Sector	Policy	Element	Guidance/Draft Proposaed Policy	Reasoning	QUESTIONS
NEW SECTOR -FOREST RESILIENCE/GHGs					
Forest Resilience	**CE 11**	Climate	Commerece guidance did not list Forests in any of the Sectors provided in the guidelines for Climate Resilience or GHGs. There needs to be a specific Sector for this and Goals/Policies for both resilience and GHGs can be added. If not a separate Sector than added to Ag and Food	Not sure why a Sector on what our forests provide towards climate resilience and GHGs was omitted **NOTE:** The intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC) released a report in 2019 entitled "IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems" that provides guidance relating to how natural and working lands can be utilized to assist with a global climate response strategy. In addition, the food and agricultural organization of the United Nations issued a report in 2016 entitled "forestry for a low-carbon future" with specific recommendations for integrating forest and wood products in climate change strategies. "... the state will: ...(b) minimize the potential to export pollution, jobs, and economic opportunities; (c) support industry sectors that can act as sequesterers of carbon; and (d) reduce emissions at the lowest cost to Washington's economy, consumers, and businesses.	What is the proper name?
Forest Resilience	**CE 11.**	Climate Resilience	GOAL (Note- there should be an additional goal(s) whether a new sector or not is added): Promote cliamte resilience through ensuring healthy resilient forests that are sustainably managed	Sustainable Forestry means: Viable and Operable in perpetuity . Healthy and profitable forest. Forest Management can only occur if sustainable forestry is occuring.	
Forest Resilience			Ensure a resilient, operable and viable forest product sector by promoting and ensuring the well being of timber communities.		
Forest Resilience	**CE 11.**	Climaate Resilience	GOAL Ensure resilient forests by maintaining active forest management and retaining the critical infrastructure		
Forest Resilience	**CE 11.1.1**	Climate Resilience	Ensure a a viable and operable forest products industry can be sustained in perpetuity by supporting State and Federal timebr sales, road building and both the retaining and promoting of local infrastructure	The Rules and Policies setting up sales are established through WACs/RCWs and the Adaptive Management Program with a science body, and HCPs,and are some of the most stringent in the world	
Forest Resilience	**CE 11 1.2**	Climate Resilience	Support the Forest Practice Rules, which are vetted through the Adaptive Management Program, and the DNR Sustainable Forest Poicies adopted in 2005 and amended through 2024.	The Rules and Policies setting up sales are established through WACs/RCWs and the Adaptive Management Program with a science body, and HCPs, and are some of the most stringent in the world	

Forest Resilience	CE 11.1.3	Climate Resilience	Encouage a viable forest products community, which includes supporting State and federal timber sales that provide revenues for local schools, roads, hospitals etc.		
Forest Resilience	CE 11.1.4	Climate Resilience	Ensure resilient forests by reducing sprawl into forest lands by promoting a viable forest product industry and the associated critical infrastructure	Protect against conversions, ensure wood to the mills	
Forest Resilience	CE 11.1.5	Climate Resilience	Promote Forest management using Forest Practice Rules to protect cool, clean water	Acknowledge that forest management and forest sector policy in Washington State id amoung the highest standards in the world with respect to sustaining healthy forest ecosystems.	
Forest Resilience	CE 11.1.6	Climate Resilience	Encourage collaboration between county and federal agency leadership to develop guidelines/strategies that will reduce fuel loading on Federal lands	Wild Fire ....What's the point if one landowner manages their land to be resilient and his	Get more specific here. Can cross to flooding and health and economics
Forest Resilience	CE 11.1.7	Climate Resilience	Encourage forest management including timber sales on USFS lands	Over half of the State of Washington is covered in forests (22 million acres), of which 57% is public. The majority of the public land is managed by the USFS, over 8 million acres. The DNR manages just over 2 million acres. Other state and counties about 650,000. So the key to our overall forest health and any significant climate benefit in this state from forests, seems to lie in this hands of the feds. Unfortunately, they find it difficult to do much in terms of forest management.	

Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11.2.1	Climate Greenhouse Gases		Fire and Disease: Managed forests and wood products play a crucial role in addressing climate change by sequestering carbon in both the forest and wood products. SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY FOR CARBON REDUCTION IN WASHINGTON STATE Sustainable forestry involves growing and harvesting trees, with growing trees absorbing carbon and harvested wood storing carbon, thus reducing Washington's carbon footprint. Using natural wood building products as substitutes for more carbon-intensive materials is an effective way to reduce carbon emissions. Working forests not only support carbon-friendly wood products but also create family-wage jobs. These forests also provide environmental benefits, including protecting clean water sources for salmon. The carbon benefits derived from working forestry contribute to cost-effective carbon reduction. Washington's forest products industry operates below net-zero emissions. While various activities in the industry emit greenhouse gases, the growth and use of trees in wood products result in a net carbon reduction of 12%. (Source: University of Washington Forest Carbon Study, 2020). Scientific evidence supports sustainable wood harvesting as a natural method for significant carbon reduction and mitigating the risk of carbon-emitting events like wildfires. Unmanaged Forests Release Carbon Unmanaged forests release carbon, and addressing this issue involves restoring forest ecosystems to enhance their resilience to climate-induced stressors. Unhealthy forests are more prone to wildfires due to overcrowding, dryness, and pest infestations. Unhealthy forests are more susceptible to wildfire because the trees are crowded, dry and often have insects and disease. Forests remove greenhouse gases Note: Washington's forest products industry operates below net-zero emissions. While various activities in the industry emit greenhouse gases, the growth and use of trees in wood products result in a net carbon reduction of 12%. (Source: University of Washington Forest Carbon Study, 2020). Scientific evidence supports sustainable wood harvesting as a natural method for significant carbon reduction and mitigating the risk of carbon-emitting events like wildfires.	On average, the private forest industry, including growing, harvesting, transportation and milling wood is Below Net Zero as it sequesters 12% of WA state's carbon emissions (Source: University of Washington Forest Carbon Study, 2020).
Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11.2.1	Climate Greenhouse Gases	GOAL- To balance carbon sequestration, storage and having a viable community (economy)	See note above!!!!	Change from Jamie

Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11	Climate Greenhouse Gases	Goal: Promote and encourage forest management actions, which explicitly account for maximizing carbon storage over time, across all pools	Mills each specializing in specific products are crucial to manufaure the wood that stores the carbon. Examples include:mill specializes in a different species, or product or size of product (Cedar, Hardwoods, commodity softwoods, specialty softwoods, veneer, plywood, chips from sawmills and veneer mills going to pulp, bark used to power boilers and generators, or beauty bark and soil amendments, sawdust for fuel and crops, planer shavings for animal bedding, Cross laminated Timber, Glue laminated beams, laminated veneer lumber, pallets, shake and shingles, utility poles, wood treating.	
Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11.2.1	Climate Greenhouse Gases	Determine benefits of all policies ~~under this chapter~~ by employing established protocols consistent with the State Climate Commitment Act,RCW 70A.65, specifically relying on a linked systems approach and life cycle analysis to account for cradle to grave embodied carbon of downstream products.	County policy should conform to and support RCW 70A.45.090 which stipulates, "Washington's existing forest products sector, including public and private working forests and the harvesting, transportation, and manufacturing sectors that enable working to remain on the land and the state to be a global supplier of forest products, is, according to a University of Washington study analyzing the global warming mitigating role of wood products from Washington's private forests, an industrial sector that currently operates as a significant net sequesterer of carbon. This value, which is only provided through the maintenance of an intact and synergistic industrial sector, is an integral component of the state's contribution to the global climate response and efforts to mitigate carbon emissions."	
Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11.2.2	Climate Greenhouse Gases	Promote and encourage forest management and forest sector policies which do not result in leakage (i.e., comparable activities in other jurisdictions which induce the same carbon footprint as the avoided activity), and recognize that substitution of wood products for non-renewables such as steel and concrete results in greater reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG) than from sequestration in the forest environment alone.	Mills each specializing in specific products are crucial to manufaure the wood that stores the carbon. Examples include:mill specializes in a different species, or product or size of product (Cedar, Hardwoods, commodity softwoods, specialty softwoods, veneer, plywood, chips from sawmills and veneer mills going to pulp, bark used to power boilers and generators, or beauty bark and soil amendments, sawdust for fuel and crops, planer shavings for animal bedding, Cross laminated Timber, Glue laminated beams, laminated veneer lumber, pallets, shake and shingles, utility poles, wood treating.	
Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 11.2.3	Climate Greenhouse Gases	Acknowledge that forest management and forest sector policy in Washington State is amoung the highest standards in the world with respect to sustaining healthy forest ecosystems.	Can another policy be developed?	
			OTHER PLACES WITHIN THE CLIMATE ELEMENT FORESTMANAGEMENT NEEDS CONSIDERATION		

