

# ODA eyes adding ‘stop work’ to its authority

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Food manufacturers and pesticide applicators could be subject to “stop work” orders under new regulatory authority being considered by Oregon’s farm regulators.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture may seek new regulatory power to halt specific

unlawful actions that endanger public safety.

Currently, the agency can suspend or revoke the license of a food establishment or pesticide applicator that’s violating the law, but such sanctions may be overkill in some situations, said Lauren Henderson, ODA’s assistant director.

“We don’t have anything that’s specific to an activity. It’s all or nothing,” he said during

this week’s meeting of the Oregon Board of Agriculture in Corvallis.

Revoking a license or obtaining a temporary restraining order in court also involves fairly high legal hurdles, Henderson said.

Taking such drastic steps would be overly burdensome for the agency and the business in the case of minor violations, such as a faulty thermometer in

a refrigerated meat cooler, he said.

Under the proposed “stop work” authority, the ODA could simply require a company to cease using that cooler until it’s fixed, he said.

“We’re looking at something very narrow and probably short-term,” Henderson said.

At this point, the proposal is in a very early stage but the agency is considering it as a

possible “legislative concept” for the 2017 legislative session, he said.

Henderson acknowledged the “stop work” idea has met with some trepidation among regulated companies.

“The industry as a whole is pretty nervous about us having that authority,” he said.

Aside from possibly affecting pesticide applications, the proposal could impact on-farm

processing, such as dairymen who make farmstead cheese.

Doug Krahmer, a blueberry farmer and board member, said companies should have a way to challenge a “stop work” order.

“I would caution you to put some sort of judicial mechanism in there, so if a grower or an owner takes issue with a stop work order, there is a quick way to get adjudication,” he said.

# Ranchers pack Jordan Valley gym to oppose monument plan

By SEAN ELLIS  
Capital Press

JORDAN VALLEY, Ore. — Ranchers and others who would be in the middle of a proposed 2.5 million-acre national monument strongly opposed the idea April 3 during a town hall meeting.

People who oppose the proposal should speak up and make sure their voices are heard, said Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., who hosted the meeting, which attracted about 300 people, most of them ranchers.

When someone asked what locals could do to make a difference, Walden said, “Education, education, education. Because people just don’t get it and we’re outnumbered. Your involvement matters and it makes a difference.”



A sign is posted April 3 in Jordan Valley showing opposition to a proposed 2.5 million-acre national monument in Malheur County, Ore.

a national monument would restrict grazing and access to these lands and harm the local economy.

When people who support the proposal say the Owyhee Canyonlands is one of the most extraordinary places on earth, “I say, it’s that way because of how it’s being managed today,” Walden said.

“It’s that way because of the way you’re taking care of it.”

He encouraged local residents to repeat that point.

“We need to show them what good stewardship looks like and move the public debate because we have a good story to tell,” he said. “It’s critical to show them the good work being done today on the

range.”

Jordan Valley is in the middle of the proposed monument area.

“It would have a huge impact on this area,” local rancher Bob Skinner, former president of the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association, told Capital Press. “These people are really scared.”

The April 3 meeting is among several town hall meetings being held to help inform people of the proposal and allow them to weigh in, Skinner said.

“We’re trying to make a statement every time we meet,” he said. “We think it’s going to have an impact ... because politicians listen to

numbers.”

Walden said a national monument designation could have a huge negative effect on ranching.

“Their plan is to get cattle off the range. Let’s just say it,” he said.

The proposal would encompass about 33 percent of the county’s total grazing land and local ranchers are concerned about access, not only for grazing but to fight fires, manage noxious weeds and maintain water resources, said rancher Elias Eiguren.

He said locals, in conjunction with federal and state land managers, are doing a good job now managing the area.

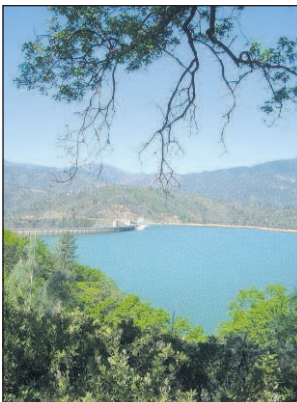
# SJ Valley to get some CVP water after March storms

By TIM HEARDEN  
Capital Press

SHASTA LAKE, Calif. — Last winter’s big storms mean farms in Northern California will receive their full federal water allocations, while San Joaquin Valley farms without senior water rights will get at least some water for the first time in three years.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s initial allocations on April 1 gave farms and cities north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta 100 percent of requests, while some Friant Division customers south of the Delta will get 30 percent and other ag contractors in the San Joaquin Valley will get 5 percent of normal supplies.

Urban contractors south of the Delta will get 55 percent of their historic use, while wildlife refuges and San Joaquin River exchange and settlement contractors will see 100 percent of their normal supplies, according to the bureau.



