
Minutes

Board of Natural Resources Meeting

February 4, 2020
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

Jim Cahill, Designee for the Honorable Jay Inslee, Washington State Governor

Dan Brown, Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington, *via conference call*

André-Denis Wright, Dean, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, Washington State University, *via conference call*

1 CALL TO ORDER

2 Chair Franz called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

3

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

6

7 SAFETY REVIEW

8 A presentation on safety and instruction on evacuating the building in case of an emergency was
9 provided for the Board and audience.

10

11 PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

12 Kathy Young, representing Back Country Horsemen, spoke about the value of recreational lands
13 on state trust lands and recognizes that they are working forests. She expressed her support of the
14 Working Forest and Recreation Plan.

15

16 Dan Chaplik, Superintendent of the Sultan School District, Expressed the school districts support
17 of the Middle May timber sale and urges that we move forward with that timeline.

18

19 Brian Nelson, WSCTA, shared his opposition on the layout the Middle May timber sale. He
20 stated it mostly resembles the layout of the Singletary timber sale and Borders Wallace State
21 Park.

22

1 Neil McWee, WSCTA, voiced his opposition of the Middle May timber sale and suggests it be
2 incorporated into Wallace Falls State Park. He stated that more public comment is needed and
3 that there is no public input on the Snohomish County resolution. He recommends the sale be
4 postponed.

5
6 Chuck Lie, Citizen, noted the effort the public puts in to attending the BNR meetings. He stated
7 that he is a citizen of Goldbar and resides in the Reiter landscape. He expressed his opposition of
8 the Middle May timber sale.

9
10 Heath Heikkila, AFRC, spoke about concerns regarding the MMLTCS, and would like to have
11 Alternative G acres set aside, particularly the set aside of 132 mbf. He stated that he is
12 encouraged by the Sustainable Harvest Implementation (SHI) Advisory Group.

13
14 Pam Keeley, representing Kitsap Environmental Coalition, spoke about the Department's
15 philosophy and how it conflicts with climate change.

16
17 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR TIMBER SALE ACTION ITEMS**

18 Larry Leveen, representing Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, spoke about Middle May timber
19 sale and expressed the Alliance's support.

20
21 Doug Cooper, representing Hampton Lumber, spoke about timber sales in general and shared his
22 appreciation of the process. He commented on no bid sales and that the no bid in not a reflection
23 on the lack of need of the timber sales volume. It is mostly reflects on the layout, design, and
24 cost assessment resulting in the price set by DNR, does not match up with the purchasers. He
25 noted that DNR staff reach out after a no bid sale to learn what the issue is and next steps moving
26 forward.

27
28 Sam Lowe, Snohomish County Council, shared resolution 20-002 approved on 01/22/20 by the
29 Snohomish County Council, and asked that DNR proceed with Middle May timber sale.

30
31 Debbie Copple, Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce, expressed support of the Middle May timber
32 sale.

33
34 Sam Chessly, Citizen, expressed his opposition of the Middle May timber sale.

35
36 **TIMBER SALES (Action Item)**

37 **Proposed Timber Sales for April 2020 | 3 handouts, including the presentation**

38 Koshare Eagle, Assistant Division Manager, Product Sales & Leasing Division

39
40 The results of the January 2020 auctions were presented to the Board by Ms. Eagle. The
41 Department offered 13 sales totaling 50.7 mmbf. All 13 sales sold totaling \$17.1 million for an
42 average of \$337 per mbf with 3.23 bidders per sale on average.

43
44 Ms. Eagle asked for questions. Commissioner Peach asked for clarification that one of the sold
45 sales was a region sale. Ms. Eagle confirmed that was correct.

1 Ms. Eagle then presented proposed sales to be offered in March 2020 to the Board. Ms. Eagle
2 noted that one sale was previously approved by the Board, but had exceeded the 180 day
3 approval period due to accessibility issues.

4
5 Ms. Eagle asked for approval of the proposed sales as presented.

6
7 Chair Franz asked for questions.

8
9 Commissioner Peach shared his appreciation for the Department's effort in working with the US
10 Forest Service to gain access to and move forward with planned timber sales.

11
12 Chair Franz asked the Board for motion on the proposed sales as presented.

13
14 MOTION: Commissioner Peach moved to approve the proposed sales.

15
16 SECOND: Dean Wright seconded the motion.

17
18 ACTION: The motion carried unanimously.

19
20 Chair Franz, spoke about documents regarding proposed and upcoming timber sales that are to
21 bring more transparency and accountability to our work.

22
23 **APPROVAL OF INTERIM DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR, Resolution 1561**

24 Hilary Franz, Chair/Commissioner of Public Lands

25
26 Chair Franz prefaced the next action by explaining the role of the Department Supervisor and
27 that a search for a permanent replacement is ongoing.

28
29 For the record, Superintendent Reykdal spoke about the antiquity of the RCW requiring the
30 approval from the Board to approve the appointment of the agency's Department Supervisor and
31 suggests that the Department explore the process to change statute.

32
33 Chair Franz call for a motion to approve Resolution 1561.

