



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

2/5/2020

Present: Aubrey, Chuck, Ken, Al, Dave (needed to leave at 8), Tom, Fred, Tim, Gordy and Steve
Absent
Lisa

Guest: Kayla Schott-Bresler

- I. Minutes: Moved by Gordy and seconded by Chuck to approve. Passed unanimously.
- II. Discussion

- a. Sustainable Harvest Calculation. Skagit County filed a complaint against the DNR for the newly adopted SHC. Kayla briefed the FAB on why the county filed. She also noted that to the FAB's recommendation to the BoCC, to file an amicus brief to the complaint filed by AFRC and other counties on the BNR adoption of the marbled murrelet long-term conservation strategy (MMLTCS), that the BoCC said that due to consolidating the County complaint with AFRC's complaint for the SHC (in which case AFRC's included the MMLTCS complaint) it would not be necessary to do such. There was discussion including the need for a forest management plan for Skagit County that fully identifies the inventory. It was agreed by all that the data the DNR has is not correct and field verification has been missing. The FAB acknowledged that the DNR did over cut in Skagit County to make up for areas like the Olympic Experimental State Forest (OESF) where they didn't harvest due to the 2007 lawsuit and settlement. According to a news article, the DNR stated that Skagit County had asked to have more trees cut. This was false, as the county PA responded back to the DNR. It was shared by Aubrey that the DNR was looking for representatives to sit on a newly formed SHC committee. Kayla noted that representation from the county, specifically a FAB member should be on this and other DNR committees. FAB asked who the county hired to do the inventory study and Kayla responded that it will be Paul Wagner of Atterbury Forest Consultants. He will review the inventory and the DNR model used to calculate the SHC. Some ground truthing is expected to occur. He will be invited to the next FAB meeting (March 11th). The FAB asked the number of acres in the common school trust, which is approximately 24,427 in Skagit County. It was noted that revenue from the excise tax plus jobs come from those sales even though it is not part of the trust funds for the county. Ken noted that the Pilchuck Tree Farm manager, Joel Drydan, would be a good contact.
- b. Climate Change: Al distributed a fact sheet on the benefits of forests to fighting climate change. There are 2 bills (same in House 2528 and Senate 6355) that recognize the contributions of the state's forest products sector as part of the state's global climate response. Al suggested the FAB recommend to the BoCC to support these bills. They have already moved to ex committee. Ken noted that there is a misconception that only old growth help, however, old growth only store the carbon whereby younger trees do the sequestration. Using wood products retains the stored carbon. Bringing wood in from outside the state dramatically increases the carbon footprint due to the transportation. Al also suggested that SB 2714 be supported. It allows the SLO to have the right to sell the carbon on your riparian forests in the future.

- c. Small Landowners: The FAB discussed templates that provide for smaller buffers for the SLO. The question was should they have a different standard. When negotiating for the Forest and Fish Report the leg acknowledged the SLO to have a lesser impact and deference should be given for this. Their harvests are generally very small, and many are on 20 ac or less. Small landowners can't harvest over 2.5MBF/year.

III. Adjourn: 9:30