BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE OF
THE STATE OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION UNDER ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF Michael and Margaret Lehrman, CLAIMANTS	))))	FINAL ORDER CLAIM NO. M118552

Claimants: Michael and Margaret Lehrman (the Claimants)

Property: Tax lot 1002, Township 11S, Range 12E, Section 13, Jefferson County (the Property)

Claim: The demand for compensation and any supporting information received from the Claimants by the State of Oregon (the Claim).

Claimants submitted the Claim to the State of Oregon under ORS 197.352. Under OAR 125-145-0010 *et seq.*, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) referred the Claim to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) as the regulating entity. This order is based on the record herein, including the Findings and Conclusions set forth in the Final Staff Report and Recommendation of DLCD (the DLCD Report) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (the ODF&W Report) both attached to and by this reference incorporated into this order.

ORDER

The Claim is denied as to laws administered by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for the reasons set forth in the ODF&W Report.

The Claim is approved as to laws administered by DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for the reasons set forth in the DLCD Report, and subject to the following terms:

1. In lieu of compensation under ORS 197.352, the State of Oregon will not apply the following laws to Michael and Margaret Lehrman's division of the 76.07-acre property into two-acre parcels or to their development of a dwelling on each parcel: applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after July 28, 1976. These land use regulations will not apply to the claimants only to the extent necessary to allow them to use the subject property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that use was permitted when they acquired the property on July 28, 1976.

2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimants to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on

July 28, 1976. On that date, the property was subject to applicable provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 then in effect.

3. To the extent that any law, order, deed, agreement or other legally enforceable public or private requirement provides that the subject property may not be used without a permit, license or other form of authorization or consent, the order will not authorize the use of the property unless the claimants first obtain that permit, license or other form of authorization or consent. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to: a building permit, a land use decision, a "permit" as defined in ORS 215.402 or 227.160, other permits or authorizations from local, state or federal agencies and restrictions on the use of the subject property imposed by private parties.

4. Any use of the subject property by the claimants under the terms of the order will remain subject to the following laws: (a) those laws not specified in (1) above; (b) any laws enacted or enforced by a public entity other than the Commission or the department; and (c) those laws not subject to ORS 197.352 including, without limitation, those laws exempted under ORS 197.352(3).

5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing terms and conditions, in order for the claimants to use the subject property, it may be necessary for them to obtain a decision under ORS 197.352 from a city and/or county and/or metropolitan service district that enforces land use regulations applicable to the property. Nothing in this order relieves the claimants from the necessity of obtaining a decision under ORS 197.352 from a local public entity that has jurisdiction to enforce a land use regulation applicable to a use of the subject property by the claimants.

This Order is entered by the Director of the DLCD as a final order of DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission under ORS 197.352, OAR 660-002-0010(8), and OAR 125, division 145, and by the Deputy Administrator for the State Services Division of the DAS as a final order of DAS under ORS 197.352, OAR 125, division 145, and ORS 293, and by the Director of the DF&W as a final order under ORS 197.352, OAR 125, division 145.

FOR DLCD AND THE LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

Lane Shetterly, Director
DLCD
Dated this 17th day of April, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

Dugan Petty, Deputy Administrator
DAS, State Services Division
Dated this 17th day of April, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE:

Roxie Burns, Interim Deputy Director
for Administrative Services
Dated this 17h day of April, 2006.

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL OR OTHER JUDICIAL RELIEF

You are entitled, or may be entitled, to judicial remedies including the following:

1. Judicial review under ORS 183.484: Judicial review under ORS 183.484 may be obtained by filing a petition for review within 60 days from the service of this order. A petition for judicial review under ORS 183.484 may be filed in the Circuit Court for Marion County or the Circuit Court in the county in which you reside.

