

**1.9.09 Meeting Summary
Capitol Court Building, Olympia**

**FOREST PRACTICES BOARD POLICY WORKING GROUP
WASHINGTON STATE NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL**

Members Present

Ken Berg	USFWS
Shawn Cantrell	Seattle Audubon
Nina Carter	Audubon WA
Vicki Christiansen	DNR, FPB
Mark Doumit	WFPA
Kevin Godbout	Weyerhaeuser
Chris Lipton	Longview Timber
Robert Meier	Rayonier
Bridget Moran	WDFW, FPB
Vic Musselman	WFFA
Tom Robinson	WSAC
Paula Swedeen	Seattle Audubon
Lenny Young	DNR

Absent

Don Halabisky	Sierra Club
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Also Present

Lois Schwennesen	Facilitator
Peter Goldman	WFLC
Kara Whittaker	WFLC
Josh Weiss	WFPA
Carolyn Dobbs	Evergreen College
Emily Drew	Biota Pacific
Martha Wehling	Attorney General's Office

This is a summary of the first meeting of the Forest Practice Board's Policy Working Group (PWG). Members introduced themselves and described their respective backgrounds, interests and constituents. Additional Group member slots not yet filled are two positions reserved for tribal governments and one for a land conservancy or trust.

Group members discussed its Charter from the Forest Practices Board (FPB), in particular the duty to base its work on best available science and the following Charter principle: "Voluntary, incentive-based measures should be the primary focus. The Board's rules may need to be modified. However, the Board believes that emphasis should be placed on providing meaningful incentives for landowners to provide spotted owl habitat where it is needed and to voluntarily assist with other conservation efforts."

The Group is not a negotiating group, but a creative design team. The members must have a common understanding of the issues, the science, and what remaining questions require research. At that point, however, the task is to work together to forge incentive packages that address the interests of all parties at the table. Group work products must both protect the owl and help preserve the forest products industry in WA.

The members shared information and discussed the Federal Recovery Plan litigation, FPB Interim Rules, and the Charter. Discussion focused on what problems the Group is charged with solving, and what can practically be done to solve them.

Based upon their Charter, existing knowledge, and the interests described by each Group member earlier in the meeting, members individually proposed 2-6 deliverables, or tasks the Group could accomplish, that he or she believed were doable in the short and long range. The consolidated list of proposed tasks was sent to the Group members as a first draft after the meeting, for review and further consideration. In general, the tasks focus on what can be accomplished in one year, how to preserve options for owl conservation during the year's work, and development of a long term

set of incentives, with quantifiable objectives, that can assist species conservation and sustain landowners.

Discussion of ground rules, working protocols, and needed science presentations was deferred, in order to focus on coordination with Federal Spotted Owl Recovery Plan process. After discussion, Group members agreed in principle to offer to serve as the Non-Federal Landowners Work Group in the Federal process to avoid duplication, assure coordination across levels of government, and reduce overall costs. The Group was invited to join the Federal NSO Recovery Process' Executive Group meeting in Portland on January 28 to further understand what would be involved from the Federal perspective, and assess the opportunities and requirements to address both the WA FPB and the USFWS needs.

Meeting dates through June 2009 were established. These dates are preliminary and due to attendance issues some of the dates may be converted to subgroup meetings. The dates reserved are: January 28; February 3 and 13; March 6 and 24; April 10, 28 and 29; May 6 and 26; June 29 and 30. Meeting dates July through December will be selected later.

Meeting Adjourned