



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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**Minutes
August 13, 2012**

Present: Dave, Al, Ken, Chuck, Tom, Steve, Fred, Aubrey, Lisa, Gordy. Absent: Tim, Paul, Steve.
Guest: Ed Stauffer, Paul Wagner

I. Minutes: no minutes.

II. Review of last Meeting: Ed Stauffer introduced himself as a participant in the last month's meeting and wanted to give some of his background. He noted that he was a scientist by trying and had been involved in the citizen's committees for years as the county worked on code amendments. He wanted to know how he could help the FAB...he doesn't like how the FAB has just been dismissed. He wanted to know if they felt any of their work was making a difference and noted that who knew who their staff really worked for since she was a consultant. He then asked if the FAB had hope of getting anywhere. FAB acknowledged that the BoCC had been very supportive of their work and had asked them to give briefings on major issues like the Northern Spotted Owl. They also added that Skagit has really stepped up to support forestry and their community. Ed said he was glad to hear that.

III. RFI: Dave read an email sent to him from Dale, the Planning Director. Dave noted that all of the suggestions in the email the FAB have already done. The FAB recommended that Dave talk to the BoCC and relay the lack of action. Kern pointed out that there had also been discussion and support from the BoCC on making necessary changes to the CaRD code so that lands put into Open Space for Natural Resources and that would be for forestry management should not have to go through the critical area ordinance criteria. He further noted that in both cases the ball got dropped with Planning and it was not moved ahead. They had at one point told him it was because the Tribe would not like it. He said he was going to look into that.

IV. Northern Spotted Owl; Al passed out some information on the science. It showed that it was in fact a lack of management hat has also lead to the decline of the species. For example, fire destroys their nesting and feeding habitat.

V. Forest Fish Policy: Kendra gave brief update on the August meeting and noted the special meeting set for August 16th to further discussed the Settlement. Kendra noted that at the Policy meeting she relayed the sentiments of the Commissioners and what she had been advised when she first started attending Policy. The Tribes especially agreed with her comments and the rest of the group appeared to also. It was noted that the Settlement was only from 3 cuscus' so would have to go through the whole process like any other proposed Rule change. Skagit's concerns were passed onto the Forest Practice Board in a memo agreed upon by all at the Policy table. The FAB had suggested not participating in the August 16th meeting since we were not part of the settlement. Other issues discussed was the continuation of finding a facilitator and how to move forward with the dispute resolution for the mass wasting report.

V. Shoreline Master Program Update: Ed Stauffer said he had attended the PC meeting after last FAB meeting. He said that one position had not yet been filled and that the FAB should be asking the BoCC to appoint a forestry expert. Tom indicated that several had applied.

VII. TDR: Being that Paul was absent this will be carried to next month.

VI. Adjourn. 9:05 a.m.