



# The Washington Forest Practices Board

## WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY DO

### **The Board's legislative mandate**

The Washington Forest Practices Board was established in 1975 by the Legislature under the state Forest Practices Act. By law, the board is charged with establishing rules to protect the state's natural resources while maintaining a viable timber industry.

Those rules, as embodied in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), specifically consider what effects various forest practices have on fish, wildlife and water quality, as well as on capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions.

A forest practice is defined as an activity carried out on forestland that relates to the growing, harvesting or processing of timber. Some examples include logging, thinning, road construction, brush control, fertilization, and land conversions.

### **DNR staffs the board**

The Washington Forest Practices Board is an independent state agency. However, because the Commissioner of Public Lands both administers the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and chairs the Board, DNR provides staff support for the Board. The Forest Practices Act also requires DNR to administer and enforce all board-adopted rules.

Rules involving water quality protection are adopted by the Board with agreement from the Washington Department of Ecology.

### **Designated board representatives**

- State law constitutes the 13-member Board as follows:
- Commissioner of Public Lands or designee: Board Chair
- Washington Community, Trade and Economic Development Director or designee
- Washington State Ecology Director or designee
- Washington State Agriculture Director or designee
- Washington State Fish and Wildlife Director or designee
- An elected member of a county commission or council appointed by the Governor
- One member representing a timber products union appointed by the Governor
- Six members of the general public, appointed by the Governor for a four-year term. The law requires one member to be a small forest landowner who actively manages his or her land; another member must be an independent logging contractor.

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## **Forest Practices Board meeting dates and membership**

The Forest Practices Board meets quarterly on the second Wednesday of February, May, August and November. The Board or the chair may also call special meetings as needed.

Current members include:

- Chair Peter Goldmark, Commissioner of Public Lands, and administrator of the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Bill Little, timber products union representative
- Brad Avey, Washington Department of Agriculture
- Brent Bahrenburg, Washington Community, Trade and Economic Development
- Bridget Moran, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Carolyn Dobbs, general public member
- Dave Herrera, general public member
- Dave Somers, elected County Commissioner
- David Hagiwara, general public member
- Doug Stinson, general public member and small forest landowner
- Norm Schaaf, general public member
- Sherry Fox, general public member and independent logging contractor
- Tom Laurie, Washington Department of Ecology

## **Rule making process**

Board rule adoptions follow state legal requirements and include opportunities for public input while rules are being developed. After rules are officially proposed, one or more rule making hearings are held. Written comments may also be submitted.

The most efficient way to contact the Board is to mail or e-mail your comments to Board staff at DNR in Olympia. Staff will place your comments in the official Board correspondence files and will distribute a copy to each board member.

Address comments to: FPB Rules Coordinator, DNR Forest Practices Division, PO Box 47012, Olympia, WA 98504-7012.

Phone: 360-902-1413

FAX: 360-902-1428

TTY: (Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service 800-833-6388)

E-mail: [forest.practicesboard@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:forest.practicesboard@dnr.wa.gov)

For upcoming meeting dates, rule making hearings, and approved meeting minutes, visit the Forest Practices Board web page: [www.dnr.wa.gov/AboutDNR/BoardsCouncils/FPB/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/AboutDNR/BoardsCouncils/FPB/Pages/Home.aspx) or go to [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov) and select 'Board & Councils' under the heading 'About DNR'

## **Obtaining more information**

Members of the public who wish to receive Board information can do so by requesting that their name be added to one or both of the Board's mail lists: a Meeting Agenda list and/or Rule Making Notices list. Send your request to the above address or call the Forest Practices Board Coordinator at 360-902-1413.