

# Warrenton dam removal project delayed

## CREST pulled permit application over timing concerns

By **DERRICK DePLEDGE**  
*The Daily Astorian*

WARRENTON — Removing the aging Eighth Street Dam on the Skipanon River in Warrenton will have to wait until next year.

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce has pulled a permit application with the city over concerns that the \$1.2-million project would not get approved in time for summer construction.

The Warrenton City Commission and CREST had agreed on the project last year, but a procedural move in February to formally add the Skipanon

Water Control District, which owns the dam, gave property owners and others concerned about some of the details an opportunity to ask for changes.

Some property owners want a wider bridge to replace a gravel road over the dam, which they believe would provide better access and enable future development. Others have objected to any bridge once the dam is removed.

Warrenton Fiber, meanwhile, has questioned whether taking out the dam will alter water levels upstream. Stephen Fulton, who works on land development and wetland mitigation for Warrenton Fiber, has asked why the city would rely on assurances from

CREST's private engineers that the project will not change water elevations.

The City Commission voted in April to add the Skipanon Water Control District to the agreement. The Warrenton Planning Commission, which reviewed the permit in April, was expected to consider the project again this month before CREST withdrew the application.

"We decided to pull the permit to give us some time to move through the process with the city where we're not concerned about construction deadlines," said Denise Lofman, CREST's director.

Lofman said CREST would come back before the city for a permit in time for construction next summer.

Kurt Fritsch, the city manager, said he does not believe the delay will put the project in jeopardy.

"I think it just gives them a little more time to work on this and not feel rushed," he said. "We've obviously taken more time, at this point, and pushed back the ability for them to let bids and begin with the work."

"And I think it also gives them some time to try to help (answer) some of the questions that were asked at the Planning Commission meeting."

The city had sought a bridge as part of the project to preserve emergency access, which is now provided through the gravel road over the dam.

CREST has agreed to replace the gravel road with a one-lane bridge that would be 54-feet long and 16-feet wide, but some property owners want the bridge 20-feet wide, which is city code, or wider.

Board members for the Skipanon Water Control District have told the city they want the dam removed and could take separate action if the project stalls.

The dam, financed by the federal government, was built in 1963 to help with flood control. The structure has outlived its 50-year life span and has been described by the state as a significant hazard.

The dam removal project is being financed by the Bonneville Power Administration to help restore salmon habitat.



Submitted photo

The Astoria Regatta and Rose Festival courts visited High Life Adventure for some zip-lining fun. Front row: Tabitha Ivan of Lincoln High School, Naomi Tsai of Cleveland High School, Sierra Hosea of Franklin High School, Talia Quatraro of Metro East Lake Oswego High School, Clara Cannon of Metro West Valley Catholic High School and Elli Simotas of David Douglas High School. Middle row: Oliva Berry of Grant High School, Lily Brodrick of Wilson High School and Allison Bentley of Warrenton High School. Back row: Paris Sykes of Central Catholic High School, Cristell Gonzalez of Park Rose High School, Tihanne Marshall of Benson Polytechnic High School, Amber Shackelford of Madison High School, Devon Thompson of St. Mary's Academy, Oliva Berry of Grant High School, Erika Manzo of Roosevelt High School, Lily Brodrick of Wilson High School, Kahedja Burley of Jefferson High School, Regatta Queen Claire Helligso of Astoria High School and Kimberly Castro of Astoria High School.

## Rose Festival Court lives High Life in Astoria

Fifteen Rose Festival princesses representing the high schools in the Portland metro region were hosted by the Astoria Regatta Association Tuesday, led by organizer and Regatta Association board member Becky Johnson, owner of Vintage Hardware.

The 2015 Astoria Regatta Festival Court served as hosts, with special guests, the 2015 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Court.

An Italian lunch at Fulvio's Restaurant kicked off the day, with introductions of the Astoria Regatta Court

royalty and officers of the Astoria Regatta Festival Board. Each Rose Festival princess was given a gift bag filled with products donated by Astoria Downtown Historic District Association member businesses. Following lunch, the girls were treated to some of the region's top tourist stops, including the Oregon Film Museum, Columbia River Maritime Museum, the Astoria Trolley and other stops in the downtown area. A tradition is for the Regatta and Rose Festival courts is a trip to Clatsop Care Village, visiting with the

residents, many of whom have been involved with the Astoria Regatta Festival, which is now in its 121st year.

