

# Pence honors fallen service members at Arlington National Cemetery



LEFT: Vice President Mike Pence lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. RIGHT: Marines march in formation during a wreath-laying ceremony.

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. — Vice President Mike Pence paid tribute to fallen members of the U.S. armed forces Monday, thanking their loved ones in a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and acknowledging that for them “every day is Memorial Day.”

Pence placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to remember dead service members whose remains haven’t been identified and observed a moment of silence. He told Gold Star families he was honored by their presence.

Dignitaries attending Monday’s ceremony included Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. and acting Sec-

retary of Defense Patrick Shanahan.

President Donald Trump and Melania Trump visited the Arlington, Virginia, cemetery last week and placed flags at several gravesites, a decades-old tradition known as “flags in.” Trump, in Japan, was expected to address troops aboard a battleship before returning to the U.S.

## River: ‘It’s not going to be the same when it grows back’

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bureaucrats didn’t see much evidence of clearcuts in the scenic corridor.

Parks employees painstakingly documented the beauty in a report endorsing the Nehalem as a scenic waterway.

Then the pushback came.

### Logging rules

The timber industry wanted to ensure the scenic designation would not supersede state logging rules, which include some of the weakest environmental protections on the West Coast. And, in a state where the timber industry donates more to lawmakers than anywhere else in the country, those interests often get what they want.

Weyerhaeuser, the Washington state timber giant, owns large swaths of land along the proposed scenic stretch. No private landowner controls more. The company was one of just 10 parties to oppose the designation (nearly 1,400 commenters supported it), saying the Nehalem wasn’t that scenic.

Kevin Godbout, the company’s environmental affairs manager, acknowledged the views from the river were pleasant. But they aren’t undisturbed, he wrote. Forests along the Nehalem are logged too much to qualify as scenic, he said.

His comments made clear that the industry had forever changed the Nehalem’s landscape in the last century. “This area cannot be restored to a primitive condition,” Godbout wrote.

The Oregon Farm Bureau, another powerful political force, said there was no “compelling reason to increase protection of the river.”

“There are no current or foreseeable threats to the existing scenic and recreational values as they exist today,” bureau attorney Mary Anne Cooper wrote in late 2017.

But one was already being planned.

### A 67-acre clearcut

Alongside the parks staff on that 2017 float trip was someone from the Oregon Department of Forestry. The agency controls 80 percent of the land in the proposed Nehalem scenic corridor. What Weyerhaeuser doesn’t own predominantly belongs to the state.

In the months after the float, while the blueprint to protect the Nehalem inched forward, state forestry workers developed their own plan for the views: A 67-acre clearcut.

With the exception of a required 100-foot buffer on the river, the cut would denude steep hillsides that form the vista from the Beaver Eddy and Morrison Eddy campgrounds, which parks officials called “pleasing” and “of high scenic quality.” The agency called the \$853,000 timber sale “The Double Eddy.”

The agency would give most of the revenue to Tillamook and Clatsop counties. But it would have kept \$309,000 for its own budget.

Though Oregon law requires trees to be replanted

after a clearcut, the impact of cutting is unmistakable around the Nehalem. Across the river from the planned new cut, landslides on the steep slopes have carved a deep gully down to bedrock. It allows water draining into the Nehalem — home to coastal Coho salmon and other threatened and endangered fish — to first warm up as it courses over sun-baked rocks.

The Nehalem already has problems maintaining temperatures cool enough for salmon, which are dependent on cold water, said Maggie Peyton, executive director of the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, a group that works to conserve the river.

“It’s not going to be the same when it grows back,” Peyton said, sizing up the planned clearcut recently from the riverbank. “Now, it’s beautiful. There’s other values we can capture that exceed the value of the timber they’re going to get off that.”

Environmental groups protested the proposed Double Eddy clearcut. In a May 2 letter, 13 groups called for the Department of Forestry to cancel the sale.

The Wild Salmon Center and Oregon Wild, two of the groups, separately urged the governor to accelerate the scenic waterway designation. If she signed it before July, it would take hold upon the Legislature’s adjournment this summer. If she waited, it wouldn’t be official until next year.

Steve Pedery, Oregon Wild’s conservation director, said a Brown

adviser told his group she planned to wait until after adjournment.

A spokeswoman for the governor was noncommittal about the timing when asked by The Oregonian. “Our team is focused on the legislative session,” Brown spokeswoman Kate Kondayen said. “However, the governor will consider signing this designation this month, June, or July, and is eager to do so.”

Kondayen did not respond to subsequent questions about whether Brown delayed signing in order to satisfy Sen. Johnson.

Even though the Nehalem’s designation wasn’t official, the Department of Forestry asked Parks and Recreation Department officials for their opinion on the clear-

cut. They didn’t object.

But they also said they didn’t conduct as thorough a review as they normally would for a scenic waterway. They didn’t make a site visit to examine the area up close and ensure state foresters were doing everything they could to minimize the clearcut’s visual impact.

From the Nehalem, the cut on the steep forested slopes would have been obvious.

The Double Eddy timber sale became part of the forestry department’s operations plan for the budget year that starts July 1.

The clearcutting was ready to move forward.

### Sale canceled

Last week, The Oregonian began making inqui-

ries about the planned cut. An advocate notified the governor’s staff about a reporter’s interest in the timber sale on May 16.

