

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA BILL

NO. 1999 - 108

CLEARANCES		Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned To
Orig. Dept.:	County Council	3/3/99		3/9/99	Planning & Dev. Comm.
Division Head:					
Dept. Head:					
Prosecutor:					
Budget:					
Executive:					

SUBJECT:

Amend WCC Title 20 to include facilities for education in rural forestry zones

ATTACHMENTS

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Related County Contract #:	Should the Clerk schedule a hearing? (Y/N)	Requested Date:
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Discussion regarding a proposal to amend Whatcom County Code section 20.42.155, Conditional Uses, to include rural cabins and meeting facilities for educational purposes in rural forestry zones

RECOMMENDED MOTION (for final action):

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:

1999 - 108 3/9/99: Approved 7-0 Res. #99-010

Related File Numbers:

Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item only):

RES. # 99-010

PROPOSED BY: Consent

SPONSORED BY: Planning & Dev.

INTRODUCED: March 9, 1999

RESOLUTION NO. 99-010

RESOLUTION INITIALIZING AN EMERGENCY TEXT
AMENDMENT TO TITLE 20.42.155 - CONDITIONAL USES IN RURAL
FORESTRY ZONING

WHEREAS, the provisions of WCC 20.90, which were adopted under Ordinance 98-010, indicate that proposed zoning amendments shall be docketed for consideration once per year; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of WCC 20.90.020 provide for the initiation of "emergency" zoning amendments outside of the annual amendment cycle to address a situation that necessitates expeditious action upon approval of a resolution by a two-thirds majority of the County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council has determined that expeditious review of amendments to Title 20 which are necessary to support the economic well-being of the County and;

WHEREAS, there is a gap in allowed conditional uses in the rural forestry zone which allows bed and breakfast and camping facilities but not rental cabins and;

WHEREAS, forestry education centers provide a valuable contribution to rural economies and;

WHEREAS, the economy of the Foothills Subarea has been depressed due to a reduction in timber harvest and;

WHEREAS, small lot timber owners find it increasingly difficult to maintain sustainable harvest levels and;

WHEREAS, several current grant offerings depend on expansion of forestry education centers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Whatcom County Council that Title 20.42.155 be amended as shown in attached Exhibit A.

APPROVED this 9th day of March, 199.

ATTEST:

Dana Brown-Davis
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Marlene Dawson
Marlene Dawson, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Karen H. Frakes
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Dana Brown-Davis

EXHIBIT A

20.42.155 The operation of facilities intended to provide education related to forestry and the purpose of this district, including but not limited to demonstration forests and conservation laboratories.

Educational meeting facilities and related uses including but not limited to rental cabins or other lodging structures, cooking and dining facilities, retail sales or meeting supplies and gifts, in the Foothills Subarea, provided the following standards are met:

1. Density shall not exceed five sleeping units per five gross acres.
2. Legally established resorts or rental cabins existing as of the date of the adoption of this ordinance which meet the criteria in subsection (1) shall be permitted outright. However expansions shall only be allowed by conditional use and shall be bound by the density standard above.
3. Each cabin shall have a maximum of three sleeping units.
4. Must be located with vehicular access in close proximity to paved county roads.