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# Minutes

## Board of Natural Resources Meeting

April 5, 2016  
Natural Resources Building, Olympia, Washington

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

The Honorable Peter Goldmark, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

The Honorable Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

The Honorable Randy Dorn, Superintendent of Public Instruction – *via conference call*

Thomas H. DeLuca, Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington

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

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

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

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### CALL TO ORDER

1 Chair Goldmark called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

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

### SAFETY REVIEW

6  
7  
8 Ms. Vansot gave a safety overview and instruction on evacuating the building in case of an  
9 emergency.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

10  
11  
12 Chair Goldmark called for approval of the minutes for the March 1, 2016 Regular Board of  
13 Natural Resources Meeting.

14  
15 MOTION: Director DeLuca moved to approve the minutes.

16  
17 SECOND: Commissioner Peach seconded the motion.

18  
19 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

20  
21  
22 None  
23

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

2 Kristine Tardiff, representing Timberline Regional Library, spoke about the importance of  
3 timber revenue for the libraries.

4  
5 Patrick Carter, Log Procurement Manager representing Interfor, spoke about the concerns  
6 associated with the Departments ability to meet the current volume commitments and supports  
7 the approval of all May timber sales presented to the Board.

8  
9 Commissioner Lisa Ayers, Pacific County, stated her support for the St. Paul timber sale.

10  
11 **TIMBER SALES (Action Item)**

12 **Proposed Timber Sales for May 2016 | 3 handouts, including the presentation**

13 Darin Cramer, Product Sales & Leasing Division

14  
15 Mr. Cramer presented the results of the March 2016 auction to the Board. The Department  
16 offered 18 sales totaling 85.3 mmbf in March. Of those, 16 sales sold totaling \$16.6 million for  
17 an average of \$227 per mbf. One delivered log sale is pending. Mr. Cramer noted that bidder  
18 interest remained good.

19  
20 Mr. Cramer stated that two sorts of Mill Fir Sorts did not sell and will be reoffered within the  
21 month and likely sold. Mr. Cramer mentioned the sale receiving no bids was the West Fork Fire  
22 Salvage sale, which was discussed in great detail at a previous Board meeting.

23  
24 Mr. Cramer then presented the proposed May 2016 sales to the Board and asked for questions.

25  
26 Chair Goldmark asked for an update on total volume for fiscal year 2016 through the sales  
27 presented. Mr. Cramer answered if all sales sold through the month of May, which would include  
28 the proposed action item, total fiscal year volume would be roughly 480 mmbf.

29  
30 Director Deluca asked for further clarification of the fiscal year volume total. Mr. Cramer  
31 expanded on his initial comments adding that with the sales planned for June 2016, total fiscal  
32 year volume would be approximately 550 mmbf.

33  
34 Chair Goldmark asked about current market conditions. Mr. Cramer noted that fir prices were  
35 going up while whitewood prices were falling slightly, and there continues to be high bidder  
36 interest.

37  
38 Commissioner Peach asked for a breakdown of the amount of contract harvest sales versus  
39 stumpage sales, noting that the rate of return for contract harvest sales is greater. Mr. Cramer did  
40 not have an immediate answer and plans to follow up with Commissioner Peach.

41  
42 **MOTION:** Director Deluca moved to approve the sales proposed for May 2016.

43  
44 **SECOND:** Commissioner Peach seconded the motion.

45  
46 **ACTION:** The motion was approved unanimously.

1 **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CHAIR REPORT**

2 None

3  
4 **CHAIR REPORT**

5 **Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy Update**

6 Kyle Blum, Deputy Supervisor for State Uplands

7  
8 Mr. Blum presented his monthly update on the status of the marbled murrelet planning efforts.  
9 He began by noting that the Board members were provided with a new focus paper regarding P-  
10 Stage, which is the tool the Department has used to identify marbled murrelet habitat on their  
11 landscape. This focus paper explores why P-Stage was chosen, what other options were  
12 considered, the uncertainties that come from using a modeled approach, and how those  
13 uncertainties were handled.

