

**FINAL Meeting Notes**  
**Lewis River License Implementation**  
**Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting**  
**January 10, 2007**  
**Woodland, WA**

**TCC Participants Present: (16)**

Brock Applegate, WDFW  
 Clifford Casseseka, Yakama Nation (via teleconference)  
 Ray Crosswell, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
 Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy  
 Eric Holman, WDFW  
 Mike Iyall, Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
 LouEllyn Jones, USFWS (via teleconference)  
 Cherie Kearney, Columbia Land Trust (via teleconference)  
 Curt Leigh, WDFW (via teleconference)  
 Diana Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD (via teleconference)  
 Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy  
 Mike Mueller, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
 Bob Nelson, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
 Todd Olson, PacifiCorp Energy  
 Alan Thomas, WDFW  
 Karen Thompson, USDA Forest Service

**Calendar:**

January 11, 2007	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
February 8, 2007	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
February 14, 2007	TCC Meeting	Merwin Hydro

<b>Assignments from January 10th Meeting:</b>		
Kearney: Create a map illustrating lands of interest and provide a copy to the TCC for their review by 2/14/07, if possible.		<b>Complete - 2/14/07</b>
McCune: Email copy of real estate property purchase agreement to Crosswell.		<b>Complete – 1/12/07</b>
McCune: Set up lands update discussion conference call for 1/22/07 at 11:00am PST.		<b>Complete – 1/12/07</b>

<b>Assignments from September 13th Meeting:</b>		
McCune: Email the TCC and Columbia Land Trust with potential dates for a tour of certain lands of interest.		<b>Pending</b>

<b>Parking lot items from February 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting:</b>		
PacifiCorp WHMP Budget (annual)		
Conservation Agreement – what is wanted?		<b>Ongoing – 4/28/06</b>

## **Opening, ACC Discussion with the wildlife biologists relating to their concerns about terrestrial issues.**

Todd Olson (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:05 am and conducted a round table introduction for those attendees participating via teleconference. Olson suggested that the meeting begin with the ACC request for a discussion with WDFW wildlife biologists regarding addressing their terrestrial concerns. Olson quickly updated the TCC attendees on the acclimation pond site activity and the ACC terrestrial concerns surrounding the use of the Crab Creek site.

Olson led a discussion about the specific impacts relating to a relatively small footprint of approximately one acre. The disturbances associated with the acclimation pond site will most likely consist of a daily trip to the site and back. Access may be on snowmobile, ATV, vehicle, skis, or on foot.

Eric Holman (WDFW) communicated that in general, as many as a few hundred animals make use of the winter range in the Crab Creek area, but WDFW does not provide regular counts or surveys. Holman further provided a letter dated May 18, 2006 ([Attachment A](#)), which outlines the concerns of WDFW relating less public use, closure of roads 90 & 25, gates and the need for a workable management strategy that protects big game winter range that is easily understood by the public. Holman expressed that a more formalized winter use access plan for non-public use would help, and that single daily trips to the pond site is not a big concern for WDFW.

Clifford Casseseka (Yakama Nation) expressed concern about snow mobile users in Crab Creek. Karen Thompson (USDA Forest Service) thought that the road was closed to snow mobile users, but she was concerned about the repeated daily access in the winter elk range area as the Curly Creek site is the heart of the winter range area, and has an ambiguous closure plan. Casseseka expressed that public education should be made available relating to unauthorized motor vehicle use.

General discussion took place regarding the use of Curly Creek as an acclimation pond site which could possibly force a road closure through this action as an opportunity to better the situation. The installation of a gate(s) could also result in fewer disturbances to the elk and address WDFW law enforcement habitat concerns to help stop unregulated activity. In addition, the attendees discussed that a brochure or general database of ATV offenders would be helpful (inclusive of entire Lewis River basin, not just this area).

Olson communicated that he was hearing three (3) topics for further consideration relating to the use of the Crab Creek site:

A formal plan that addresses: 1) gated access, 2) public education and 3) enforcement.

The TCC participants were all in support of proceeding with this as an initial plan and would have further discussion at the ACC meeting on January 11, 2007.

Holman asked that he be provided with more detail on the logistics of date/time of use, number of trips for maintenance/feeding, etc. Olson said that we would provide more detail at the next day's ACC meeting which Holman was going to attend.

