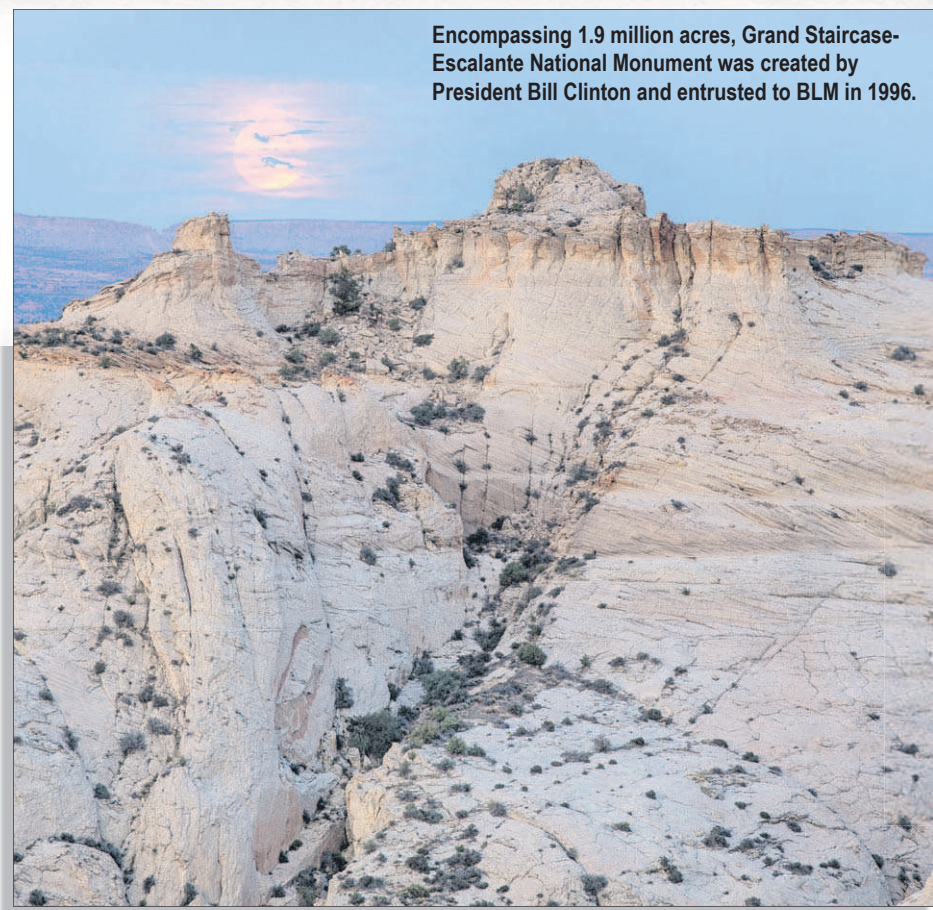


Fourth of a four-part series

# OUR FEDERAL LANDS



Encompassing 1.9 million acres, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was created by President Bill Clinton and entrusted to BLM in 1996.

## The Immutable Public Lands

1946 Sen. Edward V. Robertson introduces legislation calling for ceding unreserved federal lands to state control; U.S. Grazing Service and General Land Office merge to form the Bureau of Land Management.



underdeveloped federal lands to preserve their natural condition.

1966 National Historic Preservation Act expands protection of prehistoric, historic properties.

1969 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires all federal agencies to assess their environmental impact.

1970 President Richard Nixon creates the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a non-cabinet government agency to monitor and enforce environmental laws.

1973 Endangered Species Act provides federal protection to threatened plants, animals and the ecosystems they rely upon.

1976 Federal Lands Policy and Management Act requires public lands remain in federal ownership and maintained for multiple use; repeals all pre-existing Homestead Acts, phasing out homesteading.

1979 Nevada and four other western states pass legislation calling for the

return of BLM-managed lands to the states. The "Sagebrush Rebellion" gains political allies in President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of the Interior James Watt.

1990 The Northern Spotted Owl is designated a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act, thereby affecting timber sales on federal land within its range.



1996 Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument is designated as BLM's first national monument.

2008 BLM-managed lands are officially designated as the National System of Public Lands.

Today The federal government owns and manages approximately 630 million acres, roughly 28 percent of the 2.3 billion acres that make up the U.S. land base.

Sources: Congressional Research Service; U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management; USDA Forest Service; The Forest History Society; EO Media Group research

Alan Kenaga/Capital Press



The Eagle/Sean Hart

Ruby Hopper, 3, Mt. Vernon, paints with watercolors at the community art show Saturday at the airport in John Day. Her grandmother Joan Hopper showed work at the event.

## SHOW

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Carmen McCormick, Seneca, said it was her second time showing her watercolors at the show. She said the show featured more art than she expected, and she plans to return next year.

from her new novel, "A Hero at Heart," at the show and said she enjoyed the experience. She said her favorite part of being an artist is pouring herself into her work.

"Keep the love in it," she said. "Don't get bogged down in the details or when you mess up. Keep doing what you love."

## SHOOTING

Continued from Page A1

On a remarkable cellphone video shot by militant Shawna Cox, Finicum can be heard repeatedly ignoring commands from law enforcement to surrender. He's also heard insisting that officers shoot him.

