



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST  
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Minutes  
July 13, 2015

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

Absent: Tom and Fred

Guest: Steve Ranton DNR, Dale Pernula PDS, Gary Christensen PDS, Keith Greenwood and Doug Couvelier Upper Skagit Tribe

I. Minutes: Next meeting due to full agenda and Kendra was late (7:15)

II. Introductions

III. Update: Gary Christensen thanked the FAB for getting him on the tour. He really enjoyed it and said he learned some things.

IV. Discussion items:

A. County Code Update: 1. PDS told the FAB that because the County is of a certain size and has a certain number of conversions a year, RCW 76.09.240 requires the County to take over and adopt regulations for Class IV conversions. Discussion occurred about taking on these activities. Gary and staff met with the DNR to talk about how they would be doing this and what they would have in the ordinance. The FAB reminded Gary that years ago they were involved in writing this ordinance with Kendra (about 2003). The FAB has concerns about the County taking this on without having staffing trained in forest practices both from a cost and time aspect. There was further discussion on how folks will be informed (currently the DNR sends notice to all of the agencies, tribes and jurisdictions) since PDS just posts on their web site. PDS said Snohomish Co has just adopted their ordinance to take them over. The FAB is concerned and would rather wait as long as possible to see how others are working through the glitches. They have also asked to be kept informed and would like to be able to offer insight in drafting the ordinance.

Gary Christensen and Dale Pernula also presented the work they have taken to the Planning Commission. This included how they will be changing the requirements for noticing people when they are within a Natural Resource designation. FAB members generally ok with proposals but wanted to make sure everyone did in fact understand and know about potential nuisances within a resource area. They don't want lawsuits telling them they can be doing their work.

There was further discussion on Notice of actions. PDS stated that they have to do SEPA, which is a notice in the paper (and not sent individually), but not every individual or agency gets the paper and can look things up weekly. The FAB is concerned that there may be a development activity proposed that could be near or adjacent to one of the many types of landslides. If the development activity is allowed this can then affect future harvests in that area due to the Forest Practice Rules. This is an important topic that PDS and everyone need to understand.

V. Adjourn 9:00 a.m.

Kendra stayed after with those FAB members that could to update on TFW issues.