



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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Minutes

November 1, 2017

Present: Gordy, Fred, Ken, Aubrey, Chuck, Al, Dave, Paul, Steve, Lisa. Tim and Tom absent.

Guest: Ryan Walters and Stacie Pratschner from Planning

- I. Minutes: Gordy moved and Fred seconded to approve the minutes for August 2nd and September 13th as well as from the special meeting held on October 23rd to discuss the Marbled Murrelet Strategy with minor corrections. Passed unanimous.
- II. Updates:
 - a. Family owned mills: There has been a substantial number that have closed over the last ten years employing family members and employees up to 45. FAB members said they'd try to get numbers to share...close to 10 or more. 10 pulp mills gone.
 - b. Special meeting to discuss recommendations for the proposed marbled murrelet strategy for State lands.
- III. RFI: Planning has made corrections as suggested to follow the statute for Class IV conversions and is not including IV Specials. They want consistency. Planning is going to take only a portion forward right (phase I) now and have the clearing and grading ordinance be separate from the County taking on jurisdiction of conversions. There are 3 code changes to phase I. 1. Assume jurisdiction, 2. Clearing and Grading and 3. Creating an open space for forestry under the CaRD ordinance. Planning is unable to do more at this time for the proposed RFI since their legal counsel has said that other changes are not consistent with state subdivision statutes. Ryan said he understood what the FAB was asking and would be willing to possible help. This would mean changing legislation. Kendra talked to DNR staff and they agreed that they would be willing to help move some changes forward as well. Planning staff agreed to move some sections around so there would not be confusion about forest practices and conversions. The DNR still needs to buy-off, as well as county legal, before being adopted. Dave asked to please see a clean version before Planning took the final to the PC to make sure everyone was on the same page. Dave also asked for a commitment from Planning to help make legislative changes and wanted to know what obstacles may be in the path. He would like to have a meeting to discuss the strategy as to how to move phase II forward.
- IV. Adjourn 8:58 a.m.