



March 16, 2017

James Kordahl
15888 SE Roberts Rd
Prineville, OR 97754
kordahl1@gmail.com
tel. 415 513 5008

State Forester
2600 State St.
Salem, OR 97310

Subject: Crook County Forest Patrol Tax, parcels 1718000001600 and 1818000000300, Veterans Cattle Co.

Dear State Forester,

I am writing to request a hearing and appeal on the new Crook County Forest Patrol Assessment tax.

The new tax means a drastic increase in my tax on that property from \$492 to \$2,060, a 300% increase.

The Committee that created this tax believes the tax is bearable, since none ^{of them} are paying it, and their own property is exempt. But in the aggregate, it affects us all. We all have family members, friends, and fellow Oregonians who are not achieving up to their potential, and the reason is the heavy weight of so many taxes, fees, and regulations.

Profit margins on agriculture are tight. Financial difficulties led the previous owner of my property, a widely respected cattleman, to kill himself. Tax creators worldwide generally show great caution in creating large tax increases for agriculture. The Committee did include one elected official; however, he did not win in the last election and is no longer an elected official.

I understand the importance of protecting valuable timber and am ready to help my neighbors protect theirs at my expense in labor and equipment. But I do not wish to be forced to. I do not own any timber. Some fire experts actually believe fire is healthy for grazing land like mine.

The drawing of the new tax map is supposed to take into account fire hazards, yet it is done by tax parcel lines which bear no relationship to actual conditions on the ground. My larger tax lot is composed of seven legal and separate parcels. One of them is two miles from forest, although other property is taxed only within one mile of forest.

If we need new fire taxes, the burden should be shared widely. It does not appear there will be any actual change in forest protection, rather it is just a tax grab. I'd most appreciate your review of this new tax.

Although this letter is an appeal, the District Forester has stated that there is a zero chance of success at the hearing. This suggests that no true appeal exists, which is unusual for a large new tax.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Kordahl".

Copy sent to Jerry Brummer, Crook County Commissioner

To whom it may concern. ¹⁻¹²⁻¹¹
I did not vote for ^{OK}
this I also think
you should not be able
to double tax us!
maybe the media should
hear about this. we live
right down the road
from the fire dept. on
a paved road. There
is a 1970 trailer on .40
land right on the river.

Linnette Hellberg
80990 Gronnel R
Seaside OR

971-2400-2609
⁹⁷³⁶³

DALE EDWARDS

PO Box 2596

Gearhart, Oregon 97138

Peter Daugherty

January 20, 2017

State Forester

2600 State Street

Salem, Oregon 97310

RE: Forest Patrol Assessment

Tax Lot Number 71021A001900

Mr. Daugherty,

In accordance with the letter I received concerning the above referenced assessment, I am requesting a hearing to contest the determination of my property as "forestland".

I contacted Neal Bond at the Astoria District office as advised in the aforementioned letter. Mr. Bond was only able to regurgitate the information in the assessment notice and was not able to tell me why my property was determined to be forestland. He said that there was a personal inspection of my property, but he could not tell me when it was done or who did the inspection.

Prior to the hearing, please provide me with the name of the person who inspected my property, when that inspection was done and specifically, what was it about my property that resulted in the "forestland" designation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dale Edwards

January 20, 2017

Patrick Duhachek
89736 Seales Road
Warrenton, OR 97146

State Forester
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310

RE: Forest Patrol Assessment Tax Lot 71022B0000502

Dear State Forester:

I request a hearing regarding the assessment of my property as "forestland". I request, prior to my hearing, the date, inspector's name and assessment that was performed on my property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Duhachek', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Patrick Duhachek

Jan. 25, 2017

Dear Forester,

I'd like to contend the decision to include
my property in the Forest Patrol Assessment
on the basis that I'm already protected by
the Elsie RA FD. (within 4 mi.)

James Hobby
82229 Riverbend Rd.
Seaside, Or 97138

Oregon Dept. of Forestry
ASTORIA DISTRICT

JAN 30 2017

RECEIVED

Michael Gallegos
34978 Patterson Lane
Astoria, OR 97103

January 23, 2017

Oregon State Forester

Neal Bond
Chief Golightly

I'm requesting a review of the forest patrol assessment and appealing the tax the state has imposed on me.

