

Proposal would allow rural residential accessory dwellings

Currently such structures disallowed outside urban areas in Oregon

By **MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI**
Capital Press

Landowners in Oregon's rural residential zones would be allowed to build accessory dwelling units, commonly called "granny flats," under recently proposed legislation.

Such ADUs are currently prohibited outside urban areas but there's interest among rural residents about building them as well, said Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland.

"I was sympathetic to that desire but I realize it's a controversial idea," Dembrow said before the House

Agriculture Committee on Dec. 14.

While Oregon's land use system aims to preserve farmland for agricultural uses, lawmakers have increasingly been concerned about housing shortages across the state.

Dembrow convened a work group to create "sideboards" for the concept of allowing rural ADUs, resulting in a "legislative concept" under which such structures would only be permitted in rural residential zones, as opposed to "exclusive farm use" zones dedicated to agriculture.

Allowing rural residen-

tial ADUs would not be mandatory under the proposal, which would let individual counties decide whether to allow such structures, Dembrow said.

Another controversial aspect of ADUs — whether they can be used for short-term rentals — would also fall to county government discretion, he said.

Whether ADUs contribute to traffic congestion or cause other undesirable conditions could be considered in the county's decision whether to allow them, Dembrow said.

Although the text of the legislation has been drafted,

the work group will continue to meet to refine the bill, he said.

To be eligible for a rural residential ADU, the landowner's property must be at least 2 acres and only a single ADU structure per parcel would be permitted.

The ADU would have to be built within 100 feet of the primary dwelling and couldn't be larger than 900 square feet.

If the water source for the structure is a well, the ADU cannot be built within an area where groundwater withdrawals have been restricted.

The structures would also be subject to restrictions related to fire safety and wastewater disposal.

Trade-mitigation aid won't undo damage

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**
Capital Press

After reports last week that the White House was delaying additional payments to farmers to mitigate lost trade due to retaliatory tariffs, USDA announced on Monday a second and final round of assistance.

Farm groups were quick to weigh in on the announcement, saying in press statements that while they appreciate the assistance, it falls short of actual damages and getting trade back on track is critical.

The American Farm Bureau Federation said farmers and ranchers continue to feel price pressure and very real economic damage due to the trade actions other nations have taken.

"While this assistance package will help a number of our farm families during this year of economic challenges, the best way to pro-



Don Wilson/Port of Seattle

The Port of Seattle. Financial aid from the federal government won't offset lower prices and lost markets caused by the ongoing trade wars, representatives of agricultural organizations say.

vide lasting relief is to continue pushing for trade and tariff reform from trading partners like China, Canada, Mexico, India, Turkey and the European Union," Zippy Duvall, AFBF president, said.

National Farmers Union said that while the assistance is appreciated, it falls wo-

efully short of the support required to blunt current and future damages of the administration's trade wars.

"We've lost markets that took decades to build," Roger Johnson, NFU president, said.

"We've lost significant value on most commodities. And probably most concerning, we're losing our reputation as a reliable trading partner — jeopardizing international markets for years to come," he said.

The National Association of Wheat Growers estimates lost wheat sales to China and Mexico exceed \$500 million.

"These retaliatory tariffs are not only harming growers through loss of sales but are also placing pressure on wheat prices," Jimmie

Musick, NAWG president, said.

"Growers want new export markets and trade deals so that this sort of assistance isn't necessary," he said.

National Milk Producers Federation said the mitigation payments are less than dairy producers had hoped but will provide some assistance.

"The tit-for-tat tariffs that prompted these mitigation payments continue to inflict damage across the farm economy," Jim Mulhern, NMPF president and CEO, said.

"We urge the administration to resolve tensions with key trading partners, including China and Mexico, as the best way to assist farmers going forward," he said.

National Pork Producers Council said the assistance is proof that President Trump is committed to U.S. farmers, but farmers would rather be producing and exporting food.

"We need to end these trade disputes soon and open new markets so we can export to consumers around the globe the safest, most nutritious pork in the world," Jim Heimerl, NPPC president, said.

