



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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**Minutes
March 11, 2013**

Present: Chuck, Al, Dave, Ken, Fred, Gordy, Aubrey, Tim, Tom
Absent: Lisa, Paul and Steve
Guest: Doug Couvelier (Upper Skagit Tribe)

- I. Meeting opened at 7:02 a.m. Welcome to guest.
- II. Minutes. Fred moved and Gordy approved to accept the February minutes. Passed unanimous
- III. Discussion Items:
 - a. Forest Practice/county code: No update. Tom did comment that after his visit to Policy last month he received a letter from the conservation caucus stating that what he presented was incorrect and that by using LIDAR to help find PIPs would not work with the intermittence.
 - b. Blanchard Mountain update: Kendra went down to Olympia with other members of the original strategic committee (Mitch, Molly, Bob and Kendra) along with one member from the citizen's advisory committee. Tom was going to join but got sick. It appeared to be successful in that most of the local representatives in the Skagit and Whatcom districts appeared to support the requested funding for purchasing lands to compensate the loss of 1600 acres within was has been called the core area.
 - c. Finny Mt: Kendra reported that the Commissioners made comment s on the Finny AMA proposed timber sale.
 - d. D.C. trip: Kendra gave an update on the trip to DC to talk to local representatives regarding a pilot project in the Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. It appeared that Congressman Larson does not think this is a good idea since pilot projects generally don't work and when asked about trying to apply the State forest practice rules he noted that other states do not have as restrictive rules and therefore this could not work on a federal level. Murray's office wanted to know more. Due to a storm in DC the meeting with Delbene was cut short needs to have more information. Commissioner Dahlstedt suggested that a region meeting be put together and to invite
 - e. Discussion regarding harvests on USFS lands: Continuation on how to get more harvesting in the USFS. Suggestions were to follow what Jerry Franklin and Norm Johnson (OSU) proposed in the first place. Need to get this information to the legislator's aids. Notation was made to all of the data available and the need to get this information out- this includes the information that Tom collected for his report to the USFS last fall.
 - f. Role of Forests in Climate Change: Al presented a report on the Climate Change Adaptive Plan. A lot of what the FAB has discussed today and in the past in this report. FAB very supportive of the Plan. USFS is asking for comments by 4/8/13. Ken added that Bruce Lippke (UW) worked on carbon sequestration report and that would be good to reference as well. FAB moved by Aubrey and seconded by Tim to ask Al to write a letter of support, send it around for comments to the rest of the FAB via email and then send final letter to BoCC with a recommendation to send the comment letter to the USFS.
 - e. Agenda priorities:
 - Federal lands – build a collation of what can be done on federal lands- again back to what Jerry Franklin advocated. Lands can generate where will we be in 20 years when there is a need for more homes to be built. Invite new region ranger to a FAB meeting. Invite Commissioner Dahlstedt to make sure his requests of the FAB are fully understood.
 - RFI- Check with PDS to see where it is on their work plan
 - Shoreline- continue to check in with Betsy in PDS to offer input.
- V. Adjourn. 9:04 a.m.