

Holce Family Skate Park



Grand Opening! Saturday, April 23, Noon

Buckshot Betty's – Still Your Neighborhood Bar and Restaurant

Formerly known as *The All In Pub*, this local bar has new owners and a new name

By Scott Laird

Buckshot Betty's is the new name of an old Vernonia establishment, and Melissa and Jesse Martin are the new owners.

The Martins purchased the bar and restaurant from Ernie and Robin Smith who were the owners for 11 years and have now retired. They've changed the name, but not much else. The menu has been simplified, but the feel is the same – it's still your local, neighborhood tavern, with the same cold beer and drinks, and the same friendly faces.

"We just want this to be a place where everyone feels welcome, can come in and get consistent, good quality food and service, and they're always greeted with a smile," says Melissa.

After an April 1 grand opening, and a few hitches, things seem to be going pretty well, says Melissa. "The staff has been amazing and the community has been awesome and super supportive. And Robin and Ernie have been amazing." "It was a really good business handoff," adds Jesse.

The Martins are both Oregonians, born and raised, who moved to Vernonia about six years ago, and they have an eight year old son. Melissa works as an engineering manager at Intel and Jesse works at Absolute Marble here in Vernonia. Both have experience working in bars – Melissa tended bar as she put herself through college, and Jesse has both tended bar and worked as a bouncer in the past. "We've got behind the bar and the door covered between us," they joke. They say they're counting on their staff to help them learn their way around the grill, and their customers to provide feedback and help them set the menu. "We've simplified the format of the menu but we're still carrying all the same supplies Ernie and Robin had," says Melissa. "So even if people don't see their favorite on the menu, we're still able to make everything people could order before. We've just made it easier while we're starting out. Just order it the way you always have, and we'll make it for you."

As someone who is very social,



Melissa says she needed to do something different after Intel had most of their employees working remotely during COVID. "I can't stand not seeing people and I knew for quality of life something had to change," she says. "Ernie and Robin were looking to sell and it was just one of those times when the opportunity was there and it just felt like the right thing to do. And so we're pretty happy we pulled the trigger."

Pulled the trigger... on Buckshot Betty's... Melissa's play on words is not lost on any of us sitting around the table.

So, where does that name Buckshot Betty's come from? "It's really simple," explains Melissa. "When I was throwing around the idea of buying the bar, Jesse asked

me what I would rename it? And I didn't know and 'Buckshot Betty's' just sort of popped out. And then it just stuck. I was just shooting from the hip."

There she goes again...

Melissa says the name feels fun for locals, but not too gimmicky, but with a Vernonia feel.

"We sort of knew it was the right name choice when everybody who would repeat it back, did it with their own sort of attitude or twang to it. They'd kind of have a posture or a hand gesture thing. It was different for everybody, but it got a reaction. It's just kind of fun to say. And we were like, "All right, it's catchy. That's it!"

The Martins don't plan to make any major changes, but instead make some gradual changes over time. With Jesse's connection to Absolute Marble,

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Oregon's Private Forest Accord Provides Protections

By Scott Laird

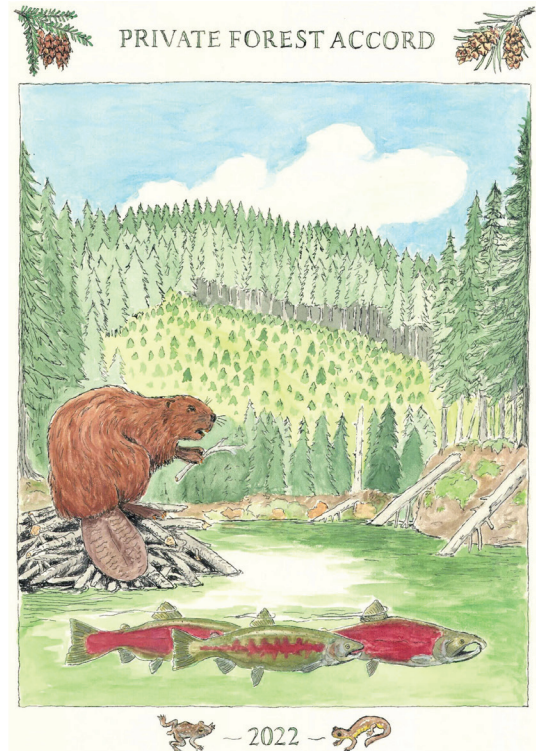
With what feels like less fanfare than might have been expected, in March the Oregon Legislature passed a historic agreement between the timber industry, state and federal agencies, and environmental advocates, that will protect water sources in Oregon forests, along with wildlife and their habitat.

