



NOAA Fisheries

Recent discussions around shortbelly rockfish highlight some of the challenges states could face when it comes to regulating fisheries under climate change.

## Shortbelly rockfish an example of fishery management under climate change

An important source of food for Chinook salmon and many seabirds

By **KATIE FRANKOWICZ**  
*The Astorian*

A small, spiny fish no one wants to catch has started to appear in trawl nets off the Oregon Coast.

Shortbelly rockfish are common off California but were rare in Oregon until recently. Boosted by several

strong reproductive years, their apparent expansion into new territory triggered a discussion among West Coast fishery regulators and raised concerns for conservation groups.

It has also provided a working example of exactly how tricky it could be to manage fisheries as species and ocean conditions shift under climate change.

Shortbelly rockfish — a relatively shorter-lived type of groundfish that travels in large schools — has little market value. It has been decades since anyone even seemed interested in developing a fishery around them

and they are not in danger of being overfished, state biologists say.

When the shortbelly rockfish is caught by accident in other fisheries, its only commercial use is as fishmeal or fish oil, products made from fish byproducts, low-value fish and fishery bycatch that are used as fertilizers and animal feed and in aquaculture.

But shortbelly rockfish is a critical source of food for many seabirds, which face challenging overall population declines, as well as for Chinook salmon and other marine species.

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### CANNON BEACH

## Food tax faces recount

Lodging executive asked for another tally

By **KATIE FRANKOWICZ**  
*The Astorian*

CANNON BEACH — A food tax is headed for a recount.

Patrick Nofield, who owns Escape Lodging in Cannon Beach, cited the contentions surrounding the tax proposal, the close margin after election night and concerns about city officials opening a ballot drop box in October in asking for a recount.

The 5% tax on prepared food passed in November by only four votes — 379 to 375.

“I just think it’s reasonable and appropriate,” Nofield said.

The recount will be done by hand and will take place on Wednesday at the Judge Guy Boyington Building in Astoria.

The food tax would apply to prepared food sold at restaurants and similar businesses. It is expected to generate around \$1.7 million annually, revenue that would be split between the city and the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District.

The city hopes to use the money to fund infrastructure projects, including a new City Hall and police station. The fire district wants to use its cut to help fund operations as calls for emergency services continue to rise.

Nofield feels the tax was pushed through and is especially concerned about an incident where Karen LaBonte, the city’s public works director, opened a ballot box at City Hall prior to the election.

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## Musician rejuvenates career on North Coast

A homebase at WineKraft

By **ETHAN MYERS**  
*The Astorian*

Barbara Gaidosh’s business card reads: “Oregon Folksinger & Storyteller.”

Her career as a folk musician spanned many years across many locations before she eventually found herself in Astoria, where she has lived for the past two decades.

But when she arrived to marry a retired veteran, she figured her guitar-playing days were over.

When her husband passed away, he left a letter requesting that she play Bob Dylan’s “Knockin’ on Heaven’s Door,” at his service.

So she got the band back together.

“It was, honestly, probably one of the hardest things I had ever done,” she said of the performance. “... But after that, I thought, can I do this again?”

Since then, Gaidosh has experienced a revival of her career.

She plays at several venues and spots across the region, including art galleries and breweries. Recently, she played in front of a packed audience in Long Beach, Washington.

But WineKraft, a wine bar at Pier 11 in Astoria, is where she plays most frequently. She considers it her homebase, of sorts.



Barbara Gaidosh is a folk musician.



“I never in a million years would’ve thought I could come back to doing this ... the music has really saved me,” she said.

What is surprising, Gaidosh said, is how her music has been able to connect with younger audiences. She credits her stories and her voice, which somehow, she said, has continued to sound better over time.

She also credits the music community on the North Coast for helping her find a path back to being a musician. Many of them have become close friends, Gaidosh said.

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## New manager takes on timberlands

Brown promoted at Greenwood Resources

By **ABBEY McDONALD**  
*The Astorian*

For Kevin Brown, forestry in the Pacific Northwest is about legacy.

Stepping into a new position at Greenwood Resources’ Lewis & Clark Timberlands, he hopes to carry on the work of past mentors while pursuing a sustainable future.

Brown is the new Pacific Northwest area manager. He replaces Mark Morgans, who held the position for over a decade and was recently promoted to director of North American operations.

They spoke at the Gearhart office’s conference room, separated by toy logging trucks on the table and backed by windows with sweeping views of the private forest Brown now oversees.

The management position is responsible for over 185,000 acres in Oregon and Washington state and a local staff of 13.

The private timberlands are used for wood harvesting and wood products. Though privately owned, it is open to the public through free recreational permits for hunting, fishing, biking and other activities. The forest also provides drinking water to municipal watersheds.

“I’m confident in my ability to lead,” Brown said. “I have the best staff anybody could ever ask for. We are just loaded with talent across the board.”

Morgans said the property — and Brown’s decisions — will impact everyone in the community, even if they never step foot on the land.



Abbey McDonald/The Astorian

Mark Morgans, left, and Kevin Brown outside the Lewis & Clark Timberlands Gearhart office.

**THE MANAGEMENT POSITION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER 185,000 ACRES IN OREGON AND WASHINGTON STATE AND A LOCAL STAFF OF 13.**

“It’s a working forest, but it’s also providing all of these other benefits that they probably don’t even really think about, but they’re all there for them,” Morgans said. “So as foresters we think about that a lot, just the connectivity. How the forest is connected to the streams, connected to the ocean, and it’s

the same thing with the people in there, too.”

Morgans said he chose Brown because of his passion for forestry and his interest in stewardship and sustainability.

For Brown, that interest started in his family’s forest. He grew up in Ilwaco, Washington, and often visited his family’s 480 acres in Hamlet that grew from his great, great grandfather’s homestead. Growing up, he said his grandfather was his greatest mentor.

“I got to see him show up in his caulk boots and his hard hat, and I got to help set chokers and watch him skip logs and just work hard,” Brown said. “Once you’re kind of immersed and understand the benefits of the forests, it’s just kind of in your blood.”

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