### **Review of Agenda, Finalize Meeting Notes**

Olson asked the TCC if they had any additions to the Agenda. Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp Energy) informed the attendees that the Skamania representatives were unable to attend, so this portion of the agenda would be cancelled. In addition, the Lands Update Discussion would be moved to after the meeting note review portion.

Olson reviewed the Draft TCC 12/13/06 meeting notes and assignments from the previous meetings. The TCC participants approved the meeting notes with no changes at 9:35am.

### **Lands Update Discussion – Columbia Land Trust & RMEF**

Cherie Kearney (Columbia Land Trust) provided a detailed update relating to interests in certain lands, however, this discussion is considered confidential and proprietary and not for public viewing.

Kearney also communicated that the Skamania County moratorium (**Attachment B**) presents significant challenges during the negotiations process with potential sellers as it freezes the zoning on their lands.

Mike Mueller (RMEF) and Ray Crosswell (RMEF) provided a detailed update relating to interests in certain lands, however, this discussion is considered confidential and proprietary and not for public viewing.

<Break 11:30am>

<Reconvene 11:45am>

### **Review of WHMP Draft Chapters**

McCune asked the TCC attendees if sending future draft chapters on a CD was acceptable. The agreement was to send all TCC participants a CD with a note indicating hard copies will be mailed upon request. McCune recognized that those TCC participants who regularly attend each meeting would like both a CD and a hard copy.

The TCC attendees were reminded that comprehensive written comments on the draft chapters for Orchards, Rights-of-ways, and Shrublands are due on or before February 5, 2007.

General discussion and understanding occurred over the final approval process of the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (WHMP). All parties agreed that the TCC would only give final approval after the Licensees completely finished their entire respective WHMP's and the TCC could review the document as a whole. PacifiCorp will eventually compile all chapter reviews and monthly written comments to create a draft WHMP for the TCC to approve later.

## Orchards

Brock Applegate (WDFW) expressed general comments that he would like to see more management actions addressing enhanced forage activities such as seeding, fertilizing and soil samples.

Discussion took place regarding the number of orchard trees in the ROW's and other areas in the Lewis River WHMP compared to the Merwin WHMP and orchard expansion. One substantial difference included the loss of management opportunities for 25 orchard trees at the Merwin Dam Orchard. The Merwin Dam Orchards in the "Exclusion Area" which leaves the orchards outside the wildlife lands designation.

PacifiCorp stated that the number of orchard trees listed for each orchard in the Merwin Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (MWHMP) was an estimate and now the current list in the draft WHMP represented the correct amount of trees currently on the ground.

Applegate expressed concern about vehicle trespass and the method of management. PacifiCorp would like to cover this concern under the topic of "Public Access" although the trespass may affect multiple habitats.

Applegate would also like to see "forage enhancement" as a bullet under management actions. Discussion took place on adding text in the introductory portion that volunteer help can also be used for some management actions.

X.5 Management Actions - Add volunteers to the last sentence of this introductory section.

*X.5.1 Pruning* – Add text regarding piling slash as the preferred method to chipping method. It is agreed that chipping may be necessary in some instances. Add text to address looking for nests if summer pruning is done.

*X.5.5 Plantings* – If desired, the Licensees may consider native fruit-bearing tree and shrub species for additional trees from X-3 in the shrub section, especially in areas that will not receive regular maintenance.

*X.6 Schedule and Effort* – Modify shade tree control timing to August 16 to December 31.

Orchard Inspection Form - Add evidence of vehicle trespass/damage to the orchard access.

<Lunch 12:50pm>

<Reconvene 1:30pm>

## ROW

*X.4.1 Initial Inspection* – Modify first sentence to read, "The initial inspection will assess general habitat conditions and the need for visual screens, identify and map desirable shrub patches, invasive

plant species populations, existing & potential enhanced forage areas, and aquatic areas, and will determine and prioritize management actions”.

Modify bullets to remove – Accessibility and replace with “Control of Motorized Public Access” and,

Add – Line of Sight

*X.4.2 Annual Inspection* – Add additional bullet to read, “Soil testing for potential foraging areas”

*X.4.3 Photo Documentation* – Add the following text to the last sentence, “if technology changes to shift with the technology”.

There was discussion on the training for PacifiCorp’s T&D crews working on the ROW areas within the WHMP lands. We also discussed the necessary restoration activities as a result of maintenance. PacifiCorp will address these issues in an earlier chapter to this final WHMP document.

