



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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**Minutes
March 14, 2018**

Present: Chuck, Fred, Al, Dave, Tom, Paul, Steve Absent: Ken, Fred, Lisa, Tim and Aubrey
Guest: Hal Hart, Planning Director

- I. Minutes: Al moved and Paul seconded to approve. Passed unanimous.
- II. Moved and accepted to add Blanchard to the agenda.
- III. Updates: Vickie Christensen is the new Chief Forester
- IV. Discussion:
 - a. Forest Practice Board – The majority of the meeting was focused on the type F/N work specifically the potential habitat breaks that will determine where protocol surveys will start. There were 15 alternatives presented. Tom Nelson was able to make an accepted motion to the FPB which would require evaluating 3 alternatives as well as the existing rule. The first was an alternative that built on the large amount of data submitted by the large landowners (very similar to alternative 15) and uses a ratio rather than a percentage in gradient change. The second was an alternative the west side tribes (this may have large consequences for counties, especially for development). The third was a proposal from the UCUT (eastside tribes). After the motion passed the chair changed it to what is in practice rather than what is in the rule, which subsequently caused some caucuses to take issue (this happened after the FPB meeting). It was noted that it appears that there will be many attorneys getting involved. The economic analysis will be telling as to which alternative is feasible.
 - b. TFW budget - There has been a lot of work since the costs over the next years will exceed the projected revenues. Trying to find a method to prioritize to help in the future and when the FPB requests a new study.
 - c. Leg update: Pre-ap requirement for unstable slopes did not pass. There was not enough time for the “Blanchard-fix” to make it through and it appears the Commissioner Franz wants more public involvement. HB2295 requiring accountability of the DNR on the HCP specifically for the marbled murrelet.
 - d. Blanchard - HB 2988 fell through when it went to the senate due to the time limit. \$10M new and \$12M total was given for replacement lands. There is a replacement subcommittee that includes Tom. There has been talk again that a Natural Resource Conservation Area be placed on the core. This was discussed years ago and dismissed since certain uses are prohibited with a NRCA.
- V. Introduction of new Planning Director- Hal Hart- Mr. Hart gave his background and looks forward to working with the FAB and would like to take a tour in the future and learn more. He was involved with the on-set of GMA and worked for Commerce (CTED).
Adjourn 9:08 a.m.