
Minutes

Board of Natural Resources Meeting

March 7, 2017
Natural Resources Building, Olympia, Washington

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

The Honorable Hilary Franz, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

The Honorable Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

The Honorable Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Van Volkenburgh, Interim Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington

Ron C. Mittelhammer, Dean, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, Washington State University

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

JT Austin, Designee for the Honorable Jay Inslee, Washington State Governor

1 CALL TO ORDER

2 Chair Franz called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Chair Franz shared her views on
3 transparency and her commitment to the agency and the public.

4
5 All Board members introduced themselves. Chair Franz noted there was a quorum for the
6 meeting.

7 SAFETY REVIEW

8 Ms. Kellogg gave a safety overview and instruction on evacuating the building in case of an
9 emergency.
10

11 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

12 Chair Franz called for approval of the minutes for the February 7, 2017 Regular Board of Natural
13 Resources Meeting.
14

15
16 MOTION: Dean Mittelhammer moved to approve the minutes.

17
18 SECOND: Superintendent Reykdal seconded the motion.

19
20 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.
21

1 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST**

2 Phillip Kitchel, citizen: shared concerns on whether the public is receiving the full benefit of the
3 \$14 billion asset the DNR is managing, based on the amount of acreage tied up in long-term
4 deferral.
5

6 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR TIMBER SALE ACTION ITEMS**

7 Phillip Kitchel, citizen: voiced his concern with regeneration harvests/variable retention thinning.
8 He spoke to the tree stands left after a harvest, which are being damaged by the elements, and
9 asked the Board to please consider financial implications. He suggested a change to policy on
10 rotational harvest.
11

12 **TIMBER SALES (Action Item)**

13 **Proposed Timber Sales for April 2017 | 3 handouts, including the presentation**

14 Tom Shay, Product Sales & Leasing Division
15

16 The results of the February 2017 auctions were presented to the Board by Mr. Shay.
17

18 The Department offered 16 sales totaling 60.4 mmbf. Of those, 14 sales sold totaling \$21.0
19 million for an average of \$357 per mbf with 2.6 bidders per sale on average. One additional sale
20 is pending following the re-offer of two of the sorts associated with that sale; the re-offer
21 occurred the week prior to the March 2017 BNR meeting.
22

23 Mr. Shay discussed the sale which did not receive bids. This sale was a small wood thinning that
24 will be reevaluated to look at logging costs.
25

26 Dean Mittelhammer asked whether the pending sale was included in the 14 sold sales.
27

28 Mr. Shay responded the pending sale was in addition to the 14 sales sold.
29

30 Mr. Shay then presented proposed sales to be offered in April 2017 to the Board.
31

32 Mr. Shay asked for approval of the proposed sales as presented.
33

34 MOTION: Commissioner Peach moved to approve the proposed sales.
35

36 SECOND: Dean Mittelhammer seconded the motion.
37

38 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.
39

40 Mr. Shay followed up on the comment by Mr. Kitchel, stating it is state law to leave the number
41 of trees left during a VRH.
42

43 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CHAIR REPORT**

44 Brian Garret, PABA: shared his concern in regards to the Singletary timber sale actions during
45 the February Board meeting, and the vetting process of the action. He stated the subsequent
46 decisions made ignored the majority vote, which resulted in the hold of the Singletary timber
47 sale.

1 Philip Kitchel, citizen: shared information on Washington State harvest levels from 1990 through
2 2015, which is information from DNR website. He voiced the financial implications and shared
3 handouts showing the difference between private and state harvests. He noted there appears to be
4 700k acres off base, and encouraged the Board to choose options to gain the maximum amount
5 of revenue.

6
7 Eric Goal, Timberland Regional Library: shared concerns on Alternative 4 due to no arrearage
8 for the four counties he represents. He voiced his support of Alternative 2.

9
10 Connie Beauvais, Port of Port Angeles Commissioner: shared concerns on the sustainable
11 harvest calculation alternatives, any of which would meet DNR obligations, and suggested the
12 Board choose the alternative that returns the highest benefit, Alternative 2. Ms. Beauvais
13 recognized this option may not be best for all counties, and suggested restating sections of
14 Alternative 2 to better benefit the counties.

15
16 Carol Johnson, North Olympic Timber Action Committee: shared concerns on the SHC and
17 recommended the Board choose Alternative 2. Ms. Johnson shared a letter she sent to the Board
18 in June of 2016 and to Charlie Cortelyou, former DNR employee, in March of 2002.

19
20 Miguel Perez-Gibson, Washington Environmental Council: shared his concern with the
21 upcoming chair report and the SHC. He predicted there will be challenges to completing
22 MMLTCS and SHC within the current time frame. He acknowledged the need to address the
23 SHC, and suggested the Board take note of existing policies in the Policy for Sustainable Forests
24 (PSF), referencing the current policy on recalculating the SHC. He stated he would like to see the
25 Board get more value from harvests, citing Singletary is an example. Mr. Perez-Gibson suggests
26 exploring other options, such as contract harvesting.