*X.5.2 Invasive Plant Species Control* – Modify the last sentence in the first paragraph to read, “In addition, the Invasive Plant Species Management Chapter X goal and objectives requires all Class A and B-designated noxious weeds and other invasive plant species be identified and prioritized for eradication and/or control treatments”.

Remove salmonberry and identify Scot’s broom as priority in the shrubs listed in the last paragraph

*X.5.3 Vegetation Management* – Add in the language from the Merwin Wildlife Habitat Management Program that states “Retain all Western red cedar by only side-trimming or topping”

*Table X.5.1 Aquatic Area Buffers* – Add text to the Buffer column, “whichever is greater”.

Modify the third paragraph to read as follows, “Hazard tree removal may need to occur within an aquatic area buffer. Under WAC 222-110-160, PacifiCorp may obtain a Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) if the TCC desires to drop trees and leave them in stream for large woody debris (LWD). Slash will be reduced so as to not impede travel by big game along riparian corridors and may be piled to benefit wildlife.

Modify the fourth paragraph with additional text that ground disturbance activities and erosion control practices within the riparian/wetland area buffers will be reviewed with TCC prior to conducting the activity, unless it is an emergency situation and other alternatives are not available (IE closing and signing a little used road on PacifiCorp property, postponing forest management activities including on possible haul roads).

*Table X.5.2 ROW Forage Areas, Locations, Size and Management* – Insert and italicize the deleted Merwin ROW forage areas mentioned in the MWHMP.

Add the following additional bullet – Seeding and restoration of disturbed sites from MWHMP.

*X.5.6 Access/Disturbance Reduction* – Modify first sentence to read as follows, “To reduce disturbance to elk, deer, and other wildlife, ROW access roads on PacifiCorp Energy property will be closed to public motorized vehicle access. WDFW requested PacifiCorp to make efforts to minimize project vehicle access as well, especially in wildlife areas sensitive to disturbance.

Restructure the following sentence in the second paragraph to add clarity, “ROW areas that cross public roads will have visual screens evaluated and established where slope, soils, and topography allow”.

Restructure the following sentence in the third paragraph “Where site conditions are harsh (e.g., rock, xeric, steep road shoulder, south aspect), effective screening may take many years to establish or may not be feasible, then other techniques will be evaluated.” Add “Replacement plantings and animal exclosures may be required if plant mortality within screens reduces their value as effective winter screening,” (from the MWHMP) to the end of the paragraph.

Add that exclosures may be required for new plantings.

*Lewis River WHMP – ROW Initial Inspection Form and Annual Inspection Form*

Change percent cover type to 0-5%, 6-25%, 25-50%, 50-75%, and 75-100%.

Add evidence of vehicle trespass/damage.

*Lewis River WHMP – ROW Post-Treatment Inspection Form*

Add evidence of vehicle trespass/damage.

*Shrubland*

*X.3 Shrubland Habitat Management* – Modify the second paragraph to read, “During cover-type studies associated with the relicensing studies, the shrubland vegetation cover type was defined as areas with less than 10 percent forest canopy cover and greater than 50 percent shrub species coverage”.

*X.4.1 Initial Inspections* – Remove the following portion from the second bullet point, “will be less than or equal to 10 percent of the total cover, where possible”.

Modify the fourth bullet to read as follows: Shrubland habitat width will average greater than 200 feet (61 meters) to provide adequate hiding cover for elk. If less than 200 feet (61 meters), then shrubland density must be adequate to conceal 90 percent of an adult elk.

*X.4.2 Post-Treatment Inspection* - Modify the second sentence to read as follows: “The objective is to adjust management actions as needed to existing and new management areas to comply with the management goal and objectives”.

*X.4.3 15-year Inspection* – Remove the second and third bullets.

Modify the sixth bullet to read as follows: “Mark trees to be killed with tree paint. Kill trees by either falling, topping, herbicide treatment, or other methods. All unmarked trees will be retained as leave trees”. All dead trees will be left as snags or LWD except when safety concerns exist or the TCC decides differently.

*X.5.1 Shade Control* – Modify the first sentence to read as follows: “Shade control kills or reduces overstory tree species, such as red alder (*Alnus rubra*), bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), and conifers, to increase sunlight and stimulate basal sprouting in shrubs”.