The next day, when a reporter toured the area around the planned clearcut, state forestry employees held a conference call.

Employees from the agency’s state, Northwest Oregon and Astoria offices discussed the planned timber sale and “reached consensus,” a forestry department spokesman said.

The sale was canceled. “Having considered all the circumstances,” spokesman Jason Cox said, “not harvesting the area contributes more to Oregonians socially and environmentally than the harvest would have contributed economically.”

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### SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
<b>61 53</b>	<b>62 52</b>	<b>62 51</b>	<b>63 52</b>	<b>62 51</b>	<b>62 50</b>	<b>63 50</b>
Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Low clouds	Low clouds may break	Low clouds	Mostly cloudy	Clouds and sunshine

### ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

**Temperatures**

High/low	68/45
Normal high/low	62/47
Record high	81 in 1947
Record low	37 in 1998

**Precipitation**

Sunday	0.00"
Month to date	1.66"
Normal month to date	2.82"
Year to date	22.01"
Normal year to date	32.86"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2019

### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight’s Sky:** Vega is climbing into view in the northeast, with Arcturus in the east-southeast.

### SUN AND MOON

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Sunrise today	5:31 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:55 p.m.
Moonrise today	3:11 a.m.
Moonset today	2:48 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
June 3	June 9	June 17	June 25

### TODAY’S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
9:21 a.m.	5.7	3:47 a.m.	2.6	
10:16 p.m.	7.1	3:44 p.m.	1.5	
<b>Cape Disappointment</b>				
8:57 a.m.	5.3	3:21 a.m.	2.6	
9:58 p.m.	6.7	3:07 p.m.	1.4	
<b>Hammond</b>				
9:13 a.m.	5.9	3:33 a.m.	2.8	
10:06 p.m.	7.3	3:21 p.m.	1.6	
<b>Warrenton</b>				
9:16 a.m.	6.1	3:31 a.m.	2.7	
10:11 p.m.	7.5	3:28 p.m.	1.6	
<b>Knappa</b>				
9:58 a.m.	6.0	4:48 a.m.	2.2	
10:53 p.m.	7.4	4:45 p.m.	1.3	
<b>Depoe Bay</b>				
8:18 a.m.	5.5	2:47 a.m.	2.8	
9:13 p.m.	6.9	2:31 p.m.	1.5	

### NATIONAL CITIES

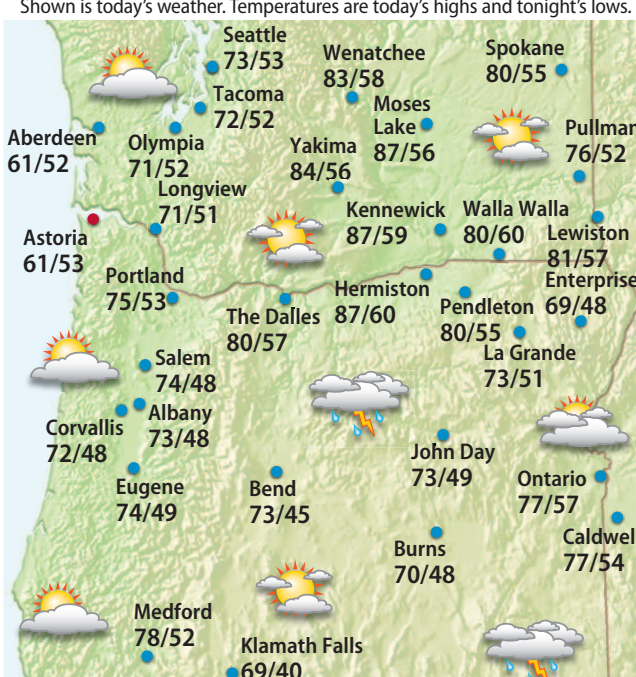
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	94/72/s	94/74/s
Boston	59/51/r	61/51/c
Chicago	70/51/t	78/58/t
Dallas	88/74/pc	84/69/t
Denver	50/36/sh	55/39/pc
Honolulu	87/75/sh	89/74/s
Houston	90/77/pc	89/74/pc
Los Angeles	70/56/pc	74/58/pc
Miami	88/78/s	91/78/s
New York City	68/60/t	75/62/pc
Phoenix	85/65/s	91/70/s
San Francisco	67/54/pc	69/52/pc
Wash., DC	90/74/pc	88/73/s

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

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### REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Seattle	73/53	74/46/t	Wenatchee	83/58	61/52/pc
Tacoma	72/52	65/51/pc	Moses Lake	87/56	78/52/pc
Aberdeen	61/52	60/52/pc	Yakima	84/56	62/52/pc
Olympia	71/52	60/52/pc	Kennewick	87/59	62/52/pc
Longview	71/51	60/52/pc	Walla Walla	80/60	79/53/pc
Astoria	61/53	60/52/pc	Hermiston	87/60	81/57
Portland	75/53	60/52/pc	Pendleton	80/55	69/48
Salem	74/48	60/52/pc	La Grande	73/51	74/50/pc
Corvallis	72/48	60/52/pc	John Day	73/49	74/50/pc
Eugene	74/49	60/52/pc	Burns	70/48	77/57
Bend	73/45	60/52/pc	Caldwell	77/54	71/49/pc
Medford	78/52	60/52/pc			
Klamath Falls	69/40	60/52/pc			