

1 **FOREST PRACTICES BOARD**
2 **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**
3 September 24 & 25, 2008
4 Natural Resources Building
5 Olympia, Washington
6

7 **September 24, 2008**
8

9 **Members Present:**

10 Vicki Christiansen, Chair Designee of the Board, Department of Natural Resources
11 Ann Wick, Designee for Director, Department of Agriculture
12 Brent Bahrenburg, Designee for Director, Community, Trade and Economic Development
13 Bridget Moran, Designee for Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife
14 Carolyn Dobbs, General Public Member
15 Dave Somers, Snohomish County Commissioner
16 Doug Stinson, General Public Member/Small Forest Landowner
17 Norm Schaaf, General Public Member
18 Sherry Fox, General Public Member/Independent Logging Contractor
19 Tom Laurie, Designee for Director, Department of Ecology
20

21 **Absent Board Members:**

22 David Hagiwara, General Public Member
23 David Herrera, Skokomish Tribe
24

25 **Staff:**

26 Chuck Turley, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager
27 Gary Graves, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager
28 Phil Ferester, Assistant Attorney General
29 Patricia Anderson, Rules Coordinator
30

31 **Field Tour**

32 The Board, staff, and public met at the Natural Resources Building in Olympia. The tour took place
33 on Port Blakely Tree Farm and included three sites. Stop #1 focused on the desired future condition
34 rule making. Discussion included current rule, the three proposed rules and a fixed width concept.
35

36 Stops 2 and 3 focused on Port Blakely's 35 and 65 year old plantation and the consideration of a
37 Safe Harbor Agreement with the federal services and a Landowner Option Plan with the state of
38 Washington for management of forest lands within a rule established Spotted Owl Special Emphasis
39 Area.
40

1 **September 25, 2008**

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3 **Members Present:**

4 Vicki Christiansen, Chair Designee of the Board, Department of Natural Resources
5 Ann Wick, Designee for Director, Department of Agriculture
6 Brent Bahrenburg, Designee for Director, Community, Trade and Economic Development
7 Bridget Moran, Designee for Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife
8 Carolyn Dobbs, General Public Member
9 Dave Somers, Snohomish County Commissioner
10 David Herrera, Skokomish Tribe
11 Doug Stinson, General Public Member/Small Forest Landowner
12 Norm Schaaf, General Public Member
13 Sherry Fox, General Public Member/Independent Logging Contractor
14 Tom Laurie, Designee for Director, Department of Ecology

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16 **Absent Board Members:**

17 David Hagiwara, General Public Member

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19 **Staff:**

20 Chuck Turley, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager
21 Gary Graves, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager
22 Phil Ferester, Assistant Attorney General
23 Patricia Anderson, Rules Coordinator

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25 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

26 Vicki Christiansen called the Forest Practices Board (FPB or Board) meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
27 and introductions of Board, staff and public followed. Marc Engel, Department of Natural
28 Resources (DNR or Department), provided an emergency safety briefing.

29
30 **FIELD TRIP RECAP**

31 Chuck Turley, DNR, stated that it was clear that a variety of analyses from different caucuses is
32 being done in different ways on desired future condition (DFC). He said he believed that this
33 accounted for a lot of the difference that the Board was hearing regarding whether things were truly
34 impacted or not.

35
36 Doug Stinson stated that if he had to make a decision today that he would oppose any new rule. He
37 said the 325 proposal is overkill and it would be a rare forest that reaches that basal area. He said
38 that it is too complicated and costly for the landowner and DNR to administer. He suggested that
39 the Board have a panel presentation from a cross section of scientists to hear their perspectives. He
40 said the small forest landowners need assurances that the trees they plant today can be harvested in
41 the future and that the rules need to be reasonable for landowners to make a fair return on their
42 investments. Without these two incentives small forest landowners will go away.

43
44 Moran stated that she was struggling with the need for simplicity and flexibility for small forest
45 landowners. She heard on the field tour that because of the complexity of the rule, small forest
46 landowners do not choose the DFC route unless they hire consultants. She stated that the Board is
47 looking at a simplistic no cut buffer but if that is not the right direction, the Board needs to know.

1 Sherry Fox said small forest landowners currently have an overstocked stand template available that
2 allows for thinning down to 100 trees per acre.

3
4 Dave Somers said he would like to support ways to simplify the process and the field tour helped
5 him to believe this can be accomplished. He states, however that it seems likely that some analysis
6 may need to be done in order to accomplish the management of future conditions and riparian
7 zones.

8
9 Christiansen said she has made the fixed width concept a priority for staff to report back to the
10 Board on whether this is a viable alternative.

11
12 Norm Schaaf said he hoped a simpler process was possible that protects function. He said he was
13 encouraged at Stops 2 and 3 to see the cooperation between the agencies and the landowner in
14 developing a plan that would work for all the parties involved. He would like to see this continue
15 because it would achieve multiple goals and multiple agreements.

