



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST  
ADVISORY BOARD**

Jamie Hillery, Chairman  
Peter Janicki            David Nielsen  
Al Craney                Chuck Parker  
Gordon Iverson        Tim Raschko  
Kris McCall             Aubrey Stargell  
John Gold                Steve Tift  
Dave Chamberlain  
Kendra Smith, Staff

Minutes  
2/10/25

Present: Aubrey, Chuck, Dave C, Jamie, Kris, John, Steve, Peter, John  
Absent: Al, David,  
Guest: Commissioner Janicki, Matt Comiski and Nick Kunz, Julie Donahoe (Hampton)

1. Minutes: Tim moved Jamie seconded to approve. Unanimous.
2. No public comments
3. Updates:
4. Skagit County Comprehensive Plan Climate Element: Kendra prepared a spreadsheet for the FAB to review and comment on. It included the comments made by FAB members from the initial draft. The FAB has and continues to express the important role of sound solid forest management in the realm of mitigating climate impacts. Unfortunately, the guidelines from Commerce offered very little input. Supporting reasoning for the proposed goals and policies came from studies done by UW (Ganguly, I., Pierobon, F. & Hall, E. (2020). Global Warming Mitigating Role of Wood Products from Washington State's Private Forests. *Forests*, 11(2). [doi.org/10.3390/f11020194](https://doi.org/10.3390/f11020194)), the IPCC, RCW 70A.45.090 and 70A.65. The spreadsheet was organized to show the inclusion of the forest products industry and forest management in Goals for Climate Resilience and for Climate Greenhouse Gases with following policies to consider. There was discussion about the method Commerce (or its consultant) used in determining GHG analysis (ICLE and LEARN), for Skagit County (and all counties), which has been determined to be flawed. That analysis assumes that at the time of harvest, all of the carbon is emitted into the atmosphere. John pointed out that this means that 3.91 of 4.28 MM t co2eq (92%) of the assumed "emissions" from the harvest of natural forests is erroneous. The FAB fully supported the spreadsheet goals and policies and wanted it to be forwarded to Planning and the Planning Commission.
5. Federal Lands: Comments on the DEIS for the NWFP are due March 17<sup>th</sup>. Next FAB meeting will be spent discussing comment letter recommendation.

6. State Lands: BNR- all sales went through. The information topic was on roads, building and maintenance for State lands. Roads are necessary not only for timber sales but also to access fire and recreational uses. Money for roads comes from timber sales. An update on the Recreation Strategies was given noting a reduction in the budget for potential funding. Recreation is compatible with State sales and logging but must follow the mandates of the Trust. There are many more users since CoVID and the parking, trailheads, facilities can't keep up with increased numbers, plus the amount of vandalism is also up with very little budget to mitigate the damages.
7. Adjourn 6:30