

# Bill aims to prevent environmental 'rollbacks'

Some call it 'political theater'

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

A bill requiring Oregon government agencies to protect against "rollbacks" of federal environmental regulations has been dismissed as "political theater" by farm, ranch and timber organizations.

Under House Bill 2250, state natural resource agencies would have to monitor whether changes to federal air and water regulations have fallen short of standards enacted under the Obama administration.

The state Department of Environmental Quality and other agencies would then

recommend or take actions to ensure that Oregon's environmental rules maintain or exceed the federal protections before the Trump administration took office.

"Oregon's clean air and water are part of what makes our state a great place to live, work and play. Unfortunately, the Trump administration has relentlessly attacked environmental safeguards that keep our communities healthy and vibrant," Gov. Kate Brown said Tuesday during a legislative hearing.

A coalition of 18 groups representing agriculture, forestry and business interests is urging the House Committee on Energy and the Environ-

ment against recommending the bill for approval, criticizing the proposal for being unnecessary rather than for regulatory overreach.

*'FOR US, WE SEE THIS AS A RESOURCE DRAIN ON AGENCIES THAT ARE ALREADY VERY BEHIND ON MEETING A LOT OF THEIR KEY METRICS.'*

Mary Anne Cooper, vice president of public policy for the Oregon Farm Bureau

"For us, we see this as a resource drain on agencies that are already very behind on meeting a lot of their key metrics," said Mary Anne Cooper, vice president of public policy for the Oregon Farm Bureau.

Without an act of Congress, Oregon cannot change the federal pre-emptive authority of the Clean Air

Act, Clean Water Act and Safe Water Drinking Act, which are the focus of HB 2250, she said.

Oregon's environmen-

tal statutes also don't neatly align with their federal counterparts, as they contain different exemptions and triggers for enforcement, Cooper said. "I'm not sure how they would even undertake an analysis if something is a rollback or a significant change when our laws don't fully line up," she said.

State agencies should focus on their core mission while lawmakers should develop laws that benefit Oregon irrespective of what goes on at the federal level, she said. "Oregon's laws should be driven by science, not politics or who's in office at any given point," she said.

Oregon's natural resource agencies are already governed by statutory mandates that are broad enough that many changes could be enacted administratively, rather than by passing new state laws, Cooper later told the Capital Press.

The concern about HB 2250 is that it's largely a political statement about the Oregon government's disap-

proval of the Trump administration's policies — which everyone already knows — but it could further strain agencies that struggle to fulfill their main functions, she said.

During the legislative hearing, the Department of Environmental Quality's director, Richard Whitman, acknowledged that HB 2250 wouldn't endow the state's Environmental Quality Commission with any additional power, so any actions would be taken under its existing authority.

Jason Miner, Brown's natural resources policy manager, said the bill is intended to keep state agencies vigilant for changes affecting environmental protections.

"It's not new authority but it is new information," Miner said.

## ON THE RECORD

### DUII

• At about 12:45 a.m. on Wednesday, Enrique Suthphin, 23, of Astoria, was arrested on the 400 block of S. Roosevelt Drive in Seaside and charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants and impeding traffic.

• At about 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, Christopher James Gibson, 59, of Astoria was arrested by Astoria police on the 700 block of W. Marine Drive and charged with DUII. He

was arrested after police received a report that there was a man who appeared to be intoxicated while going through the drive-thru. His blood alcohol content was 0.03 percent and is being tested for other intoxicants.

## Snow, ice expected for the North Coast

The Daily Astorian

Snow could be coming to the North Coast.

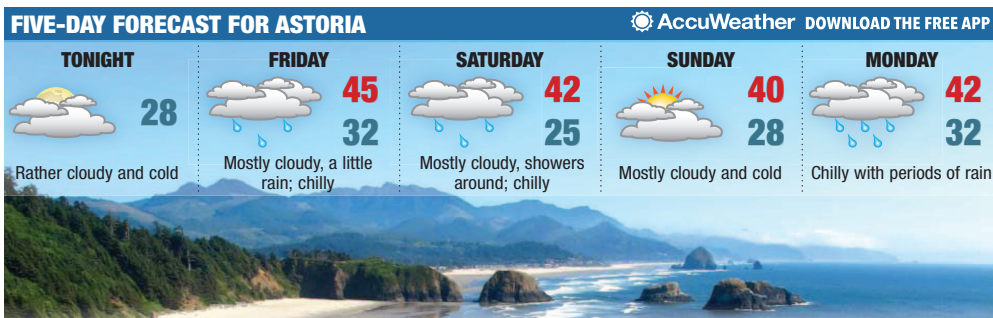
The National Weather Service predicts snow is possible tonight into Friday morning. Flurries are

expected, with little to no accumulation for many locations.

