

Evergreen Forest County Group

OCT 27 2017

October 15, 2017

Dear Commissioners & Council Members:

Throughout the year your Evergreen Group has been laser focused on winning an extension of Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Funding for our National Forest Counties. At our direction, Bob Weidner has worked closely with House Republican Conference Chair, Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Speaker Paul Ryan. In addition to our own counties, Bob has organized counties in California, Texas and Wisconsin to weigh in with key members and has flown commissioners, school leaders and timber industry officials into Washington, D.C. throughout the Spring, Summer and now is preparing for a full court press as we head into the end of the year.

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To that end, Bob continues to work very closely with House and Senate Leaders on enacting the Resilient Federal Forest Management Act of 2017, a bill which will reopen the National Forests for active management to improve forest health, reduce fires, and create economic growth for rural public lands communities.

Bob, long ago uncovered the fact that failure to continue SRS funding would drastically skew PILT payments across the public lands west and has succeeded in getting word of this out to counties and to Congressional leaders.

Finally, Bob has played a key role in initiating a Coordination Executive Order within the Trump Administration. Meanwhile, we continue to work to educate the Congress and our own counties about tools available to them in the form of formal "coordination" as defined in the 1976 Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA). Reinforcing "coordination" is a key objective for our counties as a way to bring true consistency between federal land policies and your local general management plans. Skagit, Chelan and Okanogan Counties used coordination this year to block National Park and US Fish and Wildlife Service longstanding plans to introduce Grizzly Bears into the North Cascades. Coordination works.

We are well served by Bob Weidner. He brings the ability to work on a bipartisan basis, to forge coalitions of counties, the timber industry and the education community from parts of the country that can and is helping us. We urge your continued strong financial support for your Evergreen Group and Bob Weidner.

Sincerely,



Ken Dahlstedt, Co-Chairman (Skagit County)



Doug England, Co-Chairman (Chelan County)

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
ON BEHALF OF KITTITAS COUNTY, A MEMBER
OF THE EVERGREEN FOREST COUNTY GROUP
A Rural Public Lands County Council Affiliate
2018**

I. PARTIES

This Memorandum of Agreement is by and between Robert K. Weidner, hereinafter "Weidner", with offices in the Washington, D.C. area and Kittitas County, hereinafter "the County".

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to the terms of this Memorandum of Agreement, Weidner will serve as Washington, D.C. government relation's advisor to Kittitas County and other counties of the Evergreen Forest County Group hereinafter "Evergreen". In this role, Weidner will report to and receive guidance from Evergreen Group Members & Commissioners of participating counties including:

- A. Monitoring and information gathering with the Administration and Congress with respect to matters in which the counties may have interest. Specifically, Weidner will closely monitor and provide information on matters affecting public lands within member counties.
- B. Lobbying Congress and departments of the executive Branch of the government including the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Agriculture with respect to matters, which affect member counties. This will involve arranging meetings for officials of the member counties with officials of these departments as necessary; the preparation of testimony and briefing papers; assisting in devising strategy; the implementation of that strategy with respect to House and Senate Committees; and liaison work with key committee members of the House and Senate Committees as well as Committee staff.
- C. In addition to those activities described in "B" above, this will include working with members and staffs of relevant Congressional Committees on an on-going basis on behalf of member counties.


- D. Providing regular briefings to the Evergreen Executive Committee and member counties following the guidelines set forth by the Executive Committee.
- E. Provide periodic updates on issues and activities, which affect Evergreen member counties.

III. DURATION


This Memorandum of Agreement shall remain in effect from January 1, 2018 until December 31, 2018. However either party may cancel this contract on sixty days notice without cause.

IV. FEES

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO Robert K. Weidner. In consideration of the above-referenced services to be performed by Weidner, the County agrees to pay Weidner \$10,000.00 in January of 2018. Should this contract be terminated early, pursuant to the provision of III, above, and then compensation for Weidner's services shall be computed based upon the number of hours actually expended by Weidner multiplied by an hourly rate of \$250.00 per hour. Provided, however, that in no event shall the fees incurred exceed the total amount stated above unless agreed to by the two parties.



Robert K. Weidner 10-7-17
Date



On behalf of Kittitas County 12/19/17
Date