



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

An eight-propeller drone sits in the back of the Bob and Nancy. The drone is being used by Showing Animals Respect and Kindness, an animal rights group, to document the killing of the cormorants from boats operated by Wildlife Services near East Sand Island.

## Suit: Safety zone applies to all vessels

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Read said the Coast Guard has not taken a stance on the cormorant issue, and is only trying to keep people safe. The safety zone applies to all vessels, he said, which can't linger but can still pass by with advance notice.

"The only purpose of the safety exclusion zone is to prevent First Amendment news gathering and documenting activity," wrote Bryan Pease, a lawyer for the animal welfare group, in the

lawsuit filed Friday. "There has been absolutely no safety threat posed by plaintiff nor other activists, who have only been peacefully documenting the Nessy (a Wildlife Services' boat), which had the effect of stopping the killing by shining a public spotlight on it."

Pease claims Wildlife Services is using shotgun pellets, and that 75 yards would be a sufficient safety zone.

The lawsuit seeks damages, attorney fees and a temporary restraining order against the

Coast Guard to lift the safety exclusion zone.

### Did they lie?

Steve Hindi, executive director of the animal welfare group, sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, who oversees Wildlife Services, claiming agriculture agents had lied to keep their operations secret. Hindi said agents claimed the Bob and Nancy was performing sharp turning maneuvers to try and send wakes onto a Wildlife Services' boat, claims he said

his group can prove are false.

"Secretary Vilsack, your people may not want the people of America to see what Wildlife Services does, but they do not have the right to misuse the Coast Guard to their benefit," Hindi wrote. "Lying to a policing authority is a serious offense and someone in your department did just that. We are calling for a full investigation into this incident."

The Department of Agriculture was not immediately available for comment.

## Arch Cape: Some think committee only adds unnecessary delay, expense

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Jensvold and the county would file briefs and a hearing would occur.

Oregon Coast Alliance Land Use Director Cameron La Follette did not join the appeal, but said it was a mistake for the county to disband a committee that had a role in local review for decades.

The committee worked to protect Arch Cape's wetlands, which are "essential" in preventing floods, she believes. "There are real reasons behind this appeal," she said.

### 'Inappropriate' and 'hostile'

At the county commission meeting in February, the Design Review Committee was accused of being an unnecessary, expensive and time-consuming land-use authority.

The committee's ability to make quasi-judicial land-use decisions was "inappro-

priate," according to the staff report interim County Manager Rich Mays presented.

Commissioners heard complaints that the Design Review Committee was "hostile" and "not in line with what the folks were doing in Arch Cape."

"The committee really adds nothing of substance to the design review process ... and only adds unnecessary delay and expense for residents and the county," wrote Arch Cape resident Tim Crawford in a letter to commissioners.

Jensvold and others strongly disagree.

"That committee is an important part of what makes Arch Cape a good place to live," Jensvold said in an email. "I love the community spirit of Arch Cape — that's part of the reason I moved here. I want the community to be able to speak for itself, and have a voice in how it changes. The Design Review Committee gives us the means to do that."



Lyra Fontaine/The Daily Astorian

The county's decision to eliminate Arch Cape's Design Review Committee is being challenged at the state level.

## Seaside: Process may take up to four years

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A 2013 poll was conducted by telephone, Dougherty said, but components of this year's polling have yet to be determined.

Feedback could determine the scope of the bond, he said.

Dougherty said "there is no specific plan as yet," but the most important goal, discussed in a board subcommittee, is to get schools out of the tsunami zone.

### Preliminary plans

Along with a plea for federal support, Dougherty shared preliminary plans to relocate at-risk schools.

The district intends to develop property east of Seaside Heights Elementary School owned by Weyerhaeuser, the same site proposed in 2013.

"We have had many geotechs evaluating that hillside," Dougherty said. "They strongly believe that is the very best piece of property to relocate the school district."

No new roads would need to be built, he said.

A major tsunami wave driven by a megathrust quake could reach 90 to 120 feet. Elevation at the proposed site rises from 80 feet at the bottom edge to several hundred feet.

The property would need



The Daily Astorian/File Photo

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden honored Seaside School District Superintendent Doug Dougherty earlier this year. Dougherty will work on a bond measure on November's ballot to build a new K-12 campus out of the tsunami inundation zone.

to be purchased and placed within the urban growth boundary, Dougherty said.

Dougherty said the district is still in process of negotiating with Weyerhaeuser for the land and a purchase price has yet to be determined.

"I signed a nondisclosure agreement so I can't say where

we are in the process," Dougherty added.

If the bond is approved by voters in November, Dougherty estimates it will take four years to move all students to safety.

The district has not determined the move would be phased in or done all at once.

"It will likely take time to move kids from each school," Dougherty said.

## Cruise ships: Season ends with visit from three ships in October

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Astoria will host six more cruise ships this month, including the Crystal Serenity May 8 with 1,080 passengers. On May 10, the Norwegian Sun will bring nearly 2,000 passengers to Pier 1, while the Seven Seas Mariner will anchor with 700. The Regatta arrives May 12 with 824 passengers, the Celebrity Infinity May 17 with 2,170 and the Crystal Serenity May 26.

The Crystal Serenity will stop in Astoria again June 16. After a two-month break in cruising action, the Regatta returns Aug. 29, followed by 11 ships in September. The Seven Seas Mariner returns Sept. 1, the Explorer of the

Seas Sept. 17 with more than 3,000 passengers, the Coral Princess Sept. 19 with more than 2,200, the Crown Princess Sept. 20, the Silver Shadow Sept. 22 with 900 passengers, the Explorer of the Seas Sept. 24, the Noor-dam Sept. 26 with more than 1,900 passengers, the Norwegian Sun Sept. 27, the Celebrity Infinity Sept. 28 and the Norwegian Jewel Sept. 29.

The cruise season finishes with three ships in October, including the Nieuw Amsterdam Oct. 5 with more than 2,100 passengers, the Explorer of the Seas Oct. 6 and the Star Princess Oct. 22 carrying 2,600 passengers.

For a full cruise schedule, visit [www.portofastoria.com](http://www.portofastoria.com)

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