Temperatures will be cold enough for snow to stick to paved surfaces, however, possibly creating an icy commute Friday morning.

More significant snowfall could arrive Friday night and Saturday.

Wet or slushy roadways on Saturday are expected to freeze quickly overnight and create icy road conditions into Sunday.



### ALMANAC

Astoria through Wednesday.

**Temperatures**  
 High/Low: 42°/24°  
 Normal high/low: 51°/37°  
 Record high: 65° in 1954  
 Record low: 20° in 2014

**Precipitation**  
 Wednesday: 0.00"  
 Month to date: 1.12"  
 Normal month to date: 1.61"  
 Year to date: 6.05"  
 Normal year to date: 11.81"

### SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight: 5:29 p.m.  
 Sunrise Friday: 7:30 a.m.  
 Moonrise today: 9:07 a.m.  
 Moonset today: 8:26 p.m.

First Full Last New  
 Feb 12 Feb 19 Feb 26 Mar 6

### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight's Sky:** Hydra, the water snake, is so big that it takes more than seven hours for the whole snake to rise.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

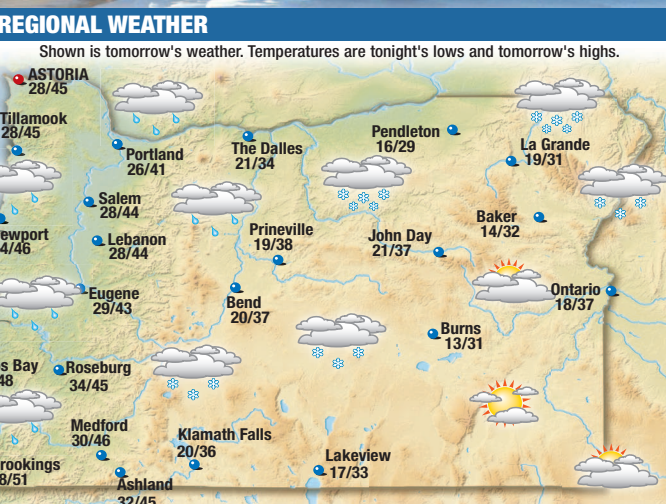
### TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
3:36 a.m.	8.2 ft.	9:31 a.m.	2.3 ft.
3:12 p.m.	8.1 ft.	9:37 p.m.	0.6 ft.

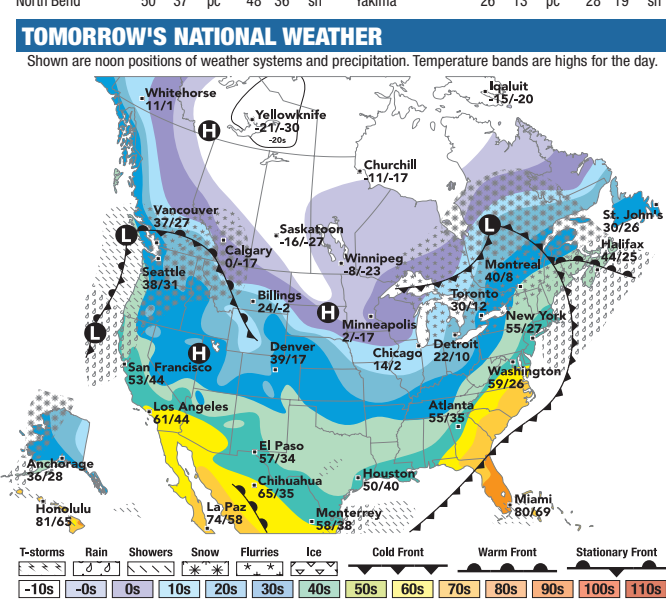
### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Fri.	W
Atlanta	79 52 pc	55 35 pc	r
Boston	43 39 r	54 25 r	c
Chicago	44 4 r	14 2 s	c
Denver	22 4 pc	39 17 pc	c
Des Moines	14 -5 sn	11 -3 s	c
Detroit	53 21 r	22 10 c	c
El Paso	51 28 c	57 34 s	c
Fairbanks	22 13 c	27 20 c	c
Honolulu	82 65 sh	81 65 pc	c
Indianapolis	62 12 r	23 10 s	c
Kansas City	14 2 sn	21 8 s	c
Las Vegas	49 33 s	62 35 pc	c
Los Angeles	61 41 s	61 44 s	c
Memphis	70 24 t	39 24 s	c
Miami	79 68 pc	80 69 s	c
Nashville	75 26 pc	39 21 s	c
New Orleans	79 51 pc	54 43 c	c
New York	47 42 sh	55 27 r	c
Oklahoma City	31 12 pc	35 21 s	c
Philadelphia	53 44 sh	57 24 pc	c
St. Louis	48 10 r	24 11 s	c
Salt Lake City	30 14 pc	34 23 c	c
San Francisco	55 44 s	53 44 r	c
Seattle	40 28 pc	38 31 sn	c
Washington, DC	58 50 c	59 26 pc	c



### REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Fri.	W
Baker City	32 14 s	32 25 sn	c
Bend	36 20 pc	37 27 sf	c
Brookings	49 38 pc	52 37 sh	c
Eugene	44 29 pc	43 33 c	c
Ilwaco	45 30 pc	45 35 r	c
Klamath Falls	34 20 pc	36 21 sf	c
Medford	44 30 pc	46 34 c	c
Newberg	42 26 pc	43 35 sh	c
North Bend	47 34 pc	46 35 sh	c
Newport	50 37 pc	48 36 sh	c
Olympia	42 22 pc	37 28 sn	c
Pendleton	27 16 s	29 26 sn	c
Portland	41 26 pc	41 32 sh	c
Roseburg	45 34 pc	45 36 sh	c
Salem	43 28 pc	44 34 r	c
Seaside	46 29 pc	45 34 r	c
Spokane	24 18 pc	25 13 sn	c
Springfield	45 30 pc	44 36 c	c
Vancouver	42 25 pc	41 34 sh	c
Yakima	26 13 pc	28 19 sn	c



## OBITUARIES



**Thomas Edward Lee**  
 Greeley, Colorado  
 Sept. 21, 1936 — Jan. 27, 2019

Thomas Edward Lee, 82, of Greeley, Colorado, passed away Jan. 27, 2019. He was born Sept. 21, 1936, in Astoria, Oregon, to Robert E. and Maria W. (Schricker) Lee. He grew up and graduated from high school in Astoria.

After high school, Tom enlisted in the Air Force and was stationed at Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he met Joan Tomiko Ohashi. On Jan. 27, 1956, they were married and spent 64 wonderful years together. She preceded him in death on Aug. 24, 2018.

Tom was considered a "Founding Father" of the Millwright Local Union 2834, and was recognized as a respected journeyman millwright for his entire career.

He loved riding his Harley-Davidson and was a member of the D.B. Motorcycle Club

in Hawaii. He was also an avid outdoorsman, enjoying long rifle hunting, fishing and camping, as well as stock car racing.

Survivors include his children, Kathleen Runnells, Roberta Lee, Margo Agens and Gary Lee; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; and a grandson, Rory Thomas Parker.

A celebration of life service will be held at the Christian Church of Warrenton, Oregon, on Feb. 9, 2019, at 11 a.m. Inurnment will follow at Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton.

A celebration of life service will also be held in Loveland, Colorado, on June 23, 2019. Friends may leave condolences and find more information on local service details at AdamsonCares.com

## DEATH

Feb. 6, 2019

SCOTT, Daphne Joan, 84, of Astoria, Oregon, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY

Seaside Parks Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

## LOTTERIES

Lottery	Time	Estimated Jackpot
OREGON Wednesday's Pick 4:	5-8-9-25-30-47	29-31
1 p.m.: 0-9-7-4	Estimated jackpot: \$7.9 million	Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
4 p.m.: 4-4-9-0	Wednesday's Powerball: 5-13-28-38-63, Powerball: 21	Wednesday's Keno: 10-13-17-25-31-35-37-43-44-45-56-60-62-63-66-69-70-71-72-78
7 p.m.: 5-7-9-8	Estimated jackpot: \$224 million	Wednesday's Lotto: 10-12-23-32-38-47
10 p.m.: 4-0-8-6	Estimated jackpot: \$224 million	Estimated jackpot: \$4 million
Wednesday's Lucky Lines:	WASHINGTON Wednesday's Daily Game: 7-4-6	Wednesday's Match 4: 08-16-17-22
2-5-10-14-19-22-27-31	Estimated jackpot: \$40,000	
Wednesday's Megabucks:	Wednesday's Hit 5: 10-18-22-	

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For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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### THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Established July 1, 1873  
 (USPS 035-000)

Published daily, except Saturday and Sunday, by EO Media Group, 949 Exchange St., PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103  
 Telephone 503-325-3211, 800-781-3211 or Fax 503-325-6573. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Daily Astorian, PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103-0210

DailyAstorian.com  
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Circulation phone number: 503-325-3211  
 Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR

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