



TO: County Commissioners, Councilmembers, and Executives

FROM: Derek Young, WSAC Executive Director

DATE: July 7, 2025

**RE: Elections Process Announced - Nominations Sought for Board of Natural Resources' County Representative**

Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki has notified WSAC that she intends to resign as the county representative for the Board of Natural Resources (BNR). Her resignation will be effective 8/31/2025. In anticipation of her resignation, we have established an election timeline to have a new representative in place for the 9/3/2025 BNR meeting. [RCW 43.30.205](#) is the statutory authority for this position and provides the basic process for appointing a county representative.

WSAC is soliciting nominations and letters of interest from eligible members to fill the remainder of the current four-year term ending 6/30/2026. Another election will be conducted for the next four-year term before 6/30/2026.

The BNR has policy authority over the State Forestlands held in trust for counties and taxing districts. Income flowing from these lands is distributed annually to counties based on various formulas and results, collectively, in millions of dollars to county budgets. For more information about the BNR, visit <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources>.

Election and Eligibility Requirements

RCW 43.30.205(2)(a) states that "The county representative on the board shall be selected by the legislative authorities of those counties that contain state forestlands acquired or transferred under RCW 79.22.010, 79.22.040, and 79.22.020. In the selection of the county representative, each participating county shall have one vote. The Washington state association of counties shall convene a meeting for the purpose of making the selection and shall notify the board of the selection."

RCW 43.30.205(2)(b) states that "The county representative must be a duly elected member of a county legislative authority who shall serve a term of four years unless the representative should leave office for any reason."

Counties Eligible to Vote

The following twenty-one counties are eligible to vote for the county representative to the BNR: Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas,

Klickitat, Lewis, Okanogan, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Stevens, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom.

### Candidates

Eligible members who wish to become a candidate for the county representative seat must complete and submit an application form to WSAC by 5 p.m. Friday, 7/25/2025. While only specific county legislative authorities are allowed to vote, all duly elected members of a county legislative authority are eligible to apply.

The BNR meets on the first Tuesday of every month. The first meeting for the new county representative will be on 9/3/2025. It is vital that the county representative does not miss a meeting. Please make sure you are available on 9/3/2025 if you decide to apply.

To apply, click here: <https://form.jotform.com/223324725825052>

### Elections Process and Timeline

WSAC will convene a meeting on Thursday, 7/31/2025, at 11:00 AM via Zoom to allow candidates to present their interests to voting members. Members can also ask questions about the candidates. An electronic calendar invitation will be sent to all voting-eligible County Commissioners and Councilmembers, including the meeting link.

Ballots will also be distributed by email to each Board or Council Chair of each county eligible to vote on 8/4/25. Each county will receive one ballot. While counties are allowed only one vote each, they may fractionalize their vote if desired or needed.

Each county is responsible for its process of completing the ballot. Completed ballots must be emailed to Paul Jewell ([pjewell@wsac.org](mailto:pjewell@wsac.org)) by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 8/13/2025.

### Timeline Recap

7/25/25	Nominations are due to WSAC no later than 5:00 PM.
7/31/25	WSAC meeting for nominee interest statements and ballots sent via email to each eligible county Board or Council Chair.
8/4/25	Ballots will be emailed to each Board or Council Chair of each county eligible to vote.
8/13/25	Ballots are due to WSAC no later than 5:00 PM.
8/15/25	WSAC will certify the election results and announce the new county BNR representative.

If you have questions about eligibility, the election process, or responsibilities as the county representative to the BNR, please contact Derek Young at [dyoung@wsac.org](mailto:dyoung@wsac.org) or (360) 999-0029.