Complaint claims lawmakers misled on wolf bill

By GEORGE PLAVEN EO Media Group

The environmental group Cascadia Wildlands is accusing three Oregon lawmakers of knowingly misrepresenting a bill that ratified the state's decision to remove gray wolves from the endangered species list.

The complaint was filed Monday with the Oregon Gov-Commisernment Ethics sion against state Rep. Brad Witt, D-Clatskanie; Rep. Sal Esquivel, R-Medford; and Rep. Greg Barreto, R-Cove.

Barreto introduced House Bill 4040 during the short legislative session earlier this year. The state Department of Fish and Wildlife had previously determined wolves no longer need endangered species protections, and the Fish and Wildlife Commission followed through with delisting wolves in November 2015.

The bill effectively gave the Legislature's stamp of approval, and Gov. Kate Brown signed off on the legislation in March.

Cascadia Wildlands argues that in order to secure votes, Witt, Esquivel and Barreto made false statements that the bill would not affect a judicial review of the wolf delisting decision.

There's a real concern this bill passed through the House with a fundamental misunderstanding of what it does," said Nick Cady, legal director for Cascadia Wildlands. "Salem



Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife One of four wolves recently killed by wildlife officials because of livestock depredation.

can be somewhat of a black box ... We perceived this as pretty egregious.

Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild and the Center for Biological Diversity had all requested a judicial review of the delisting decision. The case was tossed by the Oregon Court of Appeals in April, which cited HB 4040.

Cady claims the bill's sole purpose was to block their review, despite claims from Barreto, Witt and Esquivel.

According to the complaint, Barreto said during a February hearing that the bill "does nothing more than shore up the decision by the Fish and Wildlife Commission," and, "Our objective in this is not to usurp the authority of the commission. It is only to shore up the decision that they have made and to make the (wolf) plan a workable plan as was written." He also sent a written document to colleagues stating the bill had no language precluding judicial review.

'To be very clear, the (wolf) recovery is going very successfully.'

Nick Cady Cascadia Wildlands

However, the Legislative Counsel Committee issued a report in February to state Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland, stating that the only legal effect of HB 4040 was to "validate any real or perceived irregularities" in the Department of Fish and Wildlife's decision under state law.

"In essence, the only effect of the bill was to preclude judicial review of the commission's delisting decision," the complaint reads.

HB 4040 passed the House 33-23, and the Senate 17-11.

Since then, the state shot and killed four wolves from the Imnaha Pack in northeast Oregon for frequently attacking livestock in the area. There is still no legal hunting of wolves allowed in Oregon.

Barreto said he had not seen the complaint as of Monday morning, but reiterated the intent of the bill was to affirm what the Department of Fish and Wildlife had already done.

"All we did was say yes, we agree with Fish and Wildlife." Barreto said. "If that precludes their lawsuit, then so be it."

▶Pendleton

Ontario 49/85

The Dalles

Esquivel also said that he had not received a copy of the complaint, but was not worried about it because he did nothing

"We didn't intentionally try to mislead anyone," Esquivel said. "It's our opinion, and our opinion's our opinion.'

Environmentalists asked for a review of the delisting decision because they argued it was not made with sound science, and had not been independently reviewed, as required by state law.

Cady said they are pushing to have the case reconsidered by the Court of Appeals.

"To be very clear, the (wolf) recovery is going very successfully," he said. "Our frustration is more just the pushback this species' recovery is getting from state legislators and various lobbying interests.'

Oregon's wolf population had grown to at least 110 animals by the end of 2015, a 36 percent increase over the previous year.

Capital Bureau Reporter Hillary Borrud contributed to this report.

High school art show raises funds for Haiti

The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School's art club, Art Out Loud, will hold its spring art show during Second Saturday Art Walk May 14 at the Baked Alaska annex, with proceeds supporting graduate Eleni Duret's fund to help Haitians recover from a large earthquake in 2010.

The free art show is from 5 to 8 p.m. in the restaurant's annex at 175 14th St. in Astoria. It will include paintings,

poetry, photography and other pieces created by local high schoolers.

Duret was a junior when a large earthquake struck Haiti, leaving thousands dead and millions homeless. Feeling a need to act for her father, who is from Haiti, and her aunts and uncles who live there. Duret started her own campaign to raise relief funds. She has also traveled to the country to work with the Good Samaritan School.

Annual broombuster event targets aggressive shrub

The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Volunteers are gearing up for the annual Cannon Beach Broombuster event, which is being held by the Ecola Creek Watershed Council from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at Les Shirley Park.

The council is a local stakeholder group that works to protect and restore wildlife habitat in the Ecola Creek watershed in Cannon Beach and Arch Cape. It is part of the nonprofit North Coast Watershed Association, which also manages the Nicolai-Wickiup, Skipanon and Youngs Bay watershed councils.

Originally introduced from Europe as an ornamental plant and for erosion control, Scotch broom is highly aggressive and forms dense stands, which displace native plants and provide poor wildlife habitat. Many people are highly allergic to its pollen.

All volunteers are welcome, and should wear work clothes and waterproof shoes, and bring rain gear and a re-usable water bottle. Gloves and tools will be provided.

