



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST  
ADVISORY BOARD**

Dave Chamberlain, Chairman  
Lisa Cassidy            Ken Osborn  
Al Craney                Chuck Parker  
Gordon Iverson        Tom Nelson  
Paul Kriegel             Aubrey Stargell  
Tim Raschko            Steve Tift  
Fred Loffer  
Kendra Smith, Staff

**Minutes  
May 11, 2015**

Present: Chuck, Al, Dave, Paul, Fred, Steve, Tom

Absent: Gordy, Tim, Aubrey, Ken and Lisa Guest: Kirk Johnson, Doug Couvelier

I. Minutes: Paul moved and Al seconded to approve the April minutes. Passed unanimous.

II. Updates:

1. Paul shared that the USFS was proposing to create habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl on Lake Chaplin just west of Sultan. This work is being done to mitigate work being done in the watershed. Approximately 3,000 ac will be managed by federal agencies. Unfortunately every tree in this area will be off limits for the Industry so they will be taking a 'hit' with this mitigation project.

2. FPA issued in Mount Vernon. The City Council wrote a resolution regarding forest practices within their UGA. It appeared that there were some misinformed members on the city council on what is required in a FPA. The FAB decided they would like to invite members to a FAB meeting so they could explain/educate the aspects of a FPA as well as the protections for riparian areas. This area was originally destined for a 400 house development. The FPA requires that there be no conversion for at least 10 years. Trees are replanted under the FPA. Paul said he would ask a council member to come to the next meeting. Tom suggested that a short succinct letter be drafted about the Forest Practice Rules and the HCP and give it to the BoCC for their review. It should list 4-5 rules and how they are administered.

III. Discussion items:

A. Skagit County TDR Program – Kirk Johnson from Skagit PDS presented updates regarding the TDR Program. It is moving to the policy and code revision phase. The report from year ago made this suggestion and it would be called the Skagit County Conservation and Development Incentives Program. Secondary Forest, Rural Resource and a little of Forestry designations will be included. It will be permanent conservation and not the suggested 40 year plan. (Kitsap County tried this but was found to be non-compliant with the GMA.) Rural Reserve and Rural Intermediate will be the receiving areas. CaRD developments will be considered with increases in density and possibly in areas with higher densities. FAB has commented that they are not sure this Program will really affect the Industry. Kirk noted that they are working to mimic the Ag Heritage Program with the City of Burlington. He added that the City of Anacortes is thinking about doing something similar. There are two options: private buyer/private seller 2. Do it like the Farmland Legacy Program, which involves the County. In this case you would submit your property and be ranked.

B. TFW – 1. The subcommittee created to work on Board manual Section 16 is continuing to work on the delivery and how to rate the possible risks. There is data for shallow slides but not much for the deep seated. Trying to assess risk is a bit subjective.

2. Type F and electro-fishing: Off channel habitat discussions have continued and any changes to the existing language, which still appears to meet the Rule, should go through a technical review to ensure undue burdens are not placed on the industry and that the 95% accuracy is met. Small landowners and the East side tribes worked on a draft for Policy to review and though it was over simplified some of the contents will be used.

3. Type N: Conservation caucus presented an option paper claiming any Type N decision can go directly to the Forest Practice Board and not have to be reviewed by Policy. Policy found this not to be true and would lead to appeals from most other caucuses.

4. Small Landowner Proposal for Template: SLO presented and Policy debated whether their proposal fit the definition of a template and noted that CMER (science) needed to determine the amount of take and whether it was within the guidelines.

IV. Adjourn 9:00 a.m.