Tim Hearden/Capital Press

The only zero allocation this year was for customers of the Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District and Stockton East Water District because of a lack of available CVP water in New Melones Reservoir. It was at only 26 percent of its capacity and 41 percent of its historical average as of March 31.

“The allocation is based on a cautious estimate of the amount of water that will be available for deliveries to CVP water users,” bureau regional deputy manager Pablo Arroyave told reporters in a conference call, noting that allocations were based on such factors as snowpack, reservoir levels, water quality needs, water rights priorities and endangered species protections.

“While conditions have greatly improved ... the drought proclamation enacted by (Gov. Jerry Brown) in 2014 still remains in effect,” he said. “2016 has already been a challenging year and we certainly foresee some challenges throughout the remainder of the water year. ... We are, in our view, still in the middle of a drought.”

The Friant Division’s 30 percent allocation is dedicat-

ed to Class 1 customers, or the most senior landowners, and will apply to a majority of the prime citrus-growing region in Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties, said Joel Nelsen, president of California Citrus Mutual. In addition, scheduled releases of 185,000 acre-feet will be made in blocks in May for flood management, according to the bureau.

“We expect more, but it’s a heck of a lot better than the last two years,” when no surface water was available to the region, Nelsen said. “By the first of June, we expect another announcement that they’ll increase that somewhat, but at least it’s a good start.”

The 5 percent south-of-Delta allocation will largely affect growers on the west side of the valley, where hundreds of thousands of acres have already been fallowed because of a lack of water.

Farm groups criticized the allocation, arguing that too much water from the winter’s abundant rainfall was allowed to wash through the Delta and out to the Pacific Ocean. In a statement, Fresno County Farm Bureau chief executive officer Ryan Jacobsen called the allocations “despicable.”

“Reservoirs throughout the state have been filling,” Jacobsen said. “However, the government’s restrictive interpretation has resulted in the permanent loss of 789,000 acre-feet of water.”

# Stripe rust confirmed in southeast Idaho

Capital Press

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — Stripe rust has been confirmed in southeast Idaho and Magic Valley commercial wheat fields, according to a University of Idaho emailed disease alert.

The southeast Idaho cases were confirmed on April 4 by UI Extension cereals pathologist Juliet Marshall.

One southeast Idaho field south of Aberdeen was planted to Brundage, which is a highly

susceptible variety.

Marshall said she also confirmed stripe rust in volunteer Brundage in another field between American Falls and Pocatello.

Marshall said she’s also received a report from a reputable source of stripe rust in a field of Brundage planted east of Wendell.

The fungal disease spreads by yellow-orange spores, weakening plants and shriveling grains, and likes high humidity and early season


temperatures. It can cause significant yield losses.

Marshall advises growers to spray fungicides at herbicide timing on susceptible varieties, select resistant spring varieties for planting, consider two or more applications of fungicide throughout the growing season on susceptible varieties and to scout all varieties, noting “there are sometimes changes in the fungal strains, and those varieties that are currently resistant may become susceptible.”

She said susceptible varieties should be scouted weekly throughout the season.

Based on the symptoms, Marshall suspects the stripe rust overwintered, and she emphasized snow cover this winter likely insulated some spores from low temperatures.

Marshall said strobilurin fungicides are well-suited for preventive applications, and triazoles or triazole and strobilurin mixtures are ideal for treating established infections.



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### LEGAL

#### NOTICE OF CLOVER COMMISSION PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

**TO: ALL OREGON CLOVER SEED GROWERS**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held pursuant to ORS 576.416 (5), on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at 7:00 a.m., at West Salem Roth’s IGA, Founder’s Room “O”, 1130 Wallace Road, Salem, Oregon, upon a proposed budget for operation of the Clover Commission during the fiscal year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. At this hearing any producer of Oregon Grown Clover seed has a right to be heard with respect to the proposed budget, a copy of which is available for public inspection, under reasonable circumstances, in the office of each County Extension Agent in Oregon. For further information, contact the Clover Commission business office, P.O. Box 3366, Salem, Oregon 97302, telephone (503) 364-2944. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Please make any requests for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodation for persons with disabilities at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting the Commission office at 503-364-2944.

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### LEGAL

#### NOTICE OF OREGON HOP COMMISSION PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

The Oregon Hop Commission will hold a public hearing, pursuant to ORS 576.416(5), for the purpose of receiving comments on the Commission’s proposed 2016-2017 budget on Thursday, April 21, 2016, 12:00 noon, at Gustav’s Bargarten, 6045 Keizer Station Blvd, Keizer, OR 97303. At this hearing any producer of Oregon grown Hops has the right to be heard with respect to the proposed budget. Any person wishing to comment on the budget is welcome to do so either orally or in writing. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection during normal business hours, under reasonable circumstances, at the Oregon Hop Commission office located at 3037 G Street - Hubbard, Oregon.

For further information, contact the Oregon Hop Commission office at (503) 982-7600 or nancy@oregonhops.org.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours in advance.

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