



## WASHINGTON FOREST PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

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### **Rep. Jim Buck Receives Recognition for Protecting Salmon Habitat in Washington's Forests**

(ELMA, GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY)—On August 10th, State Representative Jim Buck, a Republican from the 24<sup>th</sup> district, was presented a plaque from the Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) at the Grays Harbor County Fair. The plaque recognized Buck for years of hard work on the landmark Forests & Fish Law, which culminated with federal acceptance of a statewide Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) this June.



*WFPA's Co-Director of Governmental Relations, Debora Munguia, presents Rep. Jim Buck with a plaque recognizing him for all his hard work on the Forests & Fish Law.*

Buck was the prime sponsor of the Forests & Fish Law of 1999 (House Bill 2091), which was designed to fully comply with both the federal Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act to protect Washington's native fish and aquatic species. The law protects 60,000 miles of streams running through 9.3 million acres of Washington's state and private forest land.

“WFPA wants to recognize Jim Buck because this wouldn't have been possible without his leadership. He was instrumental in this effort to protect salmon habitat and now Washington has one of the greatest levels of protection for forested streams in the U.S. thanks to his dedication to Forests & Fish,” said Bill Garvin, Co-Director of Governmental Relations.

“Passage of this legislation and the accompanying HCP will be pivotal in preserving and promoting jobs in rural Washington.”

The Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) represents a group of large and small private forest landowners who practice sustainable forestry on 4.2 million acres in Washington. WFPA is committed to providing forest products and environmental benefits for the public. The Association also establishes balanced forest policies that encourage investment in forestland, protection of fish, water and wildlife and promote responsible forest management as a preferred land use.