Modify second bullet to read as follows: “Retain large black cottonwood (*Populus balisamifera*) and red cedars (*Thuja plicata*) as leave trees where possible”.

Modify third bullet to read as follows: If desired by the TCC, kill large conifers greater than 21 inches [53 centimeters] dbh) by topping, falling, or herbicide injection. Large tops (greater than 12 inches [30 centimeters] dbh) from a topped conifer will be left on the ground as large woody debris. Slash will be preferably piled within the shrubland, but if needed slash can be removed. Topping or falling trees in dense overstory will be done outside of the growing season (November 1 to March 1) to protect the shrub foliage from sudden increases in sunlight (causing scalding”.

Modify fourth bullet to read as follows: “Mark trees to be killed with tree paint. All unmarked trees will be retained as leave trees”. Consider retaining perches for roosting and foraging eagles, if shrubland resides close to bodies of water used by eagles and ospreys.

*X.5.2 Heavy Pruning* - Modify the eighth bullet to read as follows: “Avoid using heavy pruning methods on fruit-bearing, tall shrubs and trees that add to structural diversity especially those listed in X-3, and may not survive heavy pruning.

*X.5.3 Vegetation Control* – Modify the last sentence in the second bullet to read as follows, “Avoid cutting or spraying preferred shrub species”.

*Shrubland Inspection Form* - Adjust the percent cover vegetation to 0-5%, 6-25%, 25-50%, 50-75%, and 75-100%.

Add evidence of vehicle trespass/damage to the form.

Add signs of wildlife or observations.

*Wildlife Value for Lewis River Shrub Species* - Add Oregon Myrtle with big game and bird or other mammal value.

*Post-treatment Shrubland Inspections* - Add evidence of vehicle trespass/damage and wildlife observations or signs.

## **Review of WHMP Draft Chapters – Other topics**

It was suggested that a general TCC coordination chapter be added to the WHMP. WDFW suggested a TCC Management Action Approval Form. WDFW requested the TCC sign off on every action with details before management actions could commence. The TCC would then know the specifics of management actions on the ground. WDFW mentioned the past miscommunication with PacifiCorp on past management actions. A written process would help reduce or eliminate these problems in communication. The Approval Form would contain more detailed and specific actions than the Annual Plan and act as a vehicle to implement the WHMP and Annual Plan.

An email from PacifiCorp could initiate the approval process with the TCC members e-mailing back their approval.

The TCC attendees were informed that PacifiCorp is working to complete another two (2) draft chapters by the end of January 2007.

## **Next Meeting's Agenda**

- Lands Update & Discussion
- Review of WHMP Draft Chapters

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm

## **Next Scheduled Meetings**

### **February 14, 2007**

Merwin Hydro Facility  
Ariel, WA

### **March 14, 2007**

Merwin Hydro Facility  
Ariel, WA

## **Handouts (via email)**

1. Draft meeting notes from 12/13/06
2. WDFW letter dated 5/18/2006 regarding Winter Access – 90 and 25 roads, **Attachment A**
3. Notice of Public Hearing – Skamania County, dated January 2, 2007, **Attachment B**





State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: 2108 Grand Boulevard Vancouver, WA 98661 (360) 696-6211

May 18, 2006

Mitch Wainwright  
Wildlife Biologist  
Mt. St. Helens NVM  
42218 N.E. Yale Bridge Road  
Amboy, WA 98601

Dear Mitch,

Subject: Winter Access – 90 and 25 Roads

This letter is a follow-up to our recent meeting regarding motorized vehicle traffic and its impacts to wintering elk in the Lewis River drainage. Of specific concerns are recreation access to the lower portions of the 90 and 25 roads during the winter months. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has previously commented on the winter recreation program as it relates to snowmobile use and impacts to wintering big game. Winter recreation in the Lewis River drainage is going to increase dramatically, especially with current development underway. We feel that it is important to implement a workable management strategy that protects big game winter range and is easily understood by the public.

At our Vancouver meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>, we indicated that a road closure strategy should be developed that puts into place a specific winter closure that is implemented each year. Our strategy would be a road closure plan that does not vary from year to year. With this strategy, the agencies would know what is expected for road management and the public would understand the consistent rules. Most significantly, critical habitats would be managed to reduce winter stress.

