

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900, TTY 800-833-6384
360-778-5901 Fax



Mark Personius, AICP
Director

Forestry Advisory Committee **Meeting**

LOCATION

**Hybrid Meeting: Zoom (details below) and
Northwest Annex Conference Room
Whatcom County Planning and Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham, WA 98226**

Date: June 4, 2024

Time: 4:00-6:00 P.M. Pacific Time PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Whatcom County PDS is inviting you to a scheduled in person or Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87106867064?pwd=b0NLTIZnTTZqOHBGQk1mY2FQbWFKQT09>

Meeting ID: 871 0686 7064

Passcode: 722152

One tap mobile

+12532050468,,87106867064#,,,,*722152# US

+12532158782,,87106867064#,,,,*722152# US (Tacoma)



Forestry Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

June 4, 2024

4:00-6:00 P.M.

1. Roll call/Determination of Quorum
2. Agenda Review & Approval
3. Approval of 5/7/24 meeting summary
4. Open Public Session
5. Reports (20 minutes)
 - DNR/BNR (McDonald)
 - Forest Resilience Task Force (McDonald/Petroske)
6. Old Business
 - Review of 4th section of the draft Whatcom Forestry Profile (Holly Koon, 30 minutes)
7. New Business
8. Announcements
9. Adjournment

Attachments:

- Draft 5/7/24 meeting summary

Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the meetings are asked to contact us at least 96 hours in advance. The staff contact at Whatcom County Planning and Development Services is Cliff Strong, cstrong@co.whatcom.wa.us, 360-778-5942.

Whatcom County Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC)
DRAFT Meeting Summary
May 7, 2024

Start Time:	4:00 p.m.
Location:	Northwest Annex Central Conference Room/Zoom

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present	Absent (Excused?)
David New	Small forest landowner	√	
Holly Koon	Small forest landowner	√	
John Gold	Commercial forest landowner	√	
David Janicki	Commercial forest landowner	√	
Matt McGee	Harvester		√ (no)
Quentin Dills	Harvester		√ (no)
Jed Dawson	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Tracy Petroske	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Aubrey Stargell	Forest product manufacturer	√	
Susan David	Forest product manufacturer	√	
Cory McDonald	DNR	√	
Quorum Present			
Electeds			
Staff			
Cliff Strong	W/C PDS	√	
Public			
Alex Harris	ReSources	√	
Alan Chapman	AAC	√	
Taylor Luneau	TWS	√	
Judith Akins		√	

Meeting Summary

Vice-Chair David opened the meeting at 4:01 PM. (Chair Gold was in attendance remotely, so Susan chaired the meeting.)

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Agenda Review & Approval

The Vice-Chair added one item to the agenda and it was approved.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting summary of 4/2/24 was approved.

Open Public Session

Alex Harris introduced Taylor Luneau themselves.

Guest Speaker(s)

Chris Hankey, Baker District Manager, gave a presentation on “Planned Timber Sales in Whatcom County for Fiscal Year 2025” (presentation can be found [here](#)) and there was discussion with the FAC members.

Administration

Attendance

Chair Gold relayed that he had contacted Quentin Dills, who has been absent the last 5 meetings, who confirmed that he will no longer be able to sit on the FAC. The Vice-Chair directed Cliff to contact the Council staff to start a replacement process. Members were encouraged to talk to folks who might be interested to apply once it is opened.

Subcommittee Reports

DNR/BNR

Cory McDonald reviewed some of the pending litigation affecting the DNR/BNR, including

- An appeal by Skagit Co., Lewis, and AFRC the SEPA for the carbon project as inadequate (no financial analysis). The Superior Court found in favor of DNR.
- Other groups challenging DNR's "older forest" policies, claiming they're selling too many older (but not old growth) stands.
- Wishbone timber sale was challenged in Superior Court, claiming DNR wasn't properly accounting for carbon impacts. Court found in favor of the plaintiffs.

Forest Practices Board

N/A

Forest Resilience Task Force

Holly Koon read an update from Tracy Petroski (who had to leave early), and reported that the FRSF facilitator contract should be signed soon, and that their first meeting should be in June. She understands that the FRSF will form subcommittees, one of which (Forestry Industry & Economy) will be asking the FAC for advice. They anticipate using the Whatcom Forestry Profile that FAC is working on.

Legislative Update

Jed Dawson referred to DNR 2024 Legislative Wrap-Up flyer provided in the agenda packet and asked if there were any specific questions. There was a lengthier discussion on the leasehold excise tax exemption.

Old Business

2025 Comprehensive Plan Update

Alan Chapman, chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, relayed that he is trying to set up a joint subcommittee of many of the Council's advisory committees to coordinate their reviews of the CompPlan. Vice-Chair David asked again if there were any FAC members who would like to be on the FAC's CompPlan subcommittee, of which she's the chair, and both Holly and David said they would help as long as it's not too time consuming. Alan said he would set something up (probably a Zoom meeting) and let them know.

New Business

Review of 3rd section of the draft Whatcom Forestry Profile

Aubrey Stargell reviewed his draft portion of the Whatcom Forestry Profile regarding the various agencies and laws involved in and affecting the forestry industry. The FAC had a few suggestions during the meeting, but review and provide additional comments.

Announcements

- Holly Koons read the letter from the W/C Treasurer committing to working to have a routine reporting system regarding state forestland and timber excise revenue distributions and providing 2017/2018 data soon.
- Chair Gold spoke to the National Park Service's decision on grizzly reintroduction to Cascade National Park. (Press release here: <https://www.nps.gov/noca/learn/news/agencies-announce-decision-to-restore-grizzly-bears-to-north-cascades.htm>.)

Adjournment

Vice-Chair David adjourned the meeting at 5:59 PM. Next meeting is on June 4, 2024, 4-6pm; Zoom and Northwest Annex Conference Room.