
Minutes

Board of Natural Resources Special Meeting

August 11, 2016

John L. O'Brien Building, Olympia, Washington

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

The Honorable Peter Goldmark, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

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

The Honorable Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

The Honorable Randy Dorn, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

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

1 CALL TO ORDER

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

3
4 All Board members introduced themselves. Chair Goldmark noted there was a quorum for the
5 meeting.

6 SAFETY REVIEW

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

10 PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR MARBLED MURRELET ALTERNATITIVES

11 Marcy Golde, Olympic Forest Coalition Board member, asked the Board to look at the recovery
12 plan for the marbled murrelets to protect the existing habitat and minimize the loss of
13 unoccupied suitable habitat.

14
15
16 Sam Merrill, representing the Black Hills Audubon, spoke in support of the science base option,
17 alternative F.

18
19 Arianne Jaco, representing the Washington Environmental Council, spoke about her concerns
20 that the Board has to decide on whether to fund schools or save a species. Ms. Jaco asked the
21 Board to think about how to generate revenue without cutting trees.

22
23 Linda Murtfelt, citizen, spoke in support of alternative F and asked the Board to consider
24 delaying harvest to increase the survival rate for the marbled murrelets.

1
2 Wyatt Golding, with the Washington Forest Law Center, spoke about the approval criteria for the
3 long-term conservation strategy for the marbled murrelet. Mr. Golding asked the Board to
4 recommend DNR consider an approach in the DEIS that delays take to the end of the HCP.
5

6 Peter Goldman, Director of the WFLC, spoke about the quasi-extension referenced in the
7 presentation. He expressed his concerns regarding Dr. Peery's analysis and the models provided.
8

9 Alex Sidles, with the Washington Forest Law Center, spoke in support of the alternative F and
10 asked the Board to comply with the mandate to protect the marbled murrelet from extension.
11

12 Kara Whittaker, with the Washington Forest Law Center, spoke about the bookend scenarios and
13 urged the Board to delay the harvest of habitat on DNR lands until the last decade of the HCP.
14

15 Ann Forest Burns, Vice President for AFRC, spoke about her concerns regarding the evaluation
16 criteria, specifically criterion 2 on slide 5 of the presentation. Ms. Burns expressed that
17 committing to species recovery is beyond the authority of the Board.
18

19 Maria Ruth, member of the Black Hills Audubon Society, spoke in support of alternative F,
20 specifically as it increases the buffers on state forest lands. Ms. Ruth asked the Board to ask
21 DNR staff if the population analysis included the 150 meter buffer and what the outcome was.
22

23 Jon Pincelli, citizen, spoke about his concerns regarding the Blyn Repeater Timber Sale and the
24 destruction of marbled murrelet habitat within the timber units.
25

26 Deb Nickerson, representing the Seattle Audubon and Audubon Washington, spoke in support of
27 the science base option, alternative F.
28

29 Laura Berg, representing the Washington State Counties, asked the Board to consider balancing
30 the population of marbled murrelets and the loss of timber harvest. She reminded the Board of
31 the economic impacts on the communities.
32

33 Mary Bond, representing the Seattle Audubon, spoke about the population decline of marbled
34 murrelets on state lands.
35

36 **MARBLED MURRELET LONG-TERM CONSERVATION STRATEGY (MMLTCS)**

37 Kyle Blum, Deputy Supervisor for State Uplands
38

39 Mr. Blum's presentation covered two pieces of analysis that the Board requested last November,
40 2015. Those analyses are referred to as the bookend analysis and the sensitivity analysis. Before
41 beginning on those subjects, Mr. Blum reiterated the trust mandate and evaluation criteria that
42 he's presented during other presentations in order to frame the MMLTCS decision for the Board.
43

44 Ms. Austin asked about a hierarchy of priorities in meeting both ESA and trust mandate
45 responsibilities. Mr. Blum responded that he'd argue both obligations need to be met
46 simultaneously.
47

1 The purpose of the bookends were to represent two extremes, in order to put the other
2 alternatives in context and test the model. Neither of these bookends are legal, one of which is
3 removing all timber from DNR lands and the other is not harvesting any timber at all from DNR
4 lands. While useful for understanding the model, neither are being considered as alternatives.
5

6 The first bookends slide showed quasi-extinction probabilities. Chair Goldmark asked if the data
7 was any different from that of Dr. Peery's earlier presentation. Mr. Blum stated that no, it is
8 fundamentally the same, with only the small tweaks that were described in previous Board
9 meetings. The bookend analysis was shown at two scales – at the statewide level and at the DNR
10 level. The model was also run under two conditions – called risk and enhancement. Viewers
11 were able to see how the two bookend scenarios enclosed the alternatives between them.
12

13 The next slide showed the projected murrelet population over time. Mr. Blum echoed earlier
14 comments to emphasize that the model assumed no growth of habitat outside of DNR land,
15 which due to federal lands we know is not reality. Again, viewers were able to see how the
16 bookend scenarios enclosed alternatives between them. Director DeLuca pointed out that this
17 model doesn't include the unknown improvements in forest science that might come about in the
18 long 50 year timeframe of this analysis, and which might improve these projections.
19

20 The sensitivity analysis consisted of two components. One was excluding high quality northern
21 spotted owl (NSO) habitat from Alternative B. The other incorporated 150 meter buffers on
22 occupied sites in Alternative F. Because of other protection measures, removing the high quality
23 NSO restriction had minimal influence on take and mitigation. Similarly, the model turned out to
24 not be very sensitive to the increase in buffer size in Alternative F.
25

26 Mr. Blum then let everyone know that harvest volumes associated with the alternatives are not
27 ready yet, but his hope is that they will be available at an upcoming Board meeting soon.
28

29 As a final question, Director DeLuca asked Mr. Blum about a public comment earlier in the
30 meeting regarding issues with a DNR timber sale. Mr. Blum said he became aware of the
31 complaint yesterday and began immediately looking into the issue. If violations are found Mr.
32 Blum assured the Board that staff would take the appropriate actions.
33

34 Chair Goldmark thanked Mr. Blum and staff for their hard work.
35

36 Meeting adjourned at 10:24 AM.

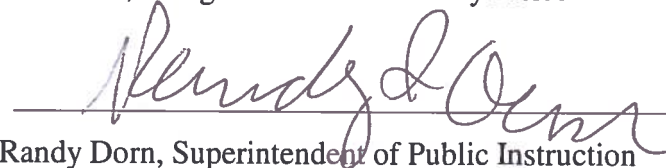
Approved this 6th day of September, 2016



Peter Goldmark, Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

absent

JT Austin, Designee for Governor Jay Inslee



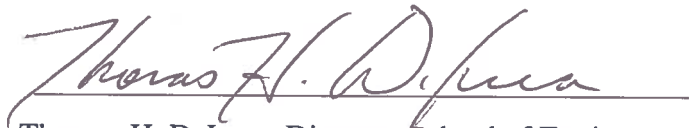
Randy Dorn, Superintendent of Public Instruction

in cash

Bill Peach, Commissioner, Clallam County

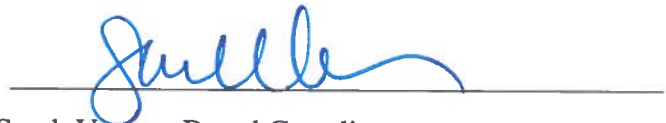
via conference call

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



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

Attest:



Sarah Vansot, Board Coordinator