For information, contact Brooke Stanley at 503-468-0408 or northcoastwatershedcouncils@gmail.com

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Oregon Weather

Astoria

Corvallis 52/66

Portland 53/67

Albany

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs



70° 49°

Medford

City

Atlanta

Boston

Denver

Nashville

Regional Cities

National Cities

Hi Lo W

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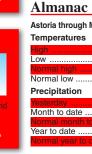
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City



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016 Sun and Moon

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Almanac
Astoria through Monday. Temperatures
High 72 Low 53° Normal high 59° Normal low 43°
Precipitation
Yesterday Trace Month to date Trace" Normal month to date 0,25 Year to date 36,36" Normal year to date 30,54

Today

Hi Lo W

74 52 pc 66 49 sh

Tomorrow's National Weather

Wed.

Hi Lo W

4:45 p.m Full May 13 May 21 May 29

AccuWeather.com

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: For May, the Big Dipper is nearly overhead before midnight.

Source: J	im Todd, OM	SI			
Tom	orrow'	s Tides			
Astoria / Port Docks					
Time	High	Time	L		

Cold Warm Stationary Showers	Whitehorse 50/32	O vellowknife 69/40	Churchill 41/17	*\ealuit 35/27	St. John's	
* * * *	Vancouver 61/47	87/54	\bullet	Salli	49/30 M	
T-Storms	Seattle	Calgary	1	S. Chillins	Halifax 53/42	-10s
Rain	65/50	78/45	Winnipeg 67/51	Montreal 59/45	53/42	-0s
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Flurries		Billings 82/54	Minneapolis 58	troit Toronto	$M(G_{\lambda})$	10s
***** Snow			64/44		2000	20s
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Ice	San Francisco		53/39	Washington 66/53		40s
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Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

ON THE RECORD

DUII arrests

- At 12:53 p.m. Friday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Brett M. Malehorn, 45, of Astoria, for driving under the influence of intoxicants at 33rd Street and Leif Erikson Drive in Astoria.
- At 6:21 a.m. Saturday, Oregon State Police arrested Lauren Nicole Yokum, 29, of Nehalem, for DUII at Barber Road and Fish Hatchery Lane in Nehalem.
- At 5:36 p.m. Saturday, Astoria Police arrested Gail L. Johnson, 64, of Astoria, for DUII on 30th Street and Grand Avenue. Johnson's

blood alcohol content was measured at 0.25 percent, according to police.

• At 1:55 a.m. Monday, Astoria Police arrested Justin R. Puckett, 36, of Warrenton, for DUII and reckless driving on New Youngs Bay Bridge.

Motorcycle crash

At 4:01 p.m. Sunday, Oregon State Police responded to a motorcycle crash on state Highway 53 milepost 3.5. The motorcyclist, Casandra T. Schoenwald, 35, of Vancouver, Washington, lost control while negotiating a curve on the highway. She was injured and transported to Columbia Memorial Hospital.

Assault

- At 1:59 p.m. Thursday, Warrenton Police arrested Eleazar Pascual Delacruz, 26, of Warrenton, for fourth-degree assault and harassment on the 200 block of S.E. Marlin Avenue.
- At 11:25 p.m. Monday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Sean William Friddle, 47, of Astoria, for second-degree assault, third-degree assault and menacing that allegedly occurred April 25. He was arrested on the 35000 block of Lyngstad Heights.

MEMORIAL

Friday, May 6 FULTON,

Mae Luia Service at noon, Wallin Funeral Home, 1811 W. Cemetery Road in Oak Harbor, Washington. Fulton, 74, of Oak Harbor, formerly of the Astoria area, died unexpectedly Monday, April 25, 2016, in Seattle.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

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

Seaside Library Board, 4:30 p.m., 1131 Broadway. **Miles Crossing Sanitary Sewer District Board,** 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

Gearhart City Council, 6 p.m., public hearing on brew pub, Fire Station, 670 Pacific Way. **Clatsop Community College Budget Committee, 6:30** p.m., Columbia Hall Room 219, 1651 Lexington Ave., Astoria.

Seaside Planning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989

Broadway.

Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower

WEDNESDAY Warrenton-Hammond

School District Finance Committee, noon, district office, 820 S.W. Cedar Ave. **Seaside Urban Renewal** Agency, 5:30 p.m., City Hall,

989 Broadway. **Cannon Beach Budget Com**mittee, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Seaside Improvement Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

Gearhart City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

April 19, 2016

STREICH, Debra Jane 58, of Cannon Beach and Seaside, died in Portland.

LOTTERIES

OREGON

Monday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 3-5-8-5

4 p.m.: 6-8-4-9 7 p.m.: 3-5-7-2 10 p.m.: 3-1-2-2

Monday's Megabucks: 6-11-

14-22-28-36 Estimated jackpot: \$3.2 million

WASHINGTON

Monday's Daily Game: 6-2-6 Monday's Hit 5: 16-21-28-32-

Estimated jackpot: \$170,000 Monday's Keno: 02-13-15-21-23-24-29-30-35-39-40-41-42-53-58-59-61-70-72-77

Monday's Lotto: 04-09-16-20-

Estimated jackpot: \$2 million Monday's Match 4: 06-07-15-

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext.

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