

According to *Capital Press*, an agricultural newspaper, even the Oregon Cattlemen's Association is OK with the bill, and it quotes lobbyist Jim Walsh as saying, "We would much rather have not had any bill. But we got everybody to agree on this, and this keeps our small community rodeos alive, and they can have their event." Horses can be roped but not intentionally tripped.

Still in the Senate is SB 6, which would increase punishment for animal neglect and increase fines and jail time for people who have more than 10 animals or are repeat offenders. It would also require animal rescues to get licenses, maintain certain records and be inspected.

Also awaiting a Senate vote is a bill that represents a landmark agreement between conservationists, the state and ranchers. HB 3452 allows ranchers to kill a wolf without a permit if it is caught in the act of eating or biting livestock or a working dog. If a rancher has tried to deter a wolf using things like noise and flagging, but the wolf "chronically" preys on livestock then it also can be shot. The bill passed out of the Senate Rules Committee with a "do pass" recommendation on June 18. — *Camilla Mortensen*

TRIBES BUILD SUSTAINABLE FUTURE WITH FEW RESOURCES

Successes in Native American forestry, despite huge financial challenges, are proving a model for future stewardship, according to the Indian Forestry Management Assessment Team (IFMAT).

"The tribes have been here for thousands of years," says George Smith, executive director of Oregon's Coquille Tribe. "They have a direct connection to the land and the long-term consequences of its management."

That may be why the coastal Coquille Nation and Warm Springs tribe

of central Oregon, which have the largest tribal timber holdings in the state, say they are proud of a 10-year study of their land use by IFMAT.

The third such report, drafted for 20 tribes nationwide, shows Indian forestry needs another \$100 million of annual federal funding to be adequately maintained. A decade ago that was only \$40 million. The widening gap violates the federal government's trust obligation to tribal lands under the Tribal Forest Protection Act. "The issue needs to be directed to the House Appropriations Committee," says Smith, a former Bureau of Indian Affairs staffer in Washington, D.C.

"The level of congressional interest in this report is greater than it's ever been," Smith adds. Yet until that mountain is moved, foresters will have to stay creative to keep their operations and communities viable. When timber prices

'Not only are we meeting our ecological goals, we're also meeting our socioeconomic and cultural objectives.'

- JASON ROBISON, COQUILLE TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

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