



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST  
ADVISORY BOARD**

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Paul Kriegel             Aubrey Stargell  
Tim Raschko            Steve Tift  
Fred Loffer  
Kendra Smith, Staff

**Minutes  
September 8, 2014**

Present: Chuck, Ken, Dave, Tim, Tom, Paul, Gordy, Aubrey, Al, Fred  
Absent: Lisa, Tom, Steve  
Guest Kirk Hanson NW Natural Resource Group

I. Introduction. Kirk Hanson from Northwest Natural Resource Group was introduced.

III. Guest Presentation. Kirk Hanson explained to the FAB that his organization was hired by the DNR through a contract/MOU to help small woodland owners. DNR has a responsibility to help the small landowners (RCW 76.13) and this is one instance where they are trying to provide some information. This group is trying to show SLO a niche base for their wood products. They also only promote FSC certification. This is not the certification used by most landowners (SFI or ATF are more commonly used). They are getting money from a national Fish and Wildlife grant (\$200,000). They are tasked to look at roads and water quality issues and provide technical assistance including road inventories and EQIP funding from the Farm Bill. While doing this they will examine economic value to reduce barriers to fish passage as a niche market; certification with Forest Stewardship Council; stewardships; diversity in light of climate change. There will be four workshops in the northwest region area. The FAB said they could support most of what this organization was promoting except for the certification. They did not believe it was fair to promote one type of certification especially since this organization was being paid buy them. This being a federal grant should mean that everything should be neutral without promoting one industry over another. A lengthy discussion followed.

IV. Forest Practice Policy- Kendra gave an update on the Policy work. Road effectiveness Study was proposed. This will look at the BMPs most commonly used and see how they are doing. The Bull Trout Overlay study was completed after 13+ years of work. Policy will have to recommend to the Board whether or not to take action. The shade study showed the shade overlay did not add a pre-determined significance of shade. This is a east side study but the first in adaptive managment showing that a requirement is not adding to the protection. This will be debated at policy. The work on the Boards motion for unstable slopes needs to wrap up by October 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a proposed Rule and changes to the Board Manual. Kendra asked the FAB to be prepared to make quick turn around comments when these documents come out.

VI. Alternative meeting dates. It appears that there are no rooms available on Tuesdays at this time.

VII. Adjourned. 9:02 a.m.