The Oregon House approved the Private Forest Accord by a 43-15 vote after the Senate approved it 26-5.

The Private Forest Accord directs the Oregon Board of Forestry to make comprehensive changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act, through three pieces of legislation, SB 1501, SB 1502, and HB 4055.

The Accord was part of a two-year negotiation process that brought all the big names in Oregon's timber industry and conservation movement to the table to write the language – Weyerhaeuser, Hampton Lumber, Roseburg Forest Products, Rayonier, along with the Oregon Small Woodlands Association worked together with environmental and outdoor groups like Audubon Society, Oregon Wild, Trout Unlimited, Northwest Guides and Anglers, and the Wild Salmon Center. The negotiators consulted with Oregon's Departments of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and Forestry (ODF), along with the National Marine and Fisheries Service (NMFS) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); the process was facilitated by the Oregon Governor's office.

The Private Forest Accord impacts over 10 million acres of privately owned timberland in Oregon and makes changes to Oregon's forest management practices

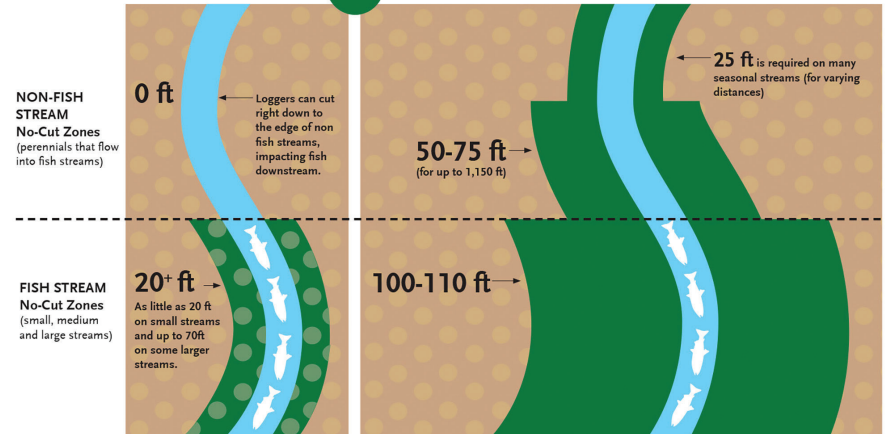


The Private Forest Accord report details the changes to Oregon forest management practices which were adopted by the Oregon Legislature in March. This cover of the report was illustrated by Gareth Curtis.

we leave the Timber Wars in the past and embark on a new collaborative era of forestry that ensures a future for sustainable active forest management and wood products manufacturing."

A key component of the Accord will be the creation of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) which must be approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and comply with the Endangered Species Act, (ESA). The State of Oregon is currently in the process of developing the Western Oregon State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan which would cover about 640,000 acres of ODF-managed land west of the Cascades.

OREGON FOREST ACCORDS CURRENT vs. PROPOSED STREAM BUFFER RULES*



* Comparison of current and proposed changes to stream buffers on westside private forests

Image courtesy of Wild Salmon Center

by expanding riparian buffers and creating steep slope buffers to minimize erosion. It ends commercial beaver trapping and the lethal removal of beaver from private timberlands. Small woodland owners would receive a tax credit to help offset the loss of some areas they formerly logged. The Accord calls for the rules to be implemented over the next two years.

"This is truly a paradigm shift and a movement in our state's history for which all Oregonians should be proud," said Chris Edwards, President of the Oregon Forest & Industries Council, the industry trade organization for landowners and manufacturers. "This demonstrates it is possible to put differences aside and work together on viable solutions to tough problems. Today

Historically, ODF has managed species covered under the ESA on forestlands through a process called "take avoidance." This approach often requires extensive and costly species surveys, resulting in shifting protections that are likely to limit the quality of habitat while also creating uncertainty around the long-term financial viability of managing forests under established laws.

While the ESA does provide protections for endangered and threatened species, under the new HCP those protections are not absolute. Exceptions can be granted to private entities who are undertaking projects that might result in the destruction of an endangered or threatened species with

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