2. A cause of action under ORS 197.352 (Measure 37 (2004)): If a land use regulation continues to apply to the subject property more than 180 days after the present owner of the property has made written demand for compensation under ORS 197.352[1], the present owner of

[1] By order of the Marion County Circuit Court, "all time lines under Measure 37 [were] suspended indefinitely" on October 25, 2005. This suspension was lifted on March 13, 2006 by the court. As a result, a period of 139 days (the

the property, or any interest therein, shall have a cause of action in the circuit court in which the real property is located.

(Copies of the documents that comprise the record are available for review at the Department's office at 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, Oregon 97301-2540)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Oregon Department of Justice has advised the Department of Land Conservation and Development that "[i]f the current owner of the real property conveys the property before the new use allowed by the public entity is established, then the entitlement to relief will be lost."

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number of days the time lines were suspended) has been added to the 180-day time period under ORS 197.352(6) for claims that were pending with the state on October 25, 2005.

BALLOT MEASURE 37 (ORS 197.352)
CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Final Staff Report and Recommendation

April 17, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER:	M118552
NAMES OF CLAIMANTS:	Michael and Margaret Lehrman
MAILING ADDRESS:	3012 Cortland Place, NW Washington, DC 20008
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:	Township 11S, Range 12E, Section 13 Tax lot 1002 Jefferson County
OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:	Ed Fitch P.O. Box 457 Redmond, Oregon 97756
DATE RECEIVED BY DAS:	June 2, 2005
180-DAY DEADLINE:	April 17, 2006[1]

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimants, Michael and Margaret Lehrman, seek compensation in the amount of $1.5 million for the reduction in fair market value as a result of land use regulations that are alleged to restrict the use of certain private real property. The claimants desire compensation or the right to divide the 76.07-acre property into two-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel. The subject property is located at the intersection of Belmont and Elk Drive, near Madras, in Jefferson County. (See claim.)

II. SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and conclusions set forth below, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) has determined that the claim is valid. Department staff recommends that, in lieu of compensation, the requirements of the following state laws enforced by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission) or the department not apply to Michael and Margaret Lehrman's division of the 76.07-acre property into two-acre

[1] This date reflects 180 days from the date the claim was submitted as extended by the 139 days enforcement of Ballot Measure 37 was suspended during the pendency of the appeal of *MacPherson v. Dep't of Admin. Servs.*, 340 Or __, 2006 Ore. LEXIS 104 (February 21, 2006).

parcels and to their development of a dwelling on each parcel: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goal 3 (Agricultural Lands), ORS 215 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after July 28, 1976. These laws will not apply to the claimants only to the extent necessary to allow them to use the subject property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that use was permitted when they acquired the property on July 28, 1976. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On July 19, 2005, pursuant to OAR 125-145-0080, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. According to DAS, four written comments, evidence or information were received in response to the 10-day notice.

Three of the comments do not address whether the claim meets the criteria for relief under ORS 197.352. Comments concerning the effects a use of the subject property may have on surrounding areas are generally not something that the department is able to consider in determining whether to waive a state law. If funds do become available to pay compensation, then such effects may become relevant in determining which claims to pay compensation for instead of waive a state law. (See the comment letters in the department's claim file.)

One comment is relevant to whether the restriction of the claimants' use of the subject property reduces the fair market value of the property. The comment asserts that the subject property could not have been successfully developed at the time of the acquisition in 1976, in the manner currently proposed, because of a lack of an adequate water supply. This could affect an assessment of whether there has been a loss in fair market value due to laws enforced by the Commission or department. The comment has been considered by the department in preparing this report.

IV. TIMELINESS OF CLAIM

Requirement

ORS 197.352(5) requires that a written demand for compensation be made:

1. For claims arising from land use regulations enacted prior to the effective date of the Measure (December 2, 2004), within two years of that effective date or the date the public entity applies the land use regulation as an approval criteria to an application submitted by the owner, whichever is later; or

2. For claims arising from land use regulations enacted after the effective date of the Measure (December 2, 2004), within two years of the enactment of the land use regulation, or the date the owner of the property submits a land use application in which the land use regulation is an approval criteria, whichever is later.

