

Bauer RWIP Questions  
May 13, 2009

1. Is a 100 year old Douglas Fir more beneficial to the environment than a 50 year old Fir?

2. What would be the impact adding 8,000 additional homes to those already permitted under current zoning and previously vested on the urban/rural population targets adopted in the County Planning Policies?

3. What are the public service costs associated with an 800 lot subdivision in Port Gamble compared to the revenues generated. Include transit, fire service, school district costs, law enforcement, transportation and others as appropriate. Would the governmental units prefer to service that population at Port Gamble or in existing cities and urban growth areas.

4. Given the fact that the majority of 20 acre parcels are largely left in forest use, how significant a difference is there on wildlife from 20 acre parcels compared to larger tracts?

5. What is the County's ability to affect timber management practices in the "open space", i.e., could the County specify selective logging vs. clear cuts?

6. Trails

A. How can we achieve complete trail systems when the RWIP property owner will not own all - or even most in much of the County - land needed for the trail system.

B. Where would funding for maintenance of a trail system come from?

C. Are there other alternatives to achieving public access/trails?

1. The North Kitsap Trails Association has suggested creating a Metropolitan Parks District to fund trail maintenance. Could an MPD be created to purchase trail easements as well as maintain trails?

2. Given the popularity of trails, should Kitsap County consider a bond measure to fund trail acquisition?

3. What if the “Open Space” were turned over to a non-profit trails group for stewardship? Similar organizations apparently exist on the East Coast for preservation of timber lands and the option is under consideration in Washington as well. Could this group raise enough from selective logging to support trail and forest management?

7. What are the impacts of these rural subdivisions on aquifer recharge compared to 20 acre homesites?

8. Are we better off with 20 acre homesites?

9. OPG has said that it intends to get out of Kitsap County. What happens when OPG sells to another owner who may not share OPG values and commitments?

10. How significant is forestry to the Kitsap County economy? Our binder indicates that there are only 20+ forestry related permanent jobs in the County. The comprehensive plan does not designate any commercially viable forest lands in the County.

11. How does a one-time infusion of funds for the property owner allow them to maintain active forestry if forestry is not economically viable?

12. Is preservation of a mature forest more important and beneficial than on-going forestry resulting in less mature forests?

13. The County apparently did some polling or community meeting/polling affecting this topic in 2000. What would it cost to update that effort now?