

DIAL 'G' FOR GREEN

In regards to the current Waxman-Markey Bill, Congressman DeFazio's stubborn politics cannot be tolerated. It has been a perilous battle to pass a plan on a federal level that fights global pollution, and we now have an opportunity that cannot go by the wayside.

DeFazio is forgetting the fact that the clock is ticking. The battle against global warming has breached beyond political ideologies, and is now recognized as a battle for our own survival. Although I admire him for remaining loyal to what he believes will be the most socially and economically just model, we need to move forward. Compromises have to be made up front so that we can take the first step towards environmental justice. Global warming won't hit the pause button so that we can debate.

As natural disasters and biodiversity loss continue to increase, and the global temperature climbs higher, DeFazio needs to consider the context of the issue at hand. More and more people around the world are consuming at "American" levels, and we must redefine "American" energy consumption to change that. If the Waxman-Markey bill is passed, we as the largest energy-consuming nation will take the first step forward towards redefining our globally idealized lifestyle.

By the projected goal of 2025, we could have a global community that might idealize our lifestyle even more. If our lifestyle is energy-efficient, this could be extremely positive. Congressmen DeFazio needs to acknowledge the situation at hand and make compromises to his agenda. We as a state are at the forefront of environmentalism, and he needs to be the face of our efforts and take the progressive step forward by supporting the Waxman-Markey bill.

Mark Costigan
Eugene

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME HYPOCRISY

To State Attorney General John Kroger:
This is an excellent opportunity for you

to "walk the walk" on your pledge to get tough on environmental crimes.

Unless you intend to maintain a double standard in your treatment of Oregonians under the law, the actions taken by protesters in the Elliot State Forest certainly qualify as environmental crimes including trespass, destruction of property and physical damages caused by overturning a vehicle to use as a barricade. These crimes occurred on state lands.

I would be interested to know the cost of the arrest operations and whether or not those costs could be recovered.

Michael James Scarpitti (*alias* Tre Arrow), Angela Marie Cesario and Jeremy David Rosenbloom all did time for arson and related crimes. The FBI investigated and closed more than a dozen eco-terrorism crimes dating back a decade including bombings, attacks on research labs, destruction of logging equipment and attacks on federal facilities. Many of those convicted are still serving time.

The ball is in your court!

Ted Ferrioli
State Senator, District 30

ENDANGERED ELLIOTT

I applaud and support the protesters currently and previously in the Elliott State Forest.

Forest management in the Elliott is a perfect example of Oregon's dysfunctional funding system and corrupt tax laws. For decades the Elliott has been liquidated in an unsuccessful attempt to fund public schools while at the same time, the state loses millions of dollars each year by exempting the largest private timberland owners from the timber harvest tax.

Unlike other nearby states such as Washington, landowners of more than 5000 acres are exempt from paying the same tax that smaller family foresters pay when they cut their trees. This not only punishes small mom and pop foresters, including those developing the most sustainable forestry practices out there, but it is yet another example of corporations getting a kickback while the public — in



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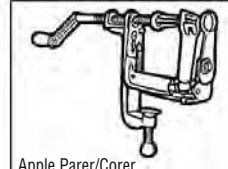
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