1C

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES for the week of April 8–12, 2024

APR 1 6 2024

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.
The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, April 8, 2024. Present were Commissioners Ozias and Johnson, and Administrator Mielke. Commissioner French was excused.

Items of discussion per the agenda published April 4 were:
- Calendar/Correspondence
- Resolution appointing Jeff Brown to the Dungeness Irrigation District
- Briefing and call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. regarding a resolution authorizing a grant from the Opportunity Fund to the City of Forks - Waste Water Treatment Facility
- Resolution confirming document recording fee revenue deposits/allocations
- Agreement amendment 2 with Department of Ecology for Pollution, Identification, and Correction (PIC) activities
- Agreement with Department of Health for the Local Health Officer position
- Request for waiver of Bid/RFP/Quote requirement for Public Health Office upgrade project
- Agreement with Forest Service for reimburse salary costs of an assigned work crew supervisor for clean-up efforts on forest service lands
- Agreement with National Park Service for law enforcement services between jurisdictions
- Agreement with New Horizon Communication for phone services
- Purchase order with CDW-G for annual renewal of Microsoft applications
- Letter of support for Hoko River Floodplain Restoration at Upper Cowan Ranch
- Resolution authorizing expenditure from the Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax Fund/ 5th and Fir Street, Sequim property
- Resolution authorizing expenditure from the Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax Fund/ 2nd and Oak Street, Port Angeles property
- Discussion on Clallam County legislative priorities

Meeting concluded at 11:32 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Vice Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m., Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Also present were Commissioners Ozias and French and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA
CMO recommended extending the first public comment session on agenda items to 30 minutes
<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>: CMOm to adopt the agenda as modified, CMFs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT
- Enid Phreaner, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Jim Stoffer, Sequim, commented on item 3bTowne Road and Military Child Appreciation Day
- Jamie Porter, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- William Biery, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Derrick Eberle, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Gail Baker, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road (see attached)
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Kate Houk, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Karen Hubert, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Pepai Whipple, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road

- Chuck Main, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Margaret Walthall, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Bri Eberle, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Denise Lapio, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- Rebecca Horst, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road
- John unknown last name, Sequim, commented on 3b Towne Road
- Paul Hanson, Sequim, commented on item 3b Towne Road

CONSENT AGENDA

1a Approval of vouchers for the week of April 1
1b Approval of minutes for the week of April 1
1c Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. regarding a resolution authorizing a grant from the Opportunity Fund to the City of Forks - Waste Water Treatment Facility
<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>: CMOm to adopt the consent agenda as presented, CMFs, mc

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CMO commented on Employees Awards Banquet, Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Towne Road,
- CMF commented on Recompete
- CRJ commented on North Olympic Land Trust, new business, Olympic Peninsula Tourism Summit

BIDS AND AWARDS

2a Bid opening – Lake Pleasant Piling Replacement Project

Contractor	**Amount**
Watersmith Construction	$82,000
Quigg Bros., Inc.	$82,000
East Slope Earthworks	$83,713
Brumfield Construction Inc.	$135,000

<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>: CMOm to forward the bids to the Parks, Fair and Facilities Department for review and recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, CMFs, mc

ADMINISTRATION

3a Call for request for proposals/qualifications to be received no later than Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 10 a.m. for Hearing Examiner Services
<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>: CMOm to issue notice, CMFs, mc

3b Call for bids to be received no later than Tuesday, May 7, 2024 regarding Lower Dungeness River Floodplain Restoration and Levee Road Realignment Project Phase 3 – 2024 Construction
<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>: CMFm to issue notice, CRJs, mc, CMO voted no

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jamie Porter, Sequim, commented on Towne Road
- Brian Burke, Sequim, commented on Towne Road
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on Noise Ordinance
- Thomas Ash, Sequim, commented on County Employees
- Kathleen Keen, Sequim, commented on North Olympic Development Council, ICLEI, community water (see attached)
- Christine Campbell, Sequim, commented on Towne Road
- Pepai Whipple, Sequim, commented on Towne Road

- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on Towne Road, farming, opening space, trails, virtual issues, Washington State Department of Transportation
- Rebecca Horst, Sequim, commented agenda 21 or 22, prior speaker
- Gail Baker, Sequim, commented on prior speaker

Meeting concluded at 12:45 p.m. and continued to an executive session at 1 p.m. regarding purchase or sale of real estate and litigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in open session at 1:02 p.m. to discuss purchase or sale of real estate and litigation. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, Administrator Mielke, Prosecuting Attorney Office Boughton, Finance Department Turner, Public Works/Road Department Gray, Donisi, Barkie, and Capps.
ACTION TAKEN: CMOm to recess to executive session for 2 hours, CMFs, mc

The Board recessed into executive session at 1:04 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 3:15 p.m.
ACTION TAKEN: CMOm move to authorize staff to continue to work with Department of Natural Resources to execute the land sale transaction including the title review AND authorizing the Chair to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement and any closing documents, CMFs, mc

ACTION TAKEN: CMOm move to authorize staff to communicate with Rayonier regarding the offer discussed in executive session, CMFs, mc

Meeting concluded at 3:20 p.m. and continued to 9 a.m., Monday, April 15, 2024

The Board of Commissioners attended WSAC Virtual Update, Coffee with Colleen, KONP Radio Show and KSQM Radio Show during the week of April 8.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of April 2024.

