

# Climate activists urge legislators to act on carbon emissions

By SAM STITES AND CLAIRE WITTHYCOMBE  
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Activists seeking to clean the state's environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions turned out by the hundreds at the Oregon Capitol on Tuesday, pushing legislators to move ahead with a cap and trade policy.

Demonstrators ranged from Salem-area teenagers who took time out from school to middle-aged Wasco County residents.

All told, organizers say that more than 1,000 people traveled to the Capitol to support Senate Bill 1530, which aims to cap and shrink the state's carbon emissions and generate revenue for environmental projects.

One of those local teens was Angelique Prater, 17, of Salem, who spoke to the crowd Tuesday about her activism.

In an interview, she said that her parents, immigrants from Mexico who work in agriculture, were already feeling the effects of climate change — extreme temperatures in winter and summer.

She said she first heard about proposal from friends in school, and then got involved in activism.

"I'm here today to fight for the climate crisis and to, you know, push our legislators to fight for strong climate legislation," Prater said, adding that legislation was the most important part of "solving the climate crisis."



Portland State student Rachel Rodri, from left, and Willamette University students Emily Brunken, Sonia Zand, Jamie Smith, Maggie Chapin and Samantha Smith demonstrate at the Oregon Capitol on Tuesday to urge lawmakers to take action on climate change.

The pending legislation would establish a new limit on certain emissions and reduce them over time.

The limits would apply to certain industries and major fuel importers. The cap-and-trade policy would carve up the emissions

limit into allowances that emitters can buy and sell on a market. The idea is that as emissions targets get lower, fewer allowances are available, and industry would improve pollution controls.

Opponents have criticized the plan for its potential impact on

consumers and small businesses, particularly through higher fuel costs. Recent revisions to the legislation spare counties east of the Cascades from regulations on fuel importers and provide a way for natural gas companies to guard their low-income

customers against higher costs. The event began at noon with speeches on the Capitol steps from activists and political officials, including remarks from Multnomah County Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson, Milwaukie Mayor and congressional candidate Mark Gamba and Eric Richardson, Eugene-Springfield NAACP president. Following speeches, the demonstrators marched around the Capitol chanting and waving signs baring messages supporting the climate legislation.

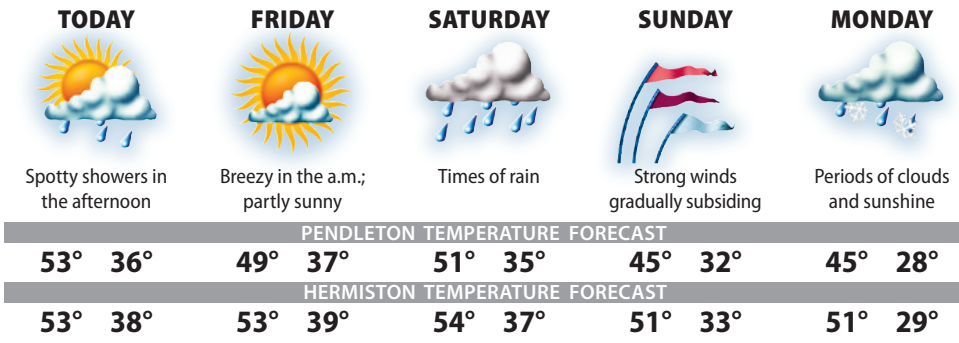
The event, organized by the environmental group Renew Oregon, was a counterpart to a protest in Salem last week organized by Timber Unity.

Activists made the trek to Salem from all parts of the state Tuesday, including Dean Myerson who was part of a carload of demonstrators who drove three hours from The Dalles.

Myerson said he believes Oregon needs to lead the way on climate action.