Building & Energy	CE 2 GOAL	Climate Resiliance and GHG		Commerce: Prioritize the use of lower-carbon building materials in new construction and building retrofits to reduce embodied carbon (ID#: P.02). Note: wood more carbon friendly than concrete or steel	
Building & Energy	CE 2.5	Climate Resiliance and GHG	Reduce carbon footprint by Supporting and growing local!	Buildings using local wood products increases carbon storage and reduce carbon footprintfrom (GHG) transporting wood from other locations	
LandUses & Ecosystems	CE 6.8	Climate Resilience	Continue sound forest management practices to protect streams	wildfire	Cross roads with Environment ?
Land Use Ecosystems	CE 6		Utilize contemporary peer reviewed science to validate the effectiveness of protection measures for streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains while also encouraging restoration efforts in these areas.	Change the proposed	
Zoning	CE 10		Promote the management of trees on subdivided tracts by allowing landowners to practice forestry under State Forest Practice Rules.		
Land Use or under new Forest SectorFOREST VIABILTY	CE 6 or CE 11		Minimize stream sedimentation from extreme precipitation events and flooding by implementing 1. Implementation and continuance of the RMAP (Road Maintenance and Abandonment Planning) program. 2. Application and maintenance of appropriate buffers on typed waters as currently prescribed under WAC 222-30. 3. Continued adherence to applicable Watershed Analysis prescriptions.		
Land Uses & Ecosystems	CE 6.4		Encourage forest management practices which minimize the size, scope, and impact of future wildfires,including: maintaining healthy, vigorous forests free of disease, insects, and excessive fuel loading;developing fuel breaks where appropriate to protect infrastructure and high value ecosystems; and bolstering wildland fire fighting capacity of rural fire districts.	Change the proposed	

Land Use Ecosystems	CE 6.5		Promote sustainable practices in forestry, agriculture, and livestock management with a focus on enhancing long-term environmental resilience	Change the proposed language NOTE: Implementation of this policy will require a landscape level coordination effort across public and private landowners. Implementation of local codes and land use classifications will prioritize removal of distressed trees and forests with an emphasis placed on promoting healthy trees and vibrant tree canopies. Focus will consider the tradeoffs between retaining existing healthy trees, the planting of new trees in locations that better support tree health and tree canopy, and the efficient use and strategic use of limited developable land. Ensure the overall plan will facilitate ecologically appropriate management across different ownership types and jurisdictional boundaries.	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT or maybe under Land Uses & Ecosystems or NEW SECTOR - Carbon Storage/Sequestration	CE 5 or CE 11.2 or CE 5	Climate Resilience AND GHG	Promote, foster and invest in the forest industry sectors that promote forest management and development of products that store carbon	Justification: SB 6355/HB2528 recognized the important role working forests play in removing greenhouse gases. Chapter 120, 2020 Laws effective 6/11/2020. This can cross over to economic	
Economic	CE 5		Define and identify frontline communities, including low-income communities, outdoor workers, and those employed in carbon-intensive industries, who may be disproportionately impacted by environmental and economic shifts. Recognize that active timber management on public and private lands is vital to maintaining both environmental and economic stability.	Healthy, managed forestsprovide green, carbon positive living wage careers.	
Economic	CE 5		-Encouarage focusing on sourcing renewable building alternatives including wood products compared to high global carbon emitters in the steel and concrete industry. Partners could include schools, labor unions, businesses, and community-based organizations.	Support schools, technical institutions, labor unions, businesses, and community-based organizations to develop accessible training programs, apprenticeships, and career advancement pathways in living-wage	

