

Environmentalists shut out of Oregon forest litigation

Judge denies motion to intervene in lawsuit seeking \$1.4 billion

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Bureau

Environmental and fishing groups will be shut out from high-stakes litigation over Oregon's forest management policies, according to a judge's order.

Linn County Circuit Court Judge Daniel Murphy has denied a request by several nonprofit organizations to intervene in the lawsuit, which seeks \$1.4 billion from Oregon on behalf of multiple counties.

"Passionate concern about something does not qualify an

applicant for intervenor status," Murphy said in the ruling.

The proposed intervenors included the Wild Salmon Center and its policy director for Oregon and California, Robert Van Dyk, as well as the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, Association of Northwest Guides and Anglers and Pacific Rivers Council.

Linn County filed a complaint against the state earlier this year, arguing that 15 counties turned over 650,000 acres of their forestlands in the early 20th century in exchange for promises of future revenues.

In addition to Linn County, Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Douglas, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, and Washington counties turned timberland over to the state.

Oregon has since breached that contract by enacting a "greatest permanent value"

'All they were seeking to do is be obstructionists.'

John DiLorenzo
an attorney for Linn County

forest policy rule that prioritizes wildlife, water and recreation over logging, costing the counties \$1.4 billion in past and future timber revenues, the complaint said.

The nonprofit groups argued they should be allowed to intervene in the case because they have an interest in forest health and Linn County was effectively trying to increase logging in state forests.

However, the judge has held their participation is unnecessary in the litigation, which is focused on whether Oregon has violated contractual obligations to maxi-

mize timber revenues for the counties.

"Therefore the applicants have no unique ability to offer evidence to the court concerning the breach of contract issues," Murphy said.

Intervenor status would have given the nonprofits the full rights of defendants in the litigation. The judge also said they wouldn't be allowed to submit friend-of-the-court briefs on legal issues in the case.

These arguments would focus on "consequences to third parties" of any potential ruling that shouldn't be consid-

ered in a breach of contract dispute, he said.

Linn County opposed the proposed intervention of the nonprofit groups because they could stand in the way of a possible settlement deal or challenge a ruling favorable to the counties.

"All they were seeking to do is be obstructionists," said John DiLorenzo, an attorney for Linn County.

The role of the court in this case is to resolve a contractual dispute, not to "micromanage" the state's forest management policy, DiLorenzo said.

To that extent, the nonprofit groups have no more interest in the lawsuit than any other member of the public, he said.

Oregon can't rewrite its regulations without approval from legislators or state agencies, so the nonprofits would have the opportunity to influence that process regardless of the lawsuit's outcome, DiLorenzo said.

Ralph Bloemers, attorney for the nonprofits, said he's disappointed they've been excluded from the case because a possible remedy for Oregon would be to increase logging to the detriment of his clients.

The groups offered a different perspective than the state because they don't believe its forestlands are being managed in compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act or Clean Water Act even under current logging levels, Bloemers said.

Several timber groups are currently footing the legal costs for Linn County, which makes them represented in the litigation, he said.

The nonprofit groups haven't yet decided whether to appeal the denial of their intervention request, Bloemers said.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Humanities Think & Drink Thursday event sold out

The Daily Astorian

Oregon Humanities' Think & Drink series of provocative conversations with Pulitzer Prize-winning writers visits Astoria on Thursday.

The sold-out event features Isabel Wilkerson, author of "The Warmth

of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration."

Wilkerson will speak at 7 p.m. at the Fort George Lovell Showroom. She will join Adam Davis, executive director of Oregon Humanities.

The series features conversations with Pulitzer Prize

winner and finalists in Portland, Bend, Eugene, Astoria and Ashland. For more information, visit prhspeakers.com



Isabel Wilkerson

Northwest Oregon fire season starts Thursday

Associated Press

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Forestry says fire season in the Northwest district begins Thursday.

The designation means forest operators and the public must take special precautions in state-protected forests in Clatsop, Colum-

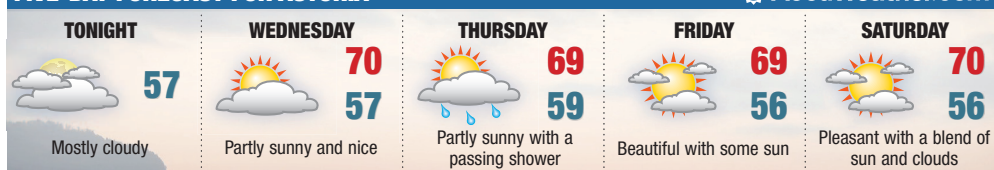
bia, Multnomah, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill counties.

