when he unveils his 1997-1999 budget proposal on Dec. 2.

"I personally believe that the Legislature will adopt a package that will allow us to move ahead with this," Kitzhaber said at a news conference.

Two weeks ago, Oregon voters

STREAMS AGREEMENT

- Legislature to be asked to approve spending of up to \$40 million to protect streams from livestock damage, pollution
- Funding source not immediately determined; could be from new bottle deposit, or increase in vehicle registration fees
- Thirty-eight new employees to be hired at state environmental agencies to help oversee new streams pact
- Between \$20 million and \$35 million to be earmarked to help farmers and ranchers protect water quality with fences and other means

defeated Measure 38, which would have forced livestock owners to fence their animals out of the thousands of miles of streams that fail to meet federal clean water standards.

Kitzhaber had urged voters to reject the measure to give his partnership of livestock raisers and environmentalists a chance to finish working out voluntary steps to restore salmon streams.

The proposal outlined Monday includes \$5.8 million to add 19 new employees to the state Department of Agriculture and another 19 to the state Department of Environmental Quality to help carry out the program.

In addition, the plan urges spending of between \$20 million and \$35 million to help farmers and ranchers protect water quality with fences and other means.

Aside from the money issues, the agreement would speed up progress under a statewide stream protection planning bill passed by the 1993 Legislature.

The sides agreed to a goal to complete the agricultural portions

of plans for all of the state's streams within four years.

Within 10 years, the state would have water quality plans in place that address problems created by forestry and urban areas as well.

Kitzhaber warned that if the state does not take steps to clean up streams, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ultimately might assume responsibility for water quality management in Oregon.

"Clearly, this is a problem that we would prefer to solve here in Oregon, with all stakeholders involved, rather than have to respond to federal regulations," the governor said.

Andy Anderson, executive vice president of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, said the agreement is a "win-win situation" for agriculture and the state.

"We in the ag community have a role in bringing Oregon streams into compliance with federal guidelines, and we want to do our part," Anderson said.

He also said Senate President-elect Brady Adams and House Speaker-elect Lynn Lundquist "have made a commitment to sit down with us to find a solution" to stream pollution problems.

One of the environmental activists involved in the talks, Geoff Pampush of Oregon Trout, said his organization is skeptical that hiring 38 new employees at the environmental agencies is enough to do the job.

However, Pampush called the overall agreement a step in the right direction.

"Here in Oregon, we have one of the last great opportunities to have clean water and thriving fish runs in the face of a rapidly growing population," he said.

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ET ALS

Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma will be having an ice cream social and general meeting today in Cedar E in the EMU at 7 p.m.

Jewish Student Union is having an important general meeting today at 5 p.m. in Suite 5 in the EMU. For more information, call 346-4366.

Dominga Samines from the Asociacion Maya will speak about the significance of backstrap weaving and the struggle of highland Mayan women for economic and cultural survival today at 3:30 p.m. in the Walnut room in the EMU. This event is sponsored by Dan Goldrich and the

Crises in Central America class.

Career Center is offering a Power in Print: Resume/Cover Letter Writing workshop from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in room 12 of Hendricks Hall. For more information, call 346-3235.

Geography Department's Pat McDowell will give a presentation today at 7:30 p.m. in 110 Willamette Hall. The presentation is based on her field experience over the last three years on streams of the upper John Day River basin in northeastern Oregon. The talk will be illustrated with slides and video.

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Psychology: PSY 410, CRN 24873, F 13:00-14:50, 311 STP. Meets: 1/10, 1/24, 2/7, 2/28, 3/7.

Sociology: SOC 410, CRN 25051, H 18:00-19:50, 203 CHA. Meets: 1/9, 1/23, 2/6, 2/27, 3/6.

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