

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

January 24, 2003 Hearing Room B
8:30 am Tapes 3 - 4

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Sen. Frank Shields, Chair**
 Sen. Roger Beyer, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Tony Corcoran
 Sen. Bill Fisher

STAFF PRESENT: **Judith Callens, Administrator**
 Megan Jensen, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **Informational Meeting**
 Department of Agriculture overview
 Department of Forestry overview

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/# **Speaker** **Comments**

TAPE 3, A

012 Chair Calls meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. Opens informational meeting.
 Shields

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

015 **Chuck** **Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Deputy Director.** Discusses
 Craig ODA overview.

- Oregon Farmer's Handbook (**EXHIBIT A**)
- Agriculture Resources Directory (**EXHIBIT B**)
- 2001-2002 facts and figures (**EXHIBIT C**)
- Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics (**EXHIBIT D**)

078 Craig Discusses ODA organization and structure (**EXHIBIT E**). Discusses three
 concerns:

- Find ways to continue to provide services with declining revenues
- Strengthen efforts to expand markets
- Develop system of pesticide reporting

125 Craig Discusses ODA 2003 Legislative Concepts (**EXHIBIT F**). Comments on
 SB 241, which repeals sunset on quarantine civil penalty authority.

138 Sen. Inquires why a sunset was put on quarantine civil penalty authority.
 Corcoran

140 Craig Responds. Discusses legislative overview:

- SB 242 - Requests statutory authority to inspect and certify processes used in connection with horticultural and agricultural products
- HB 2194 - Changes the billing period for ODA services
- HB 2254 - Increases livestock brand renewal fee and timeline

238 Sen. Asks about horses and mules as Oregon commodity.
 Beyer

248 Craig Responds.

253 Sen. Comments on SB 241 and support of Christmas tree farmers.
 Beyer

268 Craig Responds that ODA has issued warnings instead of assessing civil penalties
 for Christmas tree farmers in the past. Discusses quarantine penalties.

338 Chair Asks about civil penalty procedures and policy for Christmas tree growers
 Shields who do not comply.

368 Craig Responds.

398 Sen. Comments on putting off the sunset on civil penalty authority.
 Beyer

TAPE 4, A

005 Craig Responds.

012 **Ted** **Department of Forestry (ODF) Assistant State Forester.** Discusses ODF
 Lorensen overview (**EXHIBIT G**). Discusses fire prevention House bills:

- HB 2196 - Provides contracting exceptions for fire fighting and emergency services
- HB 2200 - Provides firefighter liability relief
- HB 2201 - Provides railroad fire prevention and liability
- HB 2202 - Establishes conditions to take action on fires on unprotected lands

130 Lorensen Discusses Pacific Rivers Council v. Brown lawsuit against the State
 Forester, which claimed a violation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
 Discusses state forest management.

185 Sen. Asks how HB 2202 differs from previous session bills.
 Beyer

192 Lorensen Responds that the bill scales down responsibility for land owners.

208	Sen. Beyer	Inquires how federal lands are affected under the unprotected lands plan.
214	Lorensen	Responds.
230	Chair Shields	Requests clarification on federal lands issue.
235	Lorensen	Clarifies.
255	Sen. Beyer	Comments on sensitivity of issue.
266	Lorensen	Responds.
273	Chair Shields	Inquires about changes in the fire protection plan from the past 30 years to the present.
305	Lorensen	Explains that there are many differences and discusses issues.
393	Chair Shields	Asks about the relationship between state and federal forest management.

TAPE 3, B

002	Lorensen	Responds.
025	Chair Shields	Invites public response at a special hearing January 31. Closes informational meeting. Adjourns meeting at 9:37 a.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A – ODA, Oregon Farmers Handbook, C. Craig, 159 pp
B – ODA, Oregon Agriculture Resources Directory, C. Craig, 143 pp
C – ODA, Oregon Agriculture: Facts and Figures brochure, C. Craig, 2 pp
D – ODA, 2001-2002 Oregon Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics, C. Craig, 88 pp
E – ODA, The Agriculture Quarterly newsletter, C. Craig, 28 pp
F – ODA, 2003 Legislative Concepts, written testimony, C. Craig, 1 p
G – Department of Forestry, written testimony, T. Lorensen, 23 pp