

Whatcom County Council Natural Resources Committee

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Committee Minutes - Final

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

9:30 AM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Todd Donovan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also present: Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd, Barry Buchanan, and Kathy Kershner

Special Presentation

1. [AB2020-058](#) Update from the Department of Natural Resources on the Baker to Bellingham Non-Motorized Recreational Plan

Tim Stapleton and Chris Hankey, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), submitted and gave a presentation (on file) about recreation planning on DNR lands, including the Baker to Bellingham non-motorized recreation plan. They answered questions about whether they have seen a decrease in off road vehicle (ORV) use on DNR lands as a result of not allowing it, what the County can do to bring the planning process for the Bellingham to Baker trail more front and center, what specific sensitive cultural resources make the trail area incompatible with recreational uses and whether there is a plan to work around those areas or re-route the trail.

Daniel Probst spoke and answered a question about how much of the trail is still not developed and where that part it is.

Stapleton and Hankey continued discussing with Councilmembers and answering questions about whether the Council should reach out to and work with the tribes and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the possibility of using Planning and Development Services Department staff resources to keep the trail work going, and a request from the presenters for a letter from the Council in support of developing areas such as those that connect into Lake Whatcom Park to help DNR with securing grants.

This agenda item was PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Todd Donovan, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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