



Washington State Association of Counties

December 16, 2015

TO: WSAC Members and Interested Parties
FROM: Eric Johnson, Executive Director
SUBJECT: New WSAC Contract Relationships

I want to share with you information regarding several new and important relationships that are intended to benefit and strengthen WSAC services in several areas. As many of you are aware, one of WSACs' Success Goals directs us to work towards securing new resources and to partner with organizations on specific projects of value to WSAC Members. Our practice in these instances is to form strategic relationships with contractors who can not only meet the objectives of the project, but also strengthen WSAC's reputation and organizational capabilities. We are pleased to announce the following.

Timber Counties - Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program

WSAC secured a participation grant from the Department of Natural Resources to support County engagement in the Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program and is contracting with **Scott Swanson** to serve as our county representative. Scott has a full and distinguished career in the timber industry working for a company with a strong ethos of balancing timber harvest with environmental protection. Scott was with West Fork Timber when that company negotiated the state's first all-species Habitat Conservation Plan under the Endangered Species Act in addition to serving as the chair of the Washington Forest Protection Association's Forest Policy Committee during the time that the adaptive management program was initially developed. Scott will work closely with WSAC's Timber Counties Committee, Timber Program Manager Laura (Merrill) Berg, and the county representative to the Forest Practices Board.

WSAC will also be providing some financial support for **Kendra Smith**, a long-time participant in the Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program. Kendra has been a consistent and eloquent advocate for county interests on timber issues, the nexus to land use planning, and we are excited to be able to join with Skagit County in supporting Kendra's participation.

All of these relationships strengthen WSAC's ability to provide outstanding services to our members, and we are very pleased with to be adding these individuals to the WSAC team.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Eric

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