Findings of Fact

This claim was submitted to DAS on June 2, 2005, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies Goal 3 as the basis for the claim. Only laws that were enacted or adopted prior to December 2, 2004, are the basis for this claim.

Conclusions

The claim has been submitted within two years of December 2, 2004, the effective date of Measure 37, based on land use regulations enacted or adopted prior to December 2, 2004, and is therefore timely filed.

V. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM

1. Ownership

ORS 197.352 provides for payment of compensation or relief from specific laws for "owners" as that term is defined in ORS 197.352. ORS 197.352(11)(C) defines "owner" as "the present owner of the property, or any interest therein."

Findings of Fact

The claimants, Michael and Margaret Lehrman, acquired the subject property on July 28, 1976, as reflected by a contract of sale included with the claim. A fulfillment deed dated June 28, 1988, is also included with the claim. The Jefferson County Assessor's Office confirms that the claimants are the current owners of the subject property.

Conclusions

The claimants, Michael and Margaret Lehrman, are "owners" of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of July 28, 1976.

2. The Laws That are the Basis for This Claim

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires, in part, that a law must restrict the claimants' use of private real property in a manner that reduces the fair market value of the property relative to how the property could have been used at the time the claimants acquired the property.

Findings of Fact

The claimants desire to divide and develop the subject property into two-acre parcels. The claim identifies "all regulations concerning agricultural lands and exclusive farm use zones under Goal 3 and all implementing regulations under Goal 3 since July 28, 1976, as well as any regulations from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding wildlife habitat that has

been implemented since July 1, 1976 and affecting the property" as laws restricting the use of the subject property.[2]

The claim is based generally on Jefferson County's current EFU A-2 zone and the applicable provisions of state law that require such zoning. The claimants' property is zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) as required by Goal 3 in accordance with ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, because the claimants' property is "agricultural land" as defined by Goal 3.[3] Goal 3 became effective on January 25, 1975, and required that agricultural lands as defined by the Goal be zoned EFU pursuant to ORS 215.

Current land use regulations, particularly ORS 215.263, 215.284 and 215.780 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, prohibit the division of EFU-zoned land into parcels less than 80 acres and establish standards for the development of dwellings on existing or proposed parcels on that land.

ORS 215.780 establishes an 80-acre minimum size for the creation of new lots or parcels in EFU zones and became effective on November 4, 1993 (Chapter 792, Oregon Laws 1993). ORS 215.263 (2003 edition) establishes standards for the creation of new parcels for non-farm uses and dwellings allowed in an EFU zone.

OAR 660-033-0135 (applicable to farm dwellings) became effective on March 1, 1994, and interprets the statutory standard for a primary dwelling in an EFU zone under ORS 215.283(1)(f). OAR 660-033-0130(4) (applicable to non-farm dwellings) became effective on August 7, 1993, and was amended to comply with ORS 215.284(4) on March 1, 1994. The Commission subsequently adopted amendments to comply with House Bill 3326 (Chapter 704, Oregon Laws 2001, effective on January 1, 2002), which were effective on May 22, 2002. (See administrative rule history for OAR 660-033-0100, -0130 and -0135.)

The claimants acquired the subject property after the adoption of the statewide planning goals, but before the Commission acknowledged Jefferson County's land use regulations to be in compliance with the statewide planning goals pursuant to ORS 197.250 and 197.251. Jefferson County Zoning in 1976 was Recreatoinal-Residential, with a minimum lot size size of 2.5 acres. Because the Commission had not acknowledged the county's plan and land use regulations when the claimants acquired the subject property on July 28, 1976, the statewide planning goals and Goal 3, in particular, applied directly to the claimants' property when they acquired it.[4]

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[2]The department does not have any authority over regulations enforced by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Those regulations are addressed separately in a report prepared by ODFW. With regard to regulations enforced by the department, broadly described in the claim, this report addresses only those land use regulations that the department concludes may restrict the claimants' use of their property in a manner that may reduce its fair market value.

