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EAST OREGONIAN

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Deadline set for Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument decision

Litigation will resume Jan. 15 unless Trump administration resolves dispute

By **MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI**
EO Media Group

The Trump administration has agreed to resume litigation over the expansion of Oregon's Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument on

Jan. 15 unless the dispute is resolved beforehand.

The monument's size was increased from about 66,000 acres to 114,000 acres by the Obama administration in early 2017, spurring several lawsuits against the proclamation.

When the Trump administration decided to reconsider the expansion, those lawsuits were stayed by a federal judge pending the potential reduction of the monument's boundaries.

Roughly six months later, two plaintiffs — the Association of O&C Counties and the American Forest Resource Council — have

grown impatient with the delay.

The groups recently attempted to revive the active litigation of their lawsuits but have now agreed to the Jan. 15 deadline as long as the Trump administration seeks no further postponements.

The American Forest See **MONUMENT/8A**



Courtesy of Bob Wick/BLM
A large basaltic spire known as Pilot Rock is seen in the distance in this 2015 photo taken in Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument near Ashland.



Photo contributed by Disability Rights Oregon
Isolation is a common experience for youth at the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility, The Dalles, according to a new report from Disability Rights Oregon. NORCOR's director maintains youth there do not suffer inhumane treatment.

YOUTH IN ISOLATION

Juvenile correctional facility accused of inhumane methods

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Disability Rights Oregon in a new report accused the juvenile jail in The Dalles of skirting Oregon law and using inhumane means to punish youth.

The director of the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility admitted the juvenile

detention center can improve, but said in no way is the treatment there inhumane.

Disability Rights is the federally designated Protection and Advocacy System for Oregonians with disabilities, which grants the organization the authority to inspect jails and other facilities that care for or confine people with disabilities. Disability Rights

More online

For a copy of Disability Rights Oregon's report and NORCOR's response visit eastoregonian.com

attorney Sarah Radcliffe visited the NORCOR juvenile jail on three occasions between June and

September and interviewed 23 youth there, some who told her about long stays in isolation with little or no meaningful human contact, including youth who were suicidal.

"I was just really shocked by the conditions," she said. "Kids are getting disciplined for normal

See **NORCOR/8A**

PENDLETON

Baker County DA to oversee shooting probe due to 'conflict'

East Oregonian

The investigation into the shooting of a man Nov. 29 by a Pendleton police officer is now in the hands of Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff.

Umatilla County District Attorney Dan Primus, who had been leading the investigation, said Tuesday that his office has a "conflict" and would no longer be involved. The nature of the conflict was not detailed in the press release.

Oregon State Police continue to investigate.

Six days after the shooting, the identities of the people involved have yet to be released. The Umatilla County DA's office issued a short statement Monday morning saying it expected to release more information by the end of the day, but in the evening Primus said that would not take place.

When reached Tuesday, Shirtcliff said he had just received the details of the case and would be prepared to brief the media Wednesday morning.

According to Pendleton police chief Stuart Roberts, a Pendleton officer shot the man, who had a pistol, about 8:45 p.m. on Nov. 29 near the intersection of Southwest 20th Street and Court Avenue. Roberts said the suspect had been involved in a confrontation in the nearby Walmart parking lot, before running from police and not obeying verbal commands.

Witnesses at the scene said they heard multiple shots. No officers were injured. The suspect was eventually taken to Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, where he is recovering from a gunshot wound.

Rising retirement costs placing pressure on college tuition

By **CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon's public universities are devoting a growing share of spending to retirement costs, a trend that factors into rising college tuition.

Between the 2017 and 2018 fiscal years, public employee retirement costs for the state's public universities grew by 19.6 percent, according to the Oregon Council of Presidents.

That brings the total amount that universities will devote to retirement costs in the 2018 fiscal year to \$166 million, or nearly 10 percent of the universities'

total education and general expenditures.

The annual amount universities pay toward the state's Public Employees Retirement System as a share of overall payroll is expected to continue to rise in the next several budget cycles as well.

PERS is faced with obligations to retirees that exceed the system's current assets by about \$25.3 billion.

Most employee benefits are generated by investing, and the system's funded liability tanked when the stock market took a tumble starting in 2008. So public employers started having to

See **TUITION/8A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Frosted foothills

A weekend cold weather system leaves a fresh layer of snow covering the foothills of the Blue Mountains on Monday east of Pendleton.