My Tax Lot Number 710310000100 is NOT woodland, brushland, timberland, grazing land, or cleared land nor does it contain forest growth, slash or vegetation that would support a fire.

My 5 acres have underground timed sprinklers, the property is fertilized, sprayed to remove weeds, landscaped, mowed, and kept well trimmed.

A large parcel contain 2 greenhouses, one measures 20x60 feet the other 20x30 and a large garden area, all with underground sprinklers.

I pay for local fire protection and feel the state of Oregon unfairly placed my property in a category that it does not meet the "forestland " definition.

Respectfully,
Michael Gallegos
971-704-4603



1-26-17

Lynn and Patti Knavel
82303 Riverbend rd
Seaside, Oregon 97138

RE: Forest Patrol Assessment Letter
Dept. of Forestry
2600 state street
Salem, OR 97310

Dear state Forester:

We received a letter from the
Astoria, Oregon Forestry Dept.
92219 Hwy. 202 97103 about a
forest patrol assessment tax on or about
Jan 6th 2017. This letter states that
you must receive a letter from us
within 30 days of that date if we
have an objection to this tax, which
we do.

There has been a town hall meeting set up
at Seaside, Oregon's town hall Feb 4th 2017
We are aware that many neighbors (1100pm)
from our area object to this tax as well.
We plan to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

(pattiknavel@gmail.com) Patti Knavel
82303 Riverbend rd.
Seaside, Oregon
97138

YOUNG Robert * ODF

From: Dale Barrett <dalebarrett@charter.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2017 2:31 PM
To: YOUNG Robert * ODF
Cc: SEN Betsy Johnson; rep.deborahboone@oregonlegislature.gov
Subject: Tax Levy Assessment Appeal
Attachments: Request for Appeal.pdf

Mr. Young,

We attended the Town Hall Meeting hosted by Senator Betsy Johnson and Representative Deborah Boone in Seaside yesterday regarding the above subject. At the meeting, we provided you with a copy of our letter asking to appeal the tax levy assessment. The scanned letter is attached.

Please note that we did not receive a postcard back in April 2016 letting us know about a meeting to update us on our land classification change to forest land. The first we heard of this was when we received the January 6, 2017 letter from the Oregon Department of Forestry. Also, please note the incorrect tax lot information we pointed out in our letter.

Thank you,

Dale and Sheryl Barrett

February 3, 2017

Oregon Department of Forestry
Peter Daugherty, Chief Forester
2600 State Street
Salem, Or 97310

Dear Chief Forester:

This letter is to inform you that we wish to file an appeal and request a hearing in response to the January 6, 2017 Department of Forestry (ODF) letter we received stating that our two tax lots 51014DC00400 and 51017DC00500 in Clatsop County, have now been determined to be added to the Forest Patrol Assessment Roll beginning July 1, 2017.

Our first objection is you have incorrectly listed us as owning tax Lot 51017DC00500.

The ODF letter states that if there are "improvements" on the property ODF will assess an additional \$47.50 to the minimum \$1.21 per acre of Class 1 forest land. We own a residential lot in a subdivision and keep it well maintained and any underbrush removed off our property. We keep our yard and lawn mowed and any fire hazards removed. There are 25 or 30 alder trees that are adjacent to the Necanicum River which we are told are now or soon to be protected from cutting by the ODF rules. Because ODF rules now prohibit us from removing those trees, we are now going to be unjustly taxed because they are deemed to be a fire hazard. We do not own Class 1 forest land and should not be taxed because of the rules ODF has adopted. You can either require us to keep the trees adjacent to the creek or tax us for the hazard if we choose to keep the trees, but to require us to keep the trees and tax us because of that should not be a legal action.

We contacted the Astoria Protection Unit Forester, Neal Bond as directed in the ODF January 6 letter to object to listing our property as now being a hazard and attempted to give him the tax lots we own; however he said he did not need to know which lots. We asked if ODF would protect our structures on the property since we now must pay an additional \$47.50 in taxes. His response was no the ODF will not provide fire protection for ANY structures on the property that will remain the responsibility of the Seaside Rural Fire Department which we also pay taxes to for fire protection. We asked what service ODF can provide since they would not protect our structures on the property. His response was "we will provide heavy equipment and a mop up crew for the brush and trees only". There was no offer to have a review of the newly listed assessment; instead he stated that it was the state legislature that directed the ODF to have more property listed.

