

In The Aftermath . . .

Of the flooding in Tillamook County, the devastation was great. Along Hwy 101, many reported waters higher than during the "100-Year" flood of 1996 and higher than FEMA's "500-Year" projection. Some buildings had water inside as deep as five feet.

On Wednesday afternoon November 8, 2006, Loten Hooley, President of Rosenberg Builders Supply took a break from clean-up to show the water damage to Congresswoman Darlene Hooley, Representative Deborah Boone, Senator Betsy Johnson, Tillamook County Commissioner Mark Labhart and others. As these government leaders reviewed the damage, they all agreed that it looked really bad.



Pictured L-R: Representative Deborah Boone, Loten Hooley, Congresswoman Darlene Hooley & Senator Betsy Johnson

NOTE: Arrow indicates flood water level inside the Rosenberg Builder Supply warehouse

Re-elected Governor Ted Kulongoski appeared indifferent to the tragedy and commented in *The Oregonian* "More dredging could help Tillamook County as well as other coastal areas, but said the Federal Government has cut funding for most dredging and the state can't afford it."

Many people in Tillamook County did not appreciate our Governor's responses to this tragedy, and wondered why he did not come to tour the devastation. According to Loten Hooley, "We need permits, not money, and that is up to the Governor to give 100% backing." Many are hoping the tide will change in Salem.

Most resounding is the strong spirit of the people of Tillamook County.

"It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up." ~ Vince Lombardi

Many businesses are up and running while the rest are busily preparing to re-open for the holiday season.

If you would like to help with relief efforts, contact the Oregon Trail chapter of the Red Cross at (503) 284-1234 or visit www.redcross-pdx.org.