

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided 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.

Title *Field not completed.*

First Name Karen

Last Name Hardesty

Today's Date 4/6/2023

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Wildlife Advisory Committee

Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) Position:	I have relevant professional experience in a field not listed. See question 9.
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 3
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	No
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?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	<i>Field not completed.</i>

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I'm retired from a career in wildlife/nature education. Most of my career, I was employed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (now Wildlife & Parks), though I have also worked for the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (as well as other). A portion of my college education was completed at Oregon State University, where I learned about the ecology of the Pacific Northwest. In addition, I completed the "Marine Naturalist Certification" program offered by the Whale Museum in Friday Harbor, which focussed on the ecology of the Salish Sea. While a public employee with the state of Colorado, I held three different positions - each was primarily public education/information & interpretation about wildlife. As an educator/interpretive specialist, I was required to understand wildlife biology, habitat / ecology, wildlife - human interface challenges, hunting & wildlife disease issues etc., AND to be able to communicate thoughtfully & effectively with the public. My career was devoted to helping people better understand wildlife, wildlife management, and ecosystems & our role in them. The opportunities I was afforded in these positions were amazing and diverse. My degree is in natural resources/environmental communication. But my experiences in my career allowed me to work beside wildlife biologists & game wardens. I ran a nature center. Taught numerous classes. Helped release bears and picked up dead ducks from out of the city park - and came up with ways to improve the water there. I taught bird watching, interpreted habitat improvement, helped lead public input meetings, produced interpretive signs and informative brochures re: Living With Wildlife; supervised volunteers; and contributed to books on designing positive wildlife viewing experiences. I am happy to provide additional information if desired.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

A neighbor approached me about joining this committee, and asked me to apply. In my community of Sudden Valley, I have lead a group I named "Sudden Valley Naturalists." The "group" is a loose group of residents interested in learning more about our natural world; and I've taught a couple of classes here, including birding, intro to botany & "living with wildlife." I remain VERY interested in wildlife, learning, and wildlife/people issues. As an educator, I was required to learn about a broad diversity of subjects. I would love to find a way to contribute to my community - my county - by offering any experience, knowledge, insight I may have - not only to issues, but to communicating about them.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Patt Dorsey, 970 884 9809; Meaghan Doyle 360-473-9345; Jane Griess, 912-655-2341; do you want more?

Signature of applicant:

Karen Hardesty



Place Signed /
Submitted

(Section Break)