The highlight of the day was zip-lining at High Life Adventure, who hosted the court.

Dinner was provided by Fultano's Pizza, and the Rose Festival court hopped on their chartered bus at 7:30 Tuesday night to head off to Cannon Beach.

The 121st Astoria Regatta Festival, with the theme "Rockin on the River," is Aug. 5 through 9.

### Public meetings

#### MONDAY

Cannon Beach Farmers Market Committee Meeting, 10 a.m., Cannon Beach City Hall 163 E. Gower St.

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., Astoria City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

#### TUESDAY

Cannon Beach Public Works Committee Meeting, 9 a.m., Cannon Beach City Hall 163 E. Gower St.

Cannon Beach Tourism and Arts Commission Meeting, 1 p.m., Cannon Beach City Hall 163 E. Gower St.

Clatsop County Human Services Advisory Council, 4 to 5:30 p.m., 800 Exchange St., Room 430.

Port of Astoria Commission, 4:30 p.m. executive session (closed to public), 6 p.m. regular meeting, old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave.

Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., Astoria City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Shoreline Sanitary District Board, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertig Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.

**CONCEAL CARRY PERMIT CLASS**  
Oregon -  
Utah - Valid 34 States

**June 1st**  
1pm or 6pm

Best Western: 555 Hamburg Ave, Astoria  
OR/Utah—valid in WA \$80 or Oregon only \$45  
www.FirearmTrainingNW.com | FirearmTrainingNW@gmail.com  
360-921-2071

## Experience Astoria's Mighty ESTEY PIPE ORGAN

With DOUGLAS CLEVELAND, Fellow in Organ, University of Washington



SAT. Clatsop Community College  
MAY 30, Performing Arts Center  
2PM 588 16th St, Astoria, OR

\$25 at the door or online,  
www.supportthepac.org

**WANTED**  
Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber  
Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA  
Contact: Steve Axtell • 360-430-0885 or John Anderson • 360-269-2500

**VOLUNTEER PICK OF THE WEEK**

**Kobe**  
Six-year-old male kitty.  
Know the joy of helping a lost soul find love again.

Sponsored by Bayshore Animal Hospital

CLATSOP COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER  
1315 SE 19th St., Warrenton • 861- PETS  
www.dogsncats.org Noon to 4pm, Tues-Sat

**DEL'S O.K. TIRE FACTORY**  
YOUR #1 SOURCE FOR TIRES  
• CUSTOM WHEELS •  
• AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES •

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-6 Sat 8-4  
503-325-2861 For emergencies 503-325-0233  
35359 Business Hwy 101 (miles crossing) Astoria, OR

We could use some things at the shelter. Can you help?

**Wishes**

- High efficiency (HE) laundry detergent
- Kitten kibble
- Dog "kongs" (large, black)
- Feline Pine pellet kitty litter
- Dawn dish soap
- Beach
- Nature's Domain dog food (Costco), Turkey & Sweet Potato or Salmon & Sweet Potato
- Canned dog food
- Outdoor, heavy duty trash bags

Clatsop Co. Animal Shelter  
1315 SE 19th in Warrenton  
Ph. 503.861.0737 | Hrs. noon to 4 pm  
Tuesday through Saturday

Visit our website at:  
www.dogsncats.org  
Join CAA on Facebook

**Saturday May 16th**  
**ARMED FORCES DAY**  
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE VIETNAM WAR"

**Lunch 12 pm** DONATIONS  
**1 pm Program**

Presentation of Colors and Service Flags

POW/MIA CEREMONY  
PRESENTATION OF 50 YEAR POST MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS PRESENTATION OF USCG "SILVER LIFE SAVING MEDAL"

Entertainment by "Tapped Out Tappers"

**Ham Dinner** WITH SCALLOPED POTATOES, RUM RAISIN CARROT COLESLAW AND ROLL

**4 pm** DONATIONS

**6 pm Music by**  
"North Coast Country Band"

**WELCOME TO ALL VETERANS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS**

**ASTORIA AMERICAN LEGION**  
Clatsop Post 12  
1132 Exchange Street 325-5771

**You Are Invited**  
SUNDAY - MAY 17TH  
Astoria Regatta  
**ANCHOR TEA**  
Meet & Greet the 2015  
**REGATTA COURT**  
1:00PM-3:00PM

Hosted at:  
**ASTORIA VINTAGE HARDWARE**

101 15TH STREET ON THE RIVERWALK