

Okanogan residents say ‘no’ to grizzlies

By DAN WHEAT
Capital Press

OKANOGAN, Wash. — Approximately 600 people, mostly Okanogan County residents, were loud and clear. They don’t want grizzly bears in Washington’s North Cascades.

Rob Wallace, assistant U.S. Secretary of the Interior, his deputy John Tanner, and the state heads of the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were the recipients of that message at the Okanogan County Fairgrounds the evening of Oct. 7.

The agencies held the meeting at the behest of U.S. Rep. Dan Newhouse, R-Wash., who said the agencies ignored local voices during a 2017 comment period.

Newhouse has long been strongly opposed to agency plans to import grizzlies into the North Cascades from other states, saying the apex predator would threaten families, wildlife and livestock.

“I can’t tell you how pleased I am that Secretary (David) Bernhardt saw this as important enough to send the assistant secretary out. Everyone knows how I stand on this. I don’t think the science supports it and it’s against state law,” Newhouse said to loud applause. He had previously indicated a large turnout could be key in ending bear import plans.

“No decision has been made yet,” Wallace told Capital Press before the meeting started. “I grew up in Wyoming and have been around the politics of bears and wolves for a long time.”

Capital Press counted 515 chairs before the meeting started. They were filled and close to 100 people stood in the back.

Over nearly three hours about 50 people spoke against grizzly bear importation and 12 spoke for it. All were chosen through a lottery. Others gave written and oral comments at kiosks in the back of the auditorium. The agencies are taking public comment through Oct. 24.

One speaker asked for a show of hands of people opposed to grizzly bear introduction and almost every hand in the room went up. He asked for those in favor and maybe two dozen hands were lifted.

Speakers opposed to grizzlies talked about the threat to ranchers, orchardists, hikers, back country outfitters, tourism, cattle, sheep and how it violates a state law prohibiting grizzly importation.

They said there are few grizzlies in the area because the habitat does not support them and to bring new ones in



Dan Wheat/Capital Press
Rob Wallace, left, assistant U.S. secretary of the Interior, and U.S. Rep. Dan Newhouse, R-Wash., at the grizzly bear meeting in Okanogan, Wash., Oct. 7.

would be cruel because they wouldn’t have enough food. They would end up getting shot as they looked for food on ranches and in orchards, people said.

Further, they said grizzlies will lead to roads and trails not being maintained and even closed, that it’s a taking of public and private property and that the government will be liable when people and livestock are killed.

Proponents—including the Methow Valley Citizen Council, Conservation Northwest and National Parks Conservation Association—said there is sufficient habitat, that people and grizzlies co-exist in other places and that bears are needed for a better ecosystem. They supported an alternative for limited importation.

“With proper management, we can co-exist. I know they are strong and powerful animals, but they’re not hiding behind every tree to get us,” said Jessica Kelly, a Mazama hiker.

Opponents countered governmental agencies are incapable of proper management.

Karen Bound, Methow Valley, said she lived close to grizzlies in Alaska and never felt threatened. “They mostly graze like cattle for vegetation and fish, clams and ground squirrels. They’re reclusive and don’t like to be around people,” she said.

Melanie Rowland, Twisp, said “a miniscule number of people” have been killed by grizzlies. She drew audience grumblings and laughter when she said bears won’t eat humans or livestock if they have vegetation.

State Rep. Jacquelin Maycumber,

R-Republic, received loud applause when she spoke about the negative impact of bears on small town economies and schools.

State Sen. Shelly Short, R-Addy; Okanogan County Commissioner Andy Hover; and Darrington Mayor Dan Rankin all spoke against grizzly importation.

Rankin said Idaho, Montana and Wyoming all have much smaller human populations to co-exist with bears than Washington.

Danny DeFranco, executive vice president of the Washington Cattlemen’s Association, said ranchers are good stewards of land and wildlife while the states seems to manage only certain species.

Dave Dashiell, a Stevens County rancher, said he’s losing over \$100,000 a year in sheep to wolves and that grizzlies could drive him out of business.

Michael Zoretic, Alta Lake, said he has three small children and doesn’t want them “walking around with 800-pound bears.”

Robin Stice, co-owner of Eden Valley Guest Ranch east of Oroville, and another Stevens County rancher both said they’ve seen grizzlies in Washington.

The agencies have said the last confirmed grizzly sighting in Washington was in 1993.

Stice voiced concern about genetics being impacted by importation.

