



WASHINGTON FOREST PROTECTION ASSOCIATION 2008 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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DATE: February 1, 2008
ISSUE: Issue 3

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The session continues to race at an unbelievable pace and we are engaged on a wide variety of bills. We are working closely with the Governor's Office, leadership and key legislators to ensure that working forest lands are a priority in the Governor's climate change bill. They have all signaled that protection of working forest lands is critical to the state's success and have committed to continue working with us to develop the correct language. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Debora Munguia

Director of Governmental Relations

THE **WFPA** LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS DETAIL THE ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES AFFECTING OUR TIMBER INDUSTRY, INCLUDING BILL TRACKING, HEARING SCHEDULES AND MORE. THE LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS WILL BE PUBLISHED EACH FRIDAY DURING SESSION. CONTACT **DEBORA MUNGUIA**, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, FOR MORE INFORMATION.



AG FORESTRY STATE SEMINAR

The annual AgForestry State Government Seminar took place this week from January 30-February 1. The AgForestry Leadership Program is a program designed to develop excellent and effective leaders for the natural resources and rural communities. It offers an array of seminars to help participants increase and expand their leadership skills - including two study travel seminars in the United States and internationally. WFPA sponsors this seminar and wants to thank all the legislators that participated and made this event possible. Thanks to: Rep. **Lynn Kessler**, and her legislative assistant Je-Anne Rogers, Sen. **Linda Evans Parlette** and her legislative assistant, Shiloh Burgess, Sen. **Lisa Brown**, Rep. **Frank Chopp**, Rep. **Brian Blake**, Sen. **Ken Jacobsen**, Rep. **Joel Kretz**, Sen. **Bob Morton**, Rep. **Ed Orcutt**, Sen. **Mike Hewitt**'s legislative assistant, Kita Paulos Baldwin, and Sen. **Harriet Spanel**'s legislative assistant, Mary Kay Hanell.



Leg. Leadership-Rep. Kessler & Sen. Parlette

Natural Resource Leaders-Blake, Kretz, Morton, Jacobsen

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR—FEBRUARY 4-FEBRUARY 8, 2008

Date	Bill #	Description	Committee	Time	Location
2/4	2779	Huckleberries	Agriculture & Natural Resources	TVW 1:30 PM	HHR B
2/4	2908	Small forest landowners	Agriculture & Natural Resources	TVW 1:30 PM	HHR B
2/4	6759	Forest practices act	Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation	1:30 PM	SHR 2
2/4	6838	Forest practices board	Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation	1:30 PM	SHR 2
2/4	3082	Sustainable environment	Education	TVW 6:00 PM	HHR B
2/5	3116	Electricity production	Finance	10:00 AM	HHR C
2/5	S2815	Greenhouse gas emissions	Appropriations	3:30 PM	HHR A
2/5	2893	Forest practices board	Agriculture & Natural Resources	6:00 PM	HHR B

HHR: House Hearing Room; SHR: Senate Hearing Room



GET TO KNOW YOUR NATURAL RESOURCE LEGISLATORS

Each week, *Legislative Highlights* will feature different legislators from the Senate Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation and the House Agriculture & Natural Resources committees.

SENATOR BOB MORTON, RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

Senator Bob Morton has been in the Legislature since 1990. He served two terms in the House of Representatives, and is serving his fourth term in the Senate. During the 2007 legislative session, Sen. Morton and Sen. Jacobsen's forest health bill was signed into law. The measure is a comprehensive proposal to address Washington's forest health crisis, and is the culmination of three years of work by Sen. Morton. It allows state, federal, and private timberland owners to come together to collaborate on forest health issues.



He has served on the committee dealing with natural resources issues during his entire career in the Senate. He is currently the Ranking Republican Member of the Natural Resources, Ocean and Recreation Committee. He also serves on the Water, Energy & Telecommunications and Agriculture and Rural Economic Development committees. Morton represents the 7th district, which is the largest geographical legislative district in the state. The district includes Okanogan, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties and a portion of Spokane County.

Sen. Morton said he is motivated to serve in the Legislature by his desire to help people stay in business by fighting over-regulation. He understands and shares the concerns of private forest landowners. His son took over his logging business when he was elected to the Legislature. Sen. Morton graduated from Alfred University in New York.



REPRESENTATIVE JOEL KRETZ, RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

Joel Kretz is from the 7th legislative district which he represents, along with Sen. Morton and Rep. Bob Sump. He serves as the Ranking Republican Member of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. In his second term as a state representative, he has focused on issues ranging from land use and eminent domain to livestock predation and innovative water storage legislation, also known as the Beaver Relocation Bill. Kretz also serves on these committees: Appropriations, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government & Audit Review, and State Government & Tribal Affairs.

“I promised my constituents I would protect their land, freedoms and preserve the rich traditions of farming and ranching,” Kretz said. “Serving on the Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee allows me to review policies and offer feedback before they become law. Working with urban legislators to educate them on the different challenges rural Washingtonians face is my top priority.”



Kretz, originally from Mercer Island, lives in Wauconda where he operates a 1,300-acre ranch with his wife and son, managing cattle, horses and timber. He grew up in the timber business and his father and grandfather both worked in the forest industry. He has been a longtime advocate for private property rights and better management of dangerous wildlife.

REPRESENTATIVE SHARON NELSON



Representative Sharon Nelson is a democrat from the 34th district, which serves West Seattle, White Center, Burien, and Vashon and Maury Islands. She is new to the Legislature this session and serves on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee, along with Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government & Audit Review, and Local Government. Before becoming a legislator, she was Chief of Staff for Metropolitan King County Councilmember



Dow Constantine, and also spent 11 years in the finance industry. Her priorities include restoring and protecting Puget Sound, making education work for each student, and reducing congestion on our roads and highways. Along with cleaning up Puget Sound, she's also interested in learning about the forest industry. "I look forward to working with you to protect our forest lands and Puget Sound," Representative Nelson said. She graduated from Whitman College with a degree in Psychology.