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mike French, Chair

Randy Johnson

Mark Ozias

ATTEST:

Loni Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

ATM	Administrator Todd Mielke
CMO	Commissioner Mark Ozias
CRJ	Commissioner Randy Johnson
CMF	Commissioner Mike French
m	moved
mc	motion carried
s	seconded

CLERK OF THE BOARD ★ CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ★ PORT ANGELES, WA

BOCC Mail Correspondences Received from other Jurisdictions

Gores, Loni

From: Gray, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 5:43 PM
To: Mielke, Todd
Cc: Gores, Loni; Donisi, Joe
Subject: Trail Advisory Committee discussion on Dungeness/Towne Rd Levee and Recommendation

Importance: High

Hello Administrator Mielke,

At today's (April 3) Trails Advisory Committee (TAC), one of the agenda items was discussion on the Dungeness/Towne Road Levee Project. This discussion item was previously requested by a TAC member. The advanced meeting packet materials contained the memo from DCD Director Bruce Emery that was presented to the BOCC on Monday. It also included points for TAC discussion and draft letter to support a "trail pathway only" alternative provided by TAC member Bill Biery.

Joe Donisi and I provided an overview and background on the project and current road/trail design that will be before the BOCC for potential action next-Tuesday (April 9). Mr. Biery, TAC Member, presented his concerns and recommendation. Commissioner Ozias was in attendance due to Commissioner French being on vacation.

Following considerable discussion two motions were made as follows:

First Motion: Recommend a three year stay on request for bids on Towne Road. Include a letter that strongly supports the advocacy effort fits the needs of the community.

Of those eight members present and eligible to vote, the first motion failed with one in favor, three opposed, and four abstaining.

Following the failed motion additional discussion was had, and a second motion was made:

Second Motion: Trail Advisory Committee advises the Commissioners that the design is not adequately safe for user population. Request Commissioners delay to create a plan that safely uses space available.

Of the eight members present and eligible to vote, the second motion passed with seven in favor and one abstention.

Joe and I are available if you have questions related to the discussion, particularly the second motion. I will be out of the office all day on Thursday at the Clallam Bay Treatment Plant for interviews, but back in the office on Friday.

Thanks, Steve

Steve Gray, Deputy Director
Clallam County Public Works
223 East Fourth Street, Suite 6
360-417-2290 (office); 360-912-4966 (cell)
steve.gray@clallamcountywa.gov

Hello, members of Clallam County Commissioners,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of concern related to my involvement in the Towne Road paving project. As a resident of the Towne Road area, I am directly affected by this project. Yet, my neighbors and I were not included in the survey used to determine the future of Towne Road.

This exclusion has left me disheartened and concerned about transparency and the fairness of the process. I respectfully request your intervention to rectify this situation by including the Towne Road neighborhood residents' voices in this important decision.

I am opposed to the paving of Towne Road and strongly believe it should remain a trail and open space. The levee project was undertaken to restore salmon habitat. Putting a road through the wetlands counteracts the work that has been done.

Additionally, the Olympic Peninsula's natural beauty and open spaces are being threatened by development. The proposed road construction would eliminate yet another natural open space. We risk losing the very essence that makes Clallam County special.

I implore you to reconsider the Towne Road paving project. Let's prioritize sustainability, community well-being, and long-term benefits over short-sighted convenience. Our county deserves thoughtful planning that balances progress with preservation.

Your support in addressing this issue is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely, Theresa Maday

[Name and address] [redacted]

off of Towne Road.

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS

APR 05 2024

1...2...3...A...

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS

APR 02 2024

1...2...3...A...

Hello,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of concern related to my involvement in the Towne Road paving project. As a resident of the Towne Road area, I am directly affected by this project. Yet, my neighbors and I were not included in the survey used to determine the future of Towne Road.

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I implore you to reconsider the Towne Road paving project. Let's prioritize sustainability, community well-being, and long-term benefits over short-sighted convenience. Our county deserves thoughtful planning that balances progress with preservation.

Your support in addressing this issue is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Clark Munro

[Name and address]
[redacted]
Sequim, WA 98382

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS

APR 02 2024

1...2...3...A...

Hello,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of concern related to my involvement in the Towne Road paving project. As a resident of the Towne Road area, I am directly affected by this project. Yet, my neighbors and I were not included in the survey used to determine the future of Towne Road.

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Your support in addressing this issue is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Emily Mastrianni
[redacted], Sequim
[Name and address]

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING

Comments on agenda items ONLY – April 9, 2024

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that any testimony that I give is true and accurate. Please print name and address clearly.

№	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	ENID PHREANER		430 Marine Dr Sequim
2	Jim Stoffer		570 America BLVD Sequim
3	JAMIE PORTER		~~[illegible]~~ AGNEW WA
4	Eric Federmann		102 WINDSONG
5	~~BRT EBERLE~~	~~ONLINE~~	~~SEQUIM WA~~
6	DERRICK EBERLE	ONLINE	SEQUIM WA
7	Gayle Brooker		Sequim, WA
8	Kate Houk		Seq
9	Karen Huber		Seq
10	Chuck Main		Sequim
11	Margaret [illegible]		[illegible]
12			
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WASHINGTON
Secretary of State
Corporations & Charities Division

Corporations and Charities Division
Physical/Overnight address:
801 Capitol Way S
Olympia, WA 98501-1226
Mailing address:
PO Box 40234
Olympia, WA 98504-0234
Tel: 360.725.0377
www.sos.wa.gov/corporations

Public comment
Gail Baker
4/9/2024

03/29/2024

JAMIE PORTER
60 LANCASTER LN
PORT ANGELES WA 98362-7014

Business Entity Name: DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES
UBI Number: 605 487 179
Expiration Date: 03/31/2025

Congratulations!

You have completed the filing to create a new business entity.