The other rancher said there are 55,000 grizzlies in North America with only 1,500 in the lower 48 states, which are enough.

Feedlot seeks final liquidation of defunct Oregon beef packer

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Press



Matthew Weaver/Capital Press File

A Washington state feedlot has filed a motion in bankruptcy court alleging that Bartels Packing of Eugene, Ore., owed it nearly \$1.7 million and that the receiver should act more quickly to resolve the bankruptcy.

The Maughan Feedlot of Mattawa, Wash., is now seeking an order for the receiver, Pivotal Solutions, to “show cause” why the packer’s remaining assets should not be abandoned and its cash distributed to creditors.

“In the present case, the continued administration of the estate seems unlikely to produce positive results for the creditors,” according to Maughan’s motion.

Maughan claims to be owed nearly \$1.7 million by Bartels Packing and notes the receiver has had more than 18 months to liquidate the company’s assets.

In that time, Pivotal Solution’s administrative expenses have topped \$940,000, with the costs decreasing the amount of proceeds eventually received by the Maughan Feedlot, the motion said.

Since February, the amount of cash, inventory and accounts receivable has dropped by more than \$1 million, the feedlot said. “It appears the receivership is not cost effective in accumulating increased assets for distribution to creditors.”

The receivership’s “continued operations” would negatively impact the creditors and so it should be terminated to

“protect a maximum distribution” of the proceeds from selling Bartels’ assets, the motion said.

Richard Hooper, president of Pivotal Solutions, said his company will file a response to Maughan’s motion in court within the next week or two.

“We will respond to that at the appropriate time, but it’s not the time to do that,” he said.

A final accounting of proceeds from the sale of Bartels’ meat, equipment and other assets, and how much money was distributed to cattle suppliers and other creditors, will likely be submitted by the end of 2019 or early 2020, Hooper said. “It’s been a complicated matter.”

In a regular monthly court report, Hooper said Maughan’s motion is “premature and detrimental to the estate.”

Initially, the receiver sought to sell the beef packing company as a “going concern” that would keep the business operating and optimize the value of its assets compared to selling them piecemeal.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE OF FARMLAND

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT one parcel of land (“Parcel ‘A’”) will be offered at a private sale on October 30, 2019. Parcel “A” is approximately two thousand forty (2,040) acres, consisting of: Four pieces of land offered by the ESTATE OF LOREN J. TOTUSEK; and one piece of land offered by NORMAN OTT and MARSHA GARNER. Parcel “A” is situated in Lincoln County, State of Washington, and is described as follows:

Parcel “A” (Lincoln County)

The Northeast Quarter and the South half of Section 21, Township 22 North, Range 32 E.W.M., records of Lincoln County, State of Washington
Parcel No.: 2232021900030
Approximately 480 acres
AND

The Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 22 North, Range 32 E.W.M., records of Lincoln County, State of Washington
Parcel No.: 2232022300030
Approximately 160 acres
AND

All of Section 27, Township 22 North, Range 32 E.W.M., records of Lincoln County, State of Washington
Parcel No.: 2232027000030
Approximately 640 acres
AND

All of Section 28, Township 22 North, Range 32 E.W.M., records of Lincoln County, State of Washington
Parcel No.: 2232028000030
Approximately 640 acres (Includes Farm Residence)
AND

The Northwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 22 North, Range 32 E.W.M., records of Lincoln County, State of Washington
Parcel No.: 2232022200010
Approximately 160 acres

*Complete legal descriptions to be furnished by title company. The acreages are believed to be correct but are not guaranteed. No survey will be furnished by the Sellers. In all cases, no adjustment will be made in price based on any subsequent survey conducted by Buyer. It is the Bidder/Buyer’s responsibility to verify the accuracy of the acreage.

Terms of Sale shall be cash at closing by way of wire transfer made payable to Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf Trust Account.

All bidders shall bid in a total dollar amount for the entire parcel and not on a per acre basis, given that acreages vary and there is no guarantee as to acreage.

All bids shall be in writing and must be submitted in a sealed envelope on or before Noon (12:00 o’clock p.m.), on October 30, 2019. Bids shall be addressed and mailed to “Totusek, Ott, and Garner Land Bid Sale” in care of Mark DeWulf of Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf, P.S., P.O. Box 457, Odessa, WA 99159 in time to arrive at said address prior to the above date. Each bid shall be accompanied by a personal check in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the bid price payable to the order of Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf Trust Account as evidence of the bidder’s good faith, said amount to be a legal obligation and forfeited to the Seller by the successful bidder unless the bidder complies with his bid.

