

Bills propose to resolve state wetland uncertainties

Lawmakers weigh rules for fill-removal

By **MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon landowners don't have a simple, reliable method to find out whether their property is considered a wetland.

That's potentially a big problem if a structure is built on a parcel that state authorities later determine is a wetland, thus making the landowner liable for costly mitigation measures.

Jesse Bounds, a hay exporter near Junction City learned that lesson the hard way.

Upon trying to rebuild two barns that had burned down last summer, Bounds was told by Oregon's Department of State Lands the construction was unlawful because he hadn't obtained a fill-removal permit. The permit is required when disturbing wetlands.

Bounds was shocked by the notification, since his 12-acre parcel wasn't identified as a wetland under the State Wetland Inventory and he'd obtained all necessary building permits without a hitch.

Two bills

Oregon lawmakers are now contemplating two bills that would resolve the problem.

One is aimed specifically at Bounds' situation, while the other seeks to dispel the broader confusion over which properties fall under Department of State Lands's wetland jurisdiction.

House Bill 2785 takes the narrow approach, by exempting the replacement of a farm building "destroyed by fire or other act of God" from state fill-removal laws.

House Bill 2786 is more expansive, creating an exemption for any property that's not



Mateusz Perkowski/Capital Bureau

Jesse Bounds runs a straw-compressing facility in Junction City that state regulators claim was rebuilt on a wetland after a fire.

designated as a wetland under the State Wetland Inventory.

Much of the discussion during a Feb. 21 hearing before the House Agriculture Committee focused on the latter bill.

Proponents argue that landowners may believe their property isn't subject to fill-removal laws — based on the State Wetland Inventory — without realizing that State Lands can nonetheless arrive at a different conclusion.

"They have no idea the map is not right," said Mary Anne Nash, public policy counsel for the Oregon Farm Bureau.

Landowners such as Bounds, who think they've followed all the applicable laws, may never hear from State Lands unless a neighbor makes a complaint, said Dave Hunnicutt, executive director of the Oregonians in Action property rights group.

"Unfortunately, that's the way that DSL exercises its jurisdiction," Hunnicutt said.

While a housing developer may be able to afford wetland mitigation credits, that option is often too costly for farmers, he said.

Such credits, which effectively pay for the creation of wetlands elsewhere, cost about \$77,000 to \$81,000 per acre, according to the Department of State Lands.

"Someone in Mr. Bounds' position, it puts him out of

business," said Hunnicutt.

Some opposition

Opponents of HB 2786 claim the bill would jeopardize wetlands across Oregon because many aren't included in the State Wetland Inventory.

The State Wetland Inventory only includes a "small subset" of wetlands that are under both state and federal jurisdiction, said Tom Wolf, executive director of the Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited, a group that advocates for fish habitat.

"It's too broad a bill," Wolf said.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes the wetland designation process should be made clearer but worries HB 2786 sets a definition that's too limited, said Peggy Lynch, the group's natural resources coordinator.

"We need to have something more than the State Wetland Inventory to consider," she said.

Several members of the House Agriculture Committee said they sympathized with Bounds' predicament and the need to clarify wetland designations, including Rep. Brian Clem, D-Salem, the committee's chair.

Clem said he favored a simpler alternative to the current system of identifying wetlands, under which parcels are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Projections boost state coffers and reduce budget shortfall

By **CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The state is projected to collect about \$92 million more in revenue than expected in the next two-year budget cycle, according to state economists.

A projected \$102 million increase in the state's beginning balances compared to December estimates also means that the possible dent into the state's projected budget shortfall could be up to \$195 million.

That's merely a drop in the bucket, though, when it comes to lessening the state's budget crunch.

Leaders of the legislative budget-writing committee estimated in late January a \$1.8 billion gap between how much it costs to maintain current services and how much the state would realize. With Wednesday's forecast, that could go down to about \$1.6 billion.

Economy doing well

While the budget gap for state government services is

significant, overall, Oregon's economy is doing well, said state economists Mark McMullen and Josh Lehner.

Overall job growth rates for the state are projected to outpace the nation, for example; however, some rural areas of the state have not regained all of the jobs lost during the recession and may fall behind national and state growth rates in years to come.

The new budget biennium begins July 1, about 10 days before the legislative session ends and lawmakers must balance the state's budget.

Revenue committees have been assessing different tax options as the session rounds out its third week, with especial regard to business taxes.

According to House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, labor and business groups — the two factions at odds during the election battle over a ballot measure to raise state revenues about \$6 billion per biennium by creating a corporate sales tax — are continuing talks to find common ground.

However, legislative lead-

ers are not participating in those discussions.

Democrats said Wednesday that both cuts and changes to the state's revenue structure were needed.

