



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
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**Minutes
3/9/2022**

Present: Gordy, Lisa, Tim, Aubrey, Chuck, Al, Ken, Steve, and Tom. Guest: Nick

1. Minutes: Moved Tim seconded by Ken and approved as amended.
2. Discussion Updates
 - a. FAB vacancy. FAB members asked to have all interested candidates submit a letter of intent that they could review at the next meeting and send any recommendations forward to the Board of County Commissioners. There were several names mentioned that would all be great assets to the FAB.
 - b. Legislative Session bills and provisos. Senate proviso for \$10 million to be split by counties with endangered species and marbled murrelet, specifically Wahkiakum, Pacific and Skamania for \$5 million and Jefferson and Clallam for \$5 million. WSAC will manage and replacement lands will come from any county where land is available. In many ways this is similar to the trust land transfers (TLT). The FAB noted that they felt this was a horrible idea except in the rare cases of urban interface conflicts.
 - c. BNR. The DNR staff told the BNR that 7 sales were postponed due to staff issues. They did not say due to 'legacy trees' occurring in those units. DNR put a moratorium on all sales pre-1900. BNR did not approve either of these decisions. Public comments have been limited to 1 hour on a first come basis. The last meeting had 22 in favor of stopping sales and 5 supporting sales for the beneficiaries before the time ran out. The chair report on older forests was postponed.
 - d. TFW. Dispute resolution has been taking most of the time along with consideration of budget and studies. We are pushing for extensive monitoring not to be dropped and started ASAP. CMER still having problems with outside science. Policy is reviewing steps to be taken as a result of the State Audit. 'Net gains' for all caucuses when developing a study and reviewing outside science protocols are being suggested. There is a debate in Policy on what add-ons should be accepted to certain riparian studies based on the biennium budget.
 - e. Trust Land Transfer (TLT). Commissioner Wesen sits on this committee. There is concern about the speed the DNR staff are trying to move decision making by this committee on topics affecting the junior taxing district (JTD), definition as to what lands really constitute transfer lands and where replacement lands should come from.
 - f. Education update. Nick shared the work he has been doing in looking into the FIT (forest institute for teachers) coming to Washington for a teacher's credited workshop. It would not occur this year, but a lot of prep work would. The PEI (Pacific Education Institute) has now been contacted about this and may want to get involved with support. There was discussion around the length of time for a workshop with acknowledgement that a

week would be best to give a full perspective of forest management and the benefits, FAB felt important to get teachers from urban areas.

3. Adjourn 9:15