

BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Applicants: Shannon Halls and Michael Brann

Address: 18560 Burkland Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

File No: Current Use Timber APP#3-2010

Request: To include approximately 4.55 acres in the Current Use Timber Program.

Location: East of Penn Road and west of the Skagit River within a portion of Gov't Lot 2, lying east of Dike, within Sec. 25, T34N, R3E, W.M.

Parcel No: P90468

Public Hearing: After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing Examiner conducted a public hearing on January 12, 2011.

Recommendation: Approval

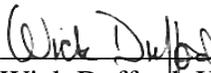
FINDINGS

1. Shannon Halls and Michael Brann have filed an application for inclusion of approximately 4.55 acres in the Current Use Timber Program. They are the owners of the property.
2. The property is east of Penn Road and west of the Skagit River, within a portion of Government Lot 2, lying east of Dike, within Sec. 25, T34N, R3E., W.M. The parcel number is P90468.
3. The applicants have inherited this property from the Estate of Donna Brann. It has been in the Brann family since 1980 and has been managed as forest land. An adjacent 7.9 acres owned by the applicants is currently in the C/U Timber program (OS#73, AF#8006190011, 1981).
4. The stand of timber on the property consists of Black Cottonwood, Red Alder, scattered Sitka Spruce and non-merchantable Black Willow. A light harvest of Black Cottonwood occurred in 1996.
5. The intention of the owners is to retain the integrity of the property by maintaining the stand of trees, while providing wildlife habitat and watershed management. The object is to provide for future economic returns through good forest management.
6. A Timber Management Plan was prepared by David Anderson, Forestry Consultant. The plan appears to comply with RCW 84.34.020 and RCW 83.34.041.
7. The Staff Report and Exhibits submitted by the Assessor's Office are incorporated herein.
8. The hearing was held after due notice. There was no public testimony and there were no written comments.
9. The Examiner finds that the property meets the definition of the classification sought.
10. The Staff recommends approval. The Examiner concurs with Staff.

RECOMMENDATION

The Examiner recommends approval of the application, subject to the following condition:

At the time of harvesting, the applicants shall comply with the requirements of the Department of Natural Resource in regard to the harvesting of timber.



Wick Dufford, Hearing Examiner

Date: January 27, 2011

Copies transmitted to Applicants: January 27, 2011