

Challenge: ‘The process is the problem’

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Marquis said, there is an issue of victims' rights. A victim is not informed about the consideration of earned discharge, cannot give input into the process and only finds out from the district attorney.

“The real question is what is the effect on the actual sentence orders and on the actual victims,” Marquis said.

Next month, the District Attorney's Office will be the first in the state to bring the issue before a court.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Ron Brown recently filed motions challenging earned discharge in three local cases. The cases involved people on probation for driv-

ing under the influence of intoxicants and first and second-degree attempted assault convictions.

Each case will be brought before Clatsop County Circuit Court Judge Philip Nelson.

In the motions, Brown argues, earned discharge is unconstitutional because it negates the court's “inherent discretion” over probation sentences.

“It does not allow for input either from the district attorney or the court and the ultimate decision-maker is the supervisory authority,” Brown wrote. “It is our position that such a mechanism and ultimate decision is unconstitutional since it

abrogates the court's role in making the ultimate decision about length of probation, purpose of probation and whether to continue probation.”

Carrying out the law

Lt. Kristen Hanthorn, who oversees the Clatsop County Parole and Probation Division, said earned discharge was a decision made by the Legislature and is enforced by the state Department of Corrections. The state sends reports with every offender who may be eligible for earned discharge. The parole and probation office reviews the reports and makes a decision.

Only a small percentage

of the probation population are eligible for earned discharge, Hanthorn said, out of the approximate 380 felony offenders in the county.

“We are just carrying out the law,” she said. “Any changes to the law would have to go through the Legislature again.”

Marquis claims parole and probation offices have an incentive to reduce sentences since funding is provided by the state even if a sentence is shortened.

In response, Hanthorn explained that her office's budget is based on the number of felony offenders and it does receive funding for a whole sentence, even if shortened. The consistent funding

was meant to not penalize the probation office for effectively serving people, she said.

In addition, Hanthorn said, her office is actually paid much less for the remainder of a sentence if it is shortened. She insists the motivation is not monetary.

“Everybody has their role to play in the justice system,” she said. “We are just playing our role in the whole system.”

Problem in the process

The earned discharge process started a few months ago as part of the state law.

Although he opposed it from the beginning, Marquis said, the law started out reasonably by supporting people

for good behavior. The problem is in the details of the administrative rules developed since the law was enacted, he said. The rules are what give authority to the probation officers and keep victims in the dark, he said.

“The process is the problem,” he said.

Generally, the District Attorney's Office supports people being rewarded for successfully completing probation. A main concern is with violent offenders and the fact that a person's criminal history is not considered for earned discharge.

“It's doesn't seem to matter how bad the crime is or the person's criminal history,” Marquis said.

Power: Converters will be placed just west of Slusher Lake

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Resolute will place two oscillating wave-energy converters, large flaps topped by buoyancy chambers that sway with the movement of the ocean, in about 8 meters (26.24 feet) of water offshore. The movement of the flaps will power rotary pumps, which will send pressurized water in hoses back to shore.

One converter will send water to a small hydroelectric generator placed on shore that Staby said is rated for 40 kilowatts an hour. Another set of hoses will run to a desalination plant he said can turn out 132,000 gallons of water a day. The primary goal, he said, is to have wave energy powering the desalination plant.

Resolute still has many studies to perform before deploying the converters, such as what affect the devices might have on animals, how to keep the converters anchored to the sea floor and where to put the hoses.

“Our commercial focus... is really on replacing diesel-driven systems around the world,” Staby said, adding Camp Rilea would be the last trial run before commercial deployments in Alaska and Africa.



Photo courtesy of William Staby

Resolute Marine Energy hopes to place two wave-energy converters, large flaps that oscillate with the movement of the ocean, off the coast of Camp Rilea as soon as summer 2017.

Staby said his company focuses on places like Yakutat, Alaska, where dependence on diesel generators fouls the atmosphere and raises the cost of ice creation to the point where fishermen

go elsewhere to land their catch. The company has also worked with places like Cape Verde, a small island nation off the western coast of Africa that Staby said gets 85 percent of its water comes from

diesel-driven reverse osmosis desalination plants.

Resolute's wave energy converters will be placed just west of Slusher Lake on the southern end of Camp Rilea, north of the Sunset Beach

approach. The test site is in a military danger zone established earlier this year by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In the zone, the Oregon National Guard can prohibit access to waters adjacent to Camp Rilea during use of the weapons range.

