

Leaders ask Oregon, Wash. governors to ban oil-by-train

By KRISTENA HANSEN
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Portland and Multnomah County leaders on Tuesday urged the governors of Oregon and Washington to push Congress for a permanent ban on oil-by-rail in the wake of a fiery train derailment along the Columbia River.

The June 3 derailment in the town of Mosier showed transporting oil by train is dangerous and unnecessary and should be prohibited by the federal government, Portland Mayor Charlie Hales and Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury said at City Hall, alongside other government and health officials.

Nobody was injured in the derailment, but it affected water and sewer systems and forced evacuations.

The officials called on Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee to work with the Obama administration and Congress on a permanent ban, and to block permits and oppose the several oil-related projects proposed in their states. They cited plans for the Tesoro-Savage oil terminal in Vancouver, Washington.



Alan Berne/The Seattle Times via AP

In this June 3 file photo, an oil train burns near the town of Mosier after derailling.

“At a time of acute concern about toxins in our water and in our air, we do not need to add to that list,” Hales said. “No transportation system is ever 100 percent safe. ... That’s why it’s a fundamentally wrong idea to be moving explosive fossil fuels by rail.”

Portland, Cascade Locks and Mosier are among several localities that recently passed resolutions calling for bans and rallying higher-ranking government officials to get behind them.

One million gallons of Bakken crude oil — the type involved in the Mosier derailment that Kafoury characterized as “much more volatile” than conventional oil — roll along the Mult-

nomah County train tracks every week. A half-million Oregonians live nearby, plus thousands more around the tracks in Washington.

Officials said the U.S. and Canada have seen more than a dozen oil train derailments in the past two years. They said the Tesoro-Savage terminal in Vancouver would bring an additional 15 million oil gallons to the area and could lead to many more derailments over the years.

“With so many people in Portland living near the tracks, we can’t close our eyes to the risks of these trains and hope that we, again, get lucky — if you can call it that,” Kafoury said.

Following the Union Pacific derailment in Mosier,

Brown called for a temporary moratorium on oil trains in the Columbia River Gorge until it’s confirmed the rails are safe. In a statement Tuesday, Brown expressed concern about the Tesoro proposal and said she is closely monitoring its developments.

As for pressing a ban, Brown said federal rules that would enhance rail safety are either in litigation or are yet to be completed.

“I will continue to push the U.S. Department of Transportation and other federal authorities to take action that puts fewer Oregonians at risk of a dangerous crash in their back yards,” she said.

Inslee spokeswoman Tara Lee said it’s unlikely the governors even have authority for a moratorium on railways.

Union Pacific spokesman Justin Jacobs said transporting crude oil to the company’s customers is a federal mandate.

“If a customer delivers a crude oil tank car in conformity with U.S. Department of Transportation requirements, Union Pacific is obligated to transport the rail car to its destination,” Jacobs said in a statement.

Man says nail gun attack was a suicide pact

EUGENE (AP) — An Oregon man accused of shooting a woman with a nail gun told investigators that the woman recruited him to kill her.

Authorities say Troy Vance Thompson, 46, of Creswell, fired nine nails into the woman’s head on June 1 before turning the nail gun on himself, *The Register-Guard* reported.

Thompson gave Oregon State Troopers a detailed statement the day after the incident. At the time, he was in a Springfield hospital recovering from an injury caused by the nail he fired into his own head.

Prosecutors have charged Thompson with assault but have not asked a grand jury to review the case yet. He was put in jail after his release from the hospital.

The woman’s current condition is unknown. Police said last week that she was still hospitalized in critical condition. A prosecutor and hospital spokeswoman both said Tuesday that they had no updated information to disclose about the woman. She was not identified.

Thompson said he first met the 31-year-old Eugene woman the day before the incident, according to a police report made public this week. He said the woman stopped her car on Highway 99 in Eugene and approached him while he walked along the road, according to a search warrant affidavit filed by trooper Cale Day.

She told Thompson she needed someone to kill her

because she didn’t want to be committed to a mental hospital, Day wrote.

The affidavit says the two discussed different methods of killing themselves before the woman announced a plan to rent a nail gun, travel to the woods and carry out a homicide-suicide.

Day wrote that the manager of an equipment rental store corroborated Thompson’s claim that the woman went into the business to rent the nail gun and air compressor. The store manager told investigators that the woman asked for the gun with the largest nails, according to the trooper’s report.

Thompson told police he fired three nails from the gun into the back of the woman’s head, then stopped. The woman “was still alive and told him to keep going (and) reminded Troy he had promised her he would help her,” Day wrote.

Passers-by later found Thompson and the woman and called police, according to the report.

Day also wrote that the woman’s mother told a detective that her daughter is delusional, has bipolar disorder and has been hospitalized several times in the last year. The mother also said the woman has asked friends, family and strangers to help her die, the report said.

Thompson told police that he has “brain injuries from the past” as well as a history of substance abuse and suicidal thoughts, Day’s report said.