Our preferred plan for the 90 Road would be to place a gate at the 90/51 junction and close the road on December 1 of any year, independent of winter conditions. The road would be re-opened on April 1<sup>st</sup>. For the 25 Road we would recommend a similar December 1 closure at the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) boundary, it should also re-open on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Road closures in this area would be consistent with USFS identified biological winter range that is found on the lower end of the 25 Road.

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Furthermore, this plan would focus motorized winter recreation activities on established, formal snow-park areas such as Marble Mountain, Wakepsih and Lone Butte. Each of these recreation areas is location at higher elevations, offering more consistent snow conditions. More importantly, they are of lesser value to wintering wildlife.

It is our opinion that annual closures of both the 90 and 25 roads would be consistent with the Gifford Pinchot Forest Plan goals for wildlife and recreation. A specific annual policy on winter road closures needs to be developed and implemented. This policy should not be open to interpretation based upon the public, USFS, or WDFW view of so called extreme winter conditions. These restrictions would be in place annually and would become standard protocol for wildlife protection. Pressure from snowmobile use in the future will only increase the conflict between secure winter wildlife habitat and recreation. Our agency would like to work with the USFS to finally come up with a workable plan for wildlife protection in the Lewis River drainage.

Please review our suggestions with other USFS staff and let me know what we need to do to further the process for developing a solution to this issue. Thanks for you attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David Anderson  
District Wildlife Biologist  
P.O. Box 68  
Trout Lake, WA 98650  
509-395-2232

dpa

cc: Calkins - WDFW  
Meyers - WDFW  
Miller - WDFW  
Holman - WDFW  
Kolb - WDFW  
Dowd - USFS  
Mulder - USFS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Before the**  
**Board of Skamania County Commissioners**

**PURPOSE:** Skamania County Board of Commissioners hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held to consider adopting Ordinance 2007-01 extending the moratorium for an additional six-months on the acceptance and processing of land divisions (subdivisions and short subdivisions) creating lots of less than 10 acres, on the construction/placement of more than one single-family dwelling per legal lot of record, and the acceptance and processing of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists related to forest practice conversions for any parcel located within Township 6 North, Range 5 East; Township 7 North, Range 5 East; Township 6 North, Range 6 East; and Township 7 North, Range 6 East, Willamette Meridian. All the aforementioned area is generally known as the Swift Subarea of Skamania County.

Copies of proposed Ordinance 2007-01 are available to the public in the Commissioners' Office, Room 15, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue, Stevenson, WA or may be viewed on our website at [www.skamaniacounty.org](http://www.skamaniacounty.org). Anyone interested may appear and be heard.

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 23, 2007  
**TIME:** 1:30 PM  
**PLACE:** Skamania County Courthouse, Room No. 18 (lower level)  
240 NW Vancouver Avenue  
Stevenson, WA.

Skamania County Courthouse is accessible for persons with disabilities. Please let us know if you will need any special accommodations in order to attend the meeting. (509) 427-3700.

**DATED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2007.

**Pamela Johnson**  
**Clerk of the Board**

**ORDINANCE 2007-01**

**(AMENDING ORDINANCE 2006-02 AND ORDINANCE 2006-10; AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND ORDINANCE 2006-02 AND ORDINANCE 2006-10 - A MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESSING OF LAND DIVISIONS (SUBDIVISION AND SHORT SUBDIVISION) CREATING LOTS OF LESS THAN 10 ACRES, ON THE CONSTRUCTION/PLACEMENT OF MORE THAN ONE SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING PER LEGAL LOT OF RECORD, AND THE ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESSING OF STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) CHECKLISTS RELATED TO FOREST PRACTICES CONVERSIONS FOR ANY PARCEL LOCATED WITHIN TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST; TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST; TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 6 EAST; AND TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 6 EAST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN. ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED AREA IS GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE SWIFT SUBAREA OF SKAMANIA COUNTY.)**

**WHEREAS**, The Board of County Commissioners on August 14, 2006, extended the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of land divisions (subdivisions and short subdivisions) creating lots of less than 10 acres, on the construction/placement of more than one single-family dwelling per legal lot of record, and the acceptance and processing of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists related to forest practice conversions for any parcel located within Township 6 North, Range 5 East; Township 7 North, Range 5 East; Township 6 North, Range 6 East; and Township 7 North, Range 6 East, Willamette Meridian. All the aforementioned area is generally known as the Swift Subarea of Skamania County.

