

ACTIVIST ! LERT

- **Electing judges** is the topic at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, June 19, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette Street. Speakers are W. Michael Gillette, retired justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, and James Huffman, dean emeritus of the Lewis and Clark Law School. \$5 for non-members. See cityclubofeugene.org. The following week, June 26, the topic will be "The Future of Collegiate Athletics at the UO" with professor Bill Harbaugh and professor emeritus Dennis Howard.

- **Cascadia Forest Defenders** will launch a floating protest of the Pacific Connector LNG pipeline at 10 am Friday, June 19. The "Float the Pipe" event will begin where the pipe would cross under the South Umpqua just south of the Rivers West South Umpqua campground, 1-5 Exit 112, on the east side of I-5. Participants will float downriver for 12 miles over two days and document the watershed they see along the way. A community picnic and press conference will be held from 4 to 6 pm Saturday, June 20, at 630 Douglas Blvd. in Winston. Contact Erin Grady at (303) 905-8601.

- Author **Guy McPherson**, professor emeritus of natural resources at the University of Arizona, is on tour and will speak on "Responding to Abrupt Climate Change" at 7 pm Wednesday, June 24, at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 13th and Chambers. Food and water shortages are accelerating around the globe, he says, and we've only recently entered the domain of abrupt climate change. Suggested donation of \$10 to \$20. See guymcpherson.com. Hosted in part by Eugene Interfaith Earthkeepers. McPherson will also be at Tsunami Books at 3 pm that day for book signing and open discussion.

- The BLM is looking at revisions to the **Northwest Forest Plan** and according to Oregon Wild, all of the options that are being proposed will *reduce* logging setbacks on streams and rivers. The next riparian workshop will be from 4 to 8 pm Thursday, June 25, at the BLM Interagency Office Assembly Hall at 3106 Pierce Parkway in Springfield. Another public meeting is planned June 30 in Salem. Find the BLM's meeting schedule at wkly.ws/216.

- OReGO starts July 1 and the program is looking for volunteers. **OReGo is Oregon's Road Usage Charge** program and it assesses a 1.5-cent per-mile charge for volunteer drivers, who will pay a road usage charge for the amount of miles they drive, instead of the state fuel tax. Volunteers will get a credit for fuel tax they pay at the pump. OReGo is an Oregon Department of Transportation "program that creates a new way to fund road maintenance, preservation and improvements for all Oregonians." For more info or to sign up, go to myorego.org.



DEFAZIO CALLS 'BULLSHIT' ON THE TPP

Congressman Peter DeFazio has vehemently opposed the Trans Pacific Partnership trade deal from early on, telling *EW* in January 2014 that the deal was "informed and manipulated by corporate interests" and that if the public knew what was in the classified document, they wouldn't like it.

While widespread public attention has only really been directed at the trade deal for the past couple months, the TPP has been years in the making. The Electronic Frontier Foundation calls it a "secretive, multinational trade agreement" — the trade talks were all conducted in secret — and the pact is between 12 Pacific Rim countries accounting for almost 40 percent of the global economy.

The Obama White House has said the TPP will generate \$123.5 billion a year in U.S. exports by 2025, but the president has been facing opposition from his own party, including DeFazio, in his efforts to get Fast-Track Authority from Congress to finish the deal with little congressional input.

DeFazio, who has voted against all free trade agreements, including NAFTA, has said that it is "critical to protect the constitutional prerogatives of Congress under Article I, Section 8, which states that Congress has the sole authority to regulate trade with foreign nations."

In a recent email to voters from the DeFazio campaign the congressman says, "They dangled a carrot in front of those of us who have been fighting against the 'Fast Track' trade promotion authority bill (TPA). It's called Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), which helps workers who lose their jobs because of these trade deals find other jobs."

The DeFazio email says that TAA would have to be passed along with TPA and "I support the TAA, but not under these circumstances." DeFazio cites an article in

Politico, which says he told the president's chief of staff, Denis McDonough, "that the White House's position was 'bullshit.'"

The email continues, "And we didn't fall for that BS. The TAA bill went down in flames. It wasn't even close: 302 to 126."

Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden has supported the legislation, and Sen. Jeff Merkley has opposed it. The trade deal is not yet dead, but with Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton

distancing herself from Obama on trade and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi backing the opposition, pundits say the TPP's prospects are dim. Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has also opposed the deal. — *Camilla Mortensen*

**The TPP is
'informed and
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— CONGRESSMAN PETER DEFAZIO

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