



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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Minutes June 10, 2013

Present: Dave, Paul, Al, Aubrey, Steve, Tom,
Absent: Ken, Tim, Lisa, Gordy, Chuck

Guest: Erin Uloth, Samantha Chang, Henry Hash, Dan Berentson, Doug Couvelier

I. Introductions were made welcoming Erin, the new MBSNF Ranger.

II. Updates: Several members noted they had received an email from Betsy Stevenson regarding the shoreline master plan update.

III. Minutes: no quorum

IV. Forest Fish Policy update: Kendra and Doug went to the Policy subcommittee meeting together that discussed Type F stream charter. They reported that there is no consensus among the caucuses. Tom noted that he did not believe there ever will be especially due to diversity of opinions. It was noted that most policy participants do not go into the field so they cannot get a full understanding how it is actually working or how the ID teams are working. The main issues will be the side channels, whether to allow electro-fishing, generation of regulatory maps, shared risk, protocol surveys, and protection. Dave questioned why the industry had not gone to the Fish Commission.

V. Guemes Ferry- Dan and Henry presented their intention to increase the fee for the ferry for commercial trucks from \$60-\$0 each way. FAB understood there had not been an increase for many years and also noted that there were not many loads of logs that came off Guemes. As a side note, Natural Resources PW- Dan gave some background as to his role in the division and discussed some of the drainage issues (which is a moving target as well as potential buffers) and Hanson Creek watershed work.

VI. RFI: Dave talked to Keith Greenwood, who is on the Planning Commission and it appears that this is low on the Planning Departments list of priorities. Dave said he would like to talk to Dale, the PDS director.

VII. USFS Update: Erin Uloth gave an overview of her background. She would like to see more sales and noted that they are limited on staff to do the work. There was a discussion on the appeal process and how that can kill a sale due to costs. Tom suggested that they get rid of the NW Forest Plan since it is not sustainable and it is not bring the spotted owl back. Dave suggested that they needed to chip away with little projects to help get folks on board. By putting dollars back in the forests from the timber sales it may help. Need to Reid's and fully understand the long term sustainability.

VIII. Adjourn 9:00