"Despite today's good news, we're still \$1.7 billion away from just funding our schools and basic services at their current levels," said House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson, D-Portland. "In order to minimize cuts to K-12 classrooms, in-home care for seniors, and health care services for struggling families, we need a serious conversation about finding efficiencies and reforming our revenue system."

Republicans saw it differently, saying that the forecast called for belt-tightening.

"This forecast is good news," said House Minority Leader Mike McLane, R-Powell Butte. "... Now let's pass a balanced budget by matching our spending with our revenues."

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

Spence: One of his priorities is supporting development of Life Flight's new hangar

Continued from Page 1A

As for the role of the Port Commission, Spence said, "The elected body makes policy, and they leave it up to the administrator to carry it out. That's why the executive director of the Port is just like a city manager."

High priorities

Spence said some of his highest priorities are supporting the development of Life Flight's new hangar at the Astoria Regional Airport, attracting new industries, resolving issues with contamination and storm runoff, addressing what he called the sea lion problem and developing the potential of North Tongue Point as a deep-

draft facility.

He has lived overseas for seven years, including a stint as director of the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and said he has visited port cities throughout East Asia. "I understand how valuable international trade is and I would like to see the Port of Astoria pursue more marketing opportunities in these Far East areas," he said.

Spence has also volunteered with the Astoria Kiwanis Club, the senior continuing education group Exploring New Concepts of Retirement Education, Clatsop County Charter Review Committee, Astoria Downtown Historic District Association, North Coast Cho-

rale, Astoria Regatta, Clatsop Cruise Hosts and other groups.

Spence — who is seeking the Position 5 slot — is the third candidate to file for Port Commission, after incumbent Commissioner James Campbell in Position 1 and former Clatsop County Commissioner Dirk Rohne in Position 2. The election is May 16.

100 Employment Information

ATTENTION READERS
Readers respond to mail/phone order ads at their own risk. If in doubt about a particular offer, check with the Better Business Bureau or U.S. Postal Service before sending any money.
The Daily Astorian ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISERS.

105 Business-Sales Op

Be an Astoria Carrier!
\$100 Signing Bonus!
The Daily Astorian is currently seeking independent contractors to deliver its paper and related products in the Astoria Oregon area. Interested individuals must have valid drivers license, reliable vehicle, and insurance. Routes are Monday through Friday afternoons. There are no collections or weekend deliveries. Please come in person to The Daily Astorian office at 949 Exchange St, Astoria OR 97103 to pick up more information.

120 Money to Lend

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS
The Federal Trade Commission prohibits telemarketers from asking for or receiving payment before they deliver credit repair services, advance fee loans and credit, and recovery services. If you are asked to render payment before receiving any of the preceding services, please contact the Federal Trade Commission at:
1-877-382-4357

130 Open Houses

OPEN HOUSE
SUZANNE ELISE
ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY
101 Forest Dr, Seaside OR 503.738.0307
Join us for our open house event this Friday from 1 to 3pm. Tour the community and while you're here, enter for a chance to win a raffle basket. Then stay and join us for our happy hour with entertainment and refreshments from 2 to 3pm.

DO YOU BELIEVE in magic? Place an ad in the classifieds and watch the item you want to sell turn into instant cash!

150 Homes for Sale

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "Any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD at (1-800)669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is (1-800)927-9275.

LIVE OUTSIDE ASTORIA? To place your ad in the Daily Astorian Classifieds, simply dial:
1-800-781-3211
It's fast and it's toll free!

154 Vacation Homes for Sale

Alaska Fishing Retreat
2 Cabins/sleeps five people, 2 boats, 2 private secluded island, an abundance of wildlife.
Commercial Salmon permit included! \$215,000
360-642-5635 Mon-Fri or buddancl@centurytel.net

210 Apartments, Unfurnished

For Rent:
Studio Apartment in Warrenton \$525/Month
Call Mary at Astoria Coast, Inc 503-325-9093

230 Houses, Unfurnished

For all our available rentals.
CPSMANAGEMENT.COM
(503)738-5488/ (888)916-RENT

250 Home Share, Rooms & Roommates

Home share:
1 furnished bedroom,
\$650. First/last month,
\$300 security deposit.
No pets/smoking.
(503)338-0703

255 Sleeping Rooms

Available until 5/16, maybe longer, for 1 quiet person.
No intoxicants/smoking,
\$995/month.
Private bath. (503)325-0000

300 Jewelry

Buying Gold, Silver, Estate Jewelry, Coins, Diamonds, Old-Watches.
Downtown Astoria-332 12th St.
Jonathan's, LTD
(503)325-7600

310 Tools & Heavy Equipment

Cat 322 L Excavator
Comes with 3 Buckets, Low Hours,
Asking \$39,000.
503-338-0485

340 Fuel & Wood

FREE WOODEN PALLETS
Available for pick up at
The Daily Astorian loading dock,
949 Exchange St, Astoria