16
17 Fox asked for an update on whether the growth model has been fixed. Graves responded that the
18 numbers have been updated and it repeatedly was running correctly, and it appeared that when the
19 Board adopts a rule, it will take only minor programming to get it working by the time the rule
20 becomes effective.

21
22 Moran asked staff if they were using a new version of ORGANON. Turley replied that staff looked
23 into Version 8.0 and it was decided for a true comparison to be made DNR would need to update
24 and fix Version 6.0, which is the current version being used.

25
26 Board Members agreed the Board would like to have a briefing on the two versions of ORGANON
27 to better understand the differences and the pros and cons of each version. Staff noted this request
28 will be evaluated as the rule makings move forward to see which direction the Board takes.

29
30 Carolyn Dobbs encouraged the cooperation and collaboration that occurred with Port Blakely in
31 establishing alternative management strategies to continue and to include this approach in the
32 upland wildlife planning. She said she would like to see this made available to other landowners as
33 well.

34 35 **CLIMATE CHANGE EFFORTS**

36 Craig Partridge, DNR and Stephen Bernath, Department of Ecology (DOE), provided a presentation
37 on “Greenhouse Gas Mitigation”, specifically the recommendations from the forest sector work
38 group. The work group’s priorities for 2008 are conversion, forest management and harvested wood
39 products, and reforestation. Future goals include substitution of biofuels, avoided emissions from
40 fire and forest health and substitution of wood for fossil fuel-intensive products. The work group
41 will provide recommendations by November 1, 2008 to Commissioner of Public Lands and Director
42 of DOE, and by December 1, 2008 final recommendations to the Directors of DOE and
43 Community, Trade and Economic Development. The Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2815
44 report will be provided to the legislature. The work will continue with future priorities and
45 developing detailed protocols and funding decisions.

1 **FOREST CERTIFICATION**

2 Clay Sprague, DNR, provided a presentation on the four forest certification systems. The four
3 systems are American Tree Farm System, Forest Stewardship Council, and Sustainable Forestry
4 Initiative and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes. The presentation
5 included the history and origin, general features, and standards and principles of each system. All
6 the systems had the following common elements: A set of standards, a third party verification,
7 practices to assure consumers of sustainable forest management, chain of custody, and voluntary
8 and non-regulatory approach.

9
10 **OVERSIGHT OF COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

11 Gary Graves, DNR, provided an update on the Division's progress on establishing an advisory
12 committee to oversee the compliance monitoring program. He said he did not have a
13 recommendation yet, and that Lenny Young, Bridget Moran and Tom Laurie would meet to finalize
14 a recommendation. He said he would provide a report at the November 2008 meeting.

15
16 Moran said she believed staff is on the right track. She looked forward to the report in November.

17
18 **MASS WASTING PROJECT UPDATE**

19 Darin Cramer, DNR, provided a written update on the Mass Wasting Prescription Scale
20 Effectiveness Monitoring project. The report included a list of completed tasks, ongoing tasks and a
21 budget summary. He stated that staff will report to the Legislature in December on the project.

22
23 **OVERVIEW OF DNR BUDGET REQUESTS**

24 Chuck Turley, DNR, provided an overview of the Forest Practices program budget requests that
25 have been submitted to the Office of Financial Management for consideration. There are a total of
26 six packages, four operating packages and two capital projects. The operating packages are
27 Unstable Land Forms, Landowner Incentives, Expert Forestry Assistance, and Landscape-Level
28 Wildlife Assessment for an approximate total of \$4 million. The two capital projects are Family
29 Forest Fish Passage Program and Forest Riparian Easement Program for an approximate total of
30 \$41 million.

31
32 He said a copy of the budget requests would be sent to the Board.

33
34 **2009 WORK PLANNING**

35 Chuck Turley, DNR, presented the following draft 2009 work plan.

- 36 • 2009 Work Planning and Field Tour
- 37 • Adaptive Management Program
 - 38 ▪ Policy and Procedures
- 39 • Board Manual Development
 - 40 ▪ Section 7, RMZ
 - 41 ▪ Section 21, Alternate Plans (adding a template)
- 42 • CMER 2009 Work Plan and Budget
- 43 • Rule Making
 - 44 ▪ Desired Future Condition
 - 45 ▪ Trees and Houses
 - 46 ▪ Chapters 222-20 & 46 WAC (implement 2007 legislation and clean-up)
- 47 • Upland Wildlife
 - 48 ▪ No Board action anticipated for 2009

- 1 • Northern Spotted Owl Working Group

2

3 The Board added the following items as potentially requiring Board discussion and/or action in
4 2009.

- 5 • Desired Future Condition-Fixed Width Rule Making

- 6 • Climate change

- 7 • Clean Water Act Assessment

- 8 • Compliance Monitoring

- 9 • Mass Wasting study

- 10 • Watershed Analysis Review

11

12 Meeting dates for 2009 are February 11, May 20, August 12 and November 11. Turley proposed
13 September 16 and 17 or October 7 and 8 for the 2009 retreat and will finalize a date at the February
14 meeting.

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16 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

17 None.

18

19 Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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