American Soybean Association said it is encouraged that buyers in China this week purchased U.S. soybeans after a long suspension in sales, but the mitigation assistance is critical.

LEGAL

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In the Matter of the Estate of Steven H. Troeger, Deceased, No. 18PB08559

Notice IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, to the personal representative, in care of Teresa Ozias, at the address appearing below, or they may be barred. ALL persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative or the attorneys for the personal representative. DATED and first published this ____ day of December, 2018.


Robert H. Washburn
Personal Representative

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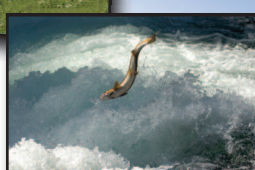
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WDFW

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife would not be allowed to kill any wolves in Eastern Washington under a proposal by a Western Washington legislator.

Call of the westside: Don't shoot wolves

By **DON JENKINS**
Capital Press

A Western Washington lawmaker has introduced a bill to bar the state Department of Fish and Wildlife from killing wolves in the eastern one-third of the state.

Federal law already prohibits lethal control of wolves in the western two-thirds of Washington. The prohibition should be state-wide, proposes Rep. Sherry Appleton, a Democrat who represents Bainbridge Island across Puget Sound from Seattle.

Rep. Joel Kretz, a Republican in wolf-populated northeast Washington, said he may draw inspiration from the proposal. "It makes me think of introducing a bill to turn Bainbridge Island into a wolf reserve," he said Monday.

Kretz really did sponsor legislation in 2013 to release wolves on Whidbey Island, also in Puget Sound. It was an offer — derided as a stunt and unaccepted — to share wolves with lawmakers who oppose culling livestock-attacking packs.

Since then, the number of wolves in Kretz's district has more than doubled, while no wolf has been documented farther west than eastern Skagit County.

Kretz said ranchers in his district have come "10,000 miles" in accepting wolves and working to minimize conflicts, but shooting wolves when all else fails remains contentious. He called Appleton's bill "discouraging."

"That's the biggest problem we have in the state — the disconnect," Kretz said. "How could anybody be so tone deaf to the real-world problems people are having with wolves?"

Efforts to reach Appleton on Monday were unsuccessful. She also introduced a bill to prohibit Fish and Wildlife from using hound hunters to pursue and kill cougars, bobcats, black bears and lynx to protect livestock, pets or humans.

On the same day the two bills were filed, House Democrats announced Appleton will chair the Council of State Governments West's public safety committee. The council is a forum for developing policy ideas for 13 states.

Appleton's proposals appear to have little chance of passing. House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Brian Blake, D-Aberdeen, said Monday that the wolf bill was "unworkable" and called the hound-pursuit bill "an emotional response."

He said Appleton's wolf bill would "blow up the cooperation" between different groups. "It seems counter-productive," he said.

Fish and Wildlife wolf policy coordinator Donny Martorello said lethal removal is an element in meeting the needs of everyone concerned about wolves. Other elements include measures that foster a healthy number of wolves, as well as deer and elk. Martorello said the department sees these seemingly disparate goals as complementary.

"There is no suite of non-lethal tools that are guaranteed to prevent depredations or change behavior once depredations start," he said.

Appleton's wolf bill would allow Fish and Wildlife to relocate wolves that are attacking livestock. Fish and Wildlife officials have looked at doing that and decided against it.

Wolves have a tendency to roam back to their original location. The journey also increases the chances they will have fatal encounters with humans, vehicles and other wolves, according to wildlife managers. "It's risky to move across the landscape," Martorello said.

At the Legislature's direction, Fish and Wildlife will study moving wolves from northeast Washington to unoccupied areas to speed up recovery. Fish and Wildlife plans to start the study early next year.

Kretz said he may introduce a bill to remove wolves from the state-protected species list in Eastern Washington, where wolves have surpassed recovery goals. The bill wouldn't dictate how wolves would be managed, but it might call for a new group of northeast Washington residents to work out a post de-listing plan, he said.

Kretz said he may pitch the policy as a chance to show how wolves can be handled once they've colonized other parts of the state.

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