Skagit County Community Advisory Group on Agritourism Policy

Tuesday June 17, 2025 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM

New location:

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (Steven's Center) 10441 Bayview-Edison Road; Mount Vernon, WA 98273-7242

Advisory Group Purpose Statement:

To provide policy guidance to PDS staff in drafting an Agritourism Code that addresses the Board of County Commissioners' remand criteria, supporting the Skagit County Planning Commission's continued work with the public and the Agricultural Advisory Board to develop a revised recommendation on Agritourism for the Board of County Commissioners. Resolution #R20240132

Advisory Group Organization:

Advisory group includes a diverse representation of Skagit County farmers with backgrounds in farming and agriculture, including those with interest and/or experience in agritourism.

June 17, 2025, Meeting Objectives:

Consensus recommendations on remand topics.

- 1. Define Agritourism and clarify the scope by specifying what activities fall outside the current definition of Agricultural Accessory Uses.
- 2. Define the criteria for full and lawful participation in the annual Skagit Valley Tulip Festival, ensuring that it is accessible, open, and offers adequate and equitable opportunities for all interested parties.
- 3. Determine whether Agritourism should be treated the same east of Sedro-Woolley as in the Skagit and Samish Delta areas and define the approach for each scenario.
- 4. Determine whether temporary use/events are sufficiently detailed in Skagit County Code for agritourism activities within Ag-NRL zoned lands.
- Assess the consistency of the Proposed Agritourism Code Amendments and existing code with the King County v. Friends of Sammamish Valley State Supreme Court Decision, along with other relevant state-level actions related to agritourism.

Materials:

- Meeting Actions table May 29
- CAG overview with topic schedule
- Folder of remand responses: Supporting Materials > Remand responses

Proposed Agenda

Time	Topic / Activity	Materials
9:00- 9:15	Welcome and Introductions	Meeting Actions table May 29
		CAG overview

	Consensus recommendations on remand topics	
9:15-9:30	Polling on status of topics Time to review recommendations Dot exercise	Remand Responses
9:30-11:30	Adress topics and move towards consensus Based on dot exercise, identify areas of likely consensus and tackle these topics first. For each topic: 1. Understand level of support and concerns	
(floating break around 10:30)	 Discussion and opportunity to express alternative perspectives. CAG approval or identify next steps to completion. 	
11:30 -12:00	 Next steps between June 17 and June 26 Identify next steps for each remand topics between now and June 26 Review objectives for June 26 Overview of work occurring after June 26 (County) 	
12:00	Adjourn	

Final Meeting: Thursday, June 26- Skagit Publishing Office