NEXT STEPS IN OPENING YOUR NEW BUSINESS ENTITY:

- **Complete a Business License Application.** The Business License Application can be completed online or downloaded at: https://www.dor.wa.gov/ if you have not already completed this step. If you have any questions about the Business License Application, contact information for Business License Services can be found at https://www.dor.wa.gov/contact
- **File a Beneficial Ownership Information Report** with the U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) within 30 days of registering your business. Updates or corrections to reports must be submitted within 30 days of becoming aware of the change. For a current link to file the report and additional information, see our website at https://www.sos.wa.gov/corporations under the Business Entity tab.
- **Apply for an Employer Identification Number "EIN".** The IRS requires business entities to receive an "EIN". See the IRS website for additional details on how to apply for an EIN through their online portal at https://www.irs.gov

IMPORTANT

To keep your business entity status Active and avoid Administrative Dissolution, you must:

1. **File an Annual Report** and pay the annual fees each year before the expiration date for the business entity. A notice to file your Annual Report will be sent to your registered agent on file. It is the business entity's responsibility to file the report even if no notice is received.
2. **Maintain a Registered Agent** and registered office in Washington State. You must submit changes regarding your Registered Agent, agent's address, email, registered office, or principal office address to the Corporations Division. Failure to do so may result in administrative dissolution/termination.

If your business entity accepts or solicits donations from the public OR the business entity is a nonprofit holding $250,000 or more in charitable assets, you may also be required to register with the Charities Program. You may review the self-assessment guides on our website at https://www.sos.wa.gov/charities

For a rapid response to questions, requests for assistance, or to provide feedback, please visit the Corporations and Charities website at https://www.sos.wa.gov/corporations to chat with a representative.

Sincerely,
Washington Secretary of State
Corporations and Charities Division
corps@sos.wa.gov

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Business Name:
DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES

UBI Number:
605 487 179

Business Type:
WA NONPROFIT CORPORATION

Business Status:
ACTIVE

Principal Office Street Address:

Principal Office Mailing Address:

Expiration Date:
03/31/2025

Jurisdiction:
UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON

Formation/ Registration Date:
03/29/2024

Period of Duration:
PERPETUAL

Inactive Date:

Nature of Business:

Charitable Corporation:
☐

Nonprofit EIN:

Most Recent Gross Revenue is less than $500,000:
☑

Has Members:
☑

Public Benefit Designation:
☐

Host Home:
☐

REGISTERED AGENT INFORMATION

Registered Agent Name:
DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES

Street Address:
60 LANCASTER LN, PORT ANGELES, WA, 98362-7014, UNITED STATES

Mailing Address:

GOVERNORS

Title	Governors Type	Entity Name	First Name	Last Name

Filed
Secretary of State
State of Washington
Date Filed: 03/29/2024
Effective Date: 03/29/2024
UBI #: 605 487 179

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

UBI NUMBER

UBI Number: **605 487 179**

BUSINESS NAME

Business Name: **DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES**

NONPROFIT GROSS REVENUE CERTIFICATION

Did the Nonprofit Corporation certify that the Gross Revenue is less than $500,000? **- Yes**

CHARITABLE NONPROFIT CORPORATION

Is the Nonprofit Corporation a Charitable Nonprofit as defined by RCW 24.03A.010(6)? **- No**

PURPOSE OF CORPORATION

WE ARE A DEDICATED GROUP THAT URGENTLY SEEK TO SAFEGUARD THE DUNGENESS RIVER FLOODPLAIN AND THE ADJACENT DUNGENESS RIVER LEVEE TRAIL IN SEQUIM, WA. WE ADVOCATE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE TRAIL, FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS IN THE LOWER DUNGENESS RIVER.

PURPOSE OF CORPORATION - STAFF CONSOLE CONFIRMATION

Customer provided purpose of corporation? **- Yes**

ANY OTHER PROVISIONS

Required by IRS for Tax Exempt Status https://www.irs.gov/:

REGISTERED AGENT RCW 23.95.410

Registered Agent Name	Street Address	Mailing Address
DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES	60 LANCASTER LN, PORT ANGELES, WA, 98362-7014, UNITED STATES	

REGISTERED AGENT CONSENT

Customer provided Registered Agent consent? * **- Yes**

DURATION

Duration: **PERPETUAL**

Work Order #: 2024031800199185 - 1
Received Date: 03/19/2024
Amount Received: $160.00

EFFECTIVE DATE

Effective Date: **03/29/2024**

MEMBERS RCW 24.03A.010(45)

Does the Nonprofit Corporation have members? - **Yes**

Title	Member Type	Entity Name	First Name	Last Name
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		JAMIE	PORTER
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		RAE	HESELBACH
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		DERRICK	EBERLE
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		BRI	EBERLE
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		DAVID	KELM
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		MARGARET	WALTHALL
MEMBER	INDIVIDUAL		CHARLES	MAIN

INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR

Title	Initial Board of Director Type	Entity Name	First Name	Last Name	Address
INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS	INDIVIDUAL		RAE	HESELBACH	60 LANCASTER LN, PORT ANGELES, WA, 98362-7014, UNITED STATES

INCORPORATOR

Title	Incorporator Type	Entity Name	First Name	Last Name	Address
INCORPORATOR	INDIVIDUAL		JAMIE	PORTER	60 LANCASTER LN, PORT ANGELES, WA, 98362-7014, UNITED STATES

INCORPORATOR SIGNATURE - ATTESTATION

☑ By adding each Incorporator, the business attests that the incorporator signature(s) have been obtained.

INCORPORATORS SIGNATURE CONFIRMATION

Signature of each incorporator has been provided? - **Yes**

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

IN THE EVENT OF A VOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION, ANY REMAINING ASSETS AFTER PAYMENT OF LIABILITIES WILL BE GIVEN TO ANOTHER NON-PROFIT. THE NON-PROFIT RECEIVING THE FUNDS WILL BE DETERMINED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE NON-PROFIT RECEIVING THE MOST VOTES WILL RECEIVE THE FUNDS.