[3] The claimants' property is "agricultural land" because it contains Natural Resources Conservation Service Class I-IV soils. Soil types are Class IVe, unirrigated, according to Jefferson County's planning staff.

[4] The statewide planning goals became effective on January 25, 1975, and were applicable to legislative land use decisions and some quasi-judicial land use decisions prior to the Commission's acknowledgment of each county's comprehensive plan and implementing regulations. *Perkins v. City of Rajneeshpuram,* 300 Or 1 (1985); *Alexanderson v. Polk County,* 289 Or 427, *rev. den* 290 Or 137 (1980); *Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn. v. Clackamas County,* 280 Or 3 (1977); *Jurgenson v. Union County,* 42 Or App 505 (1979); and *1000 Friends of Oregon v. Benton*

As adopted on January 25, 1975, Goal 3 required that agricultural land be preserved and zoned for EFU pursuant to ORS 215. The Goal 3 standard for land divisions, involving property where the local zoning was not acknowledged, required that the resulting parcels must be of a size that is "appropriate for the continuation of the existing commercial agricultural enterprise within the area." Further, ORS 215.263 (1973 edition) required that all divisions of land subject to EFU zoning comply with the legislative intent set forth in ORS 215.243 (Agricultural Land Use Policy). Thus, the claimants' opportunity to divide the subject property when they acquired it in 1976 was limited to land divisions that were consistent with Goal 3, which required that the resulting parcels be (1) appropriate for the continuation of the existing commercial agricultural enterprise in the area and (2) shown to comply with the legislative intent set forth in ORS 215.

Under the Goal 3 standards in effect on July 28, 1976, farm dwellings were allowed if they were determined to be "customarily provided in conjunction with farm use" under ORS 215.213(1)(e) (1973 edition). Non-farm dwellings were subject to compliance with ORS 215.213(3) (1973 edition).

No information has been presented in the claim to establish that the claimants' desired division of the subject property into two-acre parcels complies with the "commercial" standard for farm parcels under Goal 3 or the standards for non-farm parcels under ORS 215.263 (1973 edition), nor is there any information to establish that the claimants' desired development of a dwelling on each two-acre parcels satisfies the standards for farm or non-farm dwellings under ORS 215.213 (1973 edition).

Conclusions

The current zoning requirements, minimum lot size and dwelling standards established by Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, were all enacted or adopted after the claimants acquired the subject property in 1976 and do not allow the claimants' desired division and development of the property. However, the claim does not establish whether or to what extent the claimants' desired use of the subject property complies with the standards for land divisions and development under Goal 3, in effect when the claimants acquired the property on July 28, 1976.

This report addresses only those state laws that are identified in the claim, or that the department is certain apply to the subject property based on the uses that the claimants have identified. There may be other laws that currently apply to the claimants' use of the subject property, and that may continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property, that have not been identified in the claim. In some cases, it will not be possible to know which laws apply to a use of the subject property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimants seek a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws currently apply to that use and may continue to apply to that use.

County, 32 Or App 413 (1978). After the county's plan and land use regulations were acknowledged by the Commission, the statewide planning goals and implementing rules no longer applied directly to such local land use decisions. *Byrd v. Stringer,* 295 Or 311 (1983). However, statutory requirements continue to apply, and insofar as the state and local provisions are materially the same, the local provisions must be interpreted consistent with the substance of the goals and implementing rules. *Forster v. Polk County,* 115 Or App 475 (1992) and *Kenagy v. Benton County,* 115 Or App 131 (1992).

3. Effect of Regulations on Fair Market Value

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires that any land use regulation described in Section V.(2) of this report must have "the effect of reducing the fair market value of the property, or any interest therein."

Findings of Fact

The claim includes an estimate of $1.5 million as the reduction in the subject property's fair market value due to current regulations. This amount is based on the claimants' estimate of property values minus the development costs for two-acre parcels.

