

RESOLUTION # 2011- 130

**A RESOLUTION ELECTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTARY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature, through ESHB 1886, created a Voluntary Stewardship Program for protection of critical areas in areas of agricultural activities; and

WHEREAS, ESHB 1886, as codified in RCW 36.70A.710, states that "As an alternative to protecting critical areas in areas used for agricultural activities through development regulations adopted under RCW 36.70A.060, the legislative authority of a county may elect to protect such critical areas through the program;" and

WHEREAS, in order to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program, the legislative authority of a county must elect to participate by January 22, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners hosted an educational briefing on the Voluntary Stewardship Program presented by the Washington Conservation Commission and the Washington State Association of Counties; and

WHEREAS, prior to electing to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program, a county is required to (a) confer with tribes, and environmental and agricultural interests; and (b) provide notice following the public participation and notice provisions of RCW 36.70A.035 to property owners and other affected and interested individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts, and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Grays Harbor County invited the agricultural community, environmental groups, tribal governments with reservations located in the county, government agencies, and the community to a workshop on November 30, 2011 that presented information about the program and solicited public comment; and

WHEREAS, the comments received from the public have been favorable regarding the participation of Grays Harbor County in the Voluntary Stewardship Program;

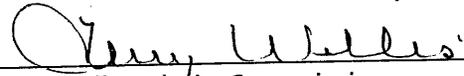
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED BY THE GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December 2011 that Grays Harbor County:

1. Elects to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program; and
2. Designates all watersheds within the county as eligible for participation in the Voluntary Stewardship Program; and
3. Nominates those sections of the Upper and Lower Chehalis River Basin (WRIAs 22 & 23) within Grays Harbor County as state priority watersheds; and
4. Agrees to have Grays Harbor County proceed as required by ESHB 1886, as currently codified in RCW 36.70A, to implement the requirements of the Voluntary Stewardship Program once the Washington State Conservation Commission provides

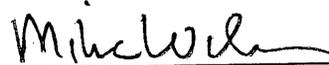
adequate funding for such activity.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> day of December, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY



Terry Willis, Chair, Commissioner  
District 1

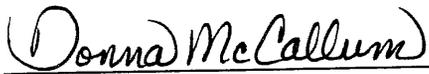


Mike Wilson, Commissioner  
District 2



Herb Welch, Commissioner  
District 3

ATTEST:



Donna McCallum  
Clerk of the Board