



SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY BOARD

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

January 13, 2021 Minutes

Present: Meeting by Zoom attendance. Dave, Ken, Steve, Al, Chuck, Gordy and Tom Absent: Tim, Lisa, Fred Guest: Commissioner Browning

- I. Minutes: Tom moved and Ken seconded to approve. Unanimous.
- II. Discussion:
 - a. Small Landowner (SLO)- Kendra gave an update on the status of phase 2 noting that there was a delay due to the holidays for a start time. The hope is still for a recommendation before the FPB in May. DNR working on the contract. CMER is working on a monitoring and evaluation component on the riparian functions. They have embraced the fixed width buffer prescriptions based on desired future conditions (DFC) options 1 and 2 in the rules. CMER has been unable to have consensus on the science 6 questions. Ken Miller sends emails updates out to SLO. Anyone wanting to see his emails contact Ken or Kendra. The tribes are concerned that the large landowners will want the same rules the SLO may get. The SLO keep emphasizing that their impact is far less due to size of potential harvests. FAB members did note that if science shows that the impacts from smaller buffers are not increased, than it really should be applied to all landowners. BUT the FAB is supportive of the SLO moving forward obtaining what was promised during the 1997-99 negotiations. Since TFW 1987, the FFR in 1997 and the HCP in 1999 many landowners have lost up to 34% of their lands to buffering requirements. It was also noted that buffers beyond 75' for large woody debris (LWD) make no sense (currently buffers may run up to 200'). There was dialog with the Commissioner on forest practice buffers.
 - b. Policy- Policy was able to put together a workshop at the end of the month to help educate decision makers as well as CMER and policy on what extensive monitoring actually is. It was a requirement of TFW and then the HCP. There will be speakers who were present at the time of the negotiations and from organizations doing extensive monitoring as part of their HCP. Kendra encouraged FAB members to attend.
 - c. State Lands- DNR shared that they spend \$5.86/ acre and set sales at \$832/ac. Performance Assessment Report: Kendra highlighted some of the messages in the report showing timber to be highest gross income but having lowest net operating income/trust value based on the difference in net revenues between 1995 and 2018. 1995 was at the start of the NSO. It was discussed that this comparison was a bit of a misrepresentation. DNR showed timber to be a negative 45% in value over this time period. This is in part justifying why they want to "modernize" the trusts and find "more stable" revenues for the trusts. This includes commercial real estate and ecosystem services and recreation.
 - d. FAB 2021 goals: FAB started the discussion with Commissioner Browning and the Commissioner stated that he'd like to see a few goals done well with success rather than taking too much on. FAB will continue this next month due to time. Ken said he's like to work with making landowners comply with their forest open space taxation plans and Gordy agreed stating this is a local issue. Chuck noted that this can't be enforced based on the RCWs. (He found this out while doing forest management plans for folks).
 - e. Legislation to watch: Bill 1168
- III. Adjourn: 9:06 a.m.