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS PROVIDED

Customer provided information on distribution of assets? - **Yes**

RETURN ADDRESS FOR THIS FILING

Attention:
JAMIE PORTER

Email:
JAMIE.PORTER@MAC.COM

Address:

60 LANCASTER LN, PORT ANGELES, WA, 98362-7014, UNITED STATES

UPLOAD ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Name	Document Type
DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES.pdf	DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

UPLOADED DOCUMENTS

Document Type	Source	Created By	Created Date
No Value Found.			

AUTHORIZED PERSON - STAFF CONSOLE

☑ Document is signed.

Person Type:
ENTITY

First Name:
JAMIE

Last Name:
PORTER

Entity Name:
DUNGENESS LEVEE TRAIL ADVOCATES

Title:
REGISTRANT

Public comment
Kathleen Keen
4/9/24

April 9, 2024

Public Statement Clallam County Commissioner Meeting- Please include my written statement for your public records.

I'm here to talk about the revealing article posted 3/24/24, on the Clallam County Watchdog site.

I was shocked to see the North Olympic Development Council, NOPC, populated with elected officials! This looks like an NGO, non-government organization, steering a global climate agenda that we, the people, have not approved! It seems to be a complete conflict of interest for these public officials to be accepting salaries from our tax dollars and supporting the German based, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, ICLEI as board members for NOPC! ICLEI is a foreign organization that had attempted to gain control of Sequim over a dozen years ago but was booted out by the Concerned Citizen for Clallam County, aka 4C's. We didn't want this global agenda then and we don't want it now. You should all be ashamed for selling out your constituents!

My local water company, Aquarius, was purchased by Cascadia Water several years ago. When this happened, we learned that Cascadia is owned by Northwest Holding Company, which is owned by BlackRock and Vanguard. What would those mega-opolies want with our little community water utility? We just received notice of a 75% increase for our water bills starting in June 2024. We are informed of a "public hearing", but we realize this is just a formality because the decisions for large increases were made long ago.

As it has turned out, BlackRock and Vanguard have capitalized on COVID, buying a huge percentage of American residential homes and utilities. In 2021 these behemoths bought 20% of the nation's private homes, utilities and local business buildings and in 2024 they are now buying a whopping 44%! At this rate they could own almost everything by the year 2028! This will eliminate private home ownership and private property altogether! And our elected officials are helping them do it! See article included with statement.

We have learned that the Sustainable Development Goals include United Nations Climate Mitigation for homes that are not net-0 carbon friendly. Current estimates to bring a private home into "compliance" could cost as much as $42K! This will ultimately regulate folks right out of their homes! Why are our elected officials promoting this? Where I grew up, what I learned, when governments collude with corporations in secret, to the detriment of the people, that's called fascism. We don't want that here in Clallam County and we won't pay salaries and benefits to officials as they betray us!

There are laws preventing monopolies from becoming too large and controlling. For some reason, these laws do not apply to BlackRock and Vanguard. There are also "conflict of interest" laws that apply to public officials. Unfortunately, those laws are not just ignored, they are being thrown in our faces.

I respectfully ask that any Clallam County officials that are representing global interests over Clallam County residents to resign.

Sincerely Submitted,

Kathleen Keehn

Cascadia™

(888) 235-0510
info@cascadiawater.com
www.cascadiawater.com

PO Box 549
Freeland, WA 98249

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Cascadia Water, LLC ("Cascadia Water" or "the Company"), on February 29, 2024, filed for approval from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission") to increase rates as shown in the table below, effective June 1, 2024. Increased rates will reflect additional revenue of $1,788,793, an incremental increase of 75%.

Purpose of General Rate Proceeding

The purpose of this filing is to recover costs associated with water service on the Company's rate tariffs filed with the Commission. Cascadia Water is seeking cost recovery in rates because current revenues are insufficient to cover the ongoing cost of continuing to provide service that is safe, adequate and efficient, and in all respects just and reasonable, while allowing an opportunity for a reasonable return on the Company's needed capital investment.

Since its prior general rate proceeding, Cascadia Water has prudently managed its operating expenses. Many of these expenses have nonetheless increased due to high inflation that is beyond the Company's control. Cascadia Water has also made substantial investment system-wide and completed several key infrastructure projects that enhance service, for the benefit of its customers. To date, these include:

- Continuing to install standby generators on most systems to minimize service disruptions due to power outages, often experienced by residents during the winter storm season and to add resiliency in case of natural disasters.
- Continuing to install SCADA (telemetry) systems, which allow our operators to view and monitor the water systems in real time and is critical to ensuring safe and reliable system operations. This also gives advance warning to operators and allows the ability to respond effectively to issues before they become outages.
- Installing new submersible pumps, booster pumps, pressure tanks, and control boxes throughout several well sites, helping to ensure reliable water delivery to our customers.
- Ongoing meter replacement to allow us to more accurately track the water that is pumped throughout the system, which in effect helps prevent unnecessary leakage, and provides the ability to read meters remotely.
- Upgrading the CAL Waterworks system (Island) pumphouse, including electrical and pump upgrades, and completing a system loop which provides fire flow.
- Consolidating the Del Bay system (Island) into a larger, more reliable gravity feed system, which also provides fire flow.
- Replacing two pressure reducing valves to achieve constant pressure and increase flow on the WB Waterworks system (Island).
- Extending the main line on the Bacus Road system (Mainland) over a culvert/creek crossing.
- Installing chlorine analyzers on the Pelican Point system, which helps streamline chlorine levels and cut down operational costs.