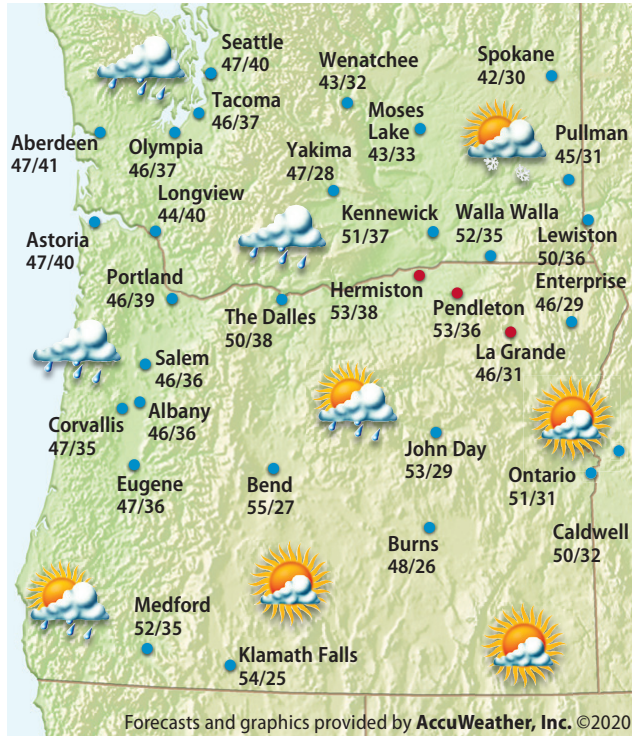
"We can't just wait for everybody else to do something first, which seems to be one of the arguments; 'we can't do this alone,' which is true, but somebody has to start," Myerson said. "In Wasco County, we had a series of really bad fires a couple years ago. A lot of historic homes were destroyed, a farmer died. There's always been fires, but climate change is making them worse."

## Forecast for Pendleton Area



## OREGON FORECAST

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



## ALMANAC

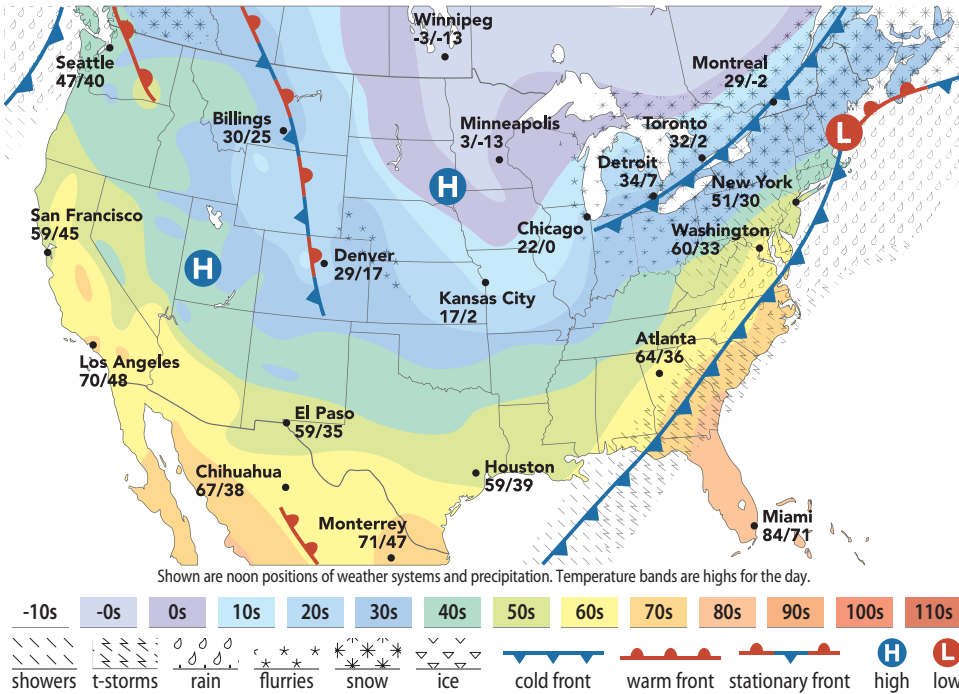
PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	29°
Normals	46°	29°
Records	68° (1977)	-10° (1929)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	1.43"	
Normal month to date	0.52"	
Year to date	3.45"	
Last year to date	3.32"	
Normal year to date	1.90"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	55°	27°
Normals	47°	29°
Records	68° (2011)	-15° (1929)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	0.07"	
Normal month to date	0.42"	
Year to date	0.31"	
Last year to date	2.47"	
Normal year to date	1.70"	
WINDS (in mph)		
	Today	Fri.
Boardman	SW 6-12	WSW 8-16
Pendleton	WSW 6-12	WSW 8-16

## NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 89° in Naples, Fla. Low -20° in Langdon, N.D.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



# Grant County Sheriff's Office deputy arrested for driving drunk

EO Media Group

JOHN DAY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office deputy, who has been on paid leave for almost a year, was arrested for alleged drunken driving on Saturday.

Abigail F. Mobley, 35, of Canyon City, was arrested at about 2:30 p.m. Saturday in Unity, according to an Oregon State Police report.

Mobley pulled over to use the restroom and got stuck in the snow. She stumbled down the roadway and fell down, causing minor abrasions to her face, according to OSP.

Witnesses and emergency medical personnel contacted her and thought she was intoxicated, OSP said.

OSP responded to the

Burnt River Market and Motel, and an investigation revealed Mobley had been driving under the influence. She consented to field sobriety tests that showed impairment, OSP said.

Mobley was arrested and transported to the Baker County Jail. A blood alcohol test showed a concentration of 0.27%, more than three times the legal limit, according to OSP.

Mobley was cited and released to her husband, Undersheriff Zach Mobley, at the Baker County Jail, OSP said. Zach Mobley made arrangements to remove the vehicle stuck in the snow.

Mobley was placed on paid administrative leave by the county March 18, 2019.

Grant County officials

have declined to discuss the circumstances surrounding the leave or to provide documents requested by the *Blue Mountain Eagle*, stating the information was part of a "pending criminal investigation being conducted by a third-party state agency."

The Oregon Department of Justice confirmed an investigation involving Mobley was still ongoing in December 2019, but Communications Director Kristina Edmunson has not responded to an email from the *Eagle* sent Jan. 3.

Mobley's wages and benefits cost the county between \$5,600 and \$7,100 per month, so more than 10 months of administrative leave has cost the county between \$58,000 and \$75,000.

## BRIEFLY

### Two plead innocent in assault case, warrant search in January

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — Two Walla Walla men arrested in connection with a warrant search of a home in January pleaded not guilty this week in Walla Walla Superior Court.

Kenneth C. Hull, 27, was arraigned on the domestic violence charge of intimidating a witness. He pleaded not guilty on Tuesday, and his trial was scheduled for April 21.

Quentin N. Hunter, 24, was arraigned on charges of first-degree assault while armed with a firearm, second-degree unlawful firearm possession and unlawful aiming/discharging a firearm.

Hunter pleaded not guilty on Monday, and his trial was scheduled for March 30.

Hull's charge stems from Jenean A. Lucero, aka Jenean A. Ferguson, 26, telling police on Jan. 28 she had taken a reportedly stolen gun from Hull he hid under a couch when police responded to her home earlier for a domestic problem.

She said the gun was given to Hull "for protection" by Hunter. Hunter purchased the

gun for \$50, she said, and she didn't want Hull to have it because it was "hot," or used in a crime, records stated.

### Man who shot at police on Christmas Day a no-show in court

BEND — The man accused of firing a gun at police during a traffic stop outside La Pine is now a fugitive.

James Tyler Lamkin, 29, who was scheduled to enter a plea Tuesday in Deschutes County Circuit Court, didn't show up.

Now, the court has forfeited his bond and police are seeking clues to track him down.

"We'll catch him," said Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel.

Lamkin has several prior arrests in Deschutes County for nonviolent misdemeanors. Lamkin survived the shooting incident Christmas Day without injury, despite a deputy firing eight shots into Lamkin's vehicle.

"We will consider his history in the decision-making to safely take him back into custody," said Sgt. William Bailey, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office spokesman.

— EO Media Group and wire services

**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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