For the general public, burning permits are required for open pile burning and burn barrels, and fireworks and sky lanterns are prohibited. A countywide ban on open pile burning is in effect in Tillamook County and all

burning will be banned Aug. 1.

The Statesman Journal reported that the state declared fire season in Benton and Polk counties and part of Lincoln County on July 5. The rest of Lincoln County will be included in the Northwest district fire season that starts Thursday.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



ALMANAC

Astoria through Monday.

Temperatures
High/low 69°/59°
Normal high/low 68°/53°
Record high 91° in 1913
Record low 43° in 1986

Precipitation
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 1.10"
Normal month to date 0.70"
Year to date 40.32"
Normal year to date 36.86"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight 9:00 p.m.
Sunrise Wednesday 5:44 a.m.
Moonrise today 8:42 p.m.
Moonset today 5:39 a.m.



UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: The full moon (3:57 p.m.) of July is known as the Hay moon or Thunder moon.

TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

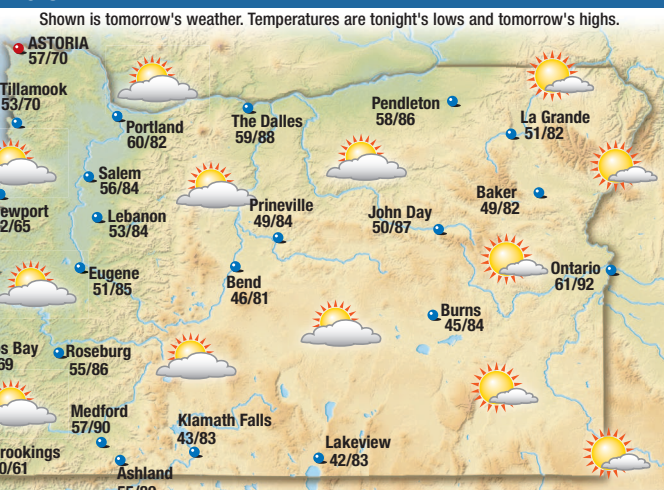
Time	High	Time	Low
1:45 a.m.	8.8 ft.	8:47 a.m.	-1.2 ft.
3:13 p.m.	7.5 ft.	8:47 p.m.	2.1 ft.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
Atlanta	93/73 t	96/73 pc
Boston	81/63 s	81/66 s
Chicago	87/70 s	85/74 t
Denver	92/64 t	94/65 t
Des Moines	90/76 t	95/78 pc
Detroit	85/61 s	86/69 s
El Paso	98/75 pc	97/75 pc
Fairbanks	64/52 sh	63/52 sh
Honolulu	88/77 sh	89/76 pc
Indianapolis	89/69 s	87/73 pc
Kansas City	94/76 s	96/78 pc
Las Vegas	107/84 s	107/86 s
Los Angeles	84/63 pc	87/65 s
Memphis	97/79 t	98/80 pc
Miami	89/79 pc	89/78 pc
Nashville	95/74 t	96/74 pc
New Orleans	92/79 t	93/79 s
New York	86/66 s	83/68 s
Oklahoma City	93/73 s	95/74 s
Philadelphia	89/68 s	85/67 s
St. Louis	94/79 t	97/79 t
Salt Lake City	99/75 s	100/74 pc
San Francisco	67/55 pc	68/55 pc
Seattle	76/58 pc	78/58 pc
Washington, DC	90/71 pc	86/71 s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