Therefore, we maintain that we will now be double taxed for fire protection specifically for our buildings and ODF has stated that "THEY WILL NOT PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION FOR THE STRUCTURES". The ODF statute is not legal and should be amended. We further ask that you remove our property from being listed as a hazard as we do not believe any service is needed or going to be provided for fire protection especially for the taxes we will be paying.

Dale N. Barrett and Sheryl Barrett
34107 W. Campbell Loop
Seaside, OR 97138
Phone: 503-738-7506

cc: Betsy Johnson, State Senator and Deborah Boone, State Representative

AGENDA ITEM 6
Attachment 1
Page 9 of 16

Peter Daugherty, Chief Forester

February 2, 2017

Betsy Johnson, State Senator

Deborah Boone, State Representative

2600 State St.

Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Sir:

I WISH TO APPEAL THIS ASSESSMENT

I disagree with the ODF letter of January 6, 2017, regarding "Forest Patrol Assessment" on several points.

My name is Garry Phelan of Tax Lot # 51014DC0100, where my wife and I have lived for 40 years. I have lived in Oregon for 73 years, 69 of those years in Clatsop County. I lived 18 years in a logging camp, worked one season for ODF as Fire Patrol, one season in S.E. Alaska, 42 years working for Commercial Timber Land Owners in a number of capacities, including Fire Protection Stampede Crews, responding to fires in N.W. Oregon and S.W. Washington.

My points of disagreements are:

- Total lot acreage does not even agree with tax assessor rolls
- I pay for and am already fire protected by the Seaside Rural Fire District and would have protection response by the Hamlet Rural Fire District, both of which are trained in structure firefighting. Response time would be less than half that of ODF
- FEMA calls where we live a flood way and requires we have flood insurance. Do you see the irony here?
- Our lot is forested in bottom land alder timber, which by Forest Practices Protection rules could not be logged if we wanted. How can this be considered commercial forest? In my career I have never seen this type of forest burn, so what type of snake oil protection are you selling us?
- Our Social Security income has not had an appreciable increase in many years, how much more do you need to squeeze out of us?
- Commercial forests that are all around State Forests are producing profits for Foreign and Domestic investors, why isn't ODF returning money to the people instead of asking more financial support?
- This appears to be a Tea Tax and Oregon is looking more like Boston every day.

All we want is fairness and value for our hard earned money.

Thank you,

Garry L. Phelan

YOUNG Robert * ODF

From: Brian Ratty <bdratty@Dutchclarke.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2017 12:52 PM
To: YOUNG Robert * ODF
Subject: Forestland Assessment Appeal
Attachments: FrontForestyLetter.jpg

Robert.young@Oregon.gov

Astoria, Oregon Department of Forestry

RE: Forestland Assessment Appeal

Deadline: 2/6/2017

Date: 2/5/2017

From: Ratty Brian Dudley/Tressa M
89637 Lakeside Ct.
Warrenton, OR 97146-7154

- Yes, Brian and Tressa Ratty own this land
- The tax lot is incorrectly identified on ODF letter dated 1/6/2017 (copy of letter enclosed)
Correct tax lot number: 71021DA02104
- Land has not been correctly classified as no notice was received
- Acreage is incorrectly identified on ODF letter dated 1/6/2017 (copy of letter enclosed) Should be 1.51 acres
- No Board approval of forest protection plan

As landowners we vigorously object to the Forest Patrol Assessment because of the lack of proper notifications, taxation without representation and inequitable administrative rules that violate State statutes.

We also appeal and protest the classification of our property as 'class 1 forestland.'

- We didn't receive proper notice of such a classification process
- No affected land owners were on your committee
- By including 'structures' within your classification this rule is double taxation
- The levy is opened ended, with no control or vote, by the very people paying the tax
- Let the people of Clatsop County VOTE on this Forestland Assessment

Brian and Tressa request confirmation, via return email, that this Appeal has been received and accepted as per the rules ODF.

Brian D. & Tressa M. Ratty
89637 Lakeside Ct.
Warrenton, OR 97146-7154

You say in your pamphlet this is not double taxation, but in our estimation it is and we have not been allowed enough time and information to develop a strategy for the appeal of this Forest Patrol Assessment.

