

May 11, 2016

Washington State Forest Practice Board
P.O. Box 47012
Olympia, WA 98504-7012

Re: Cultural Resources

Good morning,

My name is Steve Barnowe-Meyer and I am a small forest landowner in Jefferson County, as well as a practicing professional forester with over 41 years of forest management experience. I represent Washington Farm Forestry Association on the TFW Cultural Resources Roundtable. Washington Farm Forestry Association's 1300 family members manage over 150,000 acres of forest land in Washington. Our association's motto is: "Stewards of the land... for generations to come".

Today, I want to re-emphasize Washington Farm Forestry Association's on-going commitment to protection of cultural resources on forest lands in the State of Washington.

Washington Farm Forestry Association (WFFA) was one of the signatories of the 1987 TFW Agreement and remains committed to meeting the TFW archaeological & cultural resource goals.

WFFA members are committed to abiding by all applicable current laws and regulations pertaining to forest practices and cultural resources protection, and to continued utilization of the Cultural Resource Protection and Management Plan.

Forest landowners represented by WFFA are committed to protection of and care deeply about archaeological and cultural resources that exist on our lands; this commitment is an integral part of our larger commitment as stewards of the land we have the privilege of owning.

WFFA also remains committed to working with the Cultural Resources Roundtable to develop appropriate guidance and training for all forest landowners, and providing effective outreach (particularly to small forest landowners) to assist them in understanding the forest practice rules related to identifying and protecting cultural resources.

Most small forest landowners will only harvest timber a few times in their lives and some will likely need assistance from tribal partners, knowledgeable contractors, state regulators and possibly landowner assistance foresters from the Small Forest Landowner Office to help ensure that they meet the requirements of all applicable laws.

Finally, our relationships with the tribes are very important to us. We view past and future mutual agreements with tribes as contracts; and as such, WFFA landowners will always endeavor to meet our contract commitments, as we expect others to meet their commitments to us. We will always work respectfully with others to clearly identify and then resolve problems, striving to meet the needs of all TFW partners through cooperation, trust and plain talk.

Thank you for this opportunity to give you Washington Farm Forestry Association's perspective on cultural resources and their protection.

Steve Barnowe-Meyer
Washington Farm Forestry Association
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