The Company also is undertaking other key infrastructure projects, which include:

- Installing a new above-ground reservoir on the Estates system (Peninsula) to replace the old below-ground reservoir that is leaking and experiencing root infiltration. This will improve water quality by removing manganese, iron, and some arsenic through process. Also installing new booster pumps to improve constant system pressure and more robust fire flow capability throughout the system.
- Installing a new reservoir on the WB Waterworks system (Island) to replace leaking reservoirs and add capacity to the system, as well as a filter plant to ensure water quality, removing manganese, iron and arsenic through process.
- Installing disinfection on the Rolf Bruun system (Mainland) due to persistent water quality issues, as well as the addition of a second booster pump to maintain constant system pressure.
- Preparing for a new well to come online for the Sea View system (Island).

Description of Filing and Requested Rate Change

Since its last general rate proceeding in 2021, Cascadia Water has continued to expand. It acquired the assets of Discovery Bay Village Water, Inc. ("Discovery Bay") on the Olympic Peninsula, Pelican Point Water Company ("Pelican Point") near Moses Lake in Grant County, Northwest Water Services, LLC ("Northwest Water Services") in portions of Skagit, Snohomish and Island Counties, Aquarius Utilities, LLC ("Aquarius") in Clallam, Kitsap, and Mason Counties, and Pedersen Family, LLC ("Pedersen") in Sequim in Clallam County.

In this general rate proceeding, Cascadia Water proposes to maintain separate rate structures for its Peninsula System and for its Island Systems that now include portions of Skagit and Snohomish Counties ("Island/Mainland System"). Based on the geographic location of each system it has acquired since its last general rate proceeding, the Company proposes to consolidate the Discovery Bay, Aquarius and Pedersen systems into its Peninsula System rate structure, and to consolidate the Northwest Water Services systems into its Island/Mainland System rate structure. Cascadia Water believes that the incremental consolidation of newly added systems will provide long-term benefits for all of its customers by developing larger customer bases from the very fractured nature of small water systems in Washington. For purposes of this proceeding, the Company proposes to maintain a separate rate structure for the Pelican Point System, which is located across the Cascade Mountains near Moses Lake and its proposed rates do not align with either the Peninsula System or Island/Mainland System rate structures for consolidation at this time.

Revising and consolidating rates and rate structures in this manner will clarify the Company's communications to its customers, promote more efficient use of the Company's billing and collections systems, and spread costs evenly and more broadly across each rate structure.

Listed at the end of this Notice **for your system** are the proposed rates and resulting average monthly bill impact from this general rate proceeding.

The Commission has the authority to set final rates that may be either lower or higher from the Company's request, depending on the results of its investigation. Commission Staff will make a recommendation to the Commissioners at an open meeting which is scheduled for 9:30 am Thursday, May 23, 2024. A memo containing the staff recommendation will be available on the Commission website about three days prior to the open meeting. To view the memo, go to www.utc.wa.gov. Click on the link near the bottom that says "Documents." Under "Open Meetings," click on "Agendas, meeting minutes, orders." When the open meeting date (see above) appears, click on it, then on the memo for this filing. Then click on "Documents." This will take you to a page with the memo and other filed documents.

You will have an opportunity to provide your comments at this meeting either in person or remotely. If you intend to listen or participate remotely, call 360-664-1234 at least a day before the open meeting for instructions and to sign-in. You should also call this number if you plan to attend in person to verify that the case has not been rescheduled to a later open meeting date. The Commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in the open meeting, please contact the Commission at 1-888-333-9882 or email consumer@utc.wa.gov.

To comment to the Commission on Cascadia Water's requested rate changes, you may also use the online comment form at **http://www.utc.wa.gov/consumers/submit-comment**; email **comments@utc.wa.gov**; phone **1-888-333-9882**; or, write to P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA, 98504-7250. Please include your name, mailing address, the name of the company (Cascadia Water), and docket(s) number. If you have questions about the Commission's process, please contact the Commission using one of the above methods.

If you have any questions about the Company's filing or how it may affect you, please feel free to reach out to the Commission at the contact information above or to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

Culley Lehman
General Manager
Cascadia Water, LLC
info@cascadiawater.com
(888) 235-0510

PENINSULA SYSTEM (for Aquarius)

Cascadia Water's proposed rates and the resulting average monthly bill impact for your Peninsula System (for Aquarius) are as follows:

Peninsula System (for Aquarius) – Current Rates

Meter Size	Base Rate (mo.)	1st Block Size (cu. ft.)	1st Block Rate	2nd Block Size (cu. ft.)	2nd Block Rate	3rd Block Size (cu. ft.)	3rd Block Rate
3/4"	$19.25	0-461	$5.90	462-1,125	$6.20	Over 1,125	$7.50
1"	$32.08	0-770	$5.90	771-1,879	$6.20	Over 1,879	$7.50

Peninsula System – Proposed Rates (effective June 1, 2024)

Meter Size[1]	Base Rate (mo.)	1st Block Size (cu. ft.)	1st Block Rate[2]	2nd Block Size (cu. ft.)	2nd Block Rate	3rd Block Size (cu. ft.)	3rd Block Rate
5/8" or 3/4"	$44.00	0-500	$2.83	501-1,000	$4.47	Over 1,000	$5.66
1"	$88.00	0-1,250	$2.83	1,251-2,500	$4.47	Over 2,500	$5.66
2"	$352.00	0-4,000	$2.83	4,001-8,000	$4.47	Over 8,000	$5.66
Unmetered[3]	$70.40						
Ready to Serve[4]	$44.00						

Peninsula System (for Aquarius) – Average Monthly Bill Impact from Proposed Rates (effective June 1, 2024)

Meter Size	Avg. Bill – Current	Avg. Bill – Proposed	Dollar Increase	Percentage Increase
3/4"	$49.33	$61.40	$12.07	24%
1''	$85.94	$128.55	$42.61	50%

[1] "Meter Size" relates to the 5/8-inch, 3/4-inch, 1-inch and 2-inch rates under Metered Rate Service (Rate Schedule No. 2).
[2] Per one-hundred (100) cubic feet ("cu. ft.") in 1st Block Rate, 2nd Block Rate and 3rd Block Rate. If the meter is registered in gallons, the usage blocks will be gallons divided by 7.48.
[3] "Unmetered" means Non-Metered Flat Rate Service (Rate Schedule No. 1).
[4] "Ready to Serve" means Ready To Serve Service (Rate Schedule No. 3).

