



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

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**Minutes
April 12, 2010**

Present: Fred, Al, Dave, Aubrey, Tim, Paul, Gordy and Ken

Absent: Tom, Chuck, Lisa, Steve

Guest: Dave Kendrick USFS, Samantha Chang USFS, Paul Wagner forester, Carolyn Kelly Conservation Dist and John Cooper PDS

- I. Called to Order 7:04 a.m. Introductions were made.
- II. March Minutes were approved as amended to include Al providing DNR information to John Cooper on the Small Landowner template.
- III. Discussion Items:
 - a. Appointment of new Forest Practice Board member. Concerns were raised over who should or could be appointed and the FAB was in agreement that it needed to be an individual who would be able to come to the table without a combative attitude.
 - b. CMER update (science body for Forest Fish Policy under the Timber Fish Wildlife process: Aubrey reported that it was very lengthy and was spread throughout 600 pages. The section on wetlands was starting to look more like the way the GMA and the counties impose their CAO and associated buffers. Ken commented that the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) has become an issue and is very gray. The appeals have become more complex
 - c. Conservation Subdivision: April 30th there will be a work session for the community to voice their options and recommendations. The FAB voiced that they were opposed to the idea. Seems to give out special privileges. Perhaps more studies need to be seen to see the type of protection.
 - d. Nooksack River Wild and Scenic designation: Dave is writing a letter to the BoCC identifying reasons why this is not a necessary designation and how it can ultimately hurt the forest practice industry.
 - e. Conversion of Working Forests: Al, Aubrey and Samantha have been getting good/useful information to the FAB and are working on the best ways to present it. It is time consuming. Aubrey had some conversion numbers from the DNR. Approx. 371/acre/year over the last 10 years for Class IV Generals. John said he thought that less then 5,000 BF were Class I. 4500 acres converted off the Nookachamps and 600 acres off Illabot.
 - f. TNC tour: Tour is Friday the 16th. It looks like there will be 38 people. Just the subcommittee will attend due to limited space.
 - g. USFS Region 6 Planning Rule hearing. Kendra reported on her and Commissioner Wesen's trip to Portland and their testimony. The set up made it some what difficult to get all of their concerns put on the table. The results will be posted on line.