Thompson

Judge denies Ryan Bundy’s request to go to San Francisco

PORTLAND (AP) — A federal judge Wednesday rejected Ryan Bundy’s demand to be released from custody so he can appear before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The son of Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy has been serving as his own lawyer since his January arrest during the armed occupation of an Oregon bird sanctuary. He’s also facing federal charges in Nevada for his role in an armed standoff with federal agents at this father’s ranch.

Bundy and lawyers for other defendants charged in both cases have said it’s improper to make them defend two cases at once in different states.

The Appeals Court plans to hear oral arguments Thursday in San Francisco, and Bundy wants to be there.

But U.S. District Court Judge Anna J. Brown denied his request for transfer or release, saying it’s not her call and it should have been brought up sooner.

“I’m not a magician,” she said.

Bundy was attempting to have a different federal judge, Robert Jones, hear the matter Wednesday afternoon. Jones, to ease the load on Brown, has been hearing requests for pretrial release from the more than 20 defendants charged in connection with the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Brown’s denial came during a status hearing on the complex, high-profile case that began with a protest over the imprisonment of two Oregon ranchers convicted of setting fires.

Three people have pleaded guilty and a trial for most of the defendants is scheduled to start Sept. 7, though a few defendants have waived their right to a speedy trial and likely won’t face a jury until 2017.

Geoffrey Stanek pleaded guilty Tuesday, accepting a plea deal in which prosecutors agreed to drop a charge of firearm possession in a federal facility. The government plans to recommend a sentence of six months of home detention.

Marcus Mumford, the new attorney for occupation leader Ammon Bundy, suggested to Judge Brown that his client might also waive his demand for a speedy trial.

Also Wednesday: Assistant U.S. Attorney Ethan Knight told the judge he expects prosecutors will take three or four weeks to present their case at trial.

Defendant Darryl Thom planned to plead guilty but later told the judge he was withdrawing his plea.

Defendant Kenneth Medenbach, as he has repeatedly done, questioned Brown about whether she ever took an oath of office. She replied, “Mr. Medenbach, we’re not going to play these games.”

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A couple of morning showers	Some sun with a passing shower	A stray afternoon shower	Partly sunny and nice	Partly sunny
68° 42°	71° 49°	71° 44°	76° 44°	84° 53°
73° 47°	76° 49°	76° 45°	80° 51°	89° 56°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE
HIGH LOW
Yesterday 65° 41°
Normals 78° 52°
Records 101° (1961) 34° (1920)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. Trace
Month to date 0.38"
Normal month to date 0.76"
Year to date 5.97"
Last year to date 4.99"
Normal year to date 7.31"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

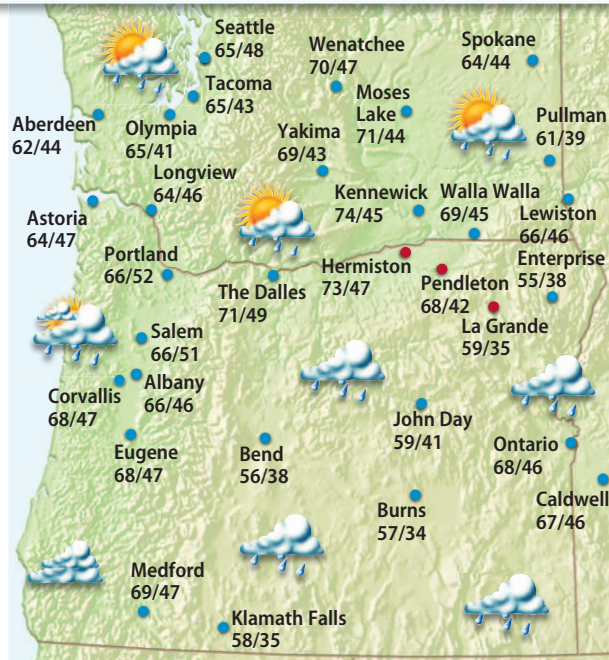
TEMPERATURE
HIGH LOW
Yesterday 69° 43°
Normals 79° 53°
Records 99° (1974) 40° (1930)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.12"
Normal month to date 0.36"
Year to date 4.35"
Last year to date 3.14"
Normal year to date 5.50"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 5:05 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:47 p.m.
Moonrise today 5:11 p.m.
Moonset today 3:05 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
June 20	June 27	July 4	July 11



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Mostly cloudy today; a couple of showers, but dry in the south.

Eastern Washington: Clouds and sun today; a passing shower in the north and toward the Cascades.

Cascades: Some sun today with a couple of showers. A shower tonight.

Northern California: Mainly cloudy today. Snow showers in the interior mountains; showers around in central parts.

Eastern and Central Oregon: A couple of showers today, except dry in the south.

