



ARCH CAPE WATER DISTRICT

Forest land forms the backdrop of Arch Cape.

Arch Cape forest plan draws questions from community

Project is aimed to protect area watershed

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

A project that would conserve 2,100 acres of forest land in Arch Cape's watershed continues to move forward.

About 50 people in the Arch Cape area came to learn about the ongoing community forest project in a November public forum.

Water treatment issues are part of the driving force behind why Arch Cape Water District and other community partners want their 2,100-acre watershed as a community forest. The designation would allow the water district to manage, conserve and harvest the forestland as they see fit with community input.

The Arch Cape community forest concept grew out of the North Coast Land Conservancy's Rainforest Reserve campaign, which seeks to conserve 3500 acres of timberland above Arch Cape and adjacent to Oswald West State Park.

The water district is working with the North Coast Land Conservancy and Sustainable Northwest to raise enough money to buy the land from Ecotrust Forest Management, which is managing the property until the district can afford the purchase.

Water district board president Ron Schiffman, a resident for four decades, said this was a rare opportunity to make a dream a reality. Community forest models are common in other parts of the country, but fairly uncommon in the Pacific Northwest.

"It's important now because we have a willing seller," Schiffman said. "We've never had that before. If we don't buy it, they will log it themselves or sell it to another logging company."

Schiffman said the water treatment has to shut down the plant each year to remove five dump trucks worth of sediment from run-off, which the district attributes to what they consider inadequate stream buffers and heavy rains.

"And you're paying for that in your water bill," he said.

While forum participants appeared to embrace the idea, some had questions about how it was going to be funded. The water district is currently in the running for a \$5.5 million federal forest grant, but rough price estimates suggest the total purchase price could be as much as \$7 million.

Bob Cerelli, a longtime resident, in theory likes the idea, and "hasn't talked to anyone around town who is against it."

"But ultimately, you have to present to us how much this is going to cost us. Otherwise

it's impossible for us to know whether or not to go for it," Cerelli said.

Ben Dair, senior manager of conservation finance at Sustainable Northwest, said addressing that question is difficult given that the project is in early stages. If the district receives the grant, then they can explore different grant opportunities, small-interest loans and philanthropy to fill in the gap.

Formal appraisals of the timber by both the district and the property managers are also underway, which will help establish a more set price.

But whatever happens needs to happen within the next three years or so, Schiffman said, as the owners have agreed to manage the property for only a limited amount of time.

When residents in the audience asked of the cost could be passed along to them through water rates, Schiffman said any decisions concerning rates or how to pay for the shortfall would be "a board decision" and involve public hearings.

"We are not going to burden the community with a \$7 million loan," Schiffman said.

Cannon Beach Leather
239 N. Hemlock • Cannon Beach • 503.436.0208

Brands: Remy, Scully, Schott, Whet blu, WILL, Brighton, Copoode Marley

THE WINE SHACK
EST. 1977
CANNON BEACH

CANNON BEACH'S BEST SELECTION OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON WINE!

UPCOMING TASTINGS
Dec 1 • Puffin & Friends!
Dec 8 • Walla Walla Wines
Dec 15 • Wine Shack Favorites
Dec 22 • Holiday Favorites
Dec 25 • Christmas Day Wine Tasting

"Best Wine Shop"
- 2016 & 2018 Reader's Choice Award

Shack Hours
Sunday - Thursday
11am to 5pm
Friday & Saturday
11am to 5:30pm

Tasting Room Hours
Daily • 1 to 5pm

124 N. HEMLOCK, CANNON BEACH - 503.436.1100 - WWW.THEWINE SHACK.WINE

Save the date!

Mark your calendars for this pre-Christmas event. Find that perfect gift at our silent auction and raffle.

Sat Dec 8 9am-4pm

Fort George Lovell Showroom
225 14th St. • Astoria
Questions? Call 503.861.0737

Dress up your pet for photos with Santa

And make sure you're hungry because our fabulous bake sale is back!

Enter to win one of our grand raffle prizes!

A Day with a Columbia River Bar Pilot. An exciting opportunity to learn about the entire Bar Pilot operation, including riding out and watching a pilot boarding or disembarking. Tickets \$25 or 5 for \$100.

Clatsop Animal Assistance' Annual Holiday Party & Fundraiser
www.dogsncats.org

Silent Auction Raffle AND MORE!

Pot pix with Santa Fabulous Bake Sale

CLATSOP ANIMAL ASSISTANCE

Making Sweet Memories for over 55 Sweet Years!

TWO LOCATIONS
Downtown Cannon Beach & Seaside Outlet Mall

THE ONLY TAFFY MADE IN CANNON BEACH!

Fall is the SWEETEST time of year, we've homemade caramel apples, salt water taffy, caramel corn and so much more!

Bruce's Candy Kitchen
Making Sweet Memories Since 1963
WE CAN SHIP CANDY DIRECTLY TO YOU!

www.brucescandy.com • 503-436-2641 • 503-738-7828

PUBLIC MEETINGS	
TUESDAY, Dec. 4 Cannon Beach City Council, 7:00 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.	E. Gower St. Cannon Beach Design Review Board Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.
TUESDAY, Dec. 11 Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.	THURSDAY, Dec. 27 Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.
THURSDAY, Dec. 13 Cannon Beach Academy Board of Directors, 5:30 p.m., 3781 S. Hemlock.	TUESDAY, Jan. 8 Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.
Seaside School District Board of Directors, 6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin.	TUESDAY, Jan. 15 Seaside School District Board of Directors, 6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin.
TUESDAY, Dec. 18 Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.	Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.
THURSDAY, Dec. 20 Parks and Community Services Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163	MONDAY, Jan. 21 Ecola Creek Watershed Council, 4:30 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

COREtec
the Original
Luxury vinyl planks and tile.

Carpet Corner
Flooring Installation

you walk on our reputation

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

PAINTING

Licensed • Bonded • Insured
CCB# 89453

Randy Anderson
36 Years Experience

Anderson Painting

(503) 738-9989 • Cell (503) 440-2411 • Fax (503) 738-9337
PO Box 140 Seaside, Oregon 97138

www.andersonpainting.biz

"Custom Finishing"

CONSTRUCTION

BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL
SITE PREPARATION • ROCK

OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN

503-738-3569

34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR

SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

LANDSCAPING

Laurelwood Compost • Mulch • Planting MacMix
Soil Amendments

YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF
(no Scotch Broom)

503-717-1454

34154 HIGHWAY 26
SEASIDE, OR

Laurelwood Farm

CONSTRUCTION

COASTER
construction, LLC

"Helping shape the character of Cannon Beach since 1973"

Residential • Commercial • Remodeling
New Construction • Storm Damage Repair
Full Service Custom Cabinet Shop

503.436.2235

www.coasterconstruction.com • CCB# 150126

STORAGE

STORAGE AVAILABLE

CANNON BEACH BUSINESS PARK

10' x 10' Heated

Contact Holly at 503-436-2235

LAWN CARE

Free Estimates • Storm Clean-Up

JIM'S LAWN CARE
503-325-2445

LAWNS • SHRUBS • GUTTER CLEANING
BARK • BRUSH CLEARING & REMOVAL
WEEDING • HAULING • MONTHLY RATES