REGIONAL WEATHER

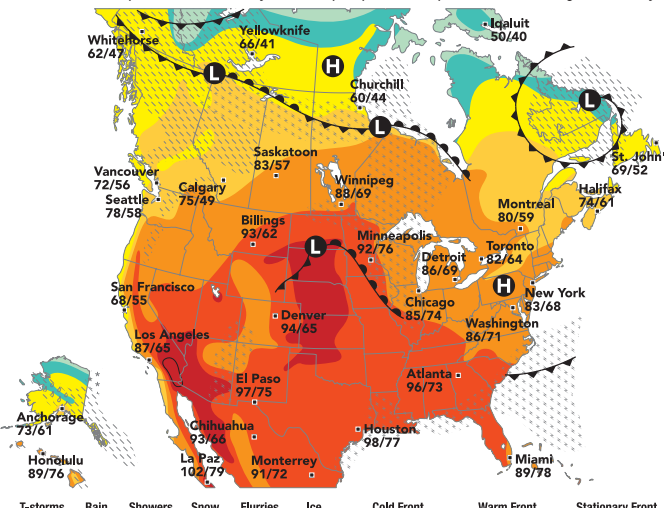


REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.	City	Today	Wed.
Baker City	78/49 t	82/43 s	Olympia	73/54 pc	77/52 pc
Bend	73/46 pc	81/48 pc	Pendleton	81/58 t	86/56 pc
Brookings	64/52 pc	63/53 pc	Portland	77/60 pc	82/61 pc
Eugene	78/51 pc	85/55 pc	Roseburg	79/55 pc	86/58 pc
Ilwaco	65/57 c	66/57 pc	Salem	78/56 pc	84/58 pc
Klamath Falls	78/43 s	83/43 s	Seaside	67/57 c	67/55 pc
Medford	85/57 pc	90/60 pc	Spokane	79/57 pc	82/57 pc
Newberg	75/56 pc	80/56 pc	Springfield	77/51 pc	83/54 pc
Newport	63/52 c	65/53 pc	Vancouver	76/58 pc	81/59 pc
North Bend	67/54 pc	68/56 pc	Yakima	87/56 pc	89/58 pc

TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



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ON THE RECORD

- Assault**
- At 9:53 p.m. Sunday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Jennifer Lynn Thornburg, 42, of Seaside, for third-degree assault and harassment at Avenue A in Seaside.
 - At 8:11 p.m. Thursday, Astoria Police arrested Matthew G. Stewart, 36, of Astoria, and Lacy R. Buck, 26, of Astoria, each for fourth-degree assault after a domestic dispute on 17th Street and Jerome Avenue.
- Hit-and-run**
- At 2:47 p.m. Friday, Astoria Police received a report of a hit-and-run on Irving Avenue near 11th Street. A black Scion Xb

was parked and struck by an unknown vehicle. The damage pulled the front bumper off the Scion. The suspect vehicle fled the scene.

DUII arrest

- At 12:46 p.m. Friday, Oregon State Police arrested Melvin James Bolds, 20, of Camas, Washington, for driving under the influence of intoxicants in Cannon Beach.
- At 12:50 a.m. Sunday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Thomas C. York, 36, of Kelso, Washington, for DUII on U.S. Highway 101 and Sunset Beach Road in Warrenton.

DEATHS

- March 16, 2016**
- JACKSON, Rhonda, 60, of Aurora, formerly of Warrenton, died in Salem.
- July 16, 2016**
- HEINER-DAHL, Michael William, 37, of Hammond, died in Knappa. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- TUESDAY**
- Sunset Empire Parks and Rec District**, 4 p.m., 1225 Ave. A, Seaside.
- Clatsop County Human Services Advisory Council**, 4 to 5:30 p.m., 800 Exchange St., Room 430.
- Port of Astoria Commission**, 6 p.m., old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave. Suite 100.
- Youngs River Lewis & Clark Water District Board**, 6 p.m., special meeting, 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.
- Seaside Planning Commission**, 7 p.m., work session, City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Shoreline Sanitary District Board**, 7 p.m., Gearhart Heritage Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.
- WEDNESDAY**
- Clatsop Care Health District Board**, noon, work session, Clatsop Retirement Village, 947 Olney Ave.
- Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Astoria School Board**, 5 p.m., board retreat, Capt. Robert Gray School third-floor boardroom, 785 Alameda Ave.

Merkley holds town hall

The Daily Astorian

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley is holding a town hall at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Judge Guy Boyington Building in Astoria.

Merkley will update constituents on his work in Washington, D.C., answer questions, and invite the community to offer suggestions about how to tackle the challenges facing Oregon and the nation.

Herzig to hold meet-and-greet

The Daily Astorian

The public is invited to meet with Astoria City Councilor Drew Herzig from noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the Flag Room of the Astoria Library.

Residents are welcome to come and share their thoughts, suggestions, questions and concerns about the city.

LOTTERIES

- OREGON**
- Monday's Pick 4:**
1 p.m.: 5-7-1-7
4 p.m.: 4-5-1-1
7 p.m.: 1-7-2-1
10 p.m.: 3-3-4-8
Monday's Megabucks: 11-13-17-39-42-44
Estimated jackpot: \$7.6 million
- WASHINGTON**
- Monday's Daily Game:** 2-9-2
Monday's Hit 5: 13-16-20-26-30
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Monday's Keno: 09-13-18-19-20-23-24-28-37-40-41-45-46-50-54-59-60-64-65-70
Monday's Lotto: 01-05-28-30-33-34
Estimated jackpot: \$2.6 million
Monday's Match 4: 13-15-19-20

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 day prior.

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. 257.

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