Net zero

In 2012, the Oregon Military Department was chosen to pilot a net-zero energy and water program. That summer, the base had installed a water-recycling facility and basins that return treated water to an underground aquifer, taking Camp Rilea's water supply off-grid.

The base, which officials estimate consumes on average 500 kilowatt an hour of power, has had a harder time trying to find a viable renewable power supply. A plan to install 400-foot-tall wind turbines to provide a third or more of the base's power stalled after the Federal Aviation Administration found they would have adverse impacts on aviation.

Last summer, M3 Wave from Salem and the Oregon Military Department, placed a 30-by-7-foot wave-energy generator off the coast of

Camp Rilea. Rick Williams, a systems engineer with wave-energy projects for the military department, said the test was successful, producing about 0.3 kilowatt hours, comparable to a couple of military generator sets.

Resolute's flaps would be 8 meters wide and 1 meter high. Staby said the two flaps would take up a 25-by-25-meter area.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Safe of Camp Rilea said Resolute's technology would not be right for powering Camp Rilea, but having it in the mix would be useful, with its ability to deploy quickly. After the Great Coastal Gale of 2007 left Camp Rilea operating on generators and nearly airlifting in fuel, Safe said, “I want to become energy secure at Camp Rilea.”

Staby said he is working with the U.S. Navy on how to make his technology deployable by helicopter.

Fishermen voiced concerns about how the wave-energy converters might affect their crab gear.

“I don't think we'll be approving fouling your crab grounds,” Williams said. “It's going to be small-scale for a long time.”



Natalie St. John/EO Media Group

Warren Hazen feeds apples to an orphaned bear cub that his grandchildren nicknamed, “Benny from Bear River.”

Cub: ‘Benny from Bear River’ will be sent to a rehab facility with other bear cubs

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Figuring the bear was too young to survive on its own, Hazen called the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. A specialist who deals with human-animal conflicts came to set up a bear trap in his driveway. Hazen put chopped up apples from his orchard inside. By lunchtime Oct. 20, the cub was in captivity.

Glossy black and knee-high, “Benny from Bear River” looked like he might weigh 40 or 50 pounds, but Hazen thought he was really more like 25 or 30 pounds.

“It's all fur!” he laughed. From just a few feet away, Benny seemed impossibly cute, and harmless. Up close, his sharp inch-long claws and

intelligent, watchful stare served as reminders that he was a wild animal.

Though Benny briefly tolerated Hazen when he crept close enough to drop food in the cage, he panted heavily, made clicking noises and swatted at his cage with surprising force whenever anyone else came near — all natural, healthy warning signals that bears use when they perceive a threat.

Hazen said the WDFW staff left the bear overnight, just to make absolutely sure the mother was not going to come for him, then came to get him the next morning.

Since the cub is healthy and not habituated to humans, the WDFW staff told Hazen they planned take him to a rehabilitation facility where

other bear cubs are being raised. With any luck, he will eventually be released into the wild.

An avid outdoorsman, Hazen, took a break from elk-hunting in the Blue Mountains to give a follow-up interview Monday. He said he used the bear's brief stay in his driveway to teach his grandsons some basic lessons about animal stewardship — admire, but keep a respectful distance. Hazen said he's not giving up hunting any time soon, but the experience definitely made him develop a new affection for young bears.

“They're cute and fuzzy — you look at things in a different light,” Hazen said. “It puts kind of a soft spot in your heart.”

The City of Cannon Beach is pleased to announce that all ten Tsunami Evacuation Pedestrian Route Maps have been updated based on the latest information from the State of Oregon.

These maps can be downloaded from the city webpage www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/community/evacuationmaps.html
They can also be purchased at **Copies and Fax, 171 Sunset Blvd., Cannon Beach** for a nominal cost.



City Manager Brant Kucera hopes that everyone will view the new Tsunami Evacuation Pedestrian Route Maps and makes copies for their home or business. Brant also asks that we remember “the life you save may be your own, a family member, or neighbor.” Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPREP) Chair Karolyn Adamson thanks all the staff and volunteers who worked on this project. Karolyn says she hopes that Cannon Beach will continue to be a leader in emergency preparedness with a focus on “the Big One.”

Mayor Sam Steidel reminds everyone to practice their evacuation routes and to have their personal Go Bag handy.