One of the comments to this claim indicates that the claimants' ability to get adequate water at the time of the acquisition was and currently is, extremely difficult. The comment further indicates that that there are no active wells in the area, and attempts to drill wells have met with failure. The claimants' agent responds that the claimants believe there is adequate water available at different depths.

Conclusions

As explained in Section V. (1) of this report, the current owners are Michael and Margaret Lehrman, who acquired the subject property on July 28, 1976. Under ORS 197.352, the claimants are due compensation for land use regulations that restrict the use of the subject property in a manner that reduces its fair market value. Based on the findings and conclusions in Section V. (2) of this report, laws enacted or adopted since the claimants acquired the subject property may restrict the desired division and development of the property. The claimants estimate the reduction in value due to the restrictions to be $1.5 million.

Without an appraisal or other documentation, and without verification of whether or to what extent the claimants' desired use of the subject property was allowed under the standards in effect when they acquired the property, it is not possible to substantiate the specific dollar amount the claimants demand for compensation. Nevertheless, based on the submitted information, the department determines that it is more likely than not that the fair market value of the subject property has been reduced to some extent as a result of land use regulations enforced by the Commission or the department.

4. Exemptions Under ORS 197.352(3)

ORS 197.352 does not apply to certain land use regulations. In addition, under ORS 197.352(3), certain types of laws are exempt from ORS 197.352.

Findings of Fact

The claim is based on state land use regulations that restrict the use of the subject property, including applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, which Jefferson County has implemented through its current EFU A-2 zone. With the exception of provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property on July 28, 1976, these land use regulations are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E). Provisions of Goal 3 and

ORS 215 in effect on July 28, 1976, are exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E), which exempts laws in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property.

Conclusions

Without a specific development proposal for the subject property, it is not possible for the department to determine which laws may apply to a particular use of the property, or whether those laws may fall under one or more of the exemptions under ORS 197.352. It appears that the general statutory, goal and rule restrictions on residential development and use of farm land apply to the claimants' use of the subject property, and these laws are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) to the extent they were enacted or adopted after the claimants acquired the property on July 28, 1976. Provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property in 1976 are exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) and will continue to apply to the property.

Other laws in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property are also exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E), and will continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property. There may be other laws that continue to apply to the claimants' use of the subject property that have not been identified in the claim. In some cases, it will not be possible to know which laws apply to a use of property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimants seek a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws apply to that use. In some cases, some of these laws may be exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(A) to (D).

This report addresses only those state laws that are identified in the claim, or that the department is certain apply to the subject property based on the uses that the claimants have identified. Similarly, this report only addresses the exemptions provided for under ORS 197.352(3) that are clearly applicable, given the information provided to the department in the claim. The claimants should be aware that the less information they have provided to the department in the claim, the greater the possibility that there may be additional laws that will later be determined to continue to apply to their use of the subject property.

VI. FORM OF RELIEF

ORS 197.352(1) provides for payment of compensation to an owner of private real property if the Commission or the department has enforced laws that restrict the use of the property in a manner that reduces its fair market value. In lieu of compensation, the department may choose to not apply the law in order to allow the present owner to carry out a use of the property permitted at the time the current owner acquired the property. The Commission, by rule, has directed that if the department determines a claim is valid, the Director of the department must provide only non-monetary relief unless and until funds are appropriated by the legislature to pay claims.

Findings of Fact

Based on the findings and conclusions set forth in this report, laws enforced by the Commission or the department restrict the claimants' ability to divide the 76.07-acre property into two-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel. The claim asserts that the laws enforced by the

Commission or the department reduce the fair market value of the subject property by $1.5 million. However, because the claim does not provide an appraisal or other specific documentation for how the specified restrictions reduce the fair market value of the subject property, and without verification of whether or to what extent the claimants' desired use of the property was allowed under the standards in effect when they acquired the property, a specific amount of compensation cannot be determined. Nevertheless, based on the record for this claim, the department acknowledges that the laws on which the claim is based likely have reduced the fair market value of the subject property to some extent.

