

# THE WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

## SSB 5248 Update Bulletin

February 29, 2008

### Welcome Note

In this second installment of the 5248 Update Bulletin, we have provided information about the tasks and accomplishments underway for the 5248 Committee. See below for updates on the budget, recent legislative appearance and content analyses.

### Legislative Budget

The requested 5248 funding of \$300,000 (\$175,000 in the WSU budget, \$125,000 in the UW budget) is in both the House and Senate budgets, after first being included in the Governor's budget. Please thank the leadership, senators and representatives involved in the budgeting process, as well as the Governor's budget and policy office for their support. Help us keep the funds in the budget as the session nears completion.

### Legislative Briefing

On February 25, 2008, 5248 committee members from each caucus briefed the Senate Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Committee in a work session in Olympia. The committee members who spoke on behalf of each caucus were:

- Dan Wood, Agriculture
- Bill Robinson, Environmental Groups
- Eric Johnson, Local Government
- Marty Loesch, Tribes

V. Lane Rawlins, Interim Director of the Center, and Jon Brock, Associate Director, introduced the Center's role and gave an overview of the process. The 5248 committee's presentation was well received. You can visit TVW's web site to watch the full video of the hearing at:

<http://www.tvw.org/media/mediaplayer.cfm?evid=2008020218&TYPE=V&CFID=3198062&CFTOKEN=a0ab5a77fa0e80b7-535C9F71-3048-349E-4E8C159BFF719BAF&bhcp=1>

### January 25 Meeting Notes (attachment)

The meeting notes from the January 25 meeting are attached. These notes summarize the points made by each caucus in response to the questions: What do you want the other caucuses to know about you? What do you want to know about them? Please send any comments on the notes to Jim Reid.

### Fact Finding Progress

The fact finding work focusing on the matrix of critical areas requirements on agricultural lands, including buffer requirements, by county is being reviewed internally, and a draft should be available in a few weeks. Fact finding items regarding easements related to agriculture, and identification of CREP and similar programs are nearing completion, and will follow for initial committee review and discussion.

### Meeting Dates (attachment)

Please note the retreat dates of May 1 and 2. We are getting ready to book a location. Please plan to arrive in time for dinner on April 30.

Also, proposed meeting dates the rest of the year are attached. These dates were sent out a couple of weeks ago, and we received a few responses regarding conflicts. Since we didn't hear otherwise, it appears that most members of the committee are available. Please put these dates on your calendars. We recognize that not everyone will be able to attend each of the dates.

### Upcoming Meetings

**March 10: 9:30 - 11am**  
Caucus Coordinator Call

**April 9: 9:30 - 11am**  
Caucus Coordinator Call

**April 24: CANCELLED**

**May 1-2: Tentative Date**  
Committee Retreat

**May 7: 9:30 - 11am**  
Caucus Coordinator Call

**May 29 : 10 - 3pm**  
Committee Mtg

Ruckelshaus Center  
ruckelshauscenter@wsu.edu  
(509) 335-2937

Jon Brock  
jbrock@u.washington.edu  
(206) 616-5818

Jim Reid  
jfalconerreid@comcast.net  
(206) 324-2061

Katie Bombico  
ra5248@u.washington.edu