



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

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Minutes

January 13, 2014

Present: Chuck, Lisa, Al, Dave, Tom, Paul, Gordy, Ken and Steve

Absent: Aubrey, Fred and Tim

Guests: Wayne Watne from WDFW and Richard Brocksmith from the Skagit Watershed Council, Kirk Johnson from PDS

I. Call to Order 7:00

II. Discussions. During general comments the FAB asked Kirk about the recommendations in the secondary forest lands regarding CaRDs and gaining extra development rights for incentives to put the rest of the land into conservation easements for forestry. Kirk noted that the recommendation was to not to do this. The committee felt that additional densities should not be given. Some of the FAB thought that this was too bad since it would have given some motivation to keep the lands in forestry for only losing a single acre.

A. Guest introductions- Richard introduced himself as the new Skagit Watershed Council director

B. TDR update- Kirk Johnson reported on the results of the work done by the consultants (Heartland) on the financial feasibility (market analysis) of a TDR in certain sending and receiving areas. Kirk noted that they would be going after the 'low hanging fruit' so that a program could get a kick start. It appears that for forestry it would be approximately \$23,000 for a development right and the FAB said they thought that would vary on whether the parcels were upriver or closer to the I-5 area. Everyone agreed that it would be nice to include forestry and that it would probably be the small landowners who would be the most interested. For large landowners who work with 1,000's of acres it makes it more complicated.

C. Samish Fish Hatchery-as a barrier to fish passage. Wayne Watne commended the forest industry on their work in completing the RMAPs and opening up fish blockages. He noted how much time and money it has cost the industry. He said that was one reason he had concerns about the Samish hatchery. Nothing is being done to correct its blockage to the salmon runs. It appears that the fish can't get past the weirs at a minimum. He showed a recorded video and has been working with his bosses in trying to find a resolution. Reconstructing the hatchery would be extremely expensive and there is question as to how much support t that would get. Wayne noted that the hatchery in Issaquah has been upgraded to allow passages. There was continued discussion on all the work the forest industry has done and how unfair it is if others are not doing their fair share.

D. FFP Update- Kendra asked the FAB to look over the mass wasting proposal noting that there will be a vote at the next meeting. She noted that the conservation caucus added to their paper that they submitted to the Forest Practice Board asking them to direct Policy to promptly revise the Board Manual to provide clearer guidance for stream typing around barriers and disturbances.

III. Meetings- There will probably not be a meeting in Feb

IV. Adjourn 9:00 a.m.