No funds have been appropriated at this time for the payment of claims. In lieu of payment of compensation, ORS 197.352 authorizes the department to modify, remove or not apply all or parts of certain land use regulations to allow Michael and Margaret Lehrman to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time they acquired the property on July 28, 1976.

Conclusions

Based on the record, the department recommends that the claim be approved, subject to the following terms:

1. In lieu of compensation under ORS 197.352, the State of Oregon will not apply the following laws to Michael and Margaret Lehrman's division of the 76.07-acre property into two-acre parcels or to their development of a dwelling on each parcel: applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after July 28, 1976. These land use regulations will not apply to the claimants only to the extent necessary to allow them to use the subject property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that use was permitted when they acquired the property on July 28, 1976.

2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimants to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on July 28, 1976. On that date, the property was subject to applicable provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 then in effect.

3. To the extent that any law, order, deed, agreement or other legally enforceable public or private requirement provides that the subject property may not be used without a permit, license or other form of authorization or consent, the order will not authorize the use of the property unless the claimants first obtain that permit, license or other form of authorization or consent. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to: a building permit, a land use decision, a "permit" as defined in ORS 215.402 or 227.160, other permits or authorizations from local, state or federal agencies and restrictions on the use of the subject property imposed by private parties.

4. Any use of the subject property by the claimants under the terms of the order will remain subject to the following laws: (a) those laws not specified in (1) above; (b) any laws enacted or enforced by a public entity other than the Commission or the department; and (c) those laws not subject to ORS 197.352 including, without limitation, those laws exempted under ORS 197.352(3).

5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing terms and conditions, in order for the claimants to use the subject property, it may be necessary for them to obtain a decision under

ORS 197.352 from a city and/or county and/or metropolitan service district that enforces land use regulations applicable to the property. Nothing in this order relieves the claimants from the necessity of obtaining a decision under ORS 197.352 from a local public entity that has jurisdiction to enforce a land use regulation applicable to a use of the subject property by the claimants.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on March 27, 2006. OAR 125-145-0100(3), provided an opportunity for the claimants or the claimants' authorized agent and any third parties who submitted comments under OAR 125-145-0080 to submit written comments, evidence and information in response to the draft staff report and recommendation. Comments received have been taken into account by the department in the issuance of this final report.

ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37)
CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE
Final Staff Report and Recommendation

April 17, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER:	M118552
NAMES OF CLAIMANTS:	Michael and Margaret Lehrman
MAILING ADDRESS:	3012 Cortland Place, NW Washington, DC 20008
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:	Township 11S, Range 12E, Section 13 Tax lot 1002 Jefferson County
OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:	Ed Fitch P.O. Box 457 Redmond, OR 97756
DATE RECEIVED BY DAS:	June 2, 2005
180-DAY DEADLINE:	May 17, 2006[1]

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimants, Michael and Margaret Lehrman, seek compensation in the amount of $1.5 million for the reduction in fair market value as a result of land use regulations that are alleged to restrict the use of certain private real property. The claimants desire compensation or the right to divide the 76.07-acre property into two-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel. The subject property is located on the corner of Belmont and Elk Drive, near Madras, in Jefferson County. (See claim.)

II. SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and conclusions set forth below, the Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) has determined that the claim is not valid. The claimants have failed to identify land use regulations administered by ODFW that restrict the use of the property the claimants seek to carry out (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

[1] This date reflects 180 days from the date the claim was submitted, as extended by the 139 days that timelines under Ballot Measure 37 were suspended during the pendency of the *MacPherson v. DAS* appeal.

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On July 19, 2005, pursuant to OAR 125-145-0080, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. According to DAS, four written comments, evidence or information were received in response to the 10-day notice.