14  
15 Mr. Blum then shared that the Department has received final outputs from Dr. Peery on the six  
16 alternatives that will be analyzed in the DEIS. The outputs look very similar to what was  
17 presented in the October meeting. That information will feed into the EIS process.

18  
19 Director DeLuca asked if bracketing has been included with the six alternatives. Mr. Blum  
20 responded that it has not yet been included because of the timing of Dr. Peery's work, but it is  
21 planned and will still be provided.

22  
23 Commissioner Peach asked when the presentations on the brackets and Dr. Peery's results will  
24 occur. Mr. Blum responded that his intention is to provide a series of presentations leading up to  
25 the release of the DEIS that will cover those topics as well as others. His intention is to present  
26 the information in a logical and apportioned manner prior to receiving comments and making  
27 decisions on the DEIS and alternatives. Chair Goldmark suggested Mr. Blum return next month  
28 with a proposed order of presentation topics.

29  
30 Commissioner Peach asked if there was a plan to move from using a modeled potential habitat  
31 approach, such a P-Stage, to a manually surveyed, known habitat approach. Mr. Blum responded  
32 that there is not, and that the Department feels a modeled approach is the best tool available for  
33 identifying habitat and providing a desired level of certainty. Experience in the last 8-9 years of  
34 identifying habitat on the ground found the process to be very cumbersome, time consuming, and  
35 lacking of certainty.

36  
37 Director DeLuca commented that he has spent time working on the DNR approved model with a  
38 level of liking. He then asked, out of the 623,000 acres not currently available for harvest, how  
39 many acres are known occupied sites. Mr. Blum answered that there is about 60,000 acres of  
40 known occupied sites on DNR land. Chair Goldmark noted that some of the Department's land  
41 has not been surveyed. Mr. Blum acknowledged that was correct, as not all surveys were  
42 completed. Mr. Blum stated that between those experiences and from discussions with Fish and  
43 Wildlife, the Department believes the approach being considered is the most efficient and  
44 thoughtful tool for managing under the complex circumstances.

45  
46 Director DeLuca asked if physical inspection is being considered in the OESF. Mr. Blum  
47 responded that no, the current long term forest cover (LTFC) reflects what the Department is

1 going to protect on the ground in any particular alternative, and the P-Stage tool was what was  
2 used for identification of potential habitat, and therefore the development of the alternatives. Mr.  
3 Blum added the caveat that certain LTCS lines that are not spatially explicit, such as riparian  
4 areas and unstable slopes, will rely on policy and rules and in those cases implementation will  
5 side with what is on the ground, instead of the lines as currently drawn.  
6


7 Chair Goldmark asked Mr. Blum to review the survey protocol. Mr. Blum explained that the  
8 Department has relied on the protocol developed by the Pacific Seabird Group. Chair Goldmark  
9 noted that it is a fairly expensive protocol. Mr. Blum stated that at one point in time the  
10 Department was spending 1 or 2 million dollars a year on murrelet surveys.  
11

12 Commissioner Peach asked about comparing the cost of surveying to the value of the timber. Mr.  
13 Blum did not have numbers to provide, but offered to find that information.  
14

15 Director DeLuca asked if there are new survey techniques that can reduce costs and improve  
16 efficiency. Mr. Blum was unaware of any such options.  
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18 Meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.

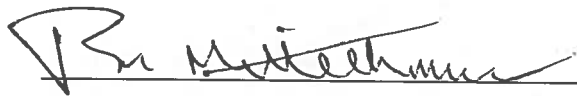
Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2016

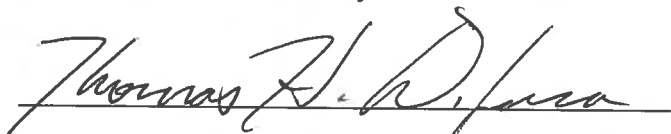
  
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Thomas H. DeLuca, Director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences,  
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Attest:

  
Sarah Vansot, Board Coordinator

