

**BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER**

**FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION**

**Applicant:** Robert and Ann Raish

**Address:** 15253 Josh Wilson Road  
Burlington, WA 98233

**File No:** C/U Open Space F&A Conservation, App#13-2016

**Request:** To transfer 33 acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Farm and Agriculture Conservation.

**Location:** NE1/4SW1/4 Sec. 27, T35N, R3E, W.M., except the west 425 feet of the south 715 feet thereof.

**Assessor's No:** Portion of P34860

**Public Hearing:** After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing Examiner conducted a public hearing on September 28, 2016.

**Recommendation:** Approval

## **FINDINGS**

1. Robert and Ann Raish seek to transfer 33 acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Farm and Agricultural Conservation.
2. The property's location is: NE1/4SW1/4 Sec. 27, T35N, R3E, W.M., except the west 425 feet of the South 715 feet thereof. It is a portion of P34860
3. Improvements on the property include a house and two barns. The property was formerly used for a horse breeding business. Currently there are riding trails and pasture. The property does not now meet the requirement for gross commercial agricultural income.
4. The plan is to resume a horse related business starting in 2017 and to grow, harvest and sell hay. There is a high potential for the property to return to the Current Use Farm and Agriculture Program in the current decade.
5. The hearing was held after due notice. There was no public testimony and there were no written comments.
6. The Examiner admitted the exhibits submitted by Staff.
7. The Examiner finds that the property meets the definition of the classification sought.
8. The Staff recommends approval. The Examiner concurs with Staff.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Examiner recommends approval of the application.

  
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Wick Dufford, Hearing Examiner

Date: October 6, 2016

Copies transmitted to Applicant, Assessor and County Commissioners: October 6, 2016