Three of the comments do not address whether the claim meets the criteria for relief under ORS 197.352. Comments concerning the effects a use of the subject property may have on surrounding areas are generally not something that the department is able to consider in determining whether to waive a state law. If funds do become available to pay compensation, then such effects may become relevant in determining which claims to pay compensation for instead of waive a state law. (See the comment letters in the department's claim file.)

One comment is relevant to whether restrictions of the claimants' use of the subject property reduces the fair market value of the property. The comment suggests that the subject property could not have been successfully developed at the time of the acquisition in 1976, in the manner currently proposed, because of a lack of an adequate water supply. This could affect an assessment of whether there has been a loss in fair market value due to laws enforced by the Commission or department. The comment has been considered by the department in preparing this report.

IV. TIMELINESS OF CLAIM

ODFW incorporates the findings and conclusions of the Final Report and Recommendations of the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the "DLCD Final Report") by this reference.

V. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM

1. Ownership

ODFW incorporates the findings and conclusions of the Final Report and Recommendations of the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the "DLCD Final Report") by this reference.

2. The Laws That are the Basis for This Claim

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires, in part, that a law must restrict the claimants' use of private real property in a manner that reduces the fair market value of the property relative to how the property could have been used at the time the claimants acquired the property.

Findings of Fact

The claim indicates that the claimants' objective is to divide and develop the subject property into two-acre parcels. The claim identifies "* * * any regulations from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding wildlife habitat that has been implemented since July 1, 1976 and affecting the property."

The claim does not indicate what land use regulations implemented by ODFW restrict the division of the property or the development of a residence on each parcel.

ODFW has not enforced any land use regulation administered by ODFW with respect to the claimants' use of the property.

Conclusions

Absent some further explanation by the claimants as to what land use regulations restrict the use of the claimants' property in a manner that reduces the property's fair market value, these regulations are not addressed further.

This report addresses only those state laws that are identified in the claim, or that ODFW is certain apply to the subject property based on the uses that the claimants have identified. There may be other laws that currently apply to the claimants' use of the subject property, and that may continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property, that have not been identified in the claim. In some cases, it will not be possible to know which laws apply to a use of the subject property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimants seek a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws currently apply to that use and may continue to apply to that use.

3. Effect of Regulations on Fair Market Value

Absent some further explanation by the claimants as to what land use regulations restrict the use of the claimants' property in a manner that reduces the property's fair market value, ODFW has no evidence that it has enforced a land use regulation that has reduced the fair market value of the property.

4. Exemptions Under ORS 197.352(3)

As it is unable to determine what land use regulations administered by ODFW the claim concerns, this report does not address whether any of the exemptions under ORS 197.352(3) apply.

VI. FORM OF RELIEF

1. Is the Present Owner Entitled to Relief

Requirement

A claimant is entitled to relief if:

- The claimants are present owners of the property, or an interest in the property;
- A state land use regulation enacted before December 2, 2004 is being enforced against the claimants' use of the property;
- The state land use regulation that is being enforced restricts the claimants' use of the property; and
- The restriction reduces the fair market value of the property, relative to how the property could be used when the present owners or a family member of the present owners acquired the property.

The state may either pay compensation, or not apply the state land use regulation(s) in question.

Findings of fact

The claimants are present owners of the property.

The claimants have not identified any land use regulation administered by ODFW that is being enforced against the claimants' use of the property, or that restricts claimants' use of the property.

Conclusions

Based on the current record, the claimant is not entitled to relief under ORS 197.352. Department staff recommends this claim be denied because the claimants have not identified a land use regulation enforced by ODFW that restricts claimants' use of the property.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

This department issued its draft staff report on this claim on March 27, 2006. OAR 125-145-0100(3), provided an opportunity for the claimants or the claimants' authorized agent and any third parties who submitted comments under OAR 125-145-0080 to submit written comments, evidence and information in response to the draft staff report and recommendation. Comments received have been taken into account by the department in the issuance of this final report.