

1 Opinion by Kellington.

2 **NATURE OF THE DECISION**

3 Petitioners appeal two orders of the county court. The
4 first order approves a partition of a 63.58 acre parcel
5 zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) into two parcels and a
6 conditional use permit for a nonfarm dwelling on one of the
7 parcels (Bootsma proposal). The second order approves a
8 partition of an adjacent 34 acre EFU zoned parcel into three
9 parcels and two conditional use permits for nonfarm
10 dwellings on those parcels (Eastland proposal).

11 **FACTS**

12 The subject land was originally owned by Bootsma in the
13 form of a 97.58 acre parent parcel. In 1992, the county
14 approved Bootsma's application to divide the parent parcel
15 into two parcels (subject parcels), consisting of 38.58
16 acres and 59 acres. In 1992, the county also approved two
17 conditional use permits for a nonfarm dwelling on each of
18 the subject parcels. In February, 1994, the county approved
19 a lot line adjustment for the subject parcels, adjusting
20 their sizes to 34 acres and 63.58 acres, respectively.¹ In
21 March, 1994, Bootsma sold the 34 acre parcel to Eastland.
22 In April, 1994, both Bootsma and Eastman submitted
23 applications to the county to divide their respective
24 parcels and for additional nonfarm dwelling approvals for

¹By definition, a lot line adjustment does not have the legal effect of dividing parcels. ORS 92.010(7)(b).

1 the proposed new parcels. The Bootsma proposal is to create
2 a 10 acre parcel and a 53.38 acre parcel, and to obtain
3 conditional use approval for an additional nonfarm dwelling.
4 The Eastland proposal is to create two 12 acre parcels and a
5 10 acre parcel, and to obtain conditional use approval for
6 two additional nonfarm dwellings. The planning commission
7 approved both proposals, and petitioners appealed to the
8 county court. The county court affirmed the planning
9 commission decision. This appeal followed.

10 **ASSIGNMENTS OF ERROR**

11 Petitioners assign several errors to the challenged
12 decisions. However, both decisions suffer from a single,
13 fatal defect. Therefore, we only address one of
14 petitioners' assignments. ORS 215.263(7) provides:

15 "The governing body of a county shall not approve
16 any proposed division of a lot or parcel [zoned
17 EFU] described in * * * ORS 215.284(1) or (2)."²

18 ORS 215.284(2) addresses approval of nonfarm dwellings
19 on EFU zoned land. The parcels described in ORS 215.284(2)
20 are parcels created before January 1, 1993.
21 ORS 215.284(2)(c). While somewhat awkward, read together,
22 ORS 215.263(7) and ORS 215.284(2)(c) prohibit the further
23 division of an EFU zoned parcel that was created before
24 January 1, 1993, on which a nonfarm dwelling has already

²ORS 215.284(1) pertains to land located within the Willamette Valley.
The subject parcels are not located within the Willamette Valley.

1 been approved. Here, the subject parcels were created
2 before January 1, 1993 and nonfarm dwellings on those
3 parcels have been approved by the county. Therefore,
4 ORS 215.263(7) and 215.284(2)(c) prohibit further division
5 of the subject parcels. Consequently, the challenged
6 decision, which purports to approve further divisions of the
7 subject parcels, is erroneous as a matter of law and must be
8 reversed. OAR 661-10-071(1)(c).

9 The county's decisions are reversed.