



SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

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August 22, 2014

Skagit County Board of Commissioners
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

RE: Voluntary Stewardship Program Resolution Comments

Dear Board of Commissioners,

The Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board (AAB) supports the resolution initiating participation in the Voluntary Stewardship Program. We support the proactive action to create an environment where it will be possible to maintain and enhance the long term viability of agriculture.

There are many issues affecting the long term viability of agriculture in Skagit Valley. Drainage and irrigation are two of the most essential. Without an effective drainage system, the majority of farm land will not be viable to grow crops. We recommend that there is representation from the Drainage and Irrigation districts on the Watershed Group. There should also be a strong representation from local farmers, Western Washington Ag, and farmland preservation groups, all residents of Skagit County.

Thank you for considering our concerns. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nels Lagerlund, Chair
Skagit Agriculture Advisory Board
lagerwood@frontier.com
(360) 708-5383

*Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Members:
Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Kraig Knutzen (Vice Chair), Murray Benjamin, Jim Carstens, Ty Clark, Barbara Cleave,
Brian Duquaine, Michael Hughes, Mike Hulbert, Greg Lee, Dan Lefeber, Bill McMoran*