365 Antiques & Collectibles

American Silver Eagles
2017 & Other Years Available.
Also generic. 999 silver rounds.
Clatsop Coin (503)298-3898

375 Misc for Sale

If you want results...
74% of
Clatsop County
Residents read
The Daily Astorian and
rated Classifieds #1 for
the most read section!!
(From 2010 Astoria Market Study, by
Marshall Marketing & Communications,
Inc. Pittsburgh, PA)
(503)325-3211 ext. 231
or **(800)781-3211**
classifieds@dailyastorian.com
www.dailyastorian.com

585 Antique-Classic Cars

Astoria Automotive Swap Meet
Vendors Wanted
Clatsop Fairgrounds
Saturday, March 11th 8am-2pm
Contact Fred at
503-325-8437-evenings
1-800-220-0792-days
or Rod 971-219-5517

NOTICE: Oregon Landscape Contractors Law (ORS 671) requires all businesses that advertise landscape contracting services be licensed with the Landscape Contractors Board. This 4-digit number assures the business has a bond, insurance and an associated individual contractor who has fulfilled the testing and experience requirements for licensure. For your protection call (503)378-5909 or use our web site: www.lcb.state.or.us to check license status before contracting with the business. Persons doing landscape maintenance do not require a LCB license.

Legal Notices

AB6157
Skipanon Water Control District
Board of Directors meeting
Noon, March 1, 2017
Pacific Grange
Hwy 101 & Cullaby Lake Ln

Agenda includes:
Public information about 8th St Dam
Operations and Maintenance Mediation (in executive session)

Public Welcome
For info call Tessa @
503 861-3669
Published: February 23rd, 2017

AB6160 NOTICE OF SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

The Contract Review Authority for Clatsop Care Health District has determined that services to manage District operations are available only from one source. The management duties include responsibility for skilled nursing, intermediate care, and memory care facilities as well as the provision of in-home care services. The successful candidate must have experience in the management of each of these programs and possess a State of Oregon Nursing Home Administrator's license. The District proposes to contract with Aidan Health Services for this purpose. Any objections to the sole source procurement of this service must be delivered to the District Office, 646 16th Street, Astoria, Oregon no later than 12:00 pm March 3, 2017.
Published: February 23rd, 2017.

Need to publish a
Legal Advertisement?
Contact us at
legals@dailyastorian.com
or (503)325-3211 ext. 231.
Please submit all information 3 days prior to the date you want it published.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL PROFESSIONALS

Arborist

Bigby's Tree Service
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORISTS
-Pruning
-Removal
-Stump Grinding
-Excavator/Brush Rake
-Vegetation Management
(503)791-0767
bigbys tree service.com
Affordable rates.
CCB#158562

Boat Repair

--OUTBOARD REPAIR--
Clatsop Power Equipment
34912 Hwy 101 Bus, Astoria
1-800-220-0792 or 503-325-0792

Builders

Jack Coffey Construction
• New • Repair • Remodel
• Drywall • Concrete • Decks
• Licensed • Bonded • Insured
(503)325-7406 • CCB#55284

Cleaning Services

WEST COAST WINDOW WASHERS
-Property Maintenance
-Windows 2+ Stories
-Washing Houses/Gutters/Decks
-We Have Truck & Equipment for Odd Jobs
Licensed/Insured
Excellent references.
Mike Bastian (503)325-4526

LIVE OUTSIDE ASTORIA? To place your ad in the Daily Astorian Classifieds, simply dial:
1-800-781-3211
It's fast and it's toll free!

Lawn & Garden

JIM'S LAWN CARE-
•Brush Clearing•Lawns•Shrubs
•Hauling•Gutter & Storm-Cleanup
(503)325-2445 •Free Estimates

Pedro's Lawn Care Variety of Services

- Pressure Washing
- Moss Removal
- Gutter Cleaning
- House Cleaning
- Storm Clean-Up
- Debris Hauling
- Free Estimates

503-791-8622

Tom's NW Landscaping Design and Construction

- Irrigation
- Tree Service
- Hydroseeding
- Lawn Rehabilitation
- Lawn Maintenance
- Landscaping Management

OLCB # 6328
(503)738-7118 or (503)738-2936

CLASSIFIED ADS are used by people when they are searching for products or services. For fast results, use a Classified ad to attract people who are ready to buy your product.

Vegetation Management

Bigby's Tree Service
-Excavator mounted Flail Mower
-Brush raking -Lot clearing
-Scotch broom Removal
-chipping -Invasive Species removal
-Levey/Dike mowing
-Low impact Logging.
(503)791-0767
bigbys tree service.com
Affordable rates.
CCB#158562

Professional Services

Ferry Marshall Bookkeeping Service
Available for pick up at
-Payables -Receivables -Payroll
-Quarterly Reporting

IF YOU'RE PLANNING to move, now is the time to sell those items you can't take with you. It's easy and economical to place a classified ad which will work hard for you!