



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO WHATCOM COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY and COMPLETE ALL ITEMS

Name: John D. Gold Date: September 1, 2022

Street Address: [Redacted]

City: [Redacted] Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (if different from street address): _____

Day Telephone: [Redacted] Evening Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mailaddress: [Redacted]

1. Name of board or committee - please see reverse: Forestry Advisory Committee

2. You must specify which position you are applying for. Please refer to vacancy list. Commercial Forest Landowner

3. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying? (If applicable, please refer to vacancy list.) WCC 2.123.040 Membership - Term of office (X) yes () no

4. Which Council district do you live in? () One () Two () Three () Four () Five

5. Are you a US citizen? (X) yes () no

6. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? () yes (X) no

7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission? () yes (X) no
If yes, dates: _____

8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County? () yes (X) no
If yes, please explain: _____

9. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055, see instructions) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? () yes (X) no

You may attach a résumé or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions.

10. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education. Please see attached resume

11.

Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission: _____

Please see attached

References (please include daytime telephone number): Please see attached

Signature of applicant: 

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the above information will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.



SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES

September 1, 2022

Todd Donovan, Chair
Whatcom County Council
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 105
Bellingham, Washington 98225

hand delivered

RE: Vacant position on Whatcom Forestry Advisory Committee

Dear Councilman Donovan:

As you may be aware, Sierra Pacific is a family-owned company in the forest products business. We own forestland and manufacturing facilities throughout the Pacific Northwest, with local operations based in Burlington, Washington. I am the District Manager for our north Puget Sound area, which includes approximately 38,000 acres of highly productive land in the foothills of Whatcom County. As such, we are the largest single private landowner in Whatcom County. Our state-of-the-art dimension sawmill in Burlington, built in 2006, sources raw materials from public and private landowners throughout Whatcom County and we are the closest market for many log sorts grown by Whatcom landowners. Many of the 230 full time employees at the sawmill and a large proportion of our contract workforce are Whatcom residents. As such, Sierra Pacific has an interest in seeing Whatcom County develop sound policy regarding forestry, land management, and the protection of public resources.

It is my understanding that the Commercial Forest Landowner position is vacant and I would like to be considered for membership on the Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC). Earlier this year I met with County Executive Sidhu and other County staff regarding the residency requirements for Committee members, which for many years has presented a barrier to participation by any of the largest forestland owners, none of which are Whatcom residents. It is also my understanding from Joshua Fleishmann that the Council has discretion to appoint Skagit County residents under WCC 2.123.040 in light of this situation.

I believe that my experience would be valuable to the FAC and to the council. A resume detailing my background, list of professional references, and application are attached to this letter. Please feel free to reach me by email [REDACTED] with any questions.

Respectfully,


John Gold,
Burlington District Manager

RECEIVED

SEP 13 2022

WHATCOM COUNTY
COUNCIL

JOHN D. GOLD

California Registered Professional Forester No. 2776



OBJECTIVE

Appointment as Commercial Forest Landowner member, Whatcom Forestry Advisory Committee, on behalf of Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company

SUMMARY

Over 30 years experience in forest management and operations. Areas of expertise include: harvest engineering and permitting; transportation planning; timber marketing; forest inventory and timber appraisal; forest policy. Project experience in: Washington, Alaska, Oregon, California, British Columbia, and Alberta.

EXPERIENCE

Sierra Pacific Industries, Mount Vernon, WA, 2016 to present

Manager, Burlington Tree Farm, 154K acres: supervise staff of professional foresters and seasonal technicians; plan and execute \$20MM+ annual budget; oversee tree improvement, silviculture, and harvest programs; AP/AR; ensure all operations meet safety initiatives, third party sustainability audits, and compliance with regulatory requirements; negotiate log sales and coordinate with other business units, suppliers, and vendors regarding log deliveries; conduct due diligence for acquisitions. Led project team in development and approval of statewide Safe Harbor Agreement.

Sierra Pacific Industries, Mount Vernon, WA, 2006 to 2015

Forester on Hamilton Tree Farm. Primary oversight of four blocks totaling 48K acres, including project prioritization, engineering, permitting, price negotiation, and contract administration; oversaw maintenance on 1,300 miles forest roads and 70 bridges, with \$1MM+ annual budget; database management and ArcGIS.

Washington Forest Protection Association, Olympia, WA, 2014 to 2017

Chairman, Forest Policy Committee. Planned and led monthly discussions of topics of importance to trade association members. Interacted with staff to execute strategy on mature and emerging issues. Provided updates to Executive Committee. Articulated policy positions to regulators and agency personnel.

Olympic Resource Management LLC, Sedro Woolley, WA, 2005-2006

Forester on Cascade Timberlands LLC 147K acre Hamilton Tree Farm from conclusion of Crown Pacific LP's bankruptcy proceedings until property disposition. Project entailed operations, rehabilitation and repositioning of an impaired asset, management review, re-inventory, and strengthening of agency and contractor relationships.

John Gold & Co., Consulting Foresters, Anacortes, WA, 1993-2004

Founder and lead forester of a full service consulting firm. Full responsibility for client development, business management, budgeting, AP/AR, project administration. Clientele included forest industry landowners, forest products purchasers and processors, timberland investment management organizations, non-industrial private landowners, public agencies, conservation organizations, attorneys, appraisers.

USFS Wenatchee National Forest, Leavenworth, WA, 1991-1993

USFS Winema National Forest, Chiloquin, OR

Forestry technician in timber sale department: layout, cruising, logging engineering, surveying, recordkeeping, appraisal, and data management; supervision and training of seasonal personnel.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Combined Review Team WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Funding Board, 2020-present

Forest and Fish Policy subgroup on Type F waters, 2013

Forest and Fish Policy technical subgroup on Perennial Streams, 2005 and 2008

Regional Unstable Landform technical advisory committee, 2004-2005

Appointed Skagit County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Forest-Natural Resource Lands,
2003 to 2004; CAC on Forest Practices, 2001-2002

Society of American Foresters, 1989 to 2008, 2011 to present; SAF Certified Forester[®], 2004 to 2006

Certified Tree Farm Inspector, American Forest Foundation

Active Timber-Fish-Wildlife (stakeholder group) participant

EDUCATION

Cornell University: B. S. Natural Resources, December, 1989

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Mechanical Engineering Department, 1985-1987

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES: John D. Gold

Application for service on Whatcom FAC

September 1, 2022

Ned Currence, Natural Resources Director

Nooksack Indian Tribe

360/592-5140

Lisa Janicki

Skagit County Commissioner, District 3

360/399-0036

Ken Osborn, Chapter Chair

North Puget Sound Society of American Foresters

360/770-4687

Jason Spadaro, Executive Director

Washington Forest Protection Association

360/352-1500

Tom Westergreen, Former President

Washington Farm Forestry Association

360/961-0312