

Logging gear vandalized near Bend

By MICHAEL KOHN
The Bulletin

BEND — T2 Inc., a Sweet Home-based timber company recently operating near Bend, reports that its equipment was damaged by vandals during a controversial logging project in the Deschutes National Forest.

Company owner Jeremy Totman said vandals stuffed combustible garbage into the exhaust pipes of company equipment last month.

Totman did not elaborate on any damage that may have occurred to company equipment.

The logging company is under contract with the national forest to conduct a thinning project in the Phil's Trail area that involved cutting large trees greater than 21 inches in diameter.

"It's pretty sad when a story is reported about some controversial trees being removed, that our equipment would then be vandalized," Totman wrote in an email. "The vandalism was intended to cause harm to our equipment, employees and potentially the forest by placing combustible garbage in our exhaust pipes."



Courtesy Oregon Wild

Large trees — but not old-growth trees — were logged recently near Phil's Trail west of Bend.

On March 3, Bend-based non-profit Oregon Wild protested the decision to cut the large trees and organized a petition to rally the public to stop the project.

Sgt. Jayson Janes, a Deschutes County Sheriff's Office spokesman, said T2 reported the alleged vandalism on March 7.

"There is no dollar amount of

damage," Janes said. "They just wanted to make us aware."

Totman said he has been operating in Deschutes County for 15 years and had never before encountered threats or vandalism to his property.

"We have never seen controversy like this on any other timber sale, after we have already started the project," said Totman. "This specific restoration project had been planned for several years."

Oregon Wild said it condemns the incident but stands by its call to protect the trees.

"Oregon Wild opposes vandalism, period," said Erik Fernandez, wilderness program manager for Oregon Wild. "We also remain disappointed that the Forest Service approved the logging of dozens of century-old trees that can't be glued back together."

Jean Nelson-Dean, a spokesperson for the Deschutes National Forest, said around 24 large trees were felled in the Phil's Trail area as part of a project to restore forest habitat and reduce the probability of a large wildfire.

The trees had been marked for

removal for two and a half years, said Nelson-Dean, and an environmental analysis and timber sale was made prior to the marking of the trees.

Work in the Phil's Trail area started in March, with weekday closures to Lower Whoops and Pine Drops, as well as portions of Phil's Trail and Storm King Trail. The trails open up to the public at 3 p.m. on Friday and close again at midnight on Sunday. When the project began, Nelson-Dean estimated that the work would take "a few months" to complete.

Nelson-Dean emphasized that the trees that were cut make up just a "small number" compared to the scale of the landscape restoration taking place across the 275,000 acre Deschutes Collaborative Project area.

"We are focused on the larger landscape and making sure that we retain our forests by reducing the effects of catastrophic wildfire and making our forests more resilient to disease and insect infestations," said Nelson-Dean. "We have many examples of how the work we do makes a difference."

COPS AND COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Grant County Circuit Court

March 31: Matthew Walker was convicted of contempt of court and sentenced to 30 days in jail and one year of probation and was ordered to obtain an anger management assessment and — if necessary — enroll in a treatment program within 30 days of the assessment.

March 31: Ian Humbird, 26, pleaded guilty to one count of misdemeanor criminal trespass in the first degree and one count of misdemeanor escape in the third degree in connection with an incident that occurred on April 30, 2021. In a different case, Humbird pleaded guilty to another count of misdemeanor criminal trespass in connection with an incident on May 5, 2021, and in another case Humbird pleaded guilty to misdemeanor resisting arrest in connection with an incident on April 20, 2021.

Humbird was sentenced to 22 days in jail, 18 months of probation and 20 hours of community service. The sentences will run concurrently. He was also ordered to pay a \$100 fine, have no contact with the victims and abstain from using drugs and alcohol while on probation.

