

## EPD SHOWS UP ON MAP OF AGENCIES IN CONTACT WITH PRIVATE SPYWARE AGENCY

The private Italian spying firm Hacking Team was itself recently hacked and some of its internal documents, invoices, emails and customer lists were made public — the information can be found on WikiLeaks. According to *Wired* not only has the FBI used Hacking Team’s wares, “many of the other governments who bought the same software are repressive regimes, such as Sudan and Bahrain.”

Public records request-focused news site MuckRock put together a map showing agencies that have gotten Hacking Team demos or gotten onto the company’s email list. The Eugene Police Department appears on the map.

EPD spokesperson Melinda McLaughlin says there was no hack on EPD emails, and the emails posted on WikiLeaks “are ‘reply’ emails from those sent to an individual at EPD.”

The FBI purchased Hacking Team’s premiere spy product, “Galileo” aka “Remote Control System,” which *Wired* says is “a simple piece of hacking software that has been used by the Ethiopian regime to target journalists based in Washington, D.C. It has also been detected in an attack on a Moroccan media outlet, and a human rights activist from the United Arab Emirates.”

According to Hacking Team’s brochure, RCS allows an agency to “take control of your targets and monitor them regardless of encryption and mobility. It doesn’t matter if you are after an Android phone or a Windows computer: You can monitor all the devices. Remote Control System is invisible to the user, evades antivirus and firewalls and doesn’t affect the devices’ performance or battery life.”

The hack on Hacking Team has raised debates on what some see as government and law enforcement’s need to be able to monitor terrorists and criminals versus the ethics of who those agencies are dealing with, including Hacking Team’s troubling relationships with repressive regimes.

**‘Remote Control System is invisible to the user, evades antivirus and firewalls and doesn’t affect the devices’ performance or battery life.’**

— HACKING TEAM

EPD’s McLaughlin tells *EW*, “We are not using this system. When officers go to trainings the vendors at booths sometimes get emails of attendees.” According to MuckRock, Hacking Team pulls lists from law enforcement conferences.

WikiLeaks emails show that the email account of EPD detective Curtis Newell sent automatic replies to Hacking Team on messages with the subjects “Hacker Can Send Fatal Dose to Hospital Drug Pumps” and “IRAN v. SAUDI: (CYBER) escalation” in June 2015.

Newell has worked on human trafficking cases and on Lane County Interagency Narcotics Team, according to media reports.

The WikiLeaks emails involving EPD can be seen here: [wkly.ws/21x](http://wkly.ws/21x). — *Camilla Mortensen*

## CITY DISMISSES CHARGE AGAINST SLEEPS PROTESTER

Hedin Brugh, one of three protesters charged with trespassing during a Safe Legally Entitled Emergency Places to Sleep (SLEEPS) protest at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza in 2013, had his charge dismissed by the city of Eugene on July 24.

According to the Civil Liberties Defense Center (CLDC), Lane County “conspired with the Eugene Police Department” to “unconstitutionally restrict First Amendment rights on the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza” by closing the plaza to protesters in September 2013. Several SLEEPS protesters defied the order and received trespassing charges.

Though Brugh and his CLDC legal counsel say they are happy the charge was dropped, lawyer and CLDC Executive Director Lauren Regan says the decision by the city to drop the charges was “pretty weak” and likely done because “clearly they knew they were going to lose and didn’t want an opinion stating for the third time the CLDC has proven that Lane County has violated the constitutional rights of the community” by closing the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza.

The SLEEPS protesters were charged after returning to the plaza following its closure by a 4-1 Lane County Commission vote for “emergency” cleaning — cleaning that, according to the CLDC, should not have taken six days.

CLDC also says the city of Eugene violated the protesters’ equal protection rights after the city allowed Saturday Market to operate in the closed plaza but immediately clamped down on returning SLEEPS protesters.

“Within five to 10 minutes of the tents being up, the EPD swarmed in with eight officers,” Brugh says.

Two protesters had their charges upheld this June but have asked the Oregon Court of Appeals to take the case.

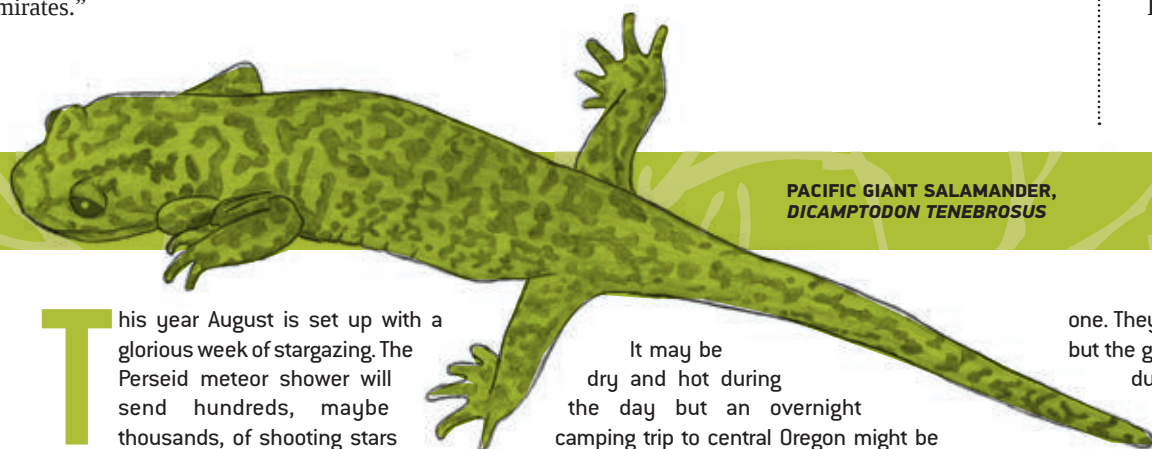
According to city spokesperson Jan Bohman, there are “two other cases going forward and there are some issues in there that are more important,” and it “wasn’t necessary to move forward” with the case against Brugh.

The situation has been sticky for the city of Eugene and Lane County because the plaza’s name has an inherent connection to free speech.

“The county needs to acknowledge that free speech rights trump all sorts of other factors when it comes to Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza,” Regan says. — *Mike Bivins*

## IT'S ABOUT TIME

BY DAVID WAGNER



PACIFIC GIANT SALAMANDER, *DICAMPTODON TENEBROSUS*

This year August is set up with a glorious week of stargazing. The Perseid meteor shower will send hundreds, maybe thousands, of shooting stars across the sky during the second week of August. Peak shower activity will be August 11-13. The best meteor watching will be in the hours before dawn, when the constellation Perseus rises from the northeastern horizon. What makes this year’s shower likely to be spectacular is that nearly moonless nights coincide with the peak streaking.

It may be dry and hot during the day but an overnight camping trip to central Oregon might be worth activating your explorer cards. Meteors and the Milky Way are a great combination. To find clear skies it will be necessary to pay attention to forest fire smoke. It is an extreme fire season.

The east side Delta Ponds are now covered with a nearly pure layer of duckweed. Not only are the ducks out there shoveling it in, but geese also. The sight of geese sucking duckweed is not a common

one. They usually prefer eating fresh, green grass but the grass around the ponds is so dry that the duckweed seems to be an attractive feast.

One of summer’s most enjoyable pastimes is wading up and down small streams. The streams which now have low flow over gentle bedrock are especially fun. It is easy wading and there are lots of things to see in the water. Look for newts and the Pacific giant salamander.

*David Wagner is a botanist who works in Eugene. He teaches moss classes, makes nature calendars and studies liverworts. Contact him at [fernzenmosses@me.com](mailto:fernzenmosses@me.com).*