27
28 Ann Forest Burns, Vice-President of AFRC: commented on the MMLTCS, stating they will
29 submit comments on the DEIS of the MMLTCS, and that only Alternative B meets obligations.

30
31 Lisa Ayers, Pacific County Commissioner: commented on MMLTCS, stating a steady loss of
32 revenues will cause negative impacts to the public, and voiced her support of Alternative B.

33
34 Matt Comisky, Washington Manager of AFRC: spoke on the DEIS for the SHC. He said
35 comments will be provided by March 9, 2017, and shared his significant concerns on quality,
36 consistency, methodology, model, and inventory. He urged the Board to review the comments
37 when submitted to the DNR, and looks forward to a SHC that supports the future.

38
39 Jim McIntyre, Economic Development Council of Clallam County: commented on the Singletary
40 timber sale and urged the Board to consider developing a policy to put bidders on notice when a
41 timber sale could be pulled due to controversy.

1 **CHAIR REPORT**

2 **Singletary Timber Sale**

3 Angus Brodie, Deputy Supervisory for State Uplands

4
5 Chair Franz commented on her appreciation of the frustration surrounding the Singletary timber
6 sale and shared what has transpired since the last Board meeting; Snohomish County approved a
7 resolution to request a reconveyance of the land in question for park purposes and referenced
8 RCW 79.22.300. DNR is currently determining the perimeters of the sale and pushing the county
9 to move quickly so the Department can move forward on the sale.

10
11 Mr. Brodie reviewed the Singletary timber sale as proposed to the Board in January 2017, and
12 what has transpired up to date. He reviewed the RCW on reconveyance and informed the Board
13 on next steps, which include working with Snohomish County to determine the 25 acres to be
14 transferred to the county and bringing the reconveyance to the Board for consideration. If
15 approved, the transfer will be complete within the next few months. The Department would also
16 establish the revised boundaries of the timber sale and bring it back to the Board for approval to
17 auction.

18
19 A discussion followed on the process for timber sales and reconveyance, including a timeline on
20 decision making, SEPA comment period, the Department's response time, and communications
21 with the county involved. It was also confirmed during this process that the option to evaluate
22 the reconveyance is when it is presented to the Board for consideration, and there would need to
23 be an amendment to the RCW to protect the timber sale process. Superintendent Reykdal
24 suggests reviewing RCW section 79.22 to be sure there is not a timeline on reconveyance by the
25 county.

26
27 **Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy and Sustainable Harvest Calculation**
28 Kristen Ohlson-Kiehn, Jennifer Davis; Mike Buffo; Mark Ostwald, USFWS

29
30 Mark Ostwald, USFWS, spoke about the endangered species act and the Marbled Murrelet
31 DEIS, which is a combined SEPA/NEPA document. DNR and USFWS decided to work together
32 on the long term strategy as both agencies are required to complete an Environmental Impact
33 Statement.

34
35 Kristen Ohlson-Kiehn provided information shared at public meetings, and the results of the
36 meetings, to ensure the Board is fully informed of process and impacts of decisions made
37 regarding the MMLTCS and SHC. She stated the Department is conducting both DEIS'
38 simultaneously due to the timeline and the new information obtained of the last 10-15 years that
39 should be included in the decision making process.

40
41 Jennifer Davis shared the content of the MMLTCS DEIS and that the intent is to replace the
42 short term plan currently in the HCP with a long term plan, which would amend sections that
43 only apply to the Marbled Murrelet.

44
45 Discussion followed on incidental take permits, acres in long-term deferral, habitat quality and
46 where other states and Canada are in this process, occupied sites and potential habitat, habitat
47 shared with other species, and food sources available.

- 1 Mike Buffo shared the presentation of the Sustainable Harvest Calculation that was provided at
2 public outreach meetings. He showed the locations of SHC areas, the direction of law, HCP and
3 PSF, and how they mitigate impact. He reviewed the 5 alternatives, the effects of those
4 alternatives to the murrelet, and how they impact arrearage and riparian levels.
5
6 At the conclusion of this presentation Chair Franz shared her appreciation of the discussion. She
7 invited the Board members to pose questions in advance, when possible, to ensure they can be
8 addressed in full at the next meeting.
9
10 Meeting adjourned at 11:21AM.



Approved this 4th day of April, 2017

Hilary Franz
Hilary Franz, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

Absent

JT Austin, Designee for Governor Jay Inslee

Absent

Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Bill Peach
Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

via phone

Ron Mittelhammer, Dean, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences,
Washington State University

Elizabeth Van Volkenburgh
Elizabeth Van Volkenburgh, Interim Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences,
University of Washington

Attest:

Tami Kellogg
Tami Kellogg, Board Coordinator