Finicum was hit with three bullets in the back. Those were justified, investigators said.

Oregon State Troopers shot Finicum, an Arizona rancher, along Highway 395 on Jan. 26. He was en route to a meeting in John Day, along with Ammon and Ryan Bundy, Ryan Payne, and several

other of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupiers.

When law enforcement officials stopped the convoy carrying these militants, Cox began recording on her phone. Investigators were able to sync law enforcement footage with Cox's cellphone footage.

During the press conference, the officials played the footage, which showed people in the vehicle carrying Finicum, Cox, Payne and one of the Bundy brothers refusing commands by law enforcement to stop and get out of their vehicle.

At one point in the video, Finicum told Oregon State Police to back down. Finicum said he was going to meet

Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer and prompted officials to "go ahead and shoot me" if they wanted stop him.

After a few minutes of discussion inside the vehicle, Finicum approached the roadblock at 70 mph, officials said Tuesday.

The Central Oregon Major Incident team led this investigation. At the request of Harney County District Attorney Tim Colahan, Malheur County District Attorney Daniel Norris also reviewed the investigation, officials said.

The FBI said Finicum had a loaded 9 mm semi-automatic handgun in the left inside pocket that he reached for before being shot.

The federal investigation, conducted by the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General, will determine whether a member of the hostage rescue team failed to disclose firing at Finicum as he left the truck and whether anyone participated in a cover up over those shots.

"The county's investigation also indicated that, in between the two series of shots fired by OSP troopers, one, and possibly two, additional shots were fired by law enforcement as Mr. Finicum was exiting the vehicle after hitting the snow bank," U.S. Attorney Billy Williams said. "The question of who fired these shots has not been resolved."

## SESSION

Continued from Page A1

the possibility those groups would recruit primary challengers, and the March 8 candidate filing deadline loomed over the session.

Courtney said he did his best to ease tensions in the Senate, and that included the decision not to ask the state police to track down missing Republicans. "I didn't want to call out the state police," Courtney said. "Lord, I didn't want to do that."

### Minimum wage

Both chambers passed unprecedented minimum wage legislation last month that gives significant raise over a seven-year period and customizes the increases to regional population density, income and other economic factors. Gov. Kate Brown signed the bill Wednesday.

"It is my belief this bill is the most important vote we'll cast this session, and

I'll guarantee you it's the most important vote we're going to cast today to the hundreds of thousands of Oregonians who need the real help in their lives that this bill will provide," said Senate President Pro Tem Diane Rosenbaum.

Senate Bill 1532 sets different minimums in each of three regions according to a county's population, median income and cost of living. By 2022, wages will reach \$14.75 in the Portland area, \$12.50 in rural and coastal counties with struggling economies and \$13.50 in the rest of the state by 2022.

The first pay bump starts in July, from \$9.25 to \$9.75 statewide.

Reps. Brian Clem, D-Salem, and John Davis, R-Wilsonville, tried to come up with a last-ditch effort to give tax credits to offset the cost of the increases to farmers and small businesses owners who expressed fear that the expense could drive them out of business. Concerns about how those limited tax credits would be divided up put a wrench in the bill and forced a deci-

sion to wait on the proposal until the 2017 session, Clem said.

### Renewable energy

Another top priority for legislative Democrats this session was a controversial bill to double Oregon's existing renewable energy mandate and stop the state's two largest utilities from paying for coal power. The bill also greatly expands incentives for power plants that burn garbage and wood.

The Senate passed the bill on Wednesday on a near party line vote, with Sen. Betsy Johnson, D-Scappoose, joining Republicans to vote "no" on the bill. Since the House already passed the legislation, it goes next to the governor for her signature. Brown has suggested that she supports the bill, but has not said publicly whether she will sign it.

Portland General Electric already plans to close Oregon's only coal power plant in Boardman by 2020 and stop purchasing coal power from out of state. But the bill will ensure Portland General Electric follows through on

that plan, and it will force PacifiCorp to stop buying out-of-state coal power to serve Oregon customers.

The bill requires PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric and any new municipal electric utilities to get 50 percent of their power from renewable sources such as wind and solar by 2040. Representatives of Portland General Electric and a renewable energy advocacy group said during a hearing last month this means the biggest impact of the bill could be to discourage utilities from replacing coal with natural gas, although utilities will still need new natural gas facilities to provide reliable power when the wind is not blowing and the sun is not shining.

### Housing

House Democrats early in the session negotiated a deal with affordable housing advocates, real estate lobbyists and builders on a plan to help increase the state's stock of affordable housing while making some concessions to developers. The deal yielded a bill to end the state's 17-year ban on requiring developers to include affordable housing in their plans, a measure to prohibit rent increases in the first year of month-to-month tenancies and increase notice for rent increases from 30 to 90 days, a pilot affordable housing program for smaller communities and controversial measure to allow annexations without going to the people for a vote.

House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, said lawmakers would work to address the housing crisis again in 2017.

By the end of the session, however, Republicans agreed to up the tempo, after Democrats made some concessions in the interest of wrapping up before the weekend.

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