

# Alyssum remains pressing concern for IV Airport

By Darcy Wallace  
IVN Staff Writer

The Illinois Valley Airport Board continued to discuss efforts to eliminate Alyssum plants from the area during its most recent meeting Monday, March 28, at the I.V. Airport.

According to a presentation by U.S. Forest Service employee Shauna Batista, two varieties of Alyssum were planted on airport property by Viridian LLC, with help from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and Oregon State University, to help extract nickel from the ground.

The nickel extraction ultimately proved unsuccessful and the Alyssum was found to be highly invasive and a threat to native plant life. According to the Batista, Viridian did not properly follow measures to control the spread of Alyssum and the plant has been spotted in several areas of the Illinois Valley.

Airport board member Kenny Houck said an interagency steering committee was formed to further address the issue. Board members are concerned that not enough was being done to ensure that equipment used at the airport was thoroughly washed before leaving to prevent it from spreading the Alyssum further.

"The Airport board has spent a lot of time on this," Houck said. "We want to keep getting updates, but I feel like attention was called to the issue and everyone has been notified; progress seems to be happening finally."

Gordon Lyford, a Valley resident and registered agricultural engineer, said he hoped the steering committee with members of the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, Josephine County Commissioner Simon Hare and several others would be able to deliver concise reports in future meetings.

Gordon said after the meeting that

board members were still frustrated with Airport Director Alex Grossi, believing he was not doing enough to keep alyssum from spreading even more outside the airport.

"There's a lot of history that goes way back," Lyford said.

He added that a newcomer to airport board meetings, Ira Chinook, spoke about her own experiences hand-pulling alyssum weeds from her property near Patton Bar Road in Cave Junction.

Between 2009 and 2010, large-scale Alyssum control efforts began. Ken French from Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) reportedly treated the weeds with Escort and Phase surfactant applied via a Polaris ATV with booms.

Other ODA crews have hand-sprayed areas of Alyssum with backpack sprays. More information from Batista's presentation is available on the Josephine County website at [www.co.josephine.or.us](http://www.co.josephine.or.us).

# Proposed public land sale causes concern

Oregon State Lands Board (SLB) officials, Governor John Kitzhaber and other officials are reportedly deciding whether to allow the Department of State Lands to sell 4,920 acres of Common School Funds land in Josephine and Jackson counties.

According to Shannon Wilson of Ecosystem Advocates Northwest, the proposed public lands sale risks threatening the Wild and Scenic Rogue River for short-term economic gain.

"[More than] 300 acres of the land proposed for sale are along the banks of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River literally across from one of Southern Oregon's largest tourist destinations, Galice," Wilson wrote. "One 640-acre parcel in the Illinois Valley (Woodcock Creek) is inside Oregon's largest unprotected roadless area, the South Kalmiopsis."

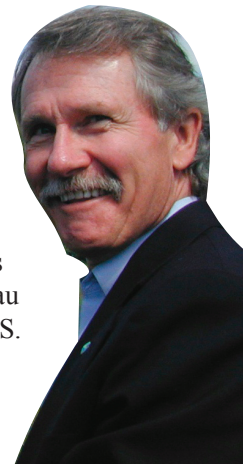
Wilson said selling these properties is part of a Common School Fund Asset Management Plan that "disposes of" undesirable forestlands in Western Oregon and rangeland in Eastern Oregon.

"The Oregon Board of Forestry (BOF) makes recommendations and approves the 'decertification' of the CSF lands,"

Wilson wrote. "Some BOF members have acquired lands under this current round of CSF land sales. This current round of 'disposal' sales of State public land has already occurred throughout most western Oregon counties."

According to Wilson, these lands could instead be handed over to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service for protection.

"An ethics inquiry should be pursued to ensure agency transparency in past and future Common School Fund land sale transactions," Wilson added.



Gov. John Kitzhaber

# Lions new Governor



Buster Vander Woude poses for his election photo on April 2, 2011

Lions District 36-E covering 42 clubs in southern Oregon and north California held their annual Lions Convention at the Red Lion Hotel in Medford Oregon on April 1 and 2, 2011. Elections were held for the office of governor, 1st Vice governor and 2nd vice governor.

Elected District Governor was Buster Vander Woude from Cave Junction Lions Club, 1st vice governor was Rennie D. Cleland from Dorris Lions Club and 2nd vice governor was Jeff Mesener from Myrtle

Creek Lions Club.

The Cave Junction Lions Club Trio provided music for the Friday night BBQ and fun night. Musicians are Lion Nancy Lewis, Lion Ross Welcome and Lion Buster Vander Woude.

Bingo was provided by the Cave Junction Lions Club as a fund raiser for the Southern Oregon Sight and Hearing Center in Medford. Caller was Lion Cori Allen. Other helpers were Lions Darrell Allen and Nina Horsley.

# Perpetua and spray opponents exchange positive dialog

Illinois Valley residents opposed to a planned spray of private lands near Lake Selmac met with Perpetua Forests Co. last Thursday, March 31.

According to a press release from Selma resident Audrey Moore, concerned Valley residents made progress in a meeting with Perpetua representatives and a tour of the 70-acre proposed spray site.

"On site, Perpetua [revealed] the complexity of the site itself, as well as their issues over maintaining the lives of the three year old conifer trees planted and the need for their survival," Moore wrote.

In turn, she said, concerned citizens wanted to understand why the trees were not left to survive on their own, without pesticides that they believe will damage wildlife areas and cause health problems in nearby residents who could be exposed to the chemicals.

Moore said Perpetua representatives told spray opponents they would consider alternatives to herbicides if they could be proven both

effective and economical.

"In other outcomes of the meeting, Perpetua also said it would provide the registration numbers of the chemicals slotted to be used, for those citizens concerned with [Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease] COPD and definitive health issues," Moore wrote.

Perpetua also reportedly told those against the herbicides they would offer drift studies about aerial application to help ease concerns about herbicide drift.

Illinois Valley News was unable to reach Perpetua representatives prior to deadline.

Moore added in the news release that Valley residents suggested Perpetua make the 70-acre spray zone a "test site" because of the property's proximity to Lake Selmac.

"It is the fervent hope of the citizens that Perpetua will consider the concerns and information provided by them, and that a working relationship can and will remain established for the betterment of all concerned," Moore wrote.



(Photo by Dale Sandberg, IVFD Media Dept)

Two people were transported by American Medical Response (AMR) personnel in an accident early in the morning March 27 on Dick George Road in Cave Junction. The accident reportedly involved a group of youth in a Kia Sportage.

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**ACROSS**

1. Camera stand

6. Adjoin

11. Bustle

12. Echo sounder

14. Consumer (2wds.)

17. Social status

18. Yuletide

19. Reject with contempt

21. A mutual promise to marry

23. Graphics

24. A unit of surface area

26. Money in Russia

28. Carmine

29. Barbaric

32. Develope gradually

35. By way of

36. Savoury jelly

38. Shade tree

39. A single person or thing

40. Be deserving

44. Hesitate

46. Open to the outside

47. The act of binding

49. Loud noise following lightning

52. 3rd planet from the sun

53. Possesses

54. Come together

**DOWN**

55. Grommet

2. Cowboy exhibition

3. Ballet step

4. Lyric poem

5. Vertical fin

6. Cravat

7. Male hog

8. Disentangle

9. Body decoration (Abb.)

10. Closely confined

13. Fall back

15. Neither

16. Super-

20. Crawl

22. Embrace

25. Increase the number of rotations per minute

27. Edible seeds of leguminous plants

29. Slender

30. Be unwell

31. Bela Lugosi's portrayal

33. Vitality

34. Sea

37. Be angry

39. Should

41. Narrow natural elevation

42. Wrath

43. Novice

45. Gambling stake

48. Sweet potato

50. Used as fodder

51. Apply

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