**WHEREAS**, Skamania County has begun the process to adopt an amendment to Comprehensive Plan A to create the Swift Subarea Plan; and,

**WHEREAS**, the area within the proposed Swift Subarea Plan is prime habitat area for many Federal and State listed endangered, threatened, sensitive, candidate and priority species of fish and wildlife; and,

**WHEREAS**, Skamania County is in the process of completing the Critical Areas Update Process for the entire County (including the area within the proposed Swift Subarea Plan) as required under the Washington State Growth Management Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, ninety-eight percent (98%) of the area within the proposed Swift Subarea Plan is currently used as commercial forest land; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Growth Management Act requires all counties in the State of Washington to provide protections for commercial forest land from the encroachment of residential uses; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the last six years, 100 new lots (ranging in size from 0.7 acres to 20.39 acres) have been created through the short plat process which converted commercial forest land into residential uses; and,

**WHEREAS**, the development in the area within the proposed Swift Subarea Plan is located on rugged mountainous terrain, is only accessed through United States Forest Service Roads and private roads, and does not currently have access to electrical power service, land-line telephone service and cellular telephone service; and,

**WHEREAS**, there have been citizen requests to relax the standards in the private road codes to facilitate additional development and emergency services requests not to relax the standards in the private road codes to ensure safety to emergency service personnel and adequate ingress/egress during emergency events; and,

**WHEREAS**, continued unplanned and uncontrolled residential growth in the areas of commercial forest lands and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest could potentially increase the risk of forest fires (emergency events); and,

**WHEREAS**, during the visioning process of the proposed Swift Subarea Plan information was gathered to help determine where the best locations are for future residential development, taking into considerations the terrain, access roads, location of critical area resources, location of commercial forest lands, future service needs of residents, and future water usage for residential development; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners, having provided proper notice in the official newspaper of general circulation and with a quorum present, conducted a public hearing to extend the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of land divisions (subdivisions and short subdivisions) creating lots of less than 10 acres, on the construction/placement of more than one single family dwelling per legal lot of record, and the acceptance and processing of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists related to forest practice conversions for any parcel located within Township 6 North, Range 5 East; Township 7 North, Range 5 East; Township 6 North, Range 6 East; and Township 7 North, Range 6 East, Willamette Meridian. All the aforementioned area is generally known as the Swift Subarea of Skamania County; and,

**WHEREAS**, after all those attending the hearing were given the opportunity to speak; the public hearing was closed to public testimony; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners has the authority pursuant to RCW 36.70.795 to adopt a moratorium whether or not there is a recommendation on the matter from the Planning Commission or the Planning Department, that may be effective for not longer than six months, but may be effective for up to one year if a work plan is developed for related studies providing for such longer period. A moratorium may be renewed for one or more six-month period(s) if a subsequent public hearing is held and finding of fact are made prior to each renewal.

**WHEREAS**, a work plan for the Swift Subarea Plan process has been developed; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners determined that the processing of land divisions of 10 acres or larger are acceptable based on the water issues of WRIA 27/28 being resolved as long as only one single family dwelling is allowed per legal lot of record; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners finds a sufficient basis to extend the moratorium for additional six (6) months, believe that the above mentioned circumstances constitute an emergency, and that it is in the public's best interest (to protect the public's safety, health and general welfare) to maintain the status quo of the area pending the County's consideration of amending the Comprehensive Plan by creating a Swift Subarea Plan and completing the Critical Areas Update Process; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners intends for these recitals to constitute its "findings of fact" as required by RCW 36.70.795; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED AND ESTABLISHED BY THIS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:** the Board of County Commissioners hereby amends Ordinance 2006-02 and Ordinance 2006-10 to extend the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of land divisions (subdivisions and short subdivisions) creating lots of less than 10 acres, on the construction/placement of more than one single-family dwelling per legal lot of record, and the acceptance and processing of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists related to forest practice conversions for any parcel located within Township 6 North, Range 5 East; Township 7 North, Range 5 East; Township 6 North, Range 6 East; and Township 7 North, Range 6 East, Willamette Meridian, until the Comprehensive Plan Amendment for the proposed Swift Subarea Plan and the Critical Areas Update Process are complete. (All the aforementioned area is generally known as the Swift Subarea of Skamania County).

**REVIEWED** under Consent Agenda this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2007, and set for public hearing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2007 at 1:30 o'clock p.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**