



#### SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY BOARD

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Kris McCall      Aubrey Stargell  
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Dave Chamberlain  
Kendra Smith, Staff

#### Minutes 5/13/25

Present: Aubrey, Al, Dave, Chuck, Peter, Kris, John, Steve, Gordy, David Absent: Tim, Jamie  
Guests: Michael See (SCPW), Jay Guthrie (DNR), Michelle Stiler (DNR), Matt Comiski  
(AFRC), Darin Cramer (WFPA) Patrick Donnelly general public, Commissioner Janicki

1. Introductions: DNR, County PW staff and FAB made introductions.
2. Minutes: Dave moved and Kkris seconded to approve the minutes. Passed  
unanimous
3. Public comments: none
4. Peter Burns Rd: Over the past year there has been discussions between the DNR  
and County staff regarding the ownership and whether there is an easement for  
access to properties beyond. The DNR asked to talk to the FAB. The Public Works  
department wanted to be present. The following are some of the facts and issues:  
The DNR was able to find old plats showing the road was a county road. There is  
culvert that will need to be replaced sometime in the future. Some property owners  
don't like logs being hauled. This is the shortest route for access to the mills,  
especially for Hampton. Is is an 1,100 ' segment of road. Who should be maintaining  
the road. What if emergency access is required? Is an easement required? Is there a  
feasible solution that would help the landowners, the DNR, the mills and the  
County? Peter suggested making it a county road and to pursue legal status to  
'perfect the legal access 'in order to benefit a greater system and economy. Steve  
noted that the history of this road and usage should be included in a briefing. The  
FAB moved by Peter and seconded by Gordy to formalize the thoughts in a  
letter/briefing to the commissioners. Approved unanimously. Commissioner Janicki  
said she'd look into this more and the other commissioners can be briefed. Different  
potential solutions were discussed. DRN said they were very grateful for allowing  
them to come and brainstorm. FAB will follow up later.
5. TFW: The rule making for both water-typing and a proposed type Np buffer will be  
coming before the FPB on May 14 and June 6<sup>th</sup> (special meeting). Darin Cramer,  
WFPA, addressed the FAB giving detailed background on both rules, where they are  
in the process and what potential outcomes can mean to the forest products

industry. Most of the focus is on the Type Np rule since the FPB approved the CR-102 for water typing and no new info came in during public comments. For type Np, he noted they were just getting back results from an independent cost benefit analysis they did as well as one done for WFFA by the UW. Department of Ecology is leading the efforts to adopt the proposed rule under its authority to protect clean waters and the antidegradation of Tier II waters. DOE's interpretation of Tier II anti-degradation is concerning and appears to have some holes. DOE just issued a letter, which also appears to contradict its interpretation. DNR's consultant estimated the cost to be approximately \$300,000 million to \$1 billion with 70,000 to 180,000 acres removed (they used the existing hydro layer which is not complete). WFFA using a different data (FPAs and a random approach) set found the acres to be closer to 170,000 to 230,000 acres and the costs to be 5-8 billion dollars with 1 billion in asset value alone.. Summary from UW should be available soon though it looks like the acreage is close to 200,000 (using actual parcel data). Jobs, wages, county revenues, taxes secondary markets all need to be factored in, which will result in greater costs. The DNR consultant found the benefits outweighed the costs due to the public's interests in clean waters. The proposed rule is a result of an action that occurs less than 2% of the time (harvesting a basin) and is from a study with 3 test sites with none in the NW region. Further details were discussed and it was suggested that the FAB make comments both written and verbal if possible. To also note, orphaned streams were never fully discussed at the FPB and are therefore included as type Np streams.

6. State lands: Public comments (which are randomly selected?) were dominantly asking to stop all sales and especially any that have a maturation I on site. Blanchard will be having a sale, but it has been vetted through an advisory board so should be approved. Matt gave an update on the two day BNR tour, Commissioner Janicki noted that the seed farm had to throw away huge numbers of starter trees since sales and harvesting are put on hold.
7. Adjourn 9:10 a.m.