

**Board of Directors**

Jason Bloodgood  
 Danielle Gray  
 Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt  
 Edward Fox  
 Brenna Reaugh

**District Administration**

**Superintendent**

Philip Brockman  
 360.383.2000

**Director of HR and Operations**

Nick Perigo  
 360.617.4643

**Director of Special Programs**

Ian Linterman  
 360.383.2012

**Director of Finance**

Brian Fraser  
 360.617.4604

**Director of Curriculum and Instruction**

Bridget Rossman  
 360.383.2013

**MOUNT BAKER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

September 12, 2024

Whatcom County Council  
 311 Grand Avenue, Suite 105  
 Bellingham, WA 98225-4038

Dear Chair Buchanan and Council Members,

State Forest timber revenue is very important to Mount Baker. We are the largest local recipient of State Forest revenue in Whatcom County.

From 2015 to 2022 we averaged about \$1.2 million per year in timber revenue. Due to pauses, delays, and cancellations of our timber sales, our revenue has come almost to a screeching halt. Last year we received only \$107,000, less than 10% of our average amount.

**Mount Baker School District State Forest Revenue 2015 - 2023**

School Year	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total
2022-23	\$80,784	\$26,408	\$107,192
2021-22	\$589,202	\$205,410	\$794,612
2020-21	\$726,299	\$272,040	\$998,339
2019-20	\$1,283,444	\$617,399	\$1,900,843
2018-19	\$236,585	\$140,103	\$376,688
2017-18	\$1,528,217	\$321,325	\$1,849,542
2016-17	\$736,267	\$168,974	\$905,241
2015-16	\$1,296,734	\$288,626	\$1,585,360
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,477,532</b>	<b>\$2,040,285</b>	<b>\$8,517,817</b>

Mount Baker is currently operating under binding conditions from OSPI, because our district budget is in deficit. The drop in State Forest revenue is a major cause of our deficit. We have reduced 23 teachers and support staff and increased our class sizes. We have nothing left to



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cut without further harm to our students. Delays in our timber sales have real consequences for our students.

The DNR's harvest plan for this year would bring about \$700,000 to Mount Baker. We will only realize that revenue if the timber sales are not delayed. We understand that Whatcom County Council has been asked to request a delay for Little Lilly timber sale. Little Lilly has been extensively reviewed by DNR staff and meets all the requirements for auction. Little Lilly is located in the portion of the State Forest that is designated for revenue generation through timber sales. Little Lilly timber sale will bring Mount Baker almost \$300,000. Further delay will harm Mount Baker students. It is important to us that Little Lilly and the remainder of the DNR's planned sales not be subject to further delays.

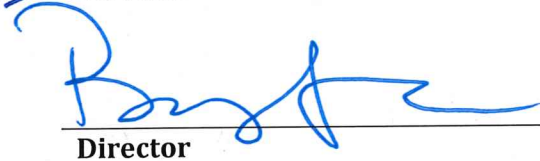
Sincerely,

  
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Director

  
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Director

  
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ATTEST  
Nicholas Perigo, Secretary

Cc: Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive  
Hilary Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands  
Board of Natural Resources  
Jay Guthrie, NW Region Manager, DNR  
Laurie Bergvall, Assistant Region Manager, DNR  
Chris Hankey, Baker District Manager, DNR  
John Gold, Chair, Whatcom County Forestry Advisory Committee