March 31: Evan Hodge, 43, pleaded guilty to misde-

meanor harassment in connection with an incident on Jan. 21. He was sentenced to one year of bench probation and ordered to complete 20 hours of community service and have no contact with the victim unless and until approved by the victim. He was also ordered to pay \$200 restitution to the victim and a \$100 fine.

April 1: Vega Nunez, 75, pleaded no contest to a count of disorderly conduct in connection with an incident on Aug. 31. Nunez was ordered to pay a fine of \$440.

Oregon State Police April 5

At 8:40 a.m. Oregon State Police Wildlife Division responded to a report of multiple dead turkeys on South Fork Road south of Dayville.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week ending April 6:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 18
- Average inmates: 11
- Bookings: 4
- Releases: 4
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 8
- Civil papers: 8
- Warrants processed: 8
- Asst./welfare check: 1
- Search and rescue: 0

Justice Court

The Grant County Justice Court reported the following activity for the week ending April 6.

Persons on probation: 45
Traffic citations filed: 10
Small claims/civil filed: 1
Hearings held: 17

Violation of the basic rule: James Hammar, 63, Spray, March 23, 79/55 zone, fined \$265.

Robin Olterman, 61, March 14, 75/55 zone, fined \$265; Ann Lee, 43, John Day, 83/55 fined \$265.

Exceeding the speed limit: Dale Funkhouser, 62, Crane, March 1, 85/65 zone, fined \$265; Elizabeth Sherbaugh, 58, Mt. Vernon, 49/30 zone, fined \$165; Malcolm Zoon, 26, Bend, 80/65, fined \$225; Erica Paraskevavkos, 55/35, fined \$165.

Failure to yield to bus lights: Ardin Hoyt, 31, Canyon City, March 1, fined \$440.

Careless driving: Arlin Hoyt, 31, Canyon City, March 1, 5/20 zone, fined \$265.

Dispatch

Grant County dispatch worked 114 calls during the week ending April 6, including:

• Oregon State Police

April 1

10:10 a.m.: Advised of a driving complaint on Highway 26 and North River Road.

April 3

1:15 a.m.: Provided dispatch with information regarding a non-injury accident on Highway 26 near Austin Junction.

1:34 p.m.: Received a report of a suspended driver near the Outpost on Main Street in John Day.

• Grant County Sheriff's Office

April 1

10:30 a.m. Responded to a restraining order violation in Canyon City.

1:08 p.m.: Received a report of a theft at South Washington Street in Canyon City.

1:16 p.m. Received a report of a theft at Industrial Park Road in John Day.

6 p.m.: Cited Oleg Oleyunik, 31, of Philadelphia for speeding, 47/25 zone.

April 2

4:15 p.m.: Responded to a 911 cellphone call of a domestic dispute at John Day City Park and arrested Aleyda Wilson, 33, of John Day.

8:24 p.m.: Advised of a black cow on Highway 26 near milepost 147.

9:56 p.m. Responded to Blue Mountain Hospital for a domestic situation.

April 3

8:27 a.m.: Advised of a suspicious vehicle at the Mt. Vernon Community Center.

8:46 a.m.: Advised of harassment by phone at Cottonwood Street in Mt. Vernon.

10:08 a.m.: Responded to a report of littering on Highway 26.

11 a.m.: Responded to a report of an abandoned vehicle on Patterson Bridge Road, John Day.

12:07 p.m.: Advised of a dispute at Meadowbrook Apartments in John Day.

5:38 p.m.: Advised of a trespassing complaint on North Cozart Street in John Day.

5:46 p.m.: Responded to a driving complaint on Childress Lane in John Day.

8:48 p.m.: Received a complaint and warned owner about barking dogs on Southwest Brent Street in John Day.

9:54 p.m.: Advised of a driving complaint at Meadowbrook Apartments in John Day.

April 4

3:11 p.m.: Responded with Oregon Trail Electric Co-op for a report of a downed power line on Barnes Avenue in John Day.