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Investing

With $20 trillion between them, Blackrock and Vanguard could own almost everything by 2028

Two towers of power are dominating the future of investing

Rachel Evans, Sabrina Willmer, Nick Baker and Brandon Kochkodin, Bloomberg News

Published Dec 01, 2017 • [illegible] minute read

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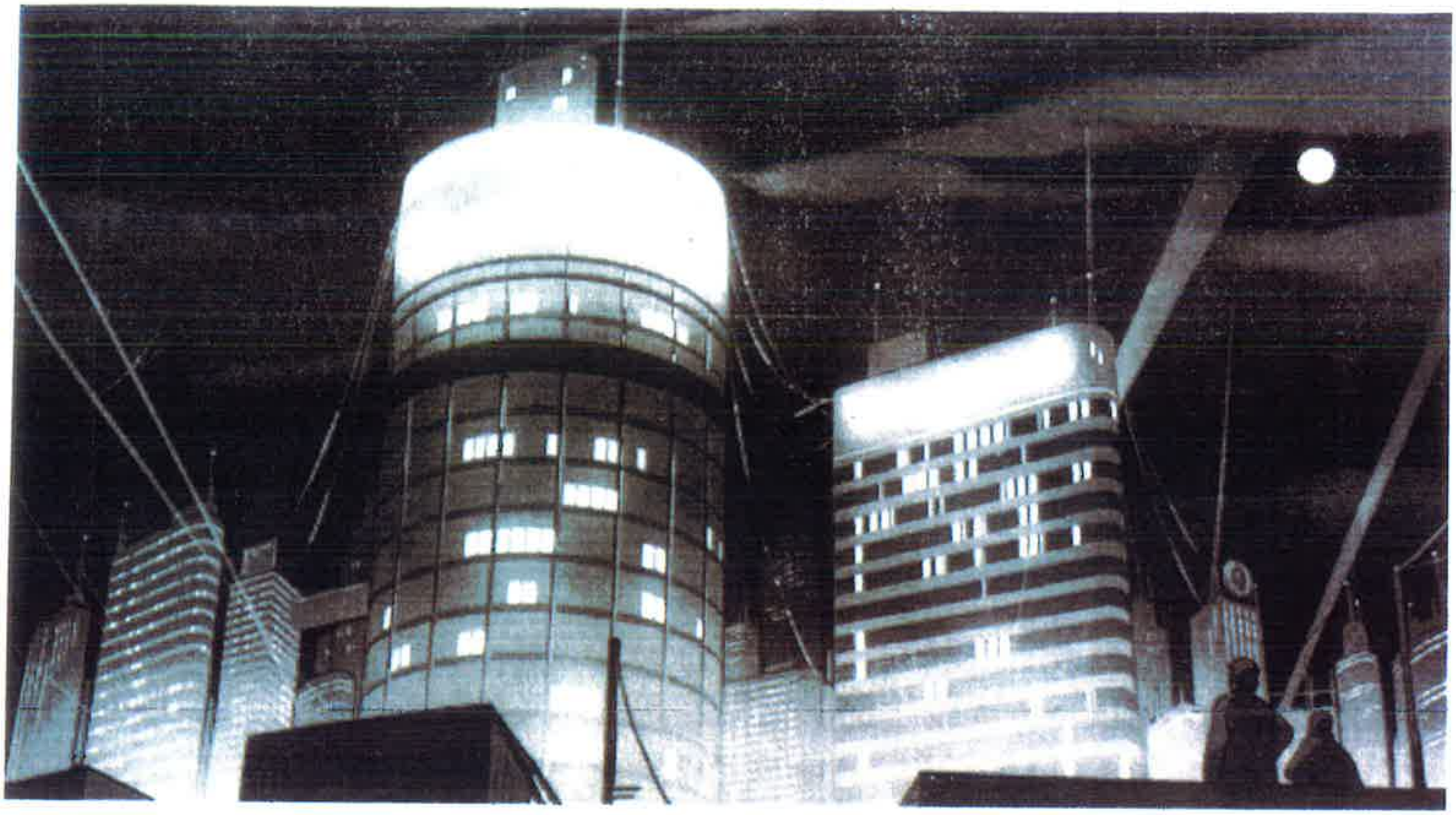

Imagine a world in which two asset managers call the shots, in which their wealth exceeds current U.S. GDP and where almost every hedge fund, government and retiree is a customer.

It's closer than you think. BlackRock Inc. and Vanguard Group — already the world's largest money managers — are less than a decade from managing a total of US$20 trillion, according to Bloomberg News calculations. Amassing that sum will likely upend the asset management industry, intensify their ownership of the largest U.S. companies and test the twin pillars of market efficiency and corporate governance.

None other than Vanguard founder Jack Bogle, widely regarded as the father of the index fund, is raising the prospect that too much money is in too few hands, with BlackRock, Vanguard and State Street Corp. together owning significant stakes in the biggest U.S. companies.

