



SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

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October 31, 2011

SKAGIT COUNTY
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Skagit County Planning Commission
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Subject: Voluntary Stewardship Program

Dear Planning Commissioners,

On October 12, 2011, the Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board voted 7 to 1 in favor of recommending that Skagit County "opt in" to the Voluntary Stewardship Program. It was decided that opting into the program would be the most desirable way to gain compliance with the Growth Management Board.

The Agricultural Advisory Board also voted 7 to 1 in favor of recommending that the entire county be enrolled in the program and that both the Samish River watershed and the Skagit River watershed be nominated for priority status. By enrolling the entire county in the program all ongoing agricultural practices near critical areas in the Ag-NRL zone will be protected from challenge before the Growth Management Board. Priority status for both watersheds was recommended in order that there would be equal consideration for the funding of projects to be made available to land owners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nels Lagerlund".

Nels Lagerlund
Chairman Agricultural Advisory Board

Cc: Skagit County Board of Commissioners

Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Members:

Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Mike Hulbert (Vice Chair), Murray Benjamin, Jim Carstens, Randy Good, Michael Hughes, Kraig Knutzen, , Greg Lee, Bill McMoran, Kim Mower, Nate Youngquist, Lyle Wesen, Carly Ruacho, Ex-Officio, Planning & Development Services, Don McMoran, WSU Extension.