



KATHERINE LACAZE PHOTO/SEASIDE SIGNAL

It took about 45 minutes for emergency responders to extricate a woman from a car that collided with a logging truck on U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart on Tuesday morning.

Two women injured in motor vehicle accident on Highway 101 in Gearhart

Driver of car backed up into path of logging truck

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Two people were injured in a two-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart on the morning of Dec. 29.

A call went out about 10:42 a.m. that a car and a logging truck collided at 3621 Highway 101, near the Providence Rehabilitation Services office and Encore Dance Studio.

Gearhart Fire Department, Seaside Fire & Rescue, Medix and Gearhart and Seaside police departments responded.

According to Gearhart Police Chief Jeff Bowman and witnesses on the scene, the woman driving the car had pulled out of the business plaza to make a left and merge onto the southbound lane of U.S. Highway 101. However, there was not an opening for her to pull into the lane, so she tried to back up. She backed

up "right into the path of the log truck," Bowman said.

The driver of the Nygaard Logging truck, traveling north, applied his brakes but could not stop the vehicle in time. His truck hit the passenger side of the car.

Besides the driver, there was one passenger in the car. The police department has not identified the women at this time.

One woman was able to get out of the car and was walking. It took emergency responders about 45 minutes to extricate the other woman; they cut the roof off the car. Both were transported to Columbia Memorial Hospital, because its services include a trauma center, Bowman said. They were then transported to a Portland-area hospital. Bowman on Monday said he would not issue the driver any citations.

The driver of the logging truck was uninjured and able to drive the truck away from the scene by about 11:50 a.m.



R.J. MARX PHOTO/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Two women were injured after it was hit by a logging truck Tuesday, Dec. 29.

Three-vehicle crash injures two, damages building

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

A three-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart on Saturday caused damage to a telephone pole and office building and sent two people to the hospital with minor injuries.

At about 3:12 p.m., Gearhart Police Department responded to an accident on the highway near G Street.

The driver of a Chevrolet Camaro was attempting to make a left-hand turn onto the highway from G Street, Police Chief Jeff Bowman said. When he pulled out to make his turn, "he failed to notice a black pick-up truck traveling southbound," Bowman said. The truck hit the Camaro. The driver of the Camaro then veered across the highway, hitting a Toyota Corolla traveling northbound, he said.

The Camaro, after colliding with both cars, crashed into a telephone pole.

The driver of the Corolla tried swerving right to avoid being hit by the Camaro and crashed into the office building containing Mike's Computer Repair and Pacific Paint. The impact caused "a lot of damage to the building," Bowman said.

The airbags were deployed when the vehicle hit the building. The driver and a passenger were transported by a Medix ambulance to Providence Seaside Hospital. A rear passenger in the vehicle was uninjured, Bowman said.

The drivers of the other vehicles were not injured.

Law enforcement directed traffic. The highway was reduced to one lane of traffic for about an hour. The area was cleared about 4:12 p.m.

Anticipating the impact of climate change

Join climatologist John Stevenson as he kicks off the 2016 season of Listening to the Land presentations, focused on the theme of water. "Climate Change and the Coast" takes place Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 6 p.m. at the Seaside Public Library. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

Listening to the Land is a monthly winter speaker series offered January through May and presented by North Coast Land Conservancy and the Necanicum Watershed Council in partnership with the Seaside Public Library. Learn more at NCLCtrust.org.

To all of you that ever sat under a tree on a hot August afternoon sipping lemonade or after school doing homework, or climbed a tree and sat on its branches, slept overnight in a tree house, swung in a tire from a tree branch, jumped from a branch into a swimming hole, or just had a tree best friend growing up — this letter is directed to you.

The trees need your help and they deserve your help. On Jan. 19, three units of the Homesteader Tract of Buster Creek Basin in the Clatsop State Forest will be auctioned off by Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) despite the thousands of phone calls and letters to Doug Decker, Oregon chief forester, asking (actually begging) him to either cancel or delay this auction.