"That's about 20 per cent owned by this oligopoly of three," Bogle said at a Nov. 28 appearance at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. "It is too bad that there aren't more people in the index-fund business."

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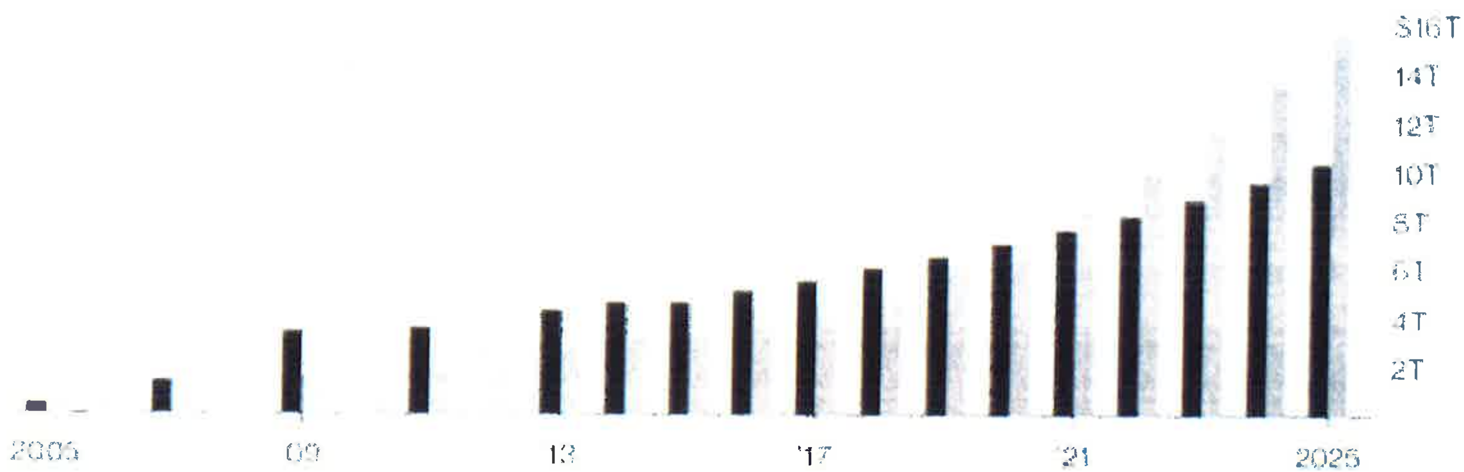
Vanguard is poised to parlay its US$4.7 trillion of assets into more than US$10 trillion by 2023, while BlackRock may hit that mark two years later, up from almost US$6 trillion today, according to Bloomberg News projections based on the companies' most recent five-year average annual growth rates in assets. Those gains in part reflect a bull market in stocks that's driven assets into investment products and may not continue.

Racing to $20 Trillion

BlackRock Vanguard



Note: Figures reflect year-end assets under management data compiled by Bloomberg. Projections based on five-year average annual growth rate in assets from 2011-2016.

Bloomberg

Investors from individuals to large institutions such as pension and hedge funds have flocked to this duo, won over in part by their low-cost funds and breadth of offerings. The proliferation of exchange-traded funds is also supercharging these firms and will likely continue to do so.

FP

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Global ETF assets could explode to US$25 trillion by 2025, according to estimates by Jim Ross, chairman of State Street's global ETF business. That sum alone would mean trillions of dollars more for BlackRock and Vanguard, based on their current market share.

"Growth is not a goal, nor do we make projections about future growth," Vanguard spokesman John Woerth said of the Bloomberg calculations.

While bigger may be better for the fund giants, passive funds may be blurring the inherent value of securities, implied in a company's earnings or cash flow.

The argument goes like this: The number of indexes now outstrips U.S. stocks, with the eruption of passive funds driving demand for securities within these benchmarks, rather than for the broader universe of stocks and bonds. That could inflate or depress the price of these securities versus similar un-indexed assets, which may create bubbles and volatile price movements.

Stocks with outsize exposure to indexed funds could trade more on cross-asset flows and macro views, according to Goldman Sachs Group Inc. The bank found that, for the average stock in the S&P 500, 77 per cent might trade on fundamentals, versus more than 90 per cent a decade ago.

That's not BlackRock's experience. "While index investing does play a role, the price discovery process is still dominated by active stock selectors," executives led by Vice Chairman Barbara Novick wrote in a paper in October, citing the relatively low turnover and small size of passive accounts compared with active strategies.

Another concern is that without the prospect of being part of an index, fewer small or mid-sized companies have an incentive to go public, according to Larry Tabb, founder of Tabb Group LLC, a New York-based firm that analyzes the structure of financial markets. That's because their stock risks underperforming without the inclusion in an index or an ETF, he said. Benchmarks are governed by rules or a methodology for selection and some require that a security has a certain size or liquidity for inclusion.