Zoning	CE 10. EXISTING ....change to 3 policies		Support the Skagit County Conservation District in implementing the NFPA "Firewise" program. Support SCD in implementing NFPA firewise program and WUI (wildland interface) outreach and education.	low carbon industries, including renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure, energy efficiency, and environmental restoration.	
			Support existing communities and encourage new community participation within high risk areas as mapped in the Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, (CWPP).	Commerce Menu of Measures High Priority Action. Support organizations that are committed to building accessible on-ramps to living-wage green careers within frontline communities and leading	
			Incorporate best management practices outlined in the CWPP and NFPA codes and standards manuals: (1140 – Wildland Fire Protection, 1141 – Infrastructure for Land Development, 1142- Water Supplies, 1143 – Wildfire Management, 1144 – Reducing Structural Ignition). Support active vegetation management as prescribed in the CWPP home ignition zones to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health.	specialized promotion of green industry sectors catered to frontline communities. Examples of such green jobs could include solar panel and green roof installation and maintenance.	
Cultural Resources	CE 4 GOAL	Climate Resilience and socioeconomic Impacts	Promote climate resilience and equity through culturally sensitive relationships with Tribal governments, local leaders, ~~and~~ non-profit groups, and local industry that work with vulnerable communities to effectively manage climate change risks. Climate resiliency and culturally beneficial activities are enhanced by active forest management.	Added to proposed	Dave provided the following: Coordinate with local leaders, Tribal governments, forest industry representatives and non-profit organizations to promote climate resiliency.
Environmet Element of Comp Plan to includ			mapped in the Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, (CWPP).		
Intregrat into other Comp Plan Elements:					
MAYBE UNDER CE 11			**Build the Good Neighbor Authority relationship with the USFS to promote and foster crucial forest management to aid in fire resilience.**		
MAYBE UNDER CE 11			**Build the Good Neighbor Authority relationship with the USFS to promote and foster crucial forest management to aid promoting carbon sequestration**		
			Encourage MOUs forState and County bridges	**Fire Resilience**	
			Support Working Forests Carbon Blueprint of		

			Promote forest road system, which includes road building and maintenance to access forested landscape to promote fire resilience		
Environment?		Chapter 5	Promote Forest Health by ensuring a viable industry and performing good forest practices management practices outlined in the CWPP and NFPA codes and standards manuals: (1140 – WildlandFire Protection, 1141 – Infrastructure for Land Development, 1142- Water Supplies, 1143 – Wildfire Management, 1144 – Reducing Structural Ignition). Support active vegetation management as prescribed in the CWPP home ignition zones to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health.	Due to increasing greenhouse gas emissions – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and others – heat is trapped in the atmosphere causing changes to climate worldwide. Climate change is expected to affect the Pacific Northwest including Skagit County. The University of Washington Climate Impacts Group has estimated a possible sea level rise of 0.4 meters by 2050 to 2080. In addition to sea level rise, potential effects that are anticipated to occur in Skagit County include: increased risk of wildland-urban interface fires, designated forest land fires, warmer temperatures, more precipitation falling as rain in winter and loss of snowpack altering streamflow timing and changes in flood risk, and changes to terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems and species composition. As a result of climate change and ecosystem effects, there could be damage to carbon dense forests and associated habitats, low-lying farms and urban development in the floodplain. (Skagit County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014; Skagit River Basin Climate Science Report, September 2011) As these and other issues and considerations are studied and resolved, the policies in the Environment Element and other Comprehensive Plan elements will have to be revisited as an ongoing part of future updates.	Talk to Planning about cross
Environment and/or Ecosystems			To protect all environments and ecosystems in the forested landscape, forest management needs to be encouraged and promoted to provide for healthy, fire resilient landscapes, both in our forests and our communities. This includes stream buffers, visual buffers, wildlife areas, old growth forests, etc.	Management scenarios ,of course, would be different for each but this concept of “No Touch” is not working for communities, wildlife, public forests, wilderness areas, National Parks, etc. Hopefully, this would provide landscapes which can coexist with fire and continually support a carbon balance (instead of burning up and adding to increased CO2).	
Environment and/or Ecosystems			Promote riparian management for fire resilience to protection of streams and their habitats	fire will destroy cool cleam waters including those with anadromous fish	Talk to Planning about cross