This tract is home to trees that are over 200 feet tall, over 100 years old, and up to five feet in diameter. The forest floor boasts ferns as tall as a man's chest. This is a multi-culture forest and needs to be saved. For pictures showing the beauty of this amazing piece of north Oregon coast, go to the North Coast State Forest Coalition website. On the north coast of Oregon, for an old growth forest — this is it — a healthy ecosystem home to some of the few remaining old trees on the north coast.

ODF says they are raising revenues for Clatsop County. The question is: Does Clatsop County need funds bad enough to destroy this forest, or is ODF creating a fake revenue crisis to support their plans to destroy this forest? Have the citizens of Clatsop County been polled to see how they feel? After all, the state forests, just like the state parks, belong to the public. In my naiveté I thought the job of ODF was to protect these assets for all of us.

We have just survived a very serious storm with floods, slides and road washouts. This tract is along the Nehalem River and is part of the watershed for both Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Destroying this forest would create additional complications for the watershed during serious storms.

Interesting enough is the ODF website where they describe the type of forests they plan to create in Oregon. That description fits the Homesteader Tract in Buster Basin. So why destroy it?

At the Paris Climate Conference, major corporations and countries around the

world committed to plans that would protect the world's forests, and to regenerate those destroyed. ODF should be leading and supporting these efforts.

There are many, many arguments against destruction of this forest. The North Coast State Forest Coalition website, the Upper Left Edge website, and the Aug. 15 issue of HipFISH all carry articles discussing why destruction of this forest is a very bad idea.

The Coast Range Association, Oregon Wild and the Portland office of the Nature Conservancy have all been notified. They are only effective because you are behind them. A call to these organizations for help could make a positive difference.

I would like to suggest you call Mr. Decker but he won't take your calls. He has, instead, forwarded calls to the Astoria ODF office. You can try writing but there is no guarantee he will read your letter. Still, you all need to know that this is going down.

ODF did request public input before it was decided to clear-cut this tract. I wonder, was the decision to clear-cut this forest decided before the public commented? It seems to me if ODF cared about public opinion, this coming auction would be delayed in the hope that a win-win solution could be worked out. I am still naive enough to believe this is possible.

I am a 76-year-old single woman living in Nehalem. It is the time of the year when, like you, I re-evaluate my goals: What is precious to me, what makes me smile, what makes me feel joy. It is time for us (like our lobbyists, our major corporations) to be relentless in pursuit of what is important to us.

I am not anti-logging. I use wood like many others, but I subscribe to the Nature Conservancy approach. Spare the old trees; select cutting or thinning the forests is a healthy way to provide needed wood and to provide necessary funds.

Louise Christianson
Nehalem

TOP BRANDS. FACTORY-DIRECT PRICES.
FREE COUPON BOOK AT WINE & BEER HAUS OR ONLINE,
WWW.SEASIDEOUTLETS.COM.

Seaside
OUTLETS

WINTER HOURS
JANUARY-MARCH

SUNDAY-THURSDAY 10-6, FRIDAY-SATURDAY 10-8

BOOK WAREHOUSE • BRUCE'S CANDY KITCHEN
• CARTER'S • CHRISTOPHER & BANKS • CLAIRE'S
• DAISY MAY'S SANDWICH SHOP • DRESS BARN
& DRESS BARN WOMEN • EDDIE BAUER •
FAMOUS FOOTWEAR OUTLET • GNC • HELLY
HANSEN • KITCHEN COLLECTION • L'EGGS HANS
BALI PLAYTEX EXPRESS • NIKE FACTORY STORE
• OSH KOSH B'GOSH • PENDLETON • PERFECT
LOOK • RACK ROOM SHOES • RUE 21 • SEASIDE
SHIPPING CENTER • THE WINE & BEER HAUS •
TOKYO TERIYAKI • TOYS "R" US • TREE OF LIFE
CHRISTIAN OUTLET • VAN HEUSEN • ZUMIEZ



12TH AVE. & HWY. 101
SEASIDE, OR
503.717.1603