Western Washington: Clouds and sun today with a shower in spots.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	64	47	pc	64	48	pc
Baker City	55	34	c	67	39	pc
Bend	56	38	sh	59	37	pc
Brookings	58	46	c	59	47	pc
Burns	57	34	c	65	34	pc
Enterprise	55	38	sh	63	43	pc
Eugene	68	47	c	68	44	pc
Heppner	62	41	c	67	46	pc
Hermiston	73	47	pc	76	49	pc
John Day	59	41	sh	67	44	pc
Klamath Falls	58	35	c	62	36	pc
La Grande	59	35	sh	66	44	pc
Meacham	57	35	c	63	41	pc
Medford	69	47	sh	70	47	pc
Newport	60	46	c	60	46	pc
North Bend	63	48	sh	63	48	pc
Ontario	68	46	c	79	52	pc
Pasco	73	45	pc	77	48	pc
Pendleton	68	42	sh	71	49	pc
Portland	66	52	sh	70	52	pc
Redmond	61	38	c	65	38	pc
Salem	66	51	sh	69	47	pc
Spokane	64	44	pc	69	48	pc
Ukiah	56	37	c	61	39	pc
Vancouver	65	50	sh	67	49	sh
Walla Walla	69	45	sh	74	51	pc
Yakima	69	43	pc	72	45	pc

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	95	70	pc	92	71	c
Hong Kong	89	83	t	89	83	sh
Jerusalem	80	63	s	83	65	s
London	65	54	t	65	53	t
Mexico City	75	56	t	75	54	t
Moscow	75	62	c	78	62	pc
Paris	64	53	t	67	53	t
Rome	86	66	pc	77	60	pc
Seoul	76	64	s	82	65	s
Sydney	70	53	s	68	56	pc
Tokyo	75	69	r	81	71	s

WINDS

(in mph)

	Today	Friday
Boardman	SW 6-12	WSW 6-12
Pendleton	SW 6-12	W 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

1 3 5 6 3 1

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

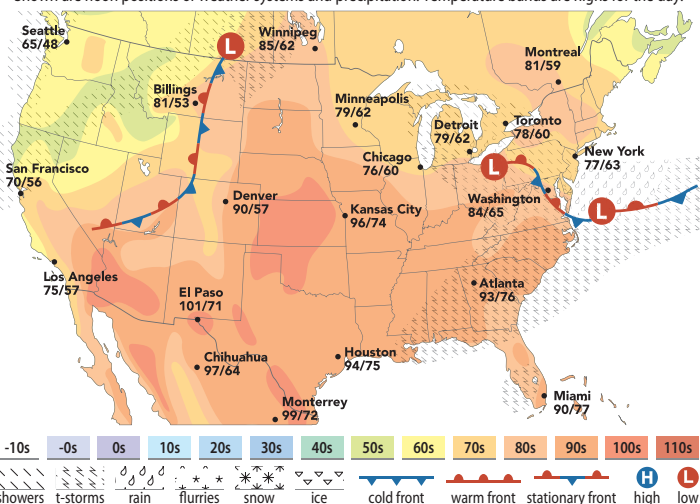
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary: Showers and thunderstorms will extend from the Great Lakes to the northeastern Gulf and mid-Atlantic coasts today. Showers will cool much of the Northwest. Heat will hold in the southern Plains.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 106° in Salina, Kan. Low 23° in Crater Lake, Ore.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.			Today			Fri.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Albuquerque	93	60	s	94	62	s	Louisville	94	68	pc	85	67	pc
Atlanta	93	76	pc	91	69	t	Memphis	99	79	pc	97	75	t
Atlanta City	68	62	sh	71	59	r	Miami	90	77	t	90	78	t
Baltimore	79	62	c	76	58	r	Millwaukee	70	59	pc	78	61	s
Billings	81	53	pc	80	55	pc	Minneapolis	79	62	pc	84	66	pc
Birmingham	94	76	pc	96	71	t	Nashville	98	72	pc	88	68	pc
Boise	70	51	sh	77	53	pc	New Orleans	94	79	t	96	79	t
Boston	75	59	pc	69	56	pc	New York City	77	63	pc	79	60	pc
Charleston, SC	94	77	pc	95	70	pc	Oklahoma City	96	73	s	99	72	s
Chicago	88	65	t	80	58	pc	Omaha	98	73	s	95	72	s
Chicago	76	60	pc	80	59	pc	Philadelphia	74	62	sh	80	60	pc
Cleveland	80	66	t	79	60	pc	Phoenix	102	77	s	105	79	s
Dallas	96	77	s	97	76	s	Portland, ME	76	52	s	72	53	s
Denver	90	57	pc	90	59	s	Providence	80	58	pc	76	53	pc
Detroit	79	62	t	84	59	s	Raleigh	93	70	pc	82	61	t
El Paso	101	71	s	103	72	s	Rapid City	95	57	s	88	60	t
Fairbanks	77	58	pc	83	61	pc	Reno	68	49	s	75	51	pc
Fargo	84	64	s	86	68	t	Sacramento	71	54				