Please note that we are appealing this assessment.

Sincerely,

Ronald and Charlene Larsen

P O Box 446

Astoria, OR 97103

PH: 503-325-0590

Tax Lot Numbers: 0809120000501 and 08091200000500

Located at 38022 Highway 30, Astoria, OR 97103

Forest Patrol Assessment Appeal

Michael G. Wammack
43975 Highway 26
Seaside OR 97138
503-440-2228
Mwammack3401@gmail.com

RE: APPEAL OF FOREST LAND CLASSIFICATION AND FOREST PATROL ASSESSMENT FOR TAX LOT: 50728BD01600 (0.25 ACRES – PER COUNTY TAX ASSESSMENT) 42346 Evergreen Acers Lane Seaside OR 97138

My wife and I attended the Town Hall Meeting with Senator Johnson and Representative Boone and were told by Andy White, ODF Area Director, to email our appeals to you by close of business today. Please consider this our letter of appeal and note that I am the landowner validating this appeal.

I am appealing this Forest Land Classification and Forest Patrol Assessment for the following reasons:

1. I never received the postcard referenced at the meeting notifying me that our land was being evaluated for reclassification or I would have appealed it.
2. I have 0.25 Acres that resides inside of a housing community, has two trees, mowed grass and the home covers approximately 1/3 of that ¼ acre. All properties in this location are required to meet uniform fire code NFPA 1142 Standards for Rural Firefighting, which our property does. This is a housing development and has a creek running through it. There is no more fire danger in this development than any home inside the Portland and Salem city limits.
3. We are being billed 18.75 for a ¼ acre when your minimum to qualify is 15 acres. We should be paying \$0.21. In the meeting we were told that a “VOLUNTEER” committee selected the homes that would be billed and they used aerial photographs. No one actually drove out to the properties to examine their actual fire danger. When we contacted Neal Bond he said that is what they use the \$18.75 for.
4. This Property resides inside the Elsie Vinemaple Fire Protection District. They respond to my property within 10 minutes and have the equipment, personnel and training to extinguish any fire that could come from my property. The closest ODF site is 1 hour away and only staffed with Wildland Firefighters 3 months of the year.

5. I am also appealing the additional \$47.50 surcharge for lot or parcel improvements. ODF does not have the equipment, training or personnel to fight structures which are classified as "improvements". Any improvements that could be made to this ¼ acre property would be to the structure.

****PLEASE NOTE that Neal Bond advised us in the Town Hall Meeting that ODF responds to all fires "WITH GUNS BLAZING" however, yesterday evening when dispatched they did not respond to tone out. Dispatch contacted them at home and the Elsie Vinemaple Fire Department was told that ODF was "unable to respond due to inclement weather". The Elsie Vinemaple Fire Department responded and fought the fire. This is only 1 of many occasions this has occurred.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my appeal. I look forward to hearing from you.

Michael G Wammack
Homeowner

CC: Senator Betsy Johnson
Debra Boone
Files

Forest Patrol Assessment Appeal

Nicholas H. Chavera
Kristina Lee Munk Chavera
42505 Meadow Lark Lane
Seaside, OR 97138
503-739-2843
nchavera269@gmail.com

RE: APPEAL OF FOREST LAND CLASSIFICATION AND FOREST PATROL ASSESSMENT FOR TAX LOT: 50728DB01700 (0.25 ACRES – PER COUNTY TAX ASSESSMENT) 42505 Meadow Lark Lane Seaside OR 97138

I attended the Town Hall Meeting with Senator Johnson and Representative Boone and were told by Andy White, ODF Area Director, to email our appeals to you by close of business today. Please consider this my letter of appeal and note that I am the landowner validating this appeal.

I am appealing this Forest land classification and Forest patrol assessment for the following reasons:

1. I never received the postcard referenced at the meeting notifying me that our land was being evaluated for reclassification or I would have appealed that.
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extinguish any fire that could come from my property. The closest ODF site is 1 hour away and only staffed with Wildland Firefighters 3 months of the year.

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Thank you for taking the time to consider my appeal. I look forward to hearing from you.

Nicholas H. Chavera
Homeowner

CC: Senator Betsy Johnson
Debra Boone
Files