5:56 p.m.: Advised of a hog in the road on Highway 26 near milepost 142.

8:06 p.m.: Advised of a cow in the road on Highway 26 near milepost 148.

April 5

12:07 p.m.: Received a driving complaint at Grant Union High School.

3:46 p.m.: Grant County Parole & Probation arrested Michael Roberts, 44, on Humbolt Street in Canyon City on a state parole board warrant.

11:08 p.m.: Responded to a 911 call for a dispute at the Elkhorn Motel in John Day. John Day Ambulance took a 35-year-old female to Blue Mountain Hospital for a fractured hand.

April 6

12:28 p.m.: Arrested Scott Lee, 28, in John Day on a state parole board warrant.

1:06 p.m.: Received a report of harassment by phone on West Main Street in John Day.

• John Day Ambulance

April 1

7:17 a.m.: Dispatched to South Main Street, John Day, for an 88-year-old male with

severe weakness.

April 2

8:10 p.m.: Paged with Seneca Ambulance to East Avenue in Seneca for an 84-year-old female requesting an ambulance.

April 3

1:02 p.m.: Responded to a 911 call for a possible seizure on Valley View Drive in John Day.

April 4

1:31 p.m.: Responded with Prairie City Ambulance to Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City for a female who had fallen.

2:20 p.m.: Patient transport Boise.

April 5

4:59 p.m.: Patient transport.

April 5

11:48 a.m.: Paged to Valley View Assisted Living for an elderly woman with flu-like symptoms.

12:58 p.m.: Responded to Len's Pharmacy for an elderly male who fell and hit his head.

1:38 p.m.: Dispatched to Valley View Assisted Living in John Day for a 78-year-old female with stroke symptoms.

April 6

12:20 a.m.: Responded to a 911 call from Valley View Drive in John Day for a 74-year-old female who had a series of falls.

11:04 a.m.: Dispatched with Long Creek Ambulance to Southeast Eagle in Long Creek for an 82-year-old man with stroke symptoms.

12:39 p.m.: Paged to South Canyon Boulevard for a 67-year-old female with a diabetic issue.

ATTORNEYS

AT LAW

Strawberry Mountain Law, PC

206 S. Humbolt Street • Canyon City, OR 97820
541-575-5750 • office@strawberrymountainlaw.com

• Criminal Law • Family Law • Wills & Probate • Notary Public

Grant County (Canyon City)
Kati Dunn, Will Thomson, Jeff MacNeilly
Baker (Baker City) Kyra Rohner
Malheur County (Vale)
Marcus Oatman and Kyra Rohner

Write in

mark WEBB

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

- Healthy Landscapes
- Healthy Communities
- Effective Government

Vote for Mark Webb

x

WritelnMarkWebb.com

EFSP

Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program

GRANT COUNTY AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS

ARPAN SSA ALLOCATION OF THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM

Grant County has been selected to receive an award of \$4,953 for the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is charged by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Council of Jewish Federations, Catholic Charities USA, National Council of Churches of Christ USA, and United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

The Local Board will determine how Grant County's award is to be distributed among emergency food and / or shelter programs run by local service agencies. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive federal funds made available through the ARPAN SSA Allocation.

Under the terms of the National Board award, local organizations chosen to receive funds must be a private voluntary non-profit or unit of government eligible to receive federal funds, with an accounting system and federal employer identification number. Organizations must demonstrate the capability to deliver qualified emergency food and/or shelter programs. Private voluntary organizations must have a voluntary board and practice non-discrimination. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Grant County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously to the Grant County Food Bank, Prairie City Baptist Church Food Bank and Monument Food Bank. These agencies were responsible for providing food to qualifying local citizens. Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds under the ARPAN SSA Allocation may request an application by contacting 541-575-0059, Grant County Court Office, 201 S. Humbolt Street, No. 280, Canyon City, OR 97820. Completed applications are due before 5:00 pm Wednesday, April 27th, 2022.