

New deal sets course for forest management

Agreement between timber, environmental interests

By **BRADLEY W. PARKS**
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Timber and environmental groups have reached an agreement that sets Oregon on a course to overhaul management of 10 million acres of private forestlands in the state.

The deal, announced Saturday by Gov. Kate Brown's office, concludes more than a year of negotiations between often at-odds sides to develop a plan to boost protections for vulnerable fish and wildlife while shielding the timber industry's ability to log.

Friday was the deadline for both sides to either reach consensus, abandon the process or move the deadline. Negotiators worked through the day Friday and wrapped up business shortly after 1 a.m. Saturday. Brown and her staff helped push the negotiations to completion.

"Today's historic agreement is a perfect example of the Oregon Way — coming together at the table to find common ground, to the mutual benefit of us all," Brown said in a press release. "Together, this agreement will help to ensure that Oregon continues to have healthy forests, fish and

wildlife, as well as economic growth for our forest industry and rural communities, for generations to come. I would like to thank everyone involved for their role in making this agreement a reality today."

Jim James with the Oregon Small Woodlands Association similarly praised the compromise.

"We were able to put down the contentious situations that we've had in the past and we had a continuous agreement to move forward," James said. "I think that's an extreme positive for the state of Oregon."

In 2020, the sides each planned a series of competing ballot measures that could have turned into a costly political fight. Environmental groups sought, among other priorities, strict limits on spraying of aerial pesticides

and improved protection for forest waters. Meanwhile, the timber industry sought compensation for private landowners when state regulations limited their ability to log.

Brown instead pushed for the two sides to negotiate, and their agreement to do so was hailed as historic even then, though it was just a beginning.

Representatives from the timber industry and environmental groups were charged with setting terms to pursue a state-wide habitat conservation plan to safeguard fish,

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Photos by Lydia Ely/The Astorian

The Port of Astoria and the city are working together toward a waterfront master plan in Uniontown.

Port, city seek feedback on waterfront master plan

By **ETHAN MYERS**
The Astorian

The Port of Astoria and the city are looking to the community for feedback as they sketch out a waterfront master plan in Uniontown.

The property extends along the Columbia River from Pier 1 to the Astoria Bridge. The Port's West Mooring Basin and the city's Uniontown corridor have long been considered prime locations for redevelopment.

Walker Macy, a landscape architecture, urban design and planning firm hired to help develop the master plan, will present preliminary concepts at a virtual meeting on Wednesday evening.

While they have not identified specific projects or businesses, the consultant has put together drawings of locations that would make sense for mixed-use development, retail, hotels and restaurants.

The Port and the city hope to hear public concerns, critiques or suggestions. People who are unable to participate in the meeting can give input afterward online.

"This is such a focal point in Astoria and a lot of the community has a lot of in-depth knowledge of this area and experience interacting with it ... Most people have been down in this area. They've been down to the marina. They've been to the (Loft at the) Red Building," said Will Isom, the Port's executive director. "So I think there's much more awareness of the area and I think it's likely that we're going to get a lot better feedback than maybe we would for other things that aren't as on the forefront of the general public."



New mixed-use development, retail, hotels and restaurants could be proposed in Uniontown.

WATERFRONT MASTER PLAN

A virtual meeting on a waterfront master plan in Uniontown will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

People can participate via Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5033255821>

'It truly is unique'

The Port and the city have had discussions over the years about how to tackle development around the West Mooring Basin. In 2007, the Port spent six figures on a plan that was never adopted.

"It truly is unique, and with its location, in and around our marina, we think this property has some of the biggest opportunities of anywhere in town," Isom said.

Isom considers it an opportune time to move forward. It was crucial to bring the city in as a partner to help benefit the community and region, he said.

"Are there maybe some different focus areas that each entity is looking for? Definitely," City Manager Brett Estes said. "But I'd really say there is this shared level of participation in wanting to find the right thing for that area."

An advisory committee made up of Port and city staff, as well as several residents, was put together to help navigate the process.

An emphasis in discussions with the committee is the need for adaptability within the master plan.

"Yes, we want to have a plan for how we move forward. But we also need to have some flexibility within that plan to react to changes in the economy and market condition because that is just the reality of the world and I think here in the

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ELECTION DAY

Voters in Cannon Beach on Tuesday will decide on a 5% food tax for emergency response and a new City Hall, while voters in Knappa will weigh a \$14 million bond measure for school improvements. [Follow the results at dailyastorian.com](https://dailyastorian.com) and in Thursday's newspaper.



Alivia Rickenbach rides 'Simba' in front of the crowd at CMH Field.

An Astoria student's wild senior project

Rickenbach rode her mustang at homecoming

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Astorian

The Denver Broncos have "Thunder," the Arabian horse mascot. And the Kansas City Chiefs used to have "Warpaint," a pinto that galloped around Arrowhead Stadium after every score.

Even though it may have been a one-night-only appearance, the Astoria Fishermen were the latest football team to have a horse trotting around the field.

"Simba" and his rider, Alivia Rickenbach, had the honor of carrying the American flag before Astoria's recent homecoming game. It was Simba's first public appearance since Rickenbach and her wild mustang competed in the Teens and Oregon Mustangs competition in McMinnville in early September.



Simba even received a first-class introduction at CMH Field, described to the crowd as a horse coming from "a wild herd in the Paisley Desert of central Oregon," and representing "one of America's oldest symbols, a wild mustang."

Because of herd overpopulation among wild mustangs, he faced starvation and was part of an emergency gather.

Rickenbach — who has another horse named "Atheana" — took on the 100-day wild mustang challenge when she obtained the horse in May and went into training for the competition.

Since then, Simba has gone from wild to mild.

Rickenbach, a high school senior, worked with Simba a few hours a day. "I started just building the trust between me and him. You can't really train a horse without having a trust, especially a wild one," she said. "He had never been touched by a human."

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