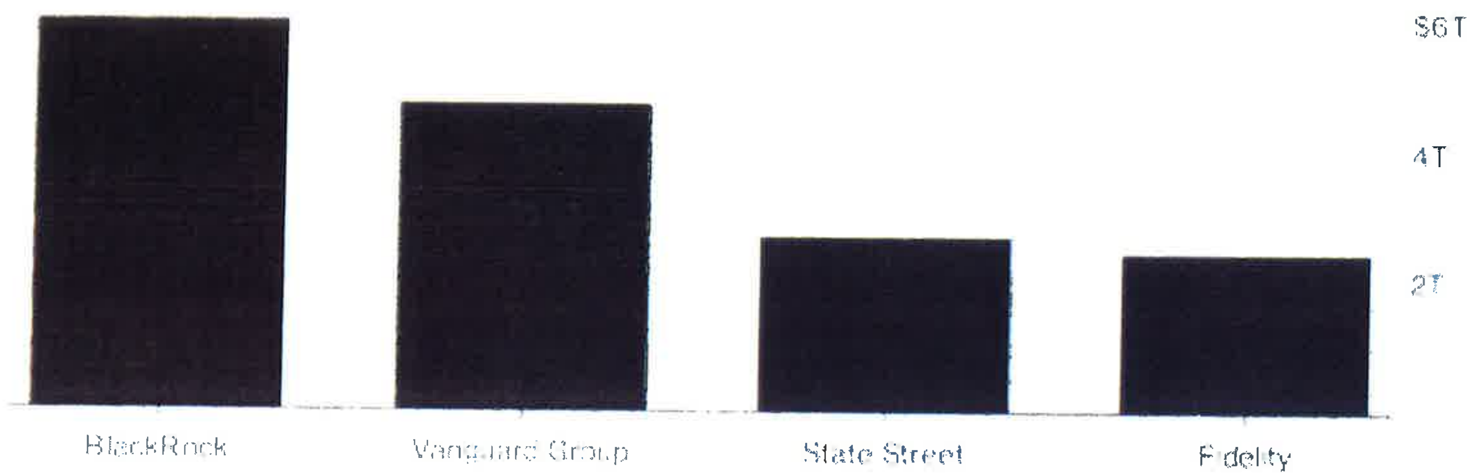
We're not near a tipping point yet. Roughly 37 per cent of assets in U.S.-domiciled equity funds are managed passively, up from 19 per cent in 2009, according to Savita Subramanian at Bank of America Corp. By contrast, in Japan, nearly 70 per cent of domestically focused equity funds are passively managed, suggesting the U.S. can stomach more indexing before market efficiency suffers.

There's even further to go if you look globally: Only 15 per cent of world equity markets — including funds, separately managed accounts and holdings of individual securities -- are passively managed, said Joe Brennan, global head of Vanguard's equity index group, in an interview.

BlackRock and Vanguard's dominance raises questions about competition and governance. The companies hold more than 5 per cent of more than 4,400 stocks around the world, research from the University of Amsterdam shows.

Trillion Dollar Players

The four largest U.S. asset managers control a total of about $16 trillion



Note: Most recent data for assets under management

Bloomberg

That's making regulators uneasy, with SEC Commissioner Kara Stein asking in February: "Does ownership concentration affect the willingness of companies to compete?" Common ownership by institutional shareholders pushed up airfares by as much as 7 per cent over 14 years starting in 2001 because the shared holdings put less pressure on the airlines to compete, according to a study led by Jose Azar, an assistant professor of economics at IESE Business School. BlackRock and Vanguard are among the five largest shareholders of the three biggest operators.

"As BlackRock and Vanguard grow, and as money flows from active to large passive investors, their per centage share of every firm increases," said Azar in an interview. "If they cross the 10 per cent threshold, I think for many people that would make it clearer that the growth of large asset managers could create serious concerns for competition in many industries."

BlackRock has called Azar's research "vague and implausible" while other academics have questioned his methodology. One of those is Edward Rock. A law professor at New York University, Rock says a variety of legal rules in fact discourage stakes above 10 per cent and he favors creating a safe harbor for holdings up to 15 per cent to incentivize shareholder engagement. The firms are among the biggest holders of some of the world's largest companies across a range of industries including Google parent Alphabet Inc.and Facebook Inc. in technology, and lenders like Wells Fargo & Co. In the U.S., both companies supported or didn't oppose 96 per cent of management resolutions on board directors in the year ended June 30, according to their own reports.

"We've put more and more efforts behind it but we've always had a substantial effort," said Vanguard's Brennan. "We're permanent long-term holders and, given that, we have the strongest interest in the best outcomes." Their size could also help companies change for the good. Both firms were among the first to join the Investor Stewardship Group, a group of institutional asset managers seeking to foster better corporate governance, according to the organization's website. Vanguard has doubled its team dedicated to this over the last two years and supported two climate-related shareholder resolutions for the first time. BlackRock has more than 30 people engaging with its portfolio companies. Active managers will be watching these developments closely. While many concede that stemming the passive tide is a challenge, they may see better days as central banks start unwinding a decade of easy monetary policy that's sapped volatility.

Data show performance among active managers is improving. Some 57 per cent of large-cap stock pickers underperformed the S&P 500 in the year ended June 30, compared with 85 per cent the year before, data from S&P Dow Jones Indices show. And if indexing distorts the market so much that it's easier to beat, more investors will flock to stock pickers, says Richard Thaler, Nobel laureate, University of Chicago professor and principal at Fuller & Thaler Asset Management.

Right now, though, the duo's advance appears unstoppable, and the benefits they've brought with low-cost investments may outweigh some of the structural issues.

"Given that they've grown so big because their fees are so small, these are the kinds of monopolies that don't keep me up at night," said Thaler.

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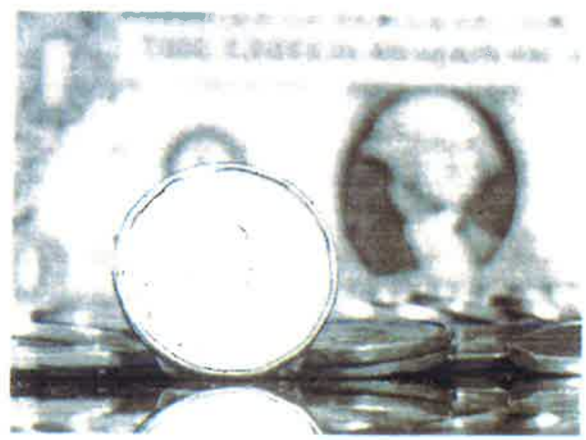

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