

1 **FOREST PRACTICES BOARD**

2 **Regular Board Meeting**

3 August 12, 2014

4 Natural Resources Building, Room 172

5 Olympia, Washington

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7 **Members Present**

8 Aaron Everett, Chair, Department of Natural Resources

9 Bill Little, Timber Products Union Representative

10 Bob Guenther, General Public Member/Small Forest Landowner

11 Brent Davies, General Public Member (*participated via telephone*)

12 Carmen Smith, General Public Member/Independent Logging Contractor

13 Court Stanley, General Public Member

14 David Herrera, General Public Member

15 Joe Stohr, Designee for Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife

16 Heather Ballash, Designee for Director, Department of Commerce

17 Kirk Cook, Designee for Director, Department of Agriculture

18 Paula Swedeen, General Public Member

19 Tom Laurie, Designee for Director, Department of Ecology

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21 **Members Absent**

22 Dave Somers, Snohomish County Commissioner

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24 **Staff**

25 Chris Hanlon-Meyer, Forest Practices Division Manager

26 Marc Engel, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager

27 Patricia Anderson, Rules Coordinator

28 Phil Ferester, Senior Counsel

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30 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS/CALL TO ORDER**

31 Aaron Everett called the Forest Practices Board (FPB or Board) meeting to order at 9 a.m.

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33 **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

34 Peter Goldman, Conservation Caucus, highlighted their memo dated August 7, 2014, summarizing  
35 the Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance (GEER) Report which they believe has  
36 implications to the Forest Practices Rules. He also reiterated their recommendation to enact a  
37 moratorium on forest practices conducted on or near glacial deep-seated landslides. He said that  
38 Timber, Fish and Wildlife (TFW) Policy (Policy) is not equipped to deal with the broader public  
39 safety issues as opposed to the aquatic issues in the Habitat Conservation Plan and that public safety  
40 should be secured by agencies rather than by a consensus stakeholder process. He also said he  
41 submitted a copy of a forest practices application that was withdrawn after comments were received  
42 that identified a deep-seated landslide. He indicated that this application potentially could have been  
43 approved if not for their comment.

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45 Kara Whitaker, Washington Forest Law Center, said that the GEER Report supports the Conservation  
46 Caucus' argument that regulatory, policy and enforcement changes are imperative for forest practices  
47 conducted on or near glacial deep seated landslides. She said that the Board's May motions are a  
48 good initial step for addressing inadequacies, but the new work groups created must use a rigorous

1 science-based approach for making substantial improvements to the rules and the enforcement of the  
2 rules.

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4 Elaine O’Neill, Washington Farm Forestry Association (WFFA), said that WFFA is developing two  
5 low impact harvest prescription templates, one for the Eastside and one for the Westside. She said  
6 that they will be reaching out to other stakeholders and then petition the Board to include in the  
7 Adaptive Management process.

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9 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON CMER MEMBERSHIP**

10 Elaine O’Neill, WFFA, said she is here on behalf of Harry Bell and that he is well qualified to be a  
11 member of the Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Committee (CMER).

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13 **CMER MEMBERSHIP**

14 Chris Hanlon-Meyer, DNR, recommended that the Board approve Harry Bell as a CMER member.

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16 **MOTION:** Bill Little moved the Forest Practices Board approve Table 2 dated May 2014 as the  
17 current CMER roster that reflects Harry Bell as a member of CMER.

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19 **SECONDED:** Court Stanley

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21 **ACTION:** Motion passed unanimously.

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23 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE REVISED CMER MASTER PROJECT SCHEDULE**

24 Mark Hick, Department of Ecology (DOE), shared the nexus between the Clean Water Act  
25 Assurances and the CMER Master Project Schedule. He also stated that DOE supports the changes to  
26 the CMER Master Project Schedule as they support the water quality standards.

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28 Karen Terwilleger, Washington Forest Protection Association, said she commends CMER and Policy  
29 for the development of a consensus Master Project Schedule.

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31 **REVISED CMER MASTER PROJECT SCHEDULE**

32 Marc Engel, DNR, provided a brief background on how the Master Project Schedule came to be and  
33 reviewed the Board’s responsibility outlined in WAC 222-12-045.

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35 Stephen Bernath and Adrian Miller, Policy co-chairs, provided an overview of the Master Project  
36 Schedule and reviewed Policy’s process, assumptions, results and budget needs of the Adaptive  
37 Management Program. Bernath said all but one project came to consensus and that compromises  
38 were made. He also indicated that the Master Project Schedule can be used for: prioritizing biennially  
39 projects, a long-term planning document, or a legislative tool to assist in funding requests.

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41 Joe Stohr asked what the resource protection objectives are as he believes this is a fundamental piece  
42 that is missing in the prioritization process. Miller responded that Stohr’s question is referred to as a  
43 “critical question” and is a result from the Forests and Fish negotiations. These “critical questions”  
44 are addressed in the CMER work plan.

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46 Paula Swedeen questioned how long the research projects would take related to glacial deep-seated  
47 landslides and what to do in the interim. Miller responded that Policy will provide a comprehensive

1 review of where the research is at as well as the proposed studies and recommendations for the Board  
2 to consider at their September meeting.

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4 **MOTION:** Tom Laurie moved the Forest Practices Board approve the 2015 CMER Master  
5 Project Schedule dated August 7, 2014 along with Appendix 1. The Forest Practices  
6 Board also finds that the program is in substantial compliance with the CMER master  
7 project schedule.

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9 **SECONDED:** Bill Little

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11 **ACTION:** Motion passed unanimously.

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14 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

15 None.

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17 Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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