34
35 MOTION: Commissioner Peach moved to approve Resolution 1561.

36
37 SECOND: Director Brown seconded the motion.

38
39 ACTION: The motion carried unanimously

40
41 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CHAIR REPORT**

42
43 Linda Lorenz, Citizen, updated the Board on the progress regarding the impacts to the junior
44 taxing districts and the success of fund raisers to offset that impact. She asked the BNR to
45 establish policy/procedure to manage this type of situation.

1 Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt, WSSDA, Chair of Trust lands Advisory Committee, spoke about the
2 Working Forest Lands and Recreation Chair Report. He reminded everyone that recreation is
3 allowed on state lands when it is compatible with the management of the trusts for the
4 beneficiaries and the planning for the future of the trust beneficiaries.
5

6 Jim Stoffer, Sequim School District, spoke about the Sustainable Harvest Implementation Chair
7 Report. He encouraged DNR staff to continue good messaging and thanked staff for their efforts.
8

9 Kate Roesler, Board member of Sultan School District, expressed her support of the Middle May
10 timber sale. She encouraged the Board and DNR to continue with their process and appreciates
11 the fair balance the Department is trying to keep.
12

13 Brian Nelson, Citizen, spoke about recreation management presentation regarding Middle May,
14 he stated that there is no alteration between Middle May and Singletary and that is it doesn't
15 appear that best management practices were implemented. He stated he was informed that State
16 Parks wants the property and the Department will not transfer the land, and that he was told it
17 would never happen due to lack of common school lands to conduct a trust land transfer.
18

19 Neil McWee, Citizen, shared that it was suggested that the Middle May be transferred to State
20 Parks, and that DNR declined He encourages the Board to find a resolution to the issue and
21 suggests using a lighter management style and essentially remove smaller amounts of timber
22 overtime.
23

24 Peter Goldman, WFLC, speaking on behalf of himself. Spoke about the importance of recreation
25 and working forests and the need to sustain this program. He suggest that the Department should
26 evaluate each rural community and forest separately and should only harvest in areas where it
27 doesn't impact the rural community's lively hood.
28

29 Margaret James, spoke about the Middle May timber sale noting the difference between cuts on
30 private versus publically owned land. She feel that the Agency is able to work with the public to
31 adjust the timber sale harvest plan and that the forests will help with the mental health issues of
32 members of the public.
33

34 Rachel Chesly, health care provider in Snohomish County. Spoke about the Middle May timber
35 sale and the lack of access trails and parking during harvest. She regularly encourages her
36 patients to get outside and walk in the trails and feel it is an asset to her community.
37

38 Bill Turner, Sierra Pacific Industries, spoke about the chair report on working forests and
39 recreation. He noted the obligation of trust management and how recreation is allowed as long as
40 it does not impact the beneficiaries, adding that passion does not replace responsibility.
41

42 Matt Comisky, AFRC, spoke about the chair report on working forests and recreation. He noted
43 that when he used to work to for the Department as a road engineer, he would have to conduct
44 road maintenance due to recreational traffic, with no recreation funds to cover expenses, the cost
45 would have to come from the trusts and that the trusts needs to be compensation, according to
46 statute.
47

1 Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director of American Whitewater, spoke about
2 the chair report on working forests and recreation, expressing support of the plan.
3

4 **CHAIR REPORT**

5 **Sustainable Harvest Implementation**

6 Angus Brodie, Deputy Supervisor for State Uplands
7

8 Mr. Brodie shared with the Board his presentation on sustainable harvest implementation. Mr.
9 Brodie provided a briefing the decadal target, accomplishments to date, and targets for FY20 and
10 21, and the schedule. He explained that there was not an established harvest level through 2015
11 and DNR has been harvesting an average of around 480mbf and that the planned volume is not
12 changing significantly but the distribution where the volume is being harvest from is changing.
13 He noted a correction in the table on slide 6 from the December 3rd 2019 presentation, Whatcom
14 and Wahkiakum were flipped.
15

16 Mr. Brodie shared the sold and planned for the next few years, through 2024. Commission Peach
17 asked about the reoffer volume added to 2019 and if that would get us to the target. Mr. Brodie
18 replied that we would be very close. He reviewed progress towards to target to date.
19

20 Mr. Brodie informed the Board on the Technical Advisory Committee and reviewed what the
21 committee will address and the composition of the committee. He explained the next steps; an
22 update to the Board in July of 2020 showing updated volume sold and the timber schedule for
23 21-22, regional meetings with beneficiaries and public to review the sales schedule, convene
24 technical committee, and provide annual updates on the sustainable harvest to the Board in July
25 and quarterly updates on annual sales performance. He added that the next steps are evolving and
26 may change.
27

28 Superintendent Reykdal noted that the school districts are now more aware and paying better
29 attention to timber revenue, and asked that the Department make a best effort to communicate
30 updates and changes along the way.
31

32 Mr. Cahill stated he is hoping the Board will take up policies surrounding climate change in the
33 upcoming year and asked if the Department anticipates forming advisory committees on climate
34 change. Chair Franz replied that there will be a component in the technical advisory committee
35 but is open to exploring further. She stated that the Department currently has a Carbon
36 Sequestration Advisory Committee that is exploring this issue and that the Board will be updated
37 on the outcome.
38

39 Commissioner Peach, he sees the advisory committee proposed as helpful and appreciates the
40 effort of the Department. He sees this an opportunity to see what this means to the management
41 account and the possibility of change. Mr. Brodie stated that he plans to bring these things
42 together.
43

44 Chair Franz excused herself from the meeting at 11am. Vice-chair Peach took over the meeting.
45
46
47

1 **Working Forests and Recreation**

2 Angus Brodie, Deputy Supervisor for State Uplands

3 Leah Dobey, Recreation Assistant Division Manager, Conservation, Recreation and Transactions

4
5 Mr. Brodie and Ms. Dobey provided an overview on policy to address working forests and
6 recreation on state trust lands.

7
8 Mr. Brodie shared the key policy question of when faced with concerns over the impacts of
9 timber sales, when should the Department alter sales or change ownership.

10
11 Mr. Brodie reviewed the guiding policy, The Multiple Use Concept and RCW 79.10.120, that
12 currently directs the Department, and that the Policy for Sustainable Forests guides the
13 Department decisions. He noted the Department needs to look at the physical condition of the
14 area and the context of how recreation fits in to the landscape, and understand the characteristics
15 of the users and financial impacts to the Department and options to offset those impacts.

16
17 Ms. Dobey explained how the Department applies policy and legislative intent during the
18 process. She noted that typically there is not a conflict and explained the strategies used to
19 minimize conflict. She also shared the Department process in engaging the public and the
20 frequent use of landscape specific advisory groups to plan recreation development. She stated
21 that the Department also uses large scale planning development for public access.

22
23 Ms. Dobey explained that when conflicts come up the Department will use best management
24 practices and try to work with the other parties to resolve the conflict, which could include
25 alteration of plans with the citizens or possibly transfer ownership when working with a local
26 government. She used Pathfinder timber sale as an example of finding a solution to conflict.

27
28 Mr. Brodie described in more detail scenarios, using Reiter Foothills and Michigan Trotter
29 timber sales as examples, and described the history on the process of sale, acquisition and the
30 management objectives of the individual landscapes, using best management practices.

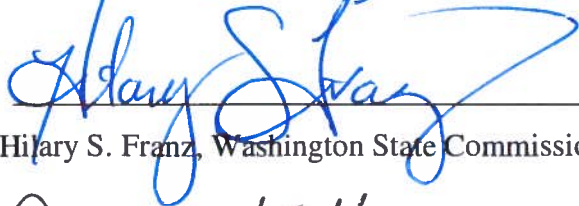
31
32 Superintendent Reykdal shared that the presumption is it is always reactionary, noting that public
33 notice is important, he asked if the Department can pre-suppose that risk, and if there has ever
34 been an analysis on trust lands that are up against the higher profile risk areas, and perhaps a
35 solution worked out in advance. Mr. Brodie replied that there hasn't but other analysis have been
36 done and shared examples of other analysis completed. Superintendent Reykdal then asked how
37 complicated it would be to conduct an analysis on the cost of varying size buffers, say around
38 state parks? Mr. Brodie stated it is not complicated but there is more lands in play than buffers
39 solely around state parks.

40
41 Mr. Cahill confirmed that there is no policy guidance on buffers along trails. Mr. Brodie replied
42 there no policy on buffers along trails in place.

43
44 Cahill, asked about the annual review of land purchase, how potential timber sales fall in to this
45 discussion, pre-work, next year? Is there pre-work done with other agencies and local
46 governments? Mr. Brodie replied that the Department is working to do a better job, with counties

1 and what their interests are, which would identify lands that are not eligible for TLT. He feels
2 there is room for improvement in how we lay out our timber sale schedule future.
3
4 Commissioner Peach asked Mr. Brodie to explain the constraints on county lands to transfer
5 lands they are not in the geographic location of the trust beneficiary. For county lands, State
6 Forest Transfer (SFT) lands the constraint he believes, if we can do an exchange of those lands
7 within the county, however we move land out of its current taxing district in to another taxing
8 district it will impact the taxing district's revenue. He believed the SFT statute limits us to
9 exchange within the county, noting the lands cannot be sold only exchanged.
10
11 Commissioner Peach then asked about legislation set to expire in June this year that facilitates
12 transfers with county properties. Should this be changed to continue to facilitate county
13 transactions/policies? Mr. Brodie said that may or may not be helpful. It doesn't restrict us in
14 terms our exchanges.
15
16 Commissioner Peach suggests the Board consider this when addressing land use issues.
17
18 Vice-Chair Peach adjourned to Executive Session at 11:45.
19
20 Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Approved this 3rd day of March, 2020



Hilary S. Franz, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands



Jim Cahill, Designee for Governor Jay Inslee

approved via conference call

Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

approved via conference call

Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

Absent

André-Denis Wright, Dean, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences,
Washington State University

Absent

Dan Brown, Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences,
University of Washington

Attest:



Theresa McGuire, Board Coordinator