Blanchard Forest Advisory Committee
Draft Ground Rules

- Each member of the Blanchard Forest Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) has been appointed by the Washington Commissioner of Public Lands. Committee members are strongly encouraged to attend each meeting in order to ensure continuity in the conversation and in the implementation of the Management Strategies for Blanchard Forest State Trust Lands. However, if a committee member misses a meeting, it is his/her responsibility to be up to speed on the issues by the next meeting.

- The committee is comprised of representatives from a variety of perspectives and interests in accordance with the Management Strategies for Blanchard Forest State Trust Lands. Differences of opinion are to be expected and will be respected by the committee and its members. Committee discussions will be characterized by careful deliberation and civility.

- Each member will work hard to understand any issues or concerns raised by their respective organizations and will communicate those issues in a timely fashion to the Advisory Committee.

- Only appointed members can participate in discussions regarding formal committee recommendations.

- The committee will strive to operate by consensus. Consensus is defined as the majority of committee members concurring, with the remaining members able to accept the decision. Differences of opinion will be noted and included as part of any recommendations by the committee to the state Department of Natural Resources. Any minority report must show where the proposal is not in line with the Strategies or the MOU.

- All meetings will be open to the public. The committee will not take formal public testimony. At the discretion of the Advisory Committee, opportunities for public comment can be provided.

- Meeting materials will be sent to committee members in advance. Any meeting handouts will be copied and mailed or e-mailed to committee members who were not present. E-mail distribution of documents and materials will be the preferred method of information dissemination. At each meeting, hard copies of presentation materials and packets will be provided to the committee members.

- Meeting summaries will be prepared and distributed to all committee members in a timely manner. A DNR staff person will take notes of committee deliberations on behalf of the Advisory Committee.

- Meetings will start and end on time in conformance with the agenda for each meeting.