All bids will be opened at Noon (12:00 o’clock p.m.) on October 30, 2019 at the offices of Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf, P.S., in Odessa, WA. Unsuccessful bidders will be notified and have until Noon (12:00 o’clock p.m.) on November 6, 2019 to make and file a second bid higher than that of the first successful bidder; provided that such second bids are in writing and submitted in a sealed envelope with a bid deposit as above provided, and further provided that the second bid shall in no event be less than seven percent (7%) higher than the original highest bid of the first successful bidder.

The first successful bidder shall then be notified and have until Noon (12:00 o’clock p.m.) on November 13, 2019, in which to make and file a bid better than that of the highest second successful bidder, said bid to be not less than two percent (2%) higher than the highest second successful bid and thereafter no further bids will be accepted.

Seller reserves the right to reject any and all bids. All submitted bids shall be sealed with bid deposits as indicated herein.

The Sellers will furnish title insurance and will pay the premium therefore and will also pay real estate excise tax and one-half the closing fees charged by the closing attorneys Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf, P.S. The successful bidder shall pay the recording fees and one-half the closing fees charged by the above attorneys. The real property taxes payable in 2019 shall be prorated as of the date of closing. Closing shall transpire no later than December 18, 2019. The successful bidder takes the property and all buildings as is. The Sellers will receive the 2019 CRP payment.

For all questions and to receive an informational bid packet, please contact Mark DeWulf of Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf at (509) 982-2672.

Biologists collar wolf in Western Oregon

By GEORGE PLAVEN
Capital Press

SALEM — Wildlife biologists successfully placed a GPS collar on a juvenile wolf in Western Oregon, seeking to learn more about the movements and territory of packs in the region.

The wolf, a 52-pound female, comes from the Indigo pack living in the Cascade Range of eastern Lane and Douglas counties. It was collared Sept. 26 by biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Umpqua National Forest.

Michelle Dennehy, ODFW spokeswoman, said it is the only wolf in Western Oregon with a working collar. The collar also has a biodegradable foam spacer so it will continue to fit as the wolf grows.

Wolves remain federally protected in Oregon west of highways 395, 78 and 95.

Oregon’s Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, which was last updated in June, identifies GPS collars as a tool to monitor wolf populations statewide. The information can be used to establish pack locations and assist in annual wolf population surveys.

For known wolfpacks, ODFW will attempt to collar at least one member with an emphasis on at least one breeding adult, according to the plan. Other members may also be collared if needed.

GPS data is also invaluable to local ranchers trying to protect their livestock from predator attacks.

Veril Nelson, a rancher in Oakland, Ore., and wolf committee co-chairman for the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association, said producers are required to use non-lethal measures, such as wildlife fences and range-riders, to keep wolves at bay.

“Especially in this area, where they’re still listed as an endangered species, that’s our only way of protecting our livestock,” Nelson said. “If we know where those wolves are, that’s going to help us be prepared.”

The Trump administration has proposed removing wolves from the federal endangered species list across the Lower 48 states. If that happens, wolves in Western Oregon will enter Phase I of the Oregon wolf plan, which sets strict limits on how and when wildlife managers can kill wolves that repeatedly prey on livestock.

Under Phase I, “chronic depredation” is defined as four confirmed attacks on livestock within six months. To enter Phase II, ODFW must document four wolfpacks that have produced pups for at least two years.

LEGAL

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 10/18/2019. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA 4DR
VIN= KMH35LE0DU117469
Amount due on lien \$1,455.00

Reputed owner(s)
ALLY FINANCIAL

Frost Protection

Authorized Factory Dealer of..
Orchard-Kite® Wind Machines

HPS Pipe & Supply

598 Baseline
Cornelius, OR
Office
503-357-4217
info@hpspipe.com

-- Wind Machines are not only for protecting your crops against frost. They can be critical for assisting in protecting your new plantings. Also additional benefits of, summer cooling and assist in drying.

41-3/106

PTO GENERATORS

BAUMALIGHT™
BAUMALIGHT.COM
Ellis Equipment | 800-949-2336

MFG A VARIETY OF ATTACHMENTS INCLUDING
BRUSH MULCHERS | ROTARY BRUSH CUTTERS
STUMP GRINDERS | PTO GENERATORS | AUGER DRIVES
TRENCHERS | DRAINAGE PLOWS | TREE SPADES